

Monday July 29, 2013

## Taiwan youth ambassadors in cultural exchange visit to FNU

A team of international youth ambassadors from Taiwan is visiting Fiji National University under a thirteen-day cultural exchange study programme.

The group of seven started their tour today with a visit to FNU's College of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (CAFF) at Koronivia Campus, then went to Nasinu Campus and were taken on a tour of the Fiji Museum and around other landmarks in Suva.

"We are very excited to be in Fiji. It's the first time for all of us to visit the South Pacific," said Mr Lin Cheng-Yi.

"There are so many interesting things that we have learnt and we are looking forward to learning more about the Fiji culture and traditions.

"The Fijian people are truly kind and very friendly."

During the trip to CAFF, the team was briefed about the different programmes being offered to students.

The visitors also had an opportunity to interact with students who were busy working in their gardens.

"Fiji has beautiful weather and certainly has huge potential to develop agriculture," said team leader Mr Fang Tien-sze.

"The vegetables being grown by the students certainly look healthy and there's a wide range of crops as well. Learning about livestock farming is also encouraging."

The youth ambassadors also met with FNU Deans and Heads of Departments, including the Vice Chancellor Dr Ganesh Chand.

Also present was the ROC Taiwan representative to Fiji, Ms Jane Cheng.

Dr Chand, in welcoming the guests, expressed his gratitude to the ROC Taiwan representative for the country's close working partnership with FNU.

"I'm sure that our ongoing partnership with ROC Taiwan will continue to strengthen in years to come," said Dr Chand.

In response, ROC Taiwan representative Ms Cheng said such cultural exchanges will not only foster better understanding but open doors for more collaboration.

The international students also presented the Vice Chancellor with a small gift and a token of appreciation.

The visiting students were also pleasantly surprised with each of them being issued Fijian names.

"This is something unique and we feel that we are part of Fiji. It's really wonderful," said Ms Sung Chih-Chie.

"We are looking forward to experiencing the real Fiji. We have been told about the kava ceremony and cooking food in the earth oven (*lovo*)."

The team tours College of Medicine and National Training and Productivity Centre tomorrow before heading to the western division.

For more information please contact the Communications Office on 3393110.