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Press Release

New CIC Office to benefit students

Suva, Fiji. The Fiji National University (FNU) has taken a huge step to support Fiji's construction industry by providing an office space for the Construction Industry Council (CIC).

The CIC office, located at FNU's Derrick Campus, Samabula was officially opened last night.

FNU's Acting Dean, College of Engineering Science and Technology (CEST), Salabogi Mavoa said having the Council office at the campus is a win-win situation for both the FNU and the CIC.

"There are so many advantages for having CIC. The council will provide the staff and students direct access to the construction expertise in the country," said Mavoa.

Mavoa added that students will easily be able to get contacts from CIC office for their work attachments.

"CIC has seventeen organisations linked to it, which are linked to multiple other organisations, therefore all information is right at our doorstep," said the Acting Dean.

CIC President Gordon Jenkins said this is a major step forward for them as they were looking forward to having their own office.

He said by being based at the University they can assist students in lectures, presentations and educational materials.

"With more than 15,000 construction industry tradesmen with many included in the 17 associations that make up the CIC, it's a historical moment for us. We are glad that we are located in the middle of an institution of learning that gives us access to a number of resources," said Jenkin.

Fiji Higher Education Commission's Director, Linda Aumua commended FNU for its effort.

"We encourage this relationship that we have where the industry is inside the organisation, the challenge for you CIC is how you are going to distribute yourself across all sectors. There is possibility we could partner with industry to regulate and quality assure your industries," she said.

The council, as a fully operational office will now be able to work more closely with various construction associations as well as with the Government.

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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).