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## **Press Release**

### **FNU HOSTS INTERNAL QUALITY CIRCLES**

**Suva, Fiji Islands.** Fourteen Quality Circle teams from within the Fiji National University (FNU) will compete in the Internal Quality Circles Competition (IQCC) which will be held at the Tamavua Campus this Friday.

The IQCC is an annual event organised by the University's Department of Quality Standards Office, which is part of the National Training and Productivity Centre (NTPC). This internal competition provides a platform to staff to form Quality Circle teams which defines and solves a quality or performance related problem.

The event will be opened by the Permanent Secretary for Employment Productivity and Industrial Relations Salaseini Serulagilagi Daunabuna.

The QC idea was initiated by Japanese Doctor Kaoru Ishikawa and was formally introduced in 1962 to get organisations to encourage team building and to prepare employer and employees to overcome challenges of the changing time and conditions.

NTPC Director Doctor Isimeli Tagicakiverata said that Quality Circle competitions brought out extraordinary qualities from ordinary people.

Dr Tagicakiverata said QCs and the competitions also ensured effective team work, job satisfaction, problem solving capacity, communication, self-development, leadership development along with safety awareness and housekeeping.

The QC teams are formed with 4-10 members from the same work area and share common understanding and knowledge of problems.

"The interest from within the University has grown. Last year there were 11 teams that participated in the Quality Circles competition. And this year we have 14 teams. A positive move as more departments within the University want to be of the Quality Circles competition. More departments participating means they are keen on improving service delivery," Dr Tagicakiverata said.

Defending IQCC champs Team Subhavahava from the Nadi Campus will be back to defend its title against the likes of Team Exceeders, Team Henko, Team Naviti Avengers, Team Advocates for Changes, Team Patient Pullers, Team Wild West, Team Sudhaarized Timi, Team Naceva Warceep, Team Duavata, Team Derrick Roses, Team Student Services, Team Blue Wings.

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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).