



NTPC hosts First IT Conference

The Fiji National University's (FNU) National Training and Productivity Centre (NTPC) will host the inaugural National Conference on Information Technology next month at the Pearl South Pacific Resort.

The one-day event which will be officiated by the Attorney General and Minister for Economy, Public Enterprises, Civil Service and Communications Honorable Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum is expected to attract the country's leading IT specialists.

Director NTPC, Dr Isimeli Tagicakiverata said the conference will be about knowledge sharing on the best IT practices in the industry through paper presentations, panel discussions and networking.



An in-house training on IT programmes with the ASCO Motors team in Nadi last year.

"We are very excited to host this event. There is a lot of interest from the business community as well as both the public and private sector. We are expecting more than 120 delegates to attend," he said.

Dr Tagicakiverata said FNU has been working with the Fijian Government through the 'DigitalFIJI' initiative led by Walesi to install high speed wifi across all campuses and centres.

He said last year FNU had also installed the Australian Academic and Research Network (AARNet) connection.

"Fiji is shifting into the digital era or transformation. For FNU we are already making head ways in setting up the AARNET connection and providing high speed wifi throughout our campuses and centres. This conference is in line with the initiatives that the Fijian Government has in place through DigitalFIJI

to make more key Government services available online and through mobile applications," Dr Tagicakiverata said.

"We are also using this platform to launch our NTPC app that we have been working on over the last couple of months by a team of IT Trainers. Through downloading the NTPC app people will be able to find out what short courses are coming up at a venue closest to them. News about NTPC and our projects."

Dr Tagicakiverata said the conference theme "Digital Transformation Towards a Smarter Fiji" is in line with the Fijian Government's roadmap on digital transformation of its services.

He said a digital transformation could be defined as the acceleration of business activities, processes, competencies and models to fully leverage the changes and opportunities of digital technologies and their impact in a strategic and prioritized way.

"Today we are proud to announce our line-up of keynote speakers for the 2019 Conference. Our very own Pro Vice Chancellor Research Professor Mohini Singh is also a guest speaker at the event," Dr Tagicakiverata said.

"The cornerstone of this IT conference is providing access to insights from prominent, high-caliber experts across a variety of fields, and our keynotes are an integral component in delivering this. We're excited for the opportunity to be staging this event."

Registrations for the National Conference on Information Technology closes on 1 March. The event will be held on Friday, March 8.

Registration is open online through this link <https://www.fnu.ac.fj/new/article/3668-ncit-registration-2019> or contact Praneel phone: 6724073

The speakers confirmed for the conference are as follows:

- Professor Mohini Singh**, Pro Vice Chancellor (Research), Fiji National University.
- Mr. Shivnesh Prasad**, Director Communications, Ministry Communications, Fiji.
- Mr. Andrew Kumar**, Chief Technology Officer, Vodafone Fiji.
- Ms. Sue Bryant**, South Pacific Regional Director, Huawei Technologies.
- Mr. Sandeep Sehgal**, Director, Pallas Athena Consulting Pvt. Ltd, India.
- Mr. Jitendra Singh**, Chief Information Officer, Williams & Gosling Pte Limited.
- Mr. Karunesh Mani**, Managing Director, Kastel Technologies Ltd, an international company specializing in Networks, Threat Management, Data Center, Voice, Security and Infrastructure.
- Mr. Mukesh Babu**, Centre Head for Centre of Excellence in IT (CEIT).
- Professor A B M Shawkat Ali**, Data Scientist Consultant for iLab-Fiji Pte Ltd.