



FIJI NATIONAL
UNIVERSITY



VICE-CHANCELLOR'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

19 March 2024

Dear All,

It is with great enthusiasm and gratitude that I extend my heartfelt appreciation for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to us as we gathered here at the Northern Division of Fiji - coming together with the esteemed members of the Fiji National University (FNU) Council and the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) feels akin to reuniting with family, as we embark on a journey to explore the boundless opportunities awaiting us in the Northern Division.

Our discussions were focused on aligning our work with the carefully and meticulously crafted 2024-2026 Strategic Plan. This collective work exemplified the unity of purpose and dedication to excellence that defines our institution. Over four days, we traversed the landscapes of Labasa, Savusavu, and Taveuni, with a singular mission: to extend FNU's reach to the remotest corners, fostering positive change that reverberates not only within our university but across our beloved nation, Fiji.

The purpose of the trip to the North was to move forward into a future that we promised Fiji! We will take our services to the rural areas so that our people will be able to access education; make choices, acquire skills and in this way service their needs, which is to get an employment and be self-reliant and assist others when and where needed in the community.

The traditional ceremony that welcomed me to the North, in my capacity as Vice-Chancellor of the Fiji National University, was a humbling experience that reaffirmed my deep-seated connection to Vanua Levu. The inclusivity and warmth inherent in this land and its people serve as a beacon, guiding us in our quest to serve the communities of the North with unwavering dedication.

Accompanied by esteemed members of the FNU Council, including the Chair of Council, Mr Semesa Karavaki and the Deputy Chancellor, Dr Alisi Talatoka Vudiniabola, alongside our Senior Leadership Team, we stand united in our commitment

to rebuild and strengthen our relationships in this region. Our promise to deliver unprecedented levels of service to the North, in alignment with the ambitious goals outlined in our Strategic Plan, underscores our unwavering resolve to catalyse positive change and transformation.

Labasa, your hospitality and warmth have left an indelible mark on my heart, and I am honoured to be amidst your vibrant community. The theme of our Strategic Plan, "Education for Wisdom and Sustainability: Shaping Fiji's Future," encapsulates our collective vision for the next three years as we strive to fortify FNU's foundations and chart a course towards a brighter, more sustainable future.

Our discussions across the North have laid the groundwork for an array of transformative projects poised to uplift the Northern Division. As Vice-Chancellor, I am filled with anticipation at the prospect of witnessing these initiatives come to fruition, catalysing tangible progress and prosperity in the months and years ahead.

In closing, I extend my deepest gratitude to the people of the North for their warm welcome and unwavering support. Together, we will forge ahead, guided by a shared commitment to excellence, inclusivity, and service to our beloved nation.

Vinaka vakalevu, and may our collective endeavours pave the way for a future filled with boundless opportunities and prosperity for all.

Vinaka

Professor Unaisi Nabobo-Baba
Vice-Chancellor

