

**Tuesday October 30, 2018**

## **Press Release**

### **Cash reward for best Postgraduate Auditing student**

**Suva, Fiji Islands.** The most outstanding postgraduate auditing student at the Fiji National University (FNU) will now receive a cash reward of \$750.

This has been made possible with an agreement signed by FNU and the Office of the Auditor-General (OAG) earlier today (30/10/18) at the FNU Nasinu Campus.

The Auditor-General's Award will be given during FNU's two graduation ceremonies for the next three years as per the agreement, beginning this December.

The criteria for the award will be determined by the FNU Senate.

While signing the partnership, FNU Vice Chancellor, Professor Nigel Healey emphasized on the importance of auditing in this fast developing world.

Professor Healey said auditing has become a crucial function in maintaining confidence in the modern sophisticated financial structure.

"We are now moving into an advanced centre for financial services. All the developments, infrastructure and the financial services depend on the confidence in the audited financial accounts," said the VC.

"With this, the University is accordingly expanding its position at postgraduate level for both accounting and auditing. Through this sponsorship, on behalf of the AGO, we will be able to reward the top student."

"This sends a very important signal to our students on the importance of auditing as an academic discipline together with the fact on how important auditing is for the nation's development," Professor Healey added.

The Auditor-General, Ajay Nand said this partnership renews the relationship the two organisations have had in a very different but positive light.

"FNU is an institution of national importance. Prior to the establishment of FNU, the Auditor-General was the external auditor for five of the Colleges which are now part of FNU," he said.

Nand said the Office of the Auditor-General has been in existence well before the independence, however, very little is known on what it does, how it audits and why.

"Through our partnership with FNU, we intend to create awareness on the roles of OAG not only to thousands of students who graduate from the University but to friends and relatives who attend the graduation ceremonies as well."

Nand said OAG will soon open an office in Nadi.

"In April, 2019, for the first time in Fiji, OAG will host the International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI)," the Auditor-General added.

**ENDS**

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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).