

## Education Minister officiates at FNU graduation ceremony

Graduates from Fiji National University's (FNU) College of Humanities and Education (CHE) were urged to always follow ethical practice and strive to be an inspiration to their colleagues at their workplaces.

Speaking at the first of the four FNU 2019 May graduation ceremonies, Chief Guest, Minister of Education, Heritage and Arts, Honourable Rosy Akbar also emphasised the need to build internal resilience.

"The sacrifices that you have made while trying to complete your studies is the reward for your achievement today," said Hon Akbar.



Chief Guest, Education Minister Rosy Akbar presents a certificate to a FNU College of Humanities and Education (CHE) graduate.

in programmes such as primary and secondary education, sports science, child care, hairdressing and beauty therapy, screen printing and signage, graphic design, and ageing and community support care.

According to the Minister, over the past decade, consistent and targeted investment in the education of Fiji students has led to the achievement of unprecedented number of Fijian children access to secondary, technical and vocational education and training (TVET) and tertiary education.

Hon Akbar said the current government understands the importance of equitable access to high quality education for every Fijian and that the Government will continue to put in place measures to ensure no Fijian is deprived of the right to education.

Speaking on the recent FNU Council appointments, Hon Akbar said the Ministry looks forward to working with the council to enhance FNU's reputation with international accreditations and encourage more research work.

Newly appointed Chancellor of FNU, Dr Rajesh Chandra acknowledged the Ministry's confidence in his ability to lead the FNU Council and ensure that there is both direction and monitoring and evaluation by the Council of the university's work, and the Council facilitates the work of the Vice Chancellor and his management in a joint commitment to transform FNU into a premier university.

Dr Chandra said FNU is working closely with the Ministry of Education to train teachers in subject areas such as Maths, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, English, Agricultural Science and Industrial Arts that have been identified as current priority areas where teachers are needed.

"I am pleased to note that this year there has been a 13 % increase in the intake of students undertaking teacher training programmes offered at the College compared to Semester 1, 2018," said Dr Chandra.

"FNU is investing half a billion dollars over the next ten years in the construction of new buildings and infrastructure. This will transform FNU into a modern, well-equipped higher education institution which Fijians will be proud to call their national university."

Dr Chandra encouraged all graduates to hard work and never put out the flames of dreams and aspirations they have.



Graduates pose for a picture after the ceremony.