

CAFF hosts first staff awards nite



Asinate Moroca receives the Academic Staff of the Year award from FNU Pro Vice Chancellor Learning and Teaching, Professor James Pounder.

Thirty staff from the Fiji National University's (FNU) College of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (CAFF) were recognized for their outstanding work during the inaugural CAFF Staff Awards event.

Chief Guest, FNU Pro Vice Chancellor Learning and Teaching, Professor James Pounder while congratulating the winners acknowledged their commitment and dedication.

Professor Pounder said such award events motivate staff to excel in their work performance, build strong teams and overall contributes to increased efficiency and productivity.

All staff were asked to vote for someone other than themselves, academic separate from support staff and the staff who scored the highest number of nominations was declared the winner.

"This inaugural awards night is a memorable event and we need to celebrate such things. This whole celebration is really about the management structure, the manager in this particular faculty who is wanting to breathe life into the staff and keep them motivated," said Professor Pounder.

Sharing his experiences, Professor Pounder said supervisors were very good at finding out what staff did wrong but rarely celebrated what staff did right.

"It is very easy to blame people but recognition of good work is extremely important and it is a very good motivational factor. The way that we motivate people is by giving them recognition and praising good work."

"The thing that created internal motivation was excellent supervision, a caring and considerate supervisor and also the praise for good work. I see that this celebration is all about rejoicing the dedication and commitment of staff towards their work," Professor Pounder added.

CAFF Dean, Professor Paul Iji said the College, as an arm of the University, has grown tremendously and has produced high caliber manpower required by the areas of agriculture, fisheries and forestry in Fiji and the region.

Professor Iji highlighted that the College has the most vibrant group of academics from throughout the world in agriculture, fisheries, forestry and veterinary.

"When I joined CAFF some 11 months ago, I inherited a group of very committed and hardworking staff. The first thing that came to my mind was to introduce an award system that will not only recognize the contribution but also stimulate the staff to achieve more," said Professor Iji.

The Dean also acknowledged the support from the stakeholders in Fiji and outside the region, particularly the Fijian Government for its continuous support towards the College.

Meanwhile, the two prestigious awards of the night; Academic Staff of the Year and Support Staff of the Year was awarded to senior academic Asinate Moroca and Angelina Singh respectively.

Asinate Moroca, who has been in the field of agriculture for more than 29 years now, dedicated the award to her family, especially to her husband.

"My husband has always stood beside me and supported my decisions. It is difficult for a full-time working woman to manage home and work but I always had the support of my husband and my family and also the CAFF family," said Moroca.

Support Staff of the Year recipient, Angelina Singh said she was pleasantly surprised to win the award.

"It was hard for me to believe that staff nominated me for this award. I never realised that I was an inspiration to so many of my female colleagues at the College," said Singh.

Singh climbed the ranks from being a Personal Assistant to Executive Officer through her dedication and commitment to work.

Dean CAFF, Professor Iji encouraged all staff to continue working hard and provide the best services to students.



Angelina Singh receives Support Staff of the Year award from Pro Vice Chancellor Learning and Teaching, Professor James Pounder.

Below is the list of winners:

CAFF Academic Staff Award	
2nd Runner Up 2018	Dr Archibold Bakare
	Dr Champathi Gunithilake
	Esava Tabua
	Ilaitia Ledua
	Dr Marti Dugan
	Dr Pramod Nair
	Regina Singh
	Dr Salesh Kumar
	Dr Shipra Shah
1st Runner Up	Dr Josephine Olver
	Dr Kaliova Ravuiwasa
	Dr Jahangeer Bhat
	Waisea Sewabu
Appreciation Awards	Dr Hirdesh Sachan
	Dr Shipra Shah
	Emanuel Ram
CAFF Academic Staff of the Year Award	Asinate Moroca
CAFF Support Staff Award	
3rd Runner Up	Jai Ram
	Karishma Murthy
	Luke Rasauliwa
	Miliakere Dinawa
	Miliana Rokowaga
	Ratu Ligani Bulidreketi
	Ravinesh Sharma
	Sonika Singh
	Vaseva Koro
	Vinita Prasad
2nd Runner Up	Binal Singh
1st Runner Up	Esala Seduadua
CAFF Support Staff Award of the Year	Angelina Singh