

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

16 March, 2026



Bula Vinaka to the Fiji National University Vuvale!

As we begin a new week, I would like to take a moment to reflect on some of the important developments and achievements that continue to shape the journey of our University and the role we play in national development.

Last week was both an emotional and exciting time for the University as we witnessed a historic milestone. The Fiji National University (Amendment) Bill 2026 was successfully passed in Parliament, meaning the University now operates under a new Ministry. This development marks a significant step forward in strengthening the governance and future direction of our institution.

With this change, the University will now operate under the Office of the Prime Minister of Fiji within the Ministry of Strategic Planning, National Development and Statistics. This transition opens a new chapter for the University as we align more closely with national priorities and continue our mission of providing quality education, research, and innovation that contributes to the development of Fiji, given that all our Colleges and Centres are in alignment to all ministries of government.

On a personal note, I was deeply honoured and blessed last week to be commissioned by His Excellency the President, Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu, as a member of the Constitution Review Commission. I remain committed to serving our nation through education and leadership, while contributing to national development. This appointment is both a privilege and a responsibility to support the strengthening of our Constitution for the future of Fiji.

I would also like to acknowledge our team that travelled to Vanuatu to attend the Micro-Qualification

Development Training for IAC starting today. This training is supported by The Pacific Community through the Pacific Women Lead Programme, with funding from the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Initiatives such as this continue to strengthen our capacity to develop innovative learning pathways and expand opportunities for skills development across our region. While there, Dr Isimeli Tagicakiverata, Dr Joseph Veramu and Dr Sereima Naisilisili will also attend to our MSG partners including the Vice-Chancellor of the Vanuatu National University, Mr. Jean-Pierre Nirua.

This week, we are also commencing our Community-Based Non-Formal Education and Training programme in Nabalebale Village, Vanua Levu, Fiji. I commend our team from the National Training and Productivity Centre for their dedication in taking education directly to our communities. Their work continues to empower individuals and transform lives, and we look forward to celebrating the graduation of participants next week.

In the coming days, we will also be meeting with several partners and stakeholders as we continue discussions on the development and future direction of the University. These engagements are important as we strengthen partnerships that support the growth and sustainability of our institution.

To all our staff and students, vinaka vakalevu for your continued commitment and hard work. Your dedication is what drives the success and progress of our University.

I wish you all a productive and successful week ahead.

Professor Unayi Nabobo-Baba

Vice-Chancellor
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