

Major infrastructure upgrade planned to transform FNU

The Fiji National University (FNU) is set to invest half a billion dollars over the next ten years in the construction of new buildings and infrastructure.

This major capital project will be executed under the campus master plan which will cover University sites across the country.



*FNU Vice Chancellor
Professor Nigel Healey*

FNU Vice Chancellor Professor Nigel Healey said the \$500M project is in line with the vision of making the University world-class and providing students with a modern learning environment.

“We will transform FNU into a modern, well-equipped university which Fijians will be proud to call their national university,” said Professor Healey.

“FNU inherited a lot of old buildings, some of which have reached the end of their lives and are beyond economic repair. All these structures have been reviewed as part of our master plan exercise and these will steadily be replaced with new and modern facilities.”

“At the same time, our repairs and maintenance budget has increased several fold over the last two years thanks to support from the Fijian Government. As you will be aware, we have commenced repair works at many of our buildings across our campuses.”

“These include lecture rooms, hostel accommodation, libraries, cafeteria, administration blocks and so forth. During the maintenance period, we have experienced some limited disruptions to the services we offer, but we are trying to manage these to the best of our ability.”

Professor Healey said the University was trying to address accommodation

issues for students due to unavailability of some hostel rooms due to ongoing maintenance programme.

“We have a clear application process that students who are seeking accommodation on campus need to follow. Unfortunately, due to the current maintenance programme, we have to take some rooms out of use while they are being upgraded which temporarily increases the pressure on our accommodation,” commented VC Healey.

“We are working with our teams to prioritise accommodation for students, but unfortunately we won’t be able to cater for everyone. To this end we are looking at connecting students to alternative accommodation sites, as well as encouraging home-stay options,” Prof Healey added.

The Vice Chancellor said along with the repair programme, construction contracts for important new building projects have been issued since last year.

These include ongoing construction work of the new Labasa Campus, a three-storey building at the Fiji Maritime Academy (FMA), a new four-storey academic and administration building and sports complex both at Nasinu Campus.

Another major project that will begin construction this year will be the state-of-the-art Animal Hospital at the College of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry in Koronivia.

“There is a lot of construction work that the University is currently undertaking as well as being planned for in the coming years. This is certainly a very exciting time for tertiary education in Fiji and for our students that will be joining the Fiji National University,” Professor Healey said.

Semester One begins on Monday, 4 February 2019.



Construction work on the four-storey CBHTS building underway at FNU Nasinu Campus