

Wednesday 19 July, 2017

PRESS RELEASE

FNU and the University of Otago sign new partnership

Suva, Fiji Islands. The Fiji National University and the University of Otago have signed an agreement for academic collaboration in the areas of research, education and faculty development.

While signing the agreement at FNU Nasinu Campus today, Acting Vice Chancellor and Pro Vice Chancellor Learning & Teaching, Dr Eci Nabalarua said under this agreement the University's College of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences (CMNHS) and the University of Otago will promote staff and student mobility as well as lay a platform to work together on a broad range of areas for future benefit.

"With such collaborations the universities get the opportunity to enhance their teaching and learning capacity. We at FNU value the partnership that we have with other institutions. I think with regards to FNU our biggest advantage is that being the state institution we have access to some of the finest untouched research minefields in the country and we are looking forward to that to enhancing our partnership on that," said Dr Nabalarua.

Through this partnership both institutions will undertake partnership in the following areas relating to education and training:

- Staff capacity building and development;
- Exchange of academic and administrative staff;
- Exchange of research students and other staff mutually agreed upon;
- Sharing of teaching resources and curriculum and
- Collaborative research, lectures and symposia.

Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) of University of Otago, Professor Vernon Squire acknowledged FNU for initiating this partnership.

"The University of Otago and FNU have had long standing links and today represents a move towards a more formal relationship. I acknowledge FNU as being the first medical college in Fiji and we are the same. Two very early established institutions coming together mean great collaboration opportunities," said Professor Squire.

Acting Dean CMNHS, Dr William May said the signing of the partnership highlights the importance of networking and strengthening ties with the Otago University.

“FNU has a range of partnership regionally and globally and this helps us to collaborate with other respective universities and institutions and also support each other through various developments, teaching and research activities and create stronger ties amongst each other.”

For further information, please contact the Communications Office on 339 4000 extension 2890/2886 or Senior Public Relations Officer, Ranbeer Singh on Email: SPRO@fnu.ac.fj or Phone: 9895267

About the Fiji National University: The Fiji National University (FNU) was established through the merger of 7 government-owned tertiary institutions in Fiji, and commenced operations from 1 January 2010. The constituent institutions are found at over 40 different locations across Fiji, and collectively offer Certificates, Diplomas, Advanced Diplomas, Degrees, Postgraduate qualifications and Skills Upgrading for those who are already in employment. Approximately 30,000 students pass through the University each year. Over the last six years of its operations, the University has registered major achievements with regard to new programme delivery, quality improvements and contribution to research and publications via its 5 Colleges: The College of Humanities & Education (CHE), the College of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences (CMNHS), the College of Engineering, Science & Technology (CEST), the College of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry (CAFF), the College of Business, Hospitality & Tourism Studies (CBHTS) and the National Training & Productivity Centre (NTPC).