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Press Release

Free annual health screening for Fiji National University staff

Suva, Fiji. The Fiji National University (FNU) has strengthened its commitment towards developing a positive work and study environment for its staff and students by undertaking several health and wellness initiatives across all its major campuses.

FNU Vice Chancellor Professor Nigel Healey while speaking at a symposium organised by the Pacific Society for the Reproductive Health (PSRH) stated the University has also adopted the Ministry of Health guidelines for healthy eating, in all food supplied by the University to staff.

“We are committed to taking a more proactive approach to improving the health status of our staff and students,” said Professor Healey.

“We have instituted free annual health screening for all FNU staff, testing for early signs of type 2 diabetes and heart disease, as well as screening for the two major killers – prostate and breast cancer. Also have agreed with the University Council to provide free and comprehensive medical insurance to all staff from 1 January 2019,” VC Healey added.

The free medical screening for staff was conducted in the central, western and northern division over a two-week period.

“Although we have focused in this first phase on screening for, and the prevention of, NCDs and cancers, we understand the centrality that reproductive health plays in the health status of the nation. As a university, we are taking in lead in the sexual education of our students and the promotion of safe sex,” the VC said.

Professor Healey also informed delegates that the University has also designed and begun the tender process for the construction of a gymnasium at Nasinu Campus for recreational sport and exercise for staff and students.

“We are all proud of the fact that FNU has been the medical centre of excellence for the Pacific Islands since the foundation of Suva Medical School in 1885. For the last 133 years, we have trained the region’s doctors, dentists, nurses and allied health workers,” said Professor Healey.

Professor Healey also acknowledged the valuable work that PSRH is doing to promote sexual reproductive health in the Pacific.

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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).