FIJI NATIONAL UNIVERSITY



VICE-CHANCELLOR'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

10 November 2026

Bula Vinaka FNU Vuvale,

It has been a significant start to another busy week for us at the Fiji National University (FNU).

Today, I had the privilege of leading a team of 11 members of our Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to present our submission on the Fiji National University Amendment Bill before the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Justice, Law and Human Rights.

We had a very good and constructive discussion with the Committee members, which provided an important opportunity for us to explain our position, respond to questions and discuss matters concerning the future governance and development of our National University.

I sincerely thank the Committee, through its Chairperson, Honourable Ratu Rakuita Vakalalabure, for receiving our submission and for the meaningful discussions. These discussions are important as we continue to work towards strengthening FNU and ensuring that the University remains responsive to the needs and aspirations of our people.

This week is another particularly busy one for the University, with several important engagements ahead of us.

We will be heading to the West as we begin our community engagement work in Serua Province, alongside planned activities in Tamavua. This is something I personally believe we owe to our people.

As Fiji's National University, our duty is to reach our communities, listen to their needs and work alongside them to improve their livelihoods.

Our engagement will focus on practical areas such as food security, sustainable agriculture, community development, waste management and the responsible use of our natural resources. These are matters that directly affect the everyday lives of our people.

I thank our Deans, Heads of Colleges, staff and teams who are preparing for these engagements. There is much work to be done, and I look forward to seeing our University make a real difference on the ground.

We also have several important executive-level meetings scheduled this week as we continue discussions on the University's priorities, partnerships and future development. These engagements are equally important as we look at how best to position FNU to meet the changing needs of Fiji and the wider Pacific.

Another major event on our calendar this week is the **Fiji Business Excellence Awards (FBEA) 2026.**

As the home of the National Training and Productivity Centre (NTPC), FNU has an important role in promoting productivity, quality and excellence across Fiji's industries and organisations.

The Fiji Business Excellence Awards recognise organisations that have worked hard to improve their performance, introduce better practices and maintain high standards in their operations.

I look forward to joining this year's celebrations and recognising the achievements of the participating organisations and award recipients. I also acknowledge our NTPC team for their continued work in promoting business excellence and productivity across the country.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the **105 graduates from the districts of Bulu and Nailaga in Ba,** who successfully completed their two-week vocational training programmes delivered through our Division of Regional and Global TVET, under the Department of Community-Based Non-Formal Education.

The training covered Screen Printing, Domestic Electrical Installation, Fundamentals of Food and Beverage, and Sanitary Plumbing.

These are practical skills that can help our people find employment, start small businesses and better support their families. This is exactly the kind of work we must continue taking into our communities.

Vinaka vakalevu to our Pro Vice-Chancellor TVET, Dr Isimeli Tagicakiverata, and his team for their continued efforts in making vocational education and training accessible to our people.

To our students, this is your final week of examinations. I know that the past few weeks have been demanding, and many of you have spent long hours studying, preparing and doing your best to complete your assessments.

As you sit your final papers, I encourage you to remain focused, look after yourselves and finish the semester well. You have worked hard throughout the academic year, and I wish each of you every success in your remaining examinations.

To our academic and support staff, thank you for the guidance, patience and support you have given our students throughout the semester.

As the 2026 academic year slowly draws to a close, I want to remind each and every one of you to take good care of yourselves and your families.

It has been a demanding year for many of us, with numerous responsibilities, activities and commitments across the University.

As we work towards completing our remaining tasks and prepare for the end-of-year period, please do not neglect your health, safety and wellbeing.

Be mindful when travelling, take care on our roads, look out for one another and make time for your families. For those who are feeling tired after a long year, I encourage you to rest whenever you can.

We still have important work ahead of us before the year ends, and I ask everyone to remain focused and continue supporting one another as we bring the academic year to a successful close.

Let us also remember that the work we do at FNU is ultimately about our people.

Vinaka vakalevu, FNU Vuvale. May you all have a safe, productive and blessed week ahead.

Professor Unaisi Nabobo-Baba

Vice-Chancellor
Fiji National University