

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

29 JULY 2026



Bula Vinaka FNU Vuvale!

I would like to begin this week by acknowledging and thanking our Madam Chancellor, Dr Adi Alisi Vudiniabola, who during her recent visit to Australia took the opportunity to connect with our alumni and promote the work of the FNU Foundation, particularly its mission to support our students who are in need.

Madam Chancellor was the former Head at the Fiji School of Nursing, and today, it is wonderful to see her continuing to give back to education and to our students through her leadership as Chancellor of the Fiji National University.

Madam Chancellor, vinaka vakalevu for championing this initiative and for reaching out to our alumni. Our alumni are part of the FNU family, wherever they may be in the world, and I hope that through the Foundation, we can continue to bring them closer to the University and give them an opportunity to support the students who are following in their footsteps.

At the heart of the Foundation is something very simple: helping our students when they need it most. Sometimes, a little support can make the difference between a student giving up and a student continuing their studies. This is why this work matters.

Last week was indeed a very engaging one for us at the Fiji National University.

On Friday, I had the pleasure of signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ramat Negev International Training Center of Israel at our Bonunaqwele Campus in Nadi.

Through this partnership, students from our College of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry will have the opportunity to undertake an 11-month practical training programme in Israel, gaining hands-on experience and international exposure.

For me, this is what education is about. We must give our students opportunities to take what they learn in the classroom and apply it in the real world. They can learn from others, experience different ways of doing things and, importantly, bring that knowledge home to benefit Fiji.

Our students also gave us something to celebrate over the weekend.

On Saturday, students from across the University came together at our Nasinu Campus for the FNU Inter-Division Debate Championship 2026.

Congratulations to Team Central from the College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, who emerged as this year's champions. I also congratulate every student who took part. Debate is not simply about winning an argument. It teaches us to listen, to think critically, to respect different views and to have the confidence to stand up and express our ideas.

Vinaka vakalevu to Dialogue Fiji for partnering with us to provide this opportunity for our students.

As we begin this week, we are also preparing for some very exciting milestones next week, particularly for our University community in Vualiku.

We are looking forward to the groundbreaking ceremony for the Naiyaca Campus, the launch of the Vualiku Literacy and Numeracy Programme, and the opening of the FNU Foundation Hub at the Campus.

There is something special about seeing plans become reality. These milestones are about more than buildings or programmes. They are about bringing education and opportunities closer to our people and ensuring that the Fiji National University continues to serve communities wherever they are.

To everyone working behind the scenes in preparation for next week, thank you. I know there is a great deal of work being done, and I appreciate the commitment of our teams.

Let us continue to look after one another, support our students and do our part, wherever we are, to move our University forward.

I wish you all a good week ahead. May God bless you and your families.

Vinaka vakalevu.

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