

THURSDAY 19 JULY, 2018

Press Release

Students flock in numbers to the FNU Open Day

Suva, Fiji Islands. Excited secondary school students dressed smartly in their uniforms arrived bright and early to Nasinu Campus, one of the three venues that is hosting the Fiji National University (FNU) Open Day ready to discover the wide range of programmes on offer and also to firm up on their choice of study they intend to pursue at University.

The FNU organised its Open Day on Thursday and Friday 19 and 20 July, which is being hosted at three centres, Nasinu Campus (Central Division), Natabua Campus, Lautoka (Western Division) and Labasa Civic Centre (Northern Division).

Fiji National University Vice Chancellor Professor Nigel Healey in his welcome remarks reminded the students the importance of spending quality time at each of the display booths and interact with senior academics and current FNU students so they are able to get a better understanding of the programmes offered at FNU as well as the correct pathways towards achieving their respective career goals.

“Think of the Open Day as the academic equivalent of an international car show. All our Colleges and all our programmes are on show here. You can browse the exhibitions, talk to our staff and students, and find out more about what each programme entails and the job prospects when you graduate,” said VC Healey.

Since FNU’s programmes have a strong vocational focus Professor Healey said it is important for prospective students to think carefully about the career they want to have and need to choose the right programme and major.

“For example, if a student wants to become an accountant, they need to select the right courses to meet the requirements for a Certified Professional Accountant accreditation. While changing programmes and majors is possible, it often prolongs the period of studies for students.”

“Open Days are a good way for students to browse, while deciding a broad area of study for example engineering, agriculture, medicine or business. Students can then focus and decide which particular course they are interested in for example in engineering programmes are offered in the fields of civil, mechanical or electrical,” added VC Healey.

Professor Healey also highlighted good news for current and future students as under the ‘digitalFIJI’ initiative led by Walesi, which recently launched the free-to-air digital boxes and the Walesi mobile app (which allows digital TV to be viewed on a smart phone), the Government is funding Walesi to work with Fiji National University to install high-speed wifi across all campuses and centres.

“We are investing heavily in technology, to reach ever more students with blended learning programmes to help people study in their own communities. We recently connected the University directly to the Southern Cross submarine cable, which means our broadband speeds are now superfast. We are currently working with Walesi to ensure that all our campuses and teaching centres have comprehensive wifi access, wherever you are on campus,” said Professor Healey.

All three Open Day venues feature displays from all five Colleges of the Fiji National University namely the College of Humanities and Education (CHE), College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences (CMNHS), College of Engineering, Science and Technology (CEST), College of Business, Hospitality and Tourism Studies (CBHTS) and the College of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (CAFF).

In addition to this there are displays set-up by team from the support sections of the University such as Library, Student Services, the Fiji National University Students' Association as well as several important stakeholders such as the Tertiary Scholarship and Loans Board (TSLB) from whom students can get important information if they need financial assistance as they plan to pursue their tertiary education.

More than 100 Secondary Schools will visit the three Open Day venues and together with members or the public, the total number of visitors to this event is expected to be more 10,000.

The Open Day continues tomorrow Friday 20 July from 9am – 5pm at all three venues.

For more information contact: Ranbeer Singh| Acting Senior Manager Public Relations & Communications | P: 339 4000 | Ext: 2890|Email: mprc@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).