The Fiji National University Newsletter tracks media coverage of FNU events on a weekly basis. The following news can be found on the website which shows how FNU was featured in the media in the past week.

- Age Is No Barrier
- Disability Not An Obstacle
- Kumar Dedicates Award To Wife
- Parents Hard Work Pays Off
- Ashir Plans To Excel Further
- Proud moment for 1420 FNU graduate
- More than 1000 graduate from FNU
- Sailor makes it to graduation
- Passion for teaching
- 10 complete studies

Positive Attitude is Vital: Chancellor

Chief Guest and the Chancellor of Fiji National University Mr. Ikbal Jannif challenged graduates to become role models and strive for excellence during the recent graduation ceremony held at the Vodafone Arena.

"The quality of your qualification will mean nothing if your attitude at work does not endear you to your workmates. Nobody likes a show-off. Your qualification will get you the job, but your ability to work as a team player will ensure that you remain in employment. You are masters of your own destiny."

The graduation ceremony, held in two sessions, witnessed a total of 1,423 students graduate from FNU. The ceremony marked another significant milestone in FNU’s calendar as it continued to produce skilled, qualified professionals ready to join the workforce.

“We have introduced new programmes to suit our employment market. We continue to upgrade our existing programmes to ensure we are up to par with the needs of our nation. With the support of the Fiji government in the education sector, FNU has seen an increase in intake which indicates the popularity and success of the programmes to not only produce the best people for work in Fiji but also abroad.”

Mr. Jannif said the University, though relatively new and young, has achieved a lot and

(Continued on pg 2)

CBHTS achieves a milestone

Two FNU lecturers created history by becoming first ever Master’s graduates from the College of Business, Hospitality & Tourism Studies (CBHTS) during the FNU April graduation ceremony.

Mr. Yogesh Nadan, graduated with Master of Commerce (MCom) in Accounting while Mr. Sanjay Sharma, graduated with Master of Commerce in Forensic Accounting.

Dean CBHTS, Professor Ram Karan said the interest from students to further their studies at FNU led to the introduction of these programmes.

“After successful offering of the Bachelor’s degree programme for almost 5 years, we saw

(Continued on pg 2)
CBHTS achieves a milestone

(Continued from pg 1)

most of our graduates aspiring to continue their studies at Fiji National University at Postgraduate and Masters Level. Thus, after consultation with our industry stakeholders and considering their current industry need, we developed these unique and highly demanded programmes.

These programmes have local and overseas recognition where the Master of Commerce – Accounting and Master of Commerce – Forensic Accounting were accredited by Certified Practicing Accountants (CPA) Australia and Fiji Institute of Accountants (FIA).

The College commenced offering Postgraduate and Masters programmes from Trimester 1, 2014.

“We want to acknowledge and thank our former College Dean Dr Mahendra Reddy for his contribution towards the commencement of this programme.

“Our aim is to ensure that all our programmes offered including Master’s degree, are of highest quality and recognised both locally and internationally. For this we are especially grateful to industry stakeholders and all the external Professors in Accounting, Economics, Banking and Finance and Management for their assistance in undertaking regular review and assessment of all our programmes to ensure they are current and geared towards industry and professional needs.

“Depending on the specialised area of study and research topics, the College determines the supervisors who have attained PhD qualification or have substantial research expertise in a particular field. Since these programmes are offered in three different locations (Nasinu, Namaka and Labasa campuses) we need more staff for postgraduate teaching,” he added.

The College plans to offer PhD studies soon.

Mr Sanjay Vikas Sharma

“I’m very excited and feel honoured to be one of the first graduates of Master’s programme from the College of Business, Hospitality and Tourism Studies. I have been a Lecturer at FNU for seven years now and I commenced studies in Master’s programme in Trimester 2, 2014. It took me two years to complete the programme. Writing two research papers as part of the programme was most challenging. My supervisor Prof Karan was very inspirational and kept on motivating me with his vast knowledge and research experience. My family has also been the motivating factor behind my success. I am thankful to the College for offering this programme which is locally and internationally recognised. My advice for youths is that one day, you’ll just be a ‘memory’ for some people, do your best to be a ‘good’ one.

Mr Yogesh Nadan

“I attended the graduation and felt the spotlight by the respected audience. Being awarded the first Master’s award at FNU is a prestigious experience beyond any words. I am overwhelmed and over the moon. I am keen on becoming a strong academic in the field of Accounting. I have been a Lecturer at FNU for almost seven years now and I have plans to pursue PhD in Accounting. I am thankful to FNU – CBHTS for offering MCom in Accounting which is recognised both by Fiji Institute of Accountants and Certified Practising Accountants (Australia). It is because of support from staff that morale of students is boosted and for which I am very thankful. To students currently pursuing Postgraduate programmes and those at Undergraduate level, I encourage you to aim for such qualification from FNU.

Positive Attitude is Vital: Chancellor

(Continued from pg 1)

will continue to grow and advance.

“We may not have posh buildings like other universities but what we do have here at FNU is good heart. Despite the challenges in recent weeks posed by Tropical Cyclones Winston and Zena, the morale at FNU, that of our students have not been dampened. Studies have continued in very trying circumstances. Our spirit to learn and to be educated is intact.

“As for facilities that were damaged during the disasters, let me inform you that work is well underway on getting these structures repaired and upgraded. We are working with various agencies including Government to ensure that these projects are completed as per schedule. In the meantime, as you are aware alternative arrangements have been made for students to ensure their studies aren’t affected.

“As the fastest growing University in Fiji and the region, we continue to develop because we challenge ourselves to be the best. There is no end to learning and as we live in a continuously developing age, it is best to continually upgrade yourself,” said Mr Jannif.
Rolland dedicates achievement to parents

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tudent Representative to the Fiji National University Council, Rahul Rolland plans to further education and become an academic with FNU.

“I most definitely want to fulfill my dream and return to FNU in the near future.”

Mr Rolland, who graduated with Bachelor in Information System, said he will miss uni life.

“There is so much I will miss. I have made lifelong friends with not only students but with staff also in the three years I have been here. I will miss sitting in for the council meetings, organising events for the student body and just being around everyone,” said Mr Rolland.

Mr Rolland works as a Business Analysts with Telecommunications Fiji Limited.

According to Mr Rolland the training and experiences gained over the years at FNU has molded him well for employment.

“The advantage of studying at FNU is the ability to have hands on experience along with the theoretical knowledge which I do believe is not provided at any other institution in Fiji; FNU prepares its students as per the market demand and I salute the different schools for providing the platform for the students.”

“Being in the Council, I was able to learn a lot from the experts of various fields. The more wonderful knowledge acquired was of leadership quality, respect and honesty which is the key factor for any working environment. There are a lot of other ways in which, during my stay at FNU, has improved my knowledge and skills to suit my current status,” he said.

Mr Rolland dedicates his achievement to his parents who he says are the pillar of strength and success and encourages other students to remember their parents always.

“Look back at the sacrifice your parents have made for you; It’s a fast moving era where standards and cost of living have become high. We all run for the dollar and at times forget our folks who had always been there in thick and thin - never forget them.”

Teacher graduates with honours

It was a proud moment for the Chaudhary family from Nayawa in Sigatoka as they watched their only son, Moiz Chaudhary graduate from Fiji National University School of Education on Friday, April 22, 2016.

Graduating with honours with Bachelors in Primary Education, Mr Chaudhary proved success is earned.

With three years of study finally paying off with such achievement, parents Mohida and Mukesh Chaudhary were nothing but proud of their child.

Mrs Chaudhary couldn’t hold back tears as shared it is one of the biggest day of her life to watch her son graduate.

“This is like an early Mother’s Day present he has given me. To see him graduate with a degree is such a big deal. I am just very proud,” said Mrs Chaudhary.

Chaudhary senior was full of praises for his son as he celebrates his achievement.

“This is one of the best days of my life. I feel very good and very proud of my son. He has done us proud as he has achieved his dream,” he said.

Mr Chaudhary has been teaching at the Naidiri Bekha Primary School in Sigatoka from early this year as he awaited graduation after successfully completing his degree in December last year.

Mr Chaudhary says he looks forward to furthering his studies with FNU in the near future but for now is more eager to go back and continue teaching his Classes 7 and 8.

It was indeed a delightful moment for Pita Tuipolotu Bilitaki to finally graduate with Diploma in Marine Engineering. Mr Bilitaki completed his studies in 2006 and had been out at sea on shipping vessels for the past 10 years. “I know I have finally graduated after starting in 2003 but the main reason I could not formally receive my certificate was because I have been out at sea every time graduation had been conducted. I do not regret it because I have gained so much experience being on local and overseas vessels. I have been to Northern Pacific and Kiribati and other island nations. This one exciting part of my job; I get to travel and experience new places,” said Mr Bilitaki. Pursuing a career that kept him close to the sea was always something he was sure of from a young age.
Degei eyes poultry business

With the right training, skill set, knowledge and qualification, Simione Degei is confident he is now more than ready to become the commercial poultry farmer.

Originally from Naimasimasi Village in Verata, Tailevu, Mr Degei was one of the 27 students to have graduated with Certificate III in Commercial Agriculture from the College of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry during the Fiji National University April graduation.

As a ‘farm boy’ he calls himself, Mr Degei believes he can now go back and earn a living in poultry farming from the comfort of his village.

“I specialised in poultry farming and it is good business particularly for my village,” he said. Mr Degei hopes to begin small and expand as his farm grows.

He thanked FNU for the practical work saying it has toughened him to know what to expect.

“The one year practical I was attached at the FNU Livestock farm has really prepared me for what I should and can do when starting a business.”

Mr Degei said it’s his faith and family that has kept him on course through the two years of study.

“I dedicate the achievement to the lord almighty for making all this possible and also my family back home, my lecturers for putting up with me and the government for the opportunity like this.”

Mr Degei was one of the 50 recipients from the second batch awarded with the government scholarship for the programme in 2014.

My 9 months in Advance Diploma of Management (ADM) programme with Fiji National University/National Training & Productivity Centre were the most exciting and challenging moments in my life. Knowledge gained through this programme not only made me a better leader, but also prepared me to face unpredictable scenarios/situations in my ever growing career.

Through work-shops with incredible competitive classmates, and tutors who were nothing short of champions, I was challenged to reach new heights I never expected of. These new heights have played a major role in my career path, as a matured thinker, as an excellent planner, confident communicator and a firm engager.

The ADM course, empowered me to be able to communicate, innovate and collaborate in ways which enabled me to become a successful leader in my organisation, and eventually got series of promotions in a short span of time. From November 2015 to April, 2016, I had 3 promotions, from Mechanical Superintendent to Acting Mill Manager, then Manager of Mechanical Maintenance Department and finally Manager of Engineering and Maintenance Department at Vatukoula Gold Mines.
1. **Name:** Kushboo Kushnuma Ram  
2. Which programme have you graduated in?  
   Bachelor in Primary Education  
3. How do you feel in today’s Graduation?  
   Excited and happy especially with my unborn baby I know he is feeling the pleasure inside too.

1. **Name:** Prasheel Nand  
2. Which Programme have you graduated in?  
   Certificate IV in Film and TV production  
3. How do you feel in today’s graduation?  
   So happy; finally dreams are coming true.

1. **Name:** Ashir Hussain  
2. Which programme have you graduated in?  
   Diploma in Networking (received an Excellence award)  
3. How do you feel in today’s graduation?  
   Its feels great after the hardwork and sleepless nights I had to go through.

1. **Name:** Anjana Wati Lal  
2. Which Programme have you graduated in?  
   Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting and Economics  
3. How do you feel in today’s graduation?  
   It’s really exciting because I am the youngest in the family so finally I am getting my Degree.

1. **Name:** Ana Sovaia Seruvakarua  
2. Which Programme have you graduated in?  
   Bachelor of Science in Agriculture  
3. How do you feel in today’s graduation?  
   Very proud that I have achieved my aim this year.

1. **Name:** Penioni Kubu  
2. Which Programme have you graduated in?  
   Trade Diploma in Forestry  
3. How do you feel in today’s graduation?  
   Excited and it was a great success event, I worked for 3 years for this and it all came to an end today.

1. **Name:** Prasheel Nand  
2. Which Programme have you graduated in?  
   Certificate IV in Film and TV production  
3. How do you feel in today’s graduation?  
   So happy; finally dreams are coming true.

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   Its feels great after the hardwork and sleepless nights I had to go through.

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**Congratulations on your graduation!**

For job vacancies and career opportunities at Fiji National University, go to [http://waf.fnu.ac.fj/eoi/](http://waf.fnu.ac.fj/eoi/) New posts are logged each week for academic and non-academic vacancies, so check regularly for the opportunity that could lead you to a new life. Some of the positions currently available online:

- Tutor in Crop Production  
- Assistant Lecturer in Fisheries  
- Lecturer II in Pathology  
- Training Instructor in HR/IR  
- Lecturer II in Medical Imaging Science  
- Training Assistant  
- Library Assistant  
- Cafeteria Supervisor  
- Warden  
- Compliance Officer  
- Clerical Assistant

The FNU newsletter is prepared by University Communications. Send your articles to SPRO@fnu.ac.fj