

## Life is an ongoing learning process, reminds Academic



*Professor Iji welcomed the new intakes at the Koronivia Campus Orientation this morning.*

First year students enrolled at Fiji National University's (FNU) College of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (CAFF) were challenged to strive for excellence.

CAFF Dean Professor Paul Iji told students to work hard and aim for the top.

"At the start of every new session, reflect on what you have accomplished so far, and be thankful, but do not be satisfied with that, be determined to reach even greater heights," said Professor Iji.

The senior academic urged students to be prepared to overcome obstacles in their new academic pursuit.

"Most secondary school students think that when they enter the University it is the end however this is just the beginning of your journey. You are going to be here to three years and when you leave this place, you will realise that life is an ongoing learning process," said the Dean.

Students were informed about the wide range of employment prospects in the Agriculture field and urged to explore business opportunities instead on relying on securing employment in government departments.

"You should think about creating your own jobs, own business and farms when you finish from here. You will find that these areas will generate more income for you," he added.

CAFF Associate Dean Learning and Teaching Dr Kaliova Ravuiwasa also took the opportunity to share words of empowerment and encouragement with students.

"At the CAFF we have the best profile of staff, who are Pacific's highly qualified people to teach you. There's no other Agricultural institute in the country that has got the highest number of doctors that we have here. We have got robust

number of staff coming from abroad," said Dr Ravuiwasa.

Amongst the new students at the Orientation program were Vilisi Tupua, Salanieta Matanikudrau and Ashley Nand all of whom will study Bachelor of Science in Agriculture.

The trio are from different backgrounds and different parts of Fiji and are all excited to start their new journey together.

Tupua who is a former student of Ratu Finau Secondary School said she is ready to be part of College of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

"I chose this programme because I have to achieve my goals as I want to become an Agriculture teacher," she said.

Similar sentiments were shared by former Tavua College student Ashley Nand who also appreciated the effort by the FNU in organising the Orientation Program.

"It's actually a good session. There were a lot of ideas shared by the staff who made presentations and we also got to meet our Heads of Schools and Course Coordinators," commented Nand.

Matanikudrau a former Lautoka Muslim College student said studying Agriculture will open up good employment opportunities given the Fijian Government's drive towards boosting this sector.

"I am glad FNU provides courses in this area and with the professional staff and best facilities I can't wait to begin my tertiary journey here," she said.

Orientation programs have been organized at various FNU Campuses to provide important information to new students regarding the college, courses, academic staff, lecture room locations, ICT labs, library and other support services available on campus. A similar program will be held at FNU's Ba Campus tomorrow.



*(L-R) Ashley Nand Vilisi Tupua and Salanieta Matanikudrau ready to begin their tertiary studies.*