

From the President

Dear Fellow Alumni,



Greetings from the F N U Alumni Association. Our Alumni Association is a group of passionate and talented alumni who are committed to providing opportunities for alumni to engage with the University

and with one another, to support activities that highlight our alumni's achievements and to involve current students as future stakeholders of our association. As the first ever Alumni association, we are creating history.

During the 2016/2017 service year, the Association is working diligently to define new strategic directions and goals focused on alumni development. We are graduates of some of the oldest institutions in Fiji, now merged into the Fiji National University – to become a premier provider of education nationally.

The FNU Alumni Association has identified 2 fields of interest that we plan to concentrate on during our term of service: Projects and Networking. The emphasis is being made on concrete negotiations with major stakeholders and organised activities that contribute to building, improving and promoting projects and networking through the Association. The

successful completion of our goals depends on the entire Alumni community – we expect your membership, involvement and inspiration.

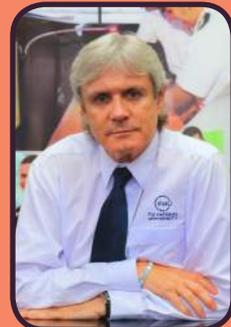
There are many ways for alumni to contribute and give back to our University. I encourage you to contact me directly if you are considering volunteering, participating in an event, or making a gift to the alumni fund. I hope to see you at the Alumni Weekend from 14-15 October 2016, the largest alumni event of the year. There we can relive all the incredible memories and reconnect with our classmates and faculty to remember the many transformational experiences that began long ago.

Sincerely,

Netani Sukanaivalu '71
President, FNU Alumni Association
Outstanding Alumni Award recipient 2015

Vice Chancellor's Message

Welcome to our new Alumni Newsletter, connecting Fiji National University (FNU) and our global alumni community. The establishment of FNU in 2010 began with the unification of seven prestigious institutions that make up our national university today. FNU proudly sustains a



legacy of educating the nation for over 130 years through institutions such as the Suva Medical School that began providing education in 1885 and remains an integral part of the University today.

Alumni are a university's strongest pillars and stand as brand ambassadors of the university in the global arena. After graduation, the value of alumni curriculum vitae in the job market depends upon the reputation of the university from which they earned their certificate, diploma or degree.

As Vice Chancellor, I understand the duty we have to you, our alumni, to make you proud of FNU. This is why we are working hard to strengthen the quality of our teaching and research to build the profile of FNU as the nation's university. In this pursuit, the University has also established the very first Alumni Association – a body representing the interests of graduates. We proudly support the association in its engagement in development projects to lead the further development of the University.

Our vision is of an integrated, national post-secondary system that provides access to education and training to all Fijians, enabling our people to gain the skills and knowledge they need to be successful in an increasingly global labour market.

In this issue of the Alumni Newsletter, you will find examples of ways that FNU is developing its curriculum and research to support the nation's social and economic development. You will also find accounts of the way that our alumni are making a difference around the world.

I hope you find this Newsletter an enjoyable and inspiring read.

Upcoming Events

Alumni Weekend
14 - 15 October 2016

Graduation Ball
December 2016

In this Issue

Continuing the legacy of leadership

Graduate profiles

Association makes its mark

Association secures partnership with Fiji

Nurses Association

FNU steps into culture of graduate development

Alumni Weekend – a declared tradition

FNU Alumni Association acquires official registration

The year in pictures

FNUAA Vision Statement

To become a key and active member of the FNU community in building and fostering lifelong commitment, pride and passion for the University.

GRADUATE PROFILES

**Roneal Murti – 2010,
Bachelor in Information Systems**

Roneal is an ICT Product Manager at Digicel Fiji Limited. He expands Digicel's ICT service portfolio through in-house development and partner collaboration. Roneal initiates and implements sales to increase revenue, develop product documentations and collaborates with customers, partners and internal constituencies to ensure an efficient work environment. While serving Digicel, Roneal has been awarded Digicel (Fiji) Best Business Solutions Awards in 2015 and Digicel (Fiji) Innovation Award in 2013.

**Asnil Vikash Singh – 2013, Bachelor of
Commerce (Accounting & Banking)**

Asnil is appointed as an Accounts officer (Receivables & Payables) at City Equipment & Machinery Hire. He enjoys practicing accounting knowledge and skills acquired through study at FNU's College of Business, Hospitality & Tourism Studies.

**George Michael Ting Seeto – 2010,
Diploma in Architectural Technology**

George is a Draughtsman at the Fiji Sugar Corporation Limited in Lautoka, Fiji. He proudly draws plans for steel structures, timber structures, mechanical drawings, and instrument and tramline drawings. He also actively participates in making survey drawings. Since graduation in 2010, George has advanced in the architectural field with years of experience in engineering firms and continues to thrive in his field of study.

**Tevita Kanamata Tuibau – 2015, Bachelor
of Education (Accounting & Economics)**

Tevita is an Economic Planning Officer – Expenditure Management and Analysis in Nadi, Fiji. His professional advancement includes appointment as Head of Department Commerce at Rev Thomas Baker Memorial School in Navosa where he served diligently and was later appointed a Research and Media Assistant at the Ministry of Education, Heritage & Arts. He later was promoted to Research Officer at the Ministry for Education and is currently practicing his skills as a teacher.

**Rishika Chand Sharma – 2015, Bachelor
of Commerce (Management & Industrial
Relations and Human Resources
Management)**

Rishika is as Assistant Court Officer in Suva, Fiji. She facilitates counter service for Public and Legal clients including court order administration, handling legal complaints and preparation of new files.

STORIES | EVENTS

Continuing the legacy of leadership

Former Minister for Education Netani Sukanaivalu, a graduate from the faculty of the Fiji Institute of Technology was elected President of the first ever FNU Alumni Association in November 2015. Announcing the result of the election, University Chancellor and Chair of the FNU Council Mr Iqbal Jannif, said, "Mr. Sukanaivalu is recognised nationally for his service to the education sector and is responsible for the formation of the Fiji National University – he is the most worthy candidate to lay the foundation of the first ever alumni association."

The alumni community bestowed profound trust in the executives and a training workshop was organised to plan the future of the alumni network. Speaking at the Alumni workshop in FNU Raiwai campus, Association President Mr Sukanaivalu said the Association is a body supporting the interests of graduates. The workshop highlighted the main area of pursuit for the association with development projects being the focal point. Through the workshop, the executive team was able to map the strategic focus of the association, the welfare of its members, the employability of FNU graduates in the workforce and the tools needed to enhance the current student experience.

**Association makes its mark**

The FNUAA hosted its inaugural National Campus Tour around Fiji aiming to reconnect, empower and make a difference. Touring the University campuses, the executive committee had the opportunity to interact with the current student body and speak about the association and the benefits of membership. The tour ended successfully as students turned up in large numbers and the association presented its plan directly to the students.

This opportunity intertwined a graceful relationship between current students and alumni.

**Association secures partnership with Fiji Nurses Association**

The FNUAA extended an arm of partnership to the Fiji Nurses Association – where majority members are FNU alumni. The Association believes in strengthening bonds that benefit alumni professionally. The association demonstrated its commitment to alumni development through partial sponsorship of nurses training needs. The sponsorship was extended by the association and support of the management of FNU which enabled 20 nurses to attend the training leading to renewal of nurses practicing license.



GRADUATE PROFILES

**Atinesh Vijay Prasad – 2014,
Trade Diploma in Civil Engineering**

Atinesh is an outstanding academic achiever who graduated with a Gold Medal in the Trade Diploma in Civil Engineering programme. He is known for his leadership in the Derrick Students' Association as the President / Founder of the Association. He represented the students in the Fiji National University Council in 2012. Currently, he is thriving in his field of study while continuing a Bachelor of Civil Engineering programme.

**Harjit Singh – 2005, Bachelor of Education
(Technical Vocational Education & Training)**

Harjit is currently serving his alma mater, Fiji National University as a Tutor in Plumbing and Sheetmetal at the School of Building and Civil Engineering in Ba, Fiji. His academic career is full of accomplishments as he made his way from a certificate IV qualification to a Bachelor's degree.

**Joel Israel – 2002, Diploma in Architectural
Technology**

Joel is an Assistant Architect with the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport. His academic qualification advanced after graduation from the Fiji Institute of Technology, he currently holds a Bachelor in Architectural Studies from the University of South Australia. In 2016 post Cyclone Winston, Joel aided a joint recovery mission in Vanuabalavu with the New Zealand High Commission. This mission allowed Joel to directly impact national development after the destruction caused by Cyclone Winston.

**Mosese Nabulivou – 2010, Diploma in
Environmental Science**

Mosese is a Project Leader at the Water Authority of Fiji where he implements, manages and supervises projects. He began his career as a Science Teacher at Suva Christian Community High and later advanced to being an Environment Analyst with the Asian Development Bank before joining WAF.

**Sakaraia Bukavesi Qioniwasa – 2014,
Higher Education Diploma Secondary
(Geography / History)**

Sakaraia is a teacher in charge of Social Science at Nabala Secondary School Labasa, a role he was appointed to immediately after graduation from the Fiji National University. He gained exceptional leadership qualities as the Student Council President in FNU's Natabua Campus in Lautoka. He was appointed Captain of the U20 western Rugby 15's team and participated at the Inter - tertiary competitions in Suva. Sakaraia aims to empower students to aspire into their dream careers as he did.

STORIES | EVENTS

FNU steps into culture of graduate development

Three sessions of Curriculum Vitae writing workshops were organised in the Central and Western divisions targeting alumni across the country. The FNUAA with assistance from the University alumni office determined a pool of graduates interested to further their skills in CV & Cover Letter writing. These graduates were then given a chance to return on campus to participate in the workshops and attain certificates. This training was aimed to address the growing demand for professionals in the national workforce by providing the industries with best possible candidates from the University's graduate population. More than 120 alumni attained certificate of participation.

**Alumni Weekend – a declared tradition**

The Senior Management Group of the Fiji National University chaired by the Vice Chancellor, Professor Nigel Healey, has declared 14 - 15 October 2016 as Alumni Weekend. The official program will commence with the launch of the Alumni lecture series featuring a guest lecture by Professor Jugdutt Singh of Swinburne University of Technology in Sydney, Australia. An official ceremony to commemorate the first ever alumni weekend will be held from Friday 14 to Saturday 15 October 2016 at the FNU Nasinu Campus grounds. This day is dedicated for alumni to return home to their alma mater and enjoy the homecoming planned for generations of graduates. Alumni Day will provide an opportunity for alumni to connect back to the University, to one another and to current students.

**FNU Alumni Association acquires official registration**

With support from alumni globally, the FNUAA peaked membership numbers sky high two years after official launch of the FNU Alumni Network- fourteen thousand and counting. The association projects include Water & Energy engineering research laboratory, open registry of foreign ships, Alumni lecture series, research on biogas energy generation, Engineering Tracer studies and other development projects – where the FNUAA President leads as part of a dynamic team. Registration approval was recently granted to the FNUAA by the Registrar of Industrial Associations. The association registration allows FNUAA to lead projects as a recognized independent body operating as part of the Fiji National University.

News in Brief

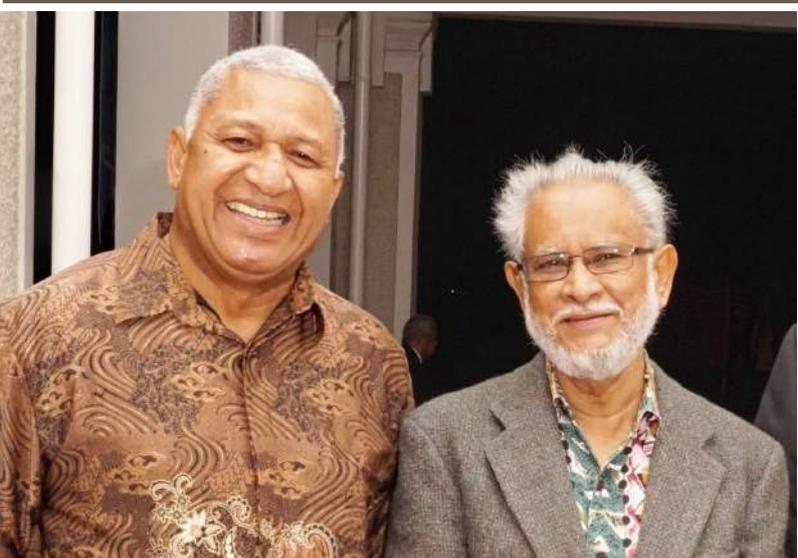
1. The Alumni Association executives have accepted an extension to their service term which now ends the next financial year: 31 July, 2017. The FNU Management applauds the leadership and support of the association as it continues to positively impact various areas of the university.
2. The Alumni office has launched a newly developed online platform for it's members, Visit : www.info.fnu.ac.fj/fnualumni to find out more.

**Are you
registered?****Current Alumni
Registration****14537
&
counting**

EVENTS GALLERY



The Year in Pictures



FNU ALUMNI OFFICE

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