

# VICE-CHANCELLOR'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

**02 JUNE, 2026**



**Bula vinaka and warm greetings to our students, staff, partners, and the wider Fiji National University community.**

As we begin a new week, I would like to wish all our students and staff well, particularly our students who will be sitting their final examinations this week.

Examination week can be both exciting and challenging. To our students, remain focused, stay calm, and trust in the work you have put in throughout the semester. Do your best, believe in yourselves, and remember that your journey at FNU is about learning, growth, and becoming the best version of yourself.

I would also like to acknowledge our academic and professional staff for another successful semester. Your dedication and commitment to our students do not go unnoticed. Every lecture delivered, every assessment marked, every student supported, and every service provided contributes to transforming lives and building our nation's future.

Yesterday, 1 June, we formally welcomed the Fiji Institute of Pacific Health Research (FIPHR) into the FNU Research Office, marking a significant step in the University's research strategy.

FIPHR's founding Director, Dr Donald Wilson, was confirmed as the Acting Executive Director Research and Innovation (Acting EDRI), a role with cross-cutting responsibility for research across all five FNU Colleges.

FIPHR is one of the great success stories of FNU. What began as a research arm within a single College has matured into a Pacific-leading institute whose impact is felt in our communities, health policy, and partnerships across the region.

By welcoming FIPHR into the Research Office, the University is committing to extending that success across all five Colleges and building a research culture worthy of our role as Fiji's national university.

Last week was another meaningful and productive week for our University.

At our Natabua Campus, students and staff celebrated two significant events. I congratulate the Year 3 students who participated in the Art Exhibition and Fashion Show hosted by the College of Humanities, Education and Law and the College of Engineering, Technical and Vocational Education and Training. I also thank the Head of Campus, Mr Perry Gabriel, Mr Samuela Nabolaniwaqa, and Ms Miriama Namosimalua for their guidance and commitment to nurturing these skills.

Natabua Campus also commemorated Ratu Sukuna Day, bringing together staff and students to honour the legacy of one of Fiji's greatest

leaders. The celebration served as a reminder of the values of leadership, service, unity, humility, and dedication to nation-building that Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna embodied, and which continue to inspire our University community today.

I was also honoured to attend the Lupus Foundation Fiji Anniversary Dinner together with the FNU team. The evening highlighted the strength and resilience of those living with lupus and the important work being undertaken to raise awareness, provide support, and advocate for those affected by the condition. It also reinforced the importance of research, education, and partnerships in improving health outcomes. As a national university, FNU remains committed to advancing research and innovation that address the health challenges facing our communities and contribute to evidence-based solutions for a healthier Fiji.

Another highlight of the week was hosting the Permanent Secretary for Education of Tuvalu, Ms Tamarisi Alemenia, together with officials from the Tuvalu Ministry of Education and the Tuvalu Australia Partnership for Quality Education.

Our discussions focused on strengthening Technical and Vocational Education and Training opportunities for the people of Tuvalu through our TVET Pasifika initiative. As the Pacific's largest provider of TVET education and training, FNU remains committed to supporting our Pacific neighbours through practical, accessible, and transformative education.

These engagements continue to demonstrate the important regional role that FNU plays in supporting education, workforce development, research, and sustainable development across our Blue Pacific region.

As we approach the end of Semester One, I encourage all of us to reflect on what we have achieved together. This University continues to grow because of the commitment of our students, staff, partners, and stakeholders. Together, we are contributing to a stronger Fiji and a more resilient Pacific.

To our students, I wish you every success in your examinations.

To our staff, thank you for your dedication, patience, and commitment throughout the semester.

Take care of yourselves, support one another, and finish the semester strongly.

*Professor Unaisi Nabobo-Baba*  
**Vice-Chancellor**  
**Fiji National University**