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PRESS RELEASE

Freshmen encouraged to be team players

Suva, Fiji Islands.

Fiji National University's Pasifika Campus was full of excited and passionate first year students who were officially welcomed to the College of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences (CMNHS) during the Orientation Ceremony earlier today.

Thousands of students with their family and friends from all walks of life and across the region gathered at the campus eagerly waiting to hear from their College Dean and Heads of Schools.

College Dean, Dr William May advised all that despite the different medical fields they will venture into, being a team player is pivotal.

"One of the most important things you must be when you graduate and go into your different fields and at whatever level, is to be good team player. It's not an easy task working with other people from different background in the same health centre, same hospital ward, same pharmacy or dental department but we will prepare you to get over that. We need you to learn to work with other people; by that we mean we will develop essential soft skills to help you," said Dr May.

The College Dean also challenged the new students to develop a sense of belonging with their new journey and be leaders in their own right.

"As the country's medical college, it is our duty to train aspiring medical professionals to be successful in life. We want to train you to be leaders as well, in your different fields, you may think you will never be a leader but I was in your shoes 24 years ago as well."

"I wish you the very best in the years you will be studying with us. Manage your time wisely and your life well. Know when you need to what and remain in school," said Dr May.

First year student, Erema Panapasa currently enrolled in Bachelor of Medical Lab Sciences said she is a step closer to embracing her dream job.

"My ultimate desire is to be a Doctor. I wish to specialise in Gynaecology. The dream began when my older sister was pregnant and I had to accompany her to her hospital trips to the Gynaecologists. I found it very fascinating and realised it was something I

wanted to do. I intend to pursue MBBS (Bachelor of Medicine, & Bachelor of Surgery) after completing this programme,” said the 18 year old.

Originally from the island of Rotuma, Ms Panapasa hopes to follow in her older brother’s footsteps who is a pharmacist in Norway.

“I look forward to a good year and I promised myself that I will not fail any unit as I don’t want to be re-doing any units. I simply want to finish on a high note and do myself and my family proud.”

The college orientation will continue tomorrow on Thursday, 1 February, 2018 at Pasifika campus.

For further information, please contact the Litia Tuiqaqa on Email: prol-lt@fnu.ac.fj or Phone: 3394000 ext. 2886

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).