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**PRESS RELEASE**  
**Newly Elected FNU Alumni Association Members**

**Suva, Fiji Islands.**

There has been a change in leadership at the Fiji National University Alumni Association (FNUAA) following elections last month which was conducted by the Fijian Elections Office.

The new team consists of four members, President; Mr. Prashil Parkas, Secretary; Mr. Mohenesh Singh MF, JP, Treasurer; Mr. Kamlesh Chand and the Young Alumni Chair; Mr. Vinal Chand.

The incoming President Mr. Parkas, graduated with a Diploma in Tertiary Teaching from FNU in 2012. Currently, he is employed at FNU as the Senior Statistics Officer.

Mr. Parkas said while he was excited to be elected to lead the FNUAA, he was fully aware of the huge responsibility placed on him and the new team.

“I must show my appreciation by thanking all the Alumni members for giving us their support and voting in the new members. I’m personally very privileged to be given this opportunity to lead the FNU Alumni Association. This is indeed a great honour and I know we have a significant role to play to assist our members as well as work with the FNU management and stakeholders in ensuring our current students receive the best education as well as training and employment upon graduation,” said Mr. Parkas.

He said some of their immediate plans were to focus on increasing the FNUAA membership as well as embark on several fund raising initiatives.

The outgoing President of the FNUAA, Mr. Netani Sukanaivalu said he was pleased to see that a new group of members were ready to take on the challenge to take the association to greater heights.

Mr. Sukanaivalu, a former Minister and senior academic said his love for the Fiji National University will still remain and he will continue to support the FNUAA and the institute whenever his expertise is needed.

“The benchmark has been set for the newly elected members to carry on and we wish them well in this new journey,” said Mr. Sukanaivalu.

Under Mr. Sukanaivalu’s leadership, the FNUAA engaged in several projects aimed at providing greater employment and training opportunities for students who graduated from the University.

“With all the projects and achievements of this inaugural committee, comes our loyalty to the University connected through very strong heartstrings. Serving the University in our capacity in voluntary roles has been our passion. This has been a result of team work and a passion for the university and the new members must continue with this legacy.”

FNU Vice Chancellor Professor Nigel Healey said all graduates (Alumni) are an important stakeholders as they are the institute's ambassadors.

"They will carry the 'brand' of the University on their curriculum vitae for the rest of their professional lives. The perceived value of the qualification to potential employers depends on the university's reputation for teaching and research," said Professor Healey.

"I am delighted to welcome on board the newly-elected executive team of Fiji National University Alumni Association. FNUAA is still a young association, but the new team is building on the firm foundations already set by the former FNUAA President, Netani Sukanaivalu, and his colleagues. We acknowledge and thank them for their vision."

The handover function was held late last month at the FNU's Derrick campus, Samabula.

For further details on the FNUAA and registration, FNU alumni can contact the President, Prashil Parkas via email: [prashilparkas@yahoo.com](mailto:prashilparkas@yahoo.com)

Members can also contact the FNU Alumni Office on 3394000, ext. 2882 or email to [AO-DPD@fnu.ac.fj](mailto:AO-DPD@fnu.ac.fj)

**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).