



FIJI NATIONAL  
UNIVERSITY



# VICE-CHANCELLOR'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

12-16 February 2024

## Ni Sa Bula Vinaka to you all!

Before proceeding further, I am excited to finally welcome back all our students to another academic term of studies!

I would also like to make a special mention to our first-year students! Thank you for choosing FNU, and welcome to the FNU family!

It was a pleasure for me to meet so many of our eager students during the various Orientation sessions that began last week. I encourage you all to make the most of these sessions to familiarise yourselves with the University and the academic and support services that we have to offer.

The Fiji National University is not just a place of learning; but one where creative and long-lasting ideas are born and where dreams are nurtured and turned into reality.

At FNU, we truly celebrate inclusivity and respect for one another's differences, so make sure to embrace the diversity that surrounds you, engage in meaningful conversations, and actively participate in the various academic and extracurricular activities available.

These experiences will shape your character, broaden your perspectives, and lay the foundation for a successful future. I encourage you to believe in yourself, embrace the challenges ahead, and remember that your journey at the Fiji National University is an opportunity for personal and academic growth.

Your time here will be filled with moments of discovery, learning, and self-fulfillment, Cherish every experience and remember that there will be times when you will be required to seek assistance. I can assure you that our staff are ready to assist students transition smoothly into University studies.

And to other news!

As we begin the academic term, you may have read my recent announcements regarding appointments made to our Senior Leadership Team (SLT). I encourage everyone to provide your usual support to the team as we embark on various learning, teaching, and research enhancement projects this year.

With over 300 programmes on offer, FNU has remained true to its commitment of providing quality and accessible education in both the technical and vocational education and training (TVET) and Higher Education (HE) streams of learning.

To further emphasise the University's priority of providing TVET education, the FNU Council has approved for the College of Engineering, Science and Technology (CEST) to transition into the College of Engineering and Technical Vocational Education and Training (CETVET) this month.

This change allows the University to align itself with the Fiji Government's Fiji National Education Policy Framework 2024-2033 and allows the University to support Government's quest for a skilled and future focused TVET workforce.

As part of this transition, the University welcomes Mr Salabogi Mavoia as the Acting Dean of CETVET. We also acknowledge the work of outgoing CEST Dean, Professor Tibor Pasinszki as he assumes his new role as Professor of Science.

In addition, Derrick Campus will be the main CETVET location, with CETVET programmes provided at our Namaka, Ba and Labasa campuses. CETVET will continue to offer TVET Trades and Engineering programmes. The Science programmes will also be delivered as service programmes for other Colleges of FNU.

As we slowly resume events around the University, I have had the pleasure of formalising collaborations with our local and international partners. I recently hosted representatives from the Institute of International Education (IIE) to discuss how we could enhance educational quality for students.

We also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Kanda University of International Studies (KUIS) this month to collaborate on student exchange programmes and on research-related work.

I am certain that we will continue to formalise similar partnerships throughout the course of this year in line with our Strategic Plan 2024-2026 Priority Area 5 on Education for Employment and Internationalisation.

Through this Priority Area, we will collaborate with institutions in the areas of TVET, science and humanities.

Students and staff can stay informed of our University events and activities through my weekly messages or by following the official FNU website and on social media pages such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram and Viber.

May the rest of the Month be enjoyable and productive!!

**Vinaka**

**Professor Unaisi Nabobo-Baba**  
**Vice-Chancellor**

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