



VICE-CHANCELLOR'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

16 December 2025

Bula Vinaka FNU Vuvale,

Over the past week, our University community witnessed moments of extraordinary pride, joy and accomplishment as 1,831 students graduated over three remarkable days at the Vodafone Arena in Suva. Each face that crossed the stage carried a story — of sacrifice, of determination, of courage, and of hope for a brighter tomorrow. To every graduate, I offer my heartfelt congratulations. You have made your families, your communities, and your University immensely proud.

Across our colleges, the celebrations reflected the diversity, strength, and purpose of our academic community:

- **57 graduates** from the College of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (CAFF);
- **420 graduates** from the College of Business, Hospitality and Tourism Studies (CBHTS);
- **343 qualifications** awarded by the College of Engineering and Technical Vocational Education and Training (CETVET);
- **185 graduates** from the College of Humanities, Education and Law (CHEL);
- **937 graduates** from the College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences (CMNHS), reaffirming FNU's vital role in nurturing the Pacific's health workforce;
- **19 graduates** from the Pacific Centre for Maritime Studies (PCMS); and
- **73 graduates** from the National Training and Productivity Centre (NTPC).

We also proudly celebrated three new Doctor of Philosophy graduates — one each from CAFF, CBHTS and CETVET. Their achievement stands as a reminder of the transformative power of research and knowledge in shaping the future of our region.

As we carry this momentum forward, we now turn our attention to a historic moment for our University. This week, we will host the **first-ever graduation at our Naiyaca**

Campus in Labasa, a milestone that signifies FNU's deepening commitment to equitable access to education across all parts of Fiji. Among the **57 graduates** preparing to don our iconic FNU Blue gowns is CHEL student, Fereal Ibrahim, who will become the first-ever PhD graduate from the North. This is a profound achievement not only for Fereal and her family, but for Vanua Levu and the entire Northern community.

To the parents, guardians, families, sponsors, academic staff and loved ones who have walked alongside our graduates — vinaka vakalevu! Your unwavering support has made these success stories possible.

I am also proud to share that **1,222 of our 2,034 total graduates this season are female**. This is a powerful reflection of our nation's progress and a testament to the impact of creating learning spaces where women and girls can thrive.

As we celebrate, we are also looking ahead. **Applications for Semester 1, 2026 are now open**. Graduation reminds us that every great accomplishment begins with a single step, a decision to start, to learn, and to believe in what your future can become. At FNU, we remain committed to crafting futures together by providing pathways that empower students to transform their Dreams into Reality.

Finally, as we approach the festive period and the beginning of the cyclone season, I urge everyone to prioritise safety and preparedness. Please travel carefully, stay informed through official advisories, and look out for one another. Let us enjoy the holidays with gratitude, care and responsibility.

Once again, congratulations to all our graduates! May your journey ahead be filled with purpose, compassion and success.

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