

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

18 August 2026



Bula Vinaka FNU Vuvale!

We are now into our fourth week of Semester 2, and I begin by acknowledging the Almighty God for His continued provision over our lives and our University.

There is a lot happening across FNU this week, and I am encouraged by the opportunities that continue to open for our students and our University.

This week, we will sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Taiwan Technical Mission (TTM). I am particularly pleased about what this partnership will offer our agriculture students.

Through this MOU, our students will have opportunities for industrial attachment at the Taiwan Technical Mission's Centre for Agricultural Technology Transfer (CATT). This means taking what they learn in the classroom and applying it in areas such as tissue culture, smart greenhouse operations, and the production and management of high-value crops including guava and dragon fruit.

This is what partnerships should do for our University – create real opportunities for our students to learn, gain experience and prepare themselves for the workplace.

We also have a busy week ahead with the Civil Aviation Authority's launch of the National Aviation Safety Plan. We look forward as well to another graduation for our Rural, Remote and Maritime Training programme in Serua, Nadroga, as we continue taking education and skills training closer to our communities.

Across FNU, we are celebrating Vernacular Language Week, in line with the International Decade of Indigenous Languages. Our languages are an important part of who we are, and I encourage our staff and students to take part in the activities leading up to the official closing on Friday.

At our Naceva Campus in Lautoka, we will also open the AI Training Programme this week. Technology is changing quickly, and as a University, we must continue creating

opportunities for our people to learn and develop skills for the future.

Last week was just as busy for our University.

We strengthened our partnership with the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) through the redesigned Pacific Agriculture Scholarships and Support (PASS) Program, which continues to create postgraduate opportunities and strengthen agricultural research in our region.

Our Nasinu Campus also hosted the three-day Pasifika Philosophy Leadership: Weaving Futures Conference. It was wonderful to see Pacific leaders, traditional custodians and regional thinkers come together at FNU and create a space for our Indigenous knowledge, leadership and ways of knowing.

We ended the week on another high note with the groundbreaking of the new KOICA-funded Simulation Centre at our College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences.

It was an honour to welcome the Prime Minister, the Honourable Sitiveni Ligamamada Rabuka, as Chief Guest. This approximately US\$9.8 million investment is not simply about constructing another building. It is about giving our future doctors, nurses and health professionals a better environment in which to learn and prepare themselves to serve our people.

When I look at what we achieved last week and what is before us this week, I am reminded that none of this happens through the work of one person. It takes all of us.

To our staff and students across our 17 campuses and three centres, thank you for the work you continue to do for FNU.

There is much to look forward to this week. May God continue to guide and bless our FNU Vuvale.

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