



The University of Fiji Annual Report 2010



Note from the Vice - Chancellor



The year started with a review on the strategic plan. Five new postgraduate programmes were launched during the year; these courses were from CIRA, University Wide Programmes, Department of Education, Masters of Business Administration and Department of Language, Literature and Communication.

An application was made to the Board of Legal Education early in 2010 for the approval of the Bachelor of Law programme. The Board, after due deliberations, approved the programme in June 2010. His Excellency, the President of the Republic of the Fiji Islands, Ratu Epeli Nailatikau, formally launched the School of Law on 12 August 2010.

The Vice- Chancellor, Professor Shrinivasiah Muralidhar

Among the dignitaries present on the occasion were the First Lady, Adi Koila Nailatikau, the Acting Prime Minister, Hon. Ratu Epeli Ganilau, Ministers of Cabinet, and the Chief Justice, Honorable Anthony Gates, members of the legal fraternity, members of the diplomatic corps and members of the University Council, staff and students.

This year we had visits from three External Advisers, Professor Amrik Sohal with the Department of Management, followed by Professor Ian Donaldson with the Department of Language, Literature and Communication, and Professor Dharmendra Sharma with the Department of Computer Science and Information Technology.

Another significant establishment in 2010 was the UniFiji Counseling Service that started immediately after the commencement of the Student Counselor's appointment on 7 June 2010.

There was a significant improvement in the salary and other incentives, for both senior and support staff of the University. The Registrar circulated details of these incentives, as approved by Council, to staff.

A great deal was achieved during 2010 despite many odds. The Vice-Chancellor expressed his gratitude to the following individuals from whom he drew strength and support: The Registrar, Mr. Tito Isala, the Chair of Council, Pt. Bhuwan Dutt, the Chair of Physical Planning & Development, Pt Kamlesh Arya, the Manager of Finance and Facilities, Mr. Ravineet Sami, Ms Vineeta Narayan, secretary and members of Senior Management Team. He also expressed his sincere gratitude to all the students, support staff, academic staff, HoDs, Deans, and Directors of Centres, for their dedication and hard work.

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1. Council

Name	Appointment by
APPOINTED MEMBERS	
Pt. Bhuwan Dutt	Ex-Officio
Prof Srinivasiah Muralidhar	Ex-Officio
Pt. Kamlesh Arya	Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji
Mr Arun Padarath	Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji
Ms Sushila Pathik	Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji
Mr Krishna Rai	Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji
Mr Shanti Saroj	Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji
Mr Agni Deo Singh	Fiji Teachers Union
Mr Abdul Qayyum Khan	Fiji Muslim League
Mr Kamal Shasaiya Mani	Dakshina India Andhra Sangam of Fiji
Mr Swami Tadananda	Ramakrishna Mission
Mr Dewan Chand Maharaj	Shree Sanatan D P Sabha of Fiji
Mr Dalabar Singh	The Sikh Association of Fiji
Honorable Filipe Bole	Government – Education Department
Mr Manhar Narsey	Gujarat Education Society in Fiji
Ratu Meli Q Saukuru	Ba Provincial Council
Prof. Rajesh Chandra	University of the South Pacific
Mr Joji Uluinakauvadra	Appointed by Senate
Dr Asinate Mausio	Elected Member
Mr Mohameed Nafeez	Elected by Student Association
Dr Gunsagarar Gounder	Co-Opted Member
Ms Vasantika Patel	Co-Opted Member
Ms Prudence Rouse	Co-Opted Member
Mr Anil Tikaram	Co-Opted Member
Mr Padam Raj Lala	Co-Opted Member
Mr Radike Qereqeretabua	Co-Opted Member
Mr Tito Isala	Secretary
Deans of Schools	In Attendance
Manager Finance and Facilities	In Attendance

2010 Council Members



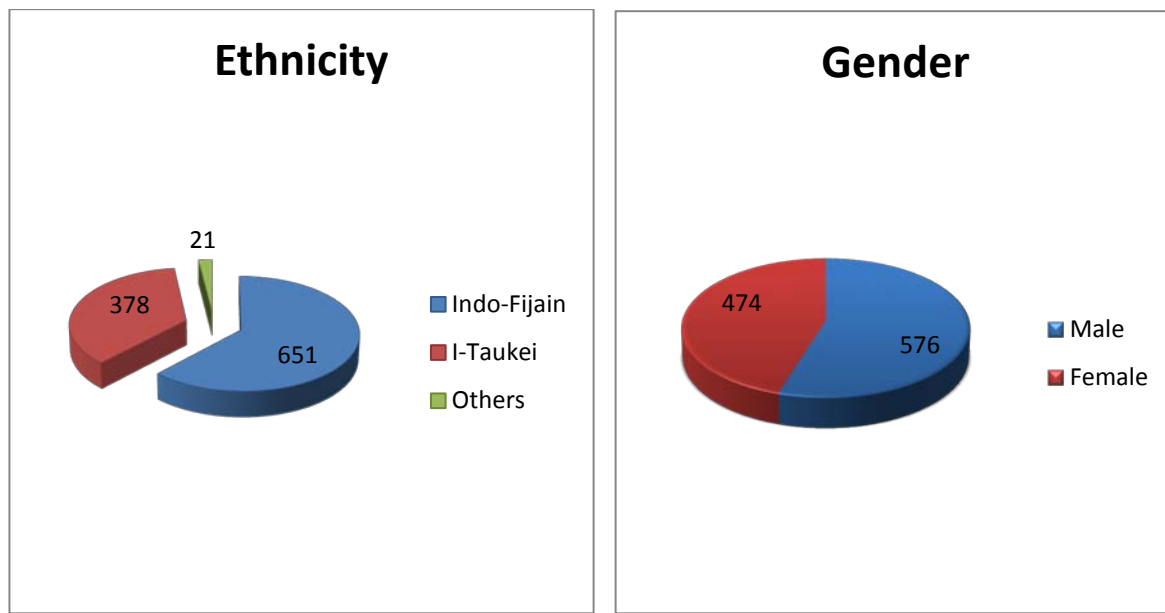
2. STUDENT ENROLMENT

A total of 1423 students were enroll-led and the breakdown of this is categorized into the following:

- a) **Ethnicity and gender;**
- b) **Home town;**
- c) **Programmes; and**
- d) **subjects/levels/gender.**

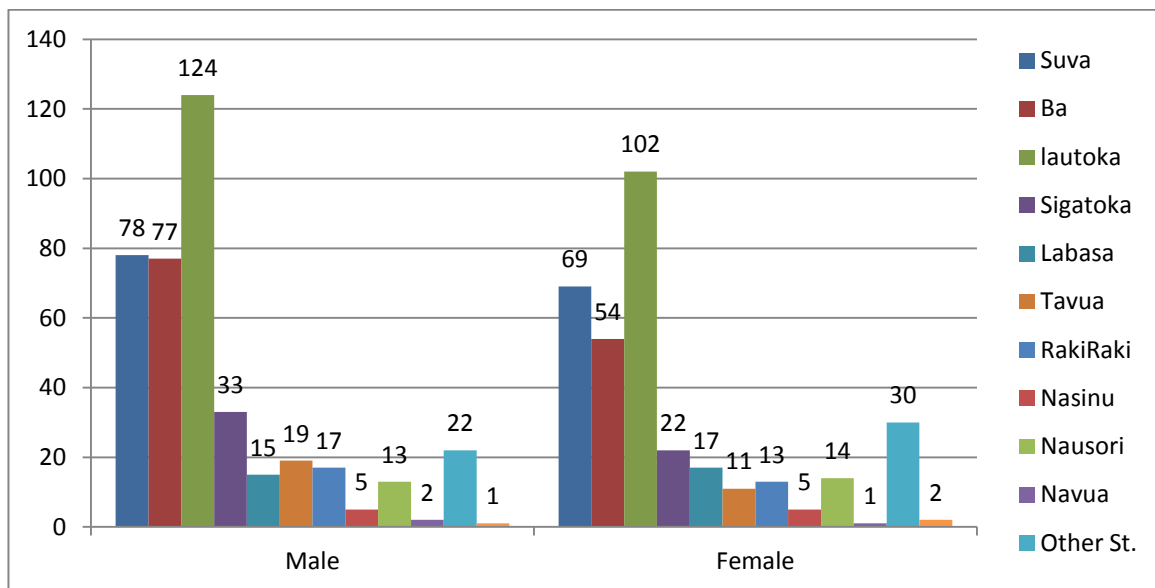
a) Ethnicity and gender

By Ethnicity and Gender	Indo-Fijian	iTaukei	Others	Total
Female	345	221	10	576(55%)
Male	306	157	11	474 (45%)
Total	651(62%)	378 (36%)	21 (2%)	1050



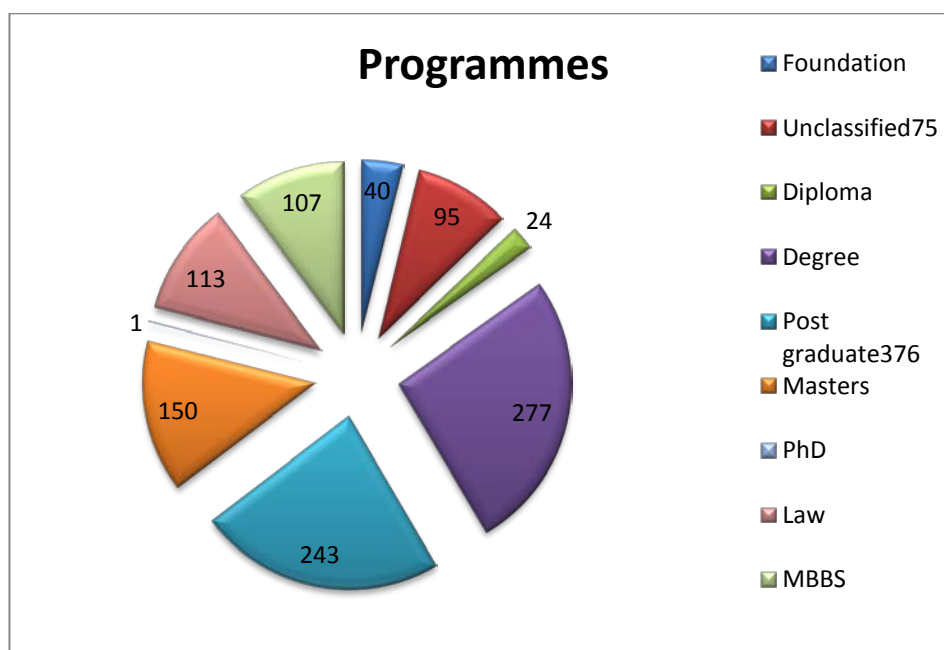
b) Home town

By Home	Suva Lami	Ba	Nadi	Ltk	Sigka	Lab. Tav/Savu	Tav.	Ra	Nas inu	Nau.	Na v	Ot h.	O/S eas	Total
Female	78	77	124	170	33	15	19	17	5	13	2	22	1	576
Male	69	54	102	134	22	17	11	13	5	14	1	30	2	474
Total	147	131	226	304	55	32	30	30	10	27	3	52	3	1050



c) Programmes

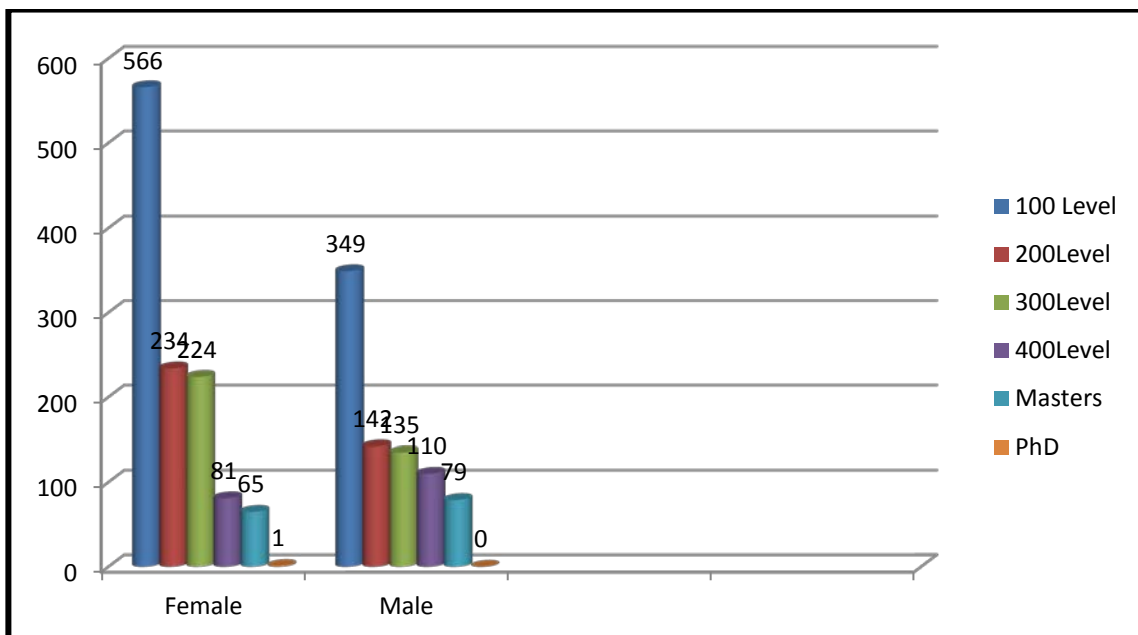
Program me	Fnd.	Cert	U/C	Dip	Deg	PG	Masters	PhD	Law	MBB S	Tot
No.of Students	40	-	95	24	277	243	150	1	113	107	1050



D).Enrolment by subject/ level/gender

	100		200		300		400		MA		PhD	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
ACC	34	32	43	30	40	38	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
BIF	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
BIO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CHE	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

ECO	39	11	14	6	7	0	1	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
EDU	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	25	8	54	76	54	64	N/A	N/A
ESC	N/A	N/A	10	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
HIC	38	19	5	7	7	6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
INR	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	4	4	3	5	N/A	N/A
ITC	89	67	29	24	24	22	0	6	0	2	N/A	N/A
ITK	64	36	5	3	8	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LAW	25	33	16	16	20	20	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LLC	110	64	19	10	12	2	8	0	6	1	1	0
MBA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	12	19	1	5	N/A	N/A
MGT	40	20	25	8	23	5	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
MTH	40	24	10	6	5	4	0	1	1	1	N/A	N/A
PHY	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
UUU	87	43	58	29	53	30	2	4	0	1	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	566	349	234	142	224	135	81	110	65	79	1	0



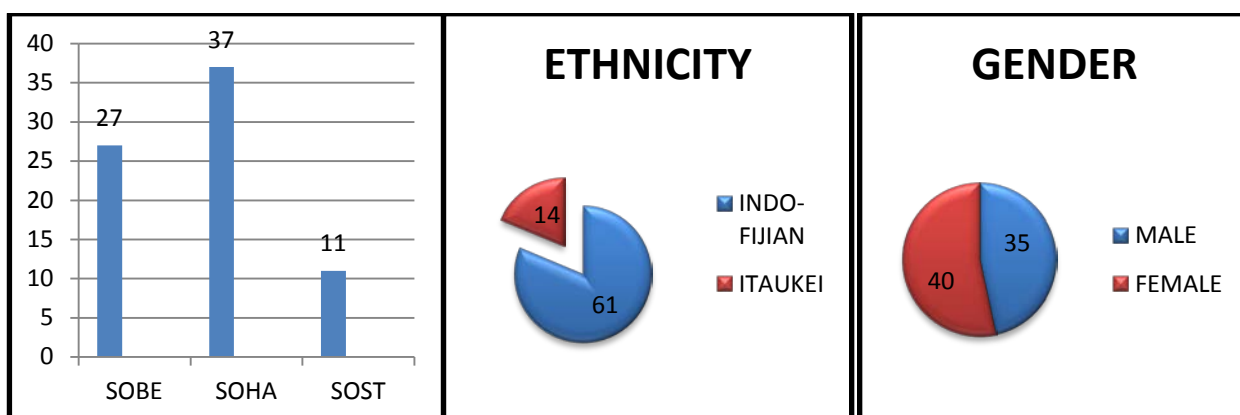
Enrolment by subject level/gender



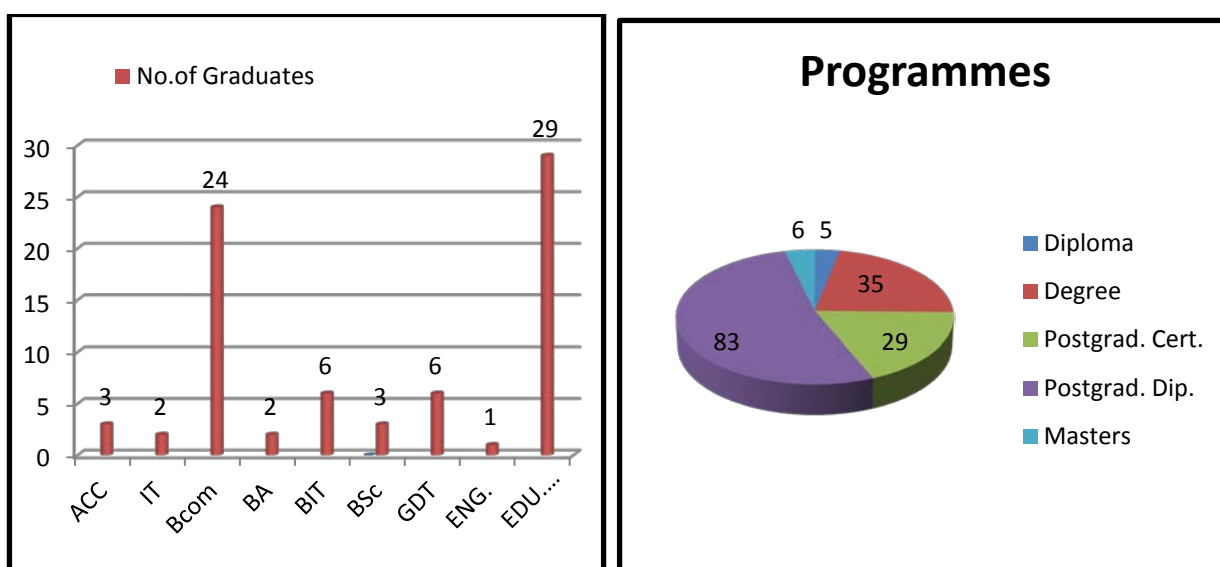
Registration for semester 2
Student Association team during registration

3.0 GRADUATION DATA - 2010

SCH/DEPT	CIR A	ITK	UU U	SO BE	SO HA	SOS T	SO L	FND .	MAL E	FEM ALE	IND.	ITAUKEI	OT H.	TOT
NOS.	-	-	-	27	37	11	-	-	35	40	61	14	-	75

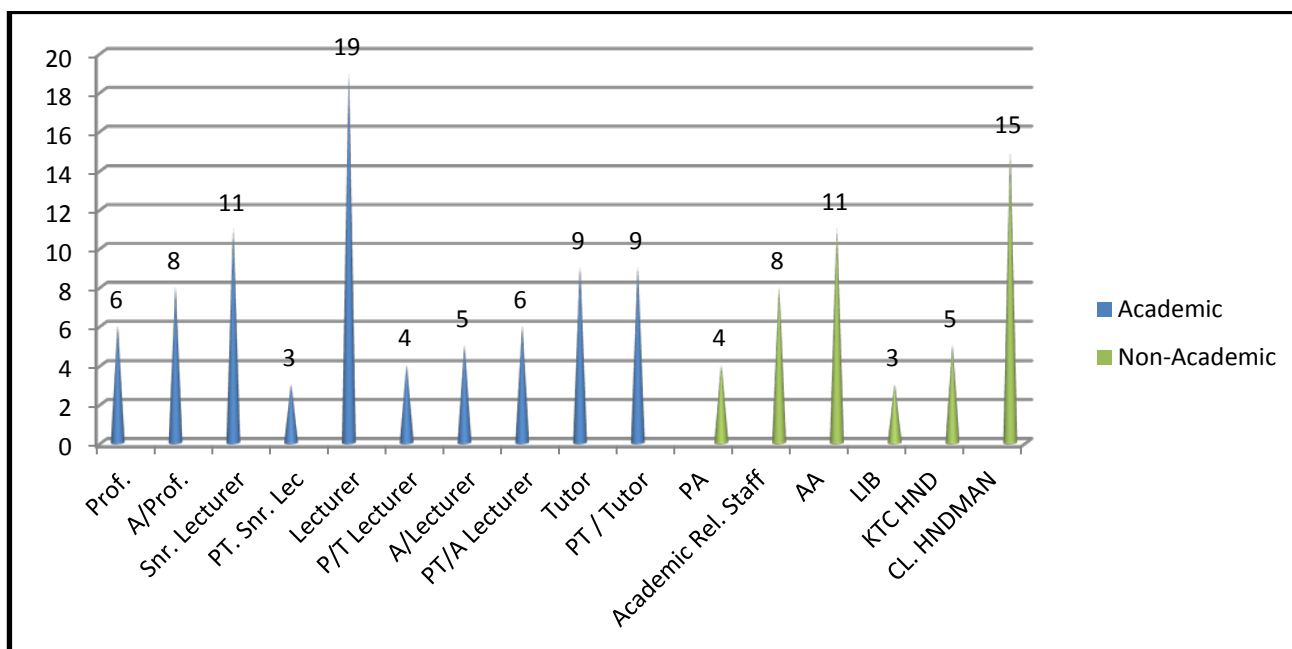


PROG	DIPLOMA		DEGREE				PGDIP.			MASTERS
	AC C	IT	BC O	BA	BIT	BSC	ENG	EDL	GDT	EDL
NOS	3	2	24	2	6	3	1	23	5	6



4.0 STAFFING

ACADEMIC STAFF										NON – ACADEMIC STAFF						
Prof	A/P	SL	P/T SL	L	P/T L	AL	P/T AL	T	P/T T	PA	AC.R.ST	AA	LIB	KH	CL/HND	TOT.
6	8	11	3	19	4	5	6	9	9	4	8	15	5	5	12	129



2010 STAFFING

ARRIVALS: We extend a very warm welcome to the following staff:

Mr Tito Isala, Registrar;
 Mr Salvin Nand, Lecturer, School of Law;
 Ms Arishma Gounder, Temporary Assistant Lecturer, School of Law;
 Ms Priya Darshini Deo, Administrative Assistant, Suva Campus;
 Professor Mohit Kolay, Professor in Management;
 Mr Nemani Maraiwai, Manager, Human Resources;
 Ms Shaleshni Prasad, Co-ordinator, French Language Programme;
 Mrs Masiran Kutty, Senior Library Assistant, Saweni Campus;
 Mr Jone Vukinanagauna, Part Time Lecturer, Computer Science & Information Technology;
 Mr Atish Atendra Prasad, IT User Assistant;
 Mr Aseri Rika, Student Counsellor;
 Mr Ryan Singh, Lecturer in Accounting & Finance;
 Mr Anand Rao, Chef, University Cafeteria;
 Mr Joeji Baledrokadroka, Fractional Senior Lecturer, School of Law;
 Mr Anit A Singh, Part-Time Lecturer, School of Law;
 Mr Wilfred Golman, Senior Lecturer, School of Law;
 Dr Frangel Chipongian, Senior Lecturer in Obstetrics & Gynecology, UPSM;
 Dr Takela Qaranivalu, Senior Lecturer in Obstetrics & Gynecology, UPSM;
 Dr Robert Bancod, Senior Lecturer in Surgery, UPSM;
 Dr Rosario Palo, Senior Lecturer in Medicine, UPSM;
 Dr Rajiv Pathak, Associate Professor in Physiology, UPSM;
 Dr Animesh Sinha, Visiting Lecturer, Community Medicine, UPSM;
 Mr Isaac Babatunde, Part-Time Assistant Lecturer in Biochemistry, UPSM;
 Dr Craig Adams, Visiting Professor, Clinical Skills, UPSM;
 Dr Ashish Mishra, Senior Lecturer in Anatomy, UPSM;
 Dr Lagnajita Dutta, Senior Lecturer in Anatomy/Biochemistry, UPSM;
 Dr Khalid Mahmood, Senior Lecturer in Paediatrics, UPSM.

DEPARTURE: Ms Sarojini Pillay, the Foundation Registrar of the University, left the University at the end of January this year, after making a great contribution to many facets of University Administration. The University wished her well in her retirement.

5.0 GOVERNMENT GRANT ACQUITTALS

We are grateful to the Government, especially to the Minister of Education, for granting us \$3,000,000 in the 2011 budget under operating grants and transfers.

We convey our appreciation to Professor Srinivasiah Muralidhar who had a principal role in putting the grant proposal together.

All Government scholarships are now tenable at The University of Fiji.

We have submitted acquittals to the Government towards all the quarterly grants of \$900,000 each in a timely fashion and to the satisfaction of the authorities concerned, thanks to the efforts of Mr Ravineet Sami and his team in the Finance Office.

Government Loans/Scholarships

Our students continued to receive scholarships from the PSC, the iTaukei Affairs Board, and the Department of Multi-Ethnic Affairs. A submission was made to the Multi-Ethnic Affairs Ministry to increase the number of scholarships awarded to students at UniFiji. The following table summarizes the number of scholarships awarded to our students by different agencies over the years:

Year	MEA	PSC Loan	PSC	iTaukei	TOTAL
2005	15	-	-	-	15
2006	15	-	-	-	15
2007	15	-	-	-	15
2008	30	17	9	6	62
2009	30	23	36	11	100
2010	28	37	71	33	169

6.0 ACADEMIC MATTERS

Launch of New Postgraduate Programmes

Four new postgraduate programmes launched during the year:

- Following on from the Postgraduate Certificate programme in International Relations offered in Suva in January this year through our Centre for International and Regional Affairs (CIRA), two more courses leading to the Postgraduate Diploma in International Relations were offered in August/September for two weeks in intensive mode at the Suva Campus. The programme was co-ordinated by CIRA Director, Mr Robin Nair, with Professor Stewart Firth and Mr Ron Walker, a distinguished ambassador, as course lecturers. Sixteen senior career personnel's participated in the programme.
- In addition, this year, we had students enrolled in the new postgraduate programme in Governance and Public Policy.
- The Master of Teaching degree—the first of its kind in Fiji—launched this year attracted more than fifty senior teachers from all over Fiji.

- The new MBA programme, which began in the second semester this year, attracted a large number of participants, giving the programme coordinators a clear signal that they are addressing a real need of the business community..

Introduction of the sciences at degree level

The plans for introducing Biology, Chemistry and Physics at the degree level from 2011 are well advanced, and all the documentation related to the programme was presented to the Senate at the last meeting. The programme structure and the first year courses have been endorsed by Senate.

7.0 SCHOOLS, DEPARTMENTS & CENTRES

School of Business and Economics

Achievements of the School for academic year 2010.

1. Employment of graduates: Graduates of the School of Business and Economics had been accepted in job market and are employed full time.
2. International students: The School was able to attract two international students from Linneaus University, Kalmar, Sweden for their research work on "Sugar Industry and its Competitiveness - The Case of Fiji" during March-May 2010. This was a great opportunity for our university to establish the link with overseas university for exchange programmes. With this effect, the university started to get more inquires from international students.
3. Master of Business Administration: After long discussions at various levels, the School was able to prepare a very exciting programme of Master of Business Administration (MBA) in three specialized areas: General Management, Human Resource Management, and Tourism and Hospitality Management at three levels: Certificate, Diploma, and Degree. The programme consists of 12 courses for Degree, 6 courses for Diploma and 3 courses for Certificate. Two bridging courses: Analytical Skills for Managers and Business Communications Skills for Managers were designed for those who lack these skills.

The programme has a great potential in providing managerial skills for Fiji in years ahead. The programme was widely publicized and response was overwhelming from individuals in various organizations. Applicants were interviewed for admission in order to ascertain their potential to pursue this professional programme. Initially 40 students admitted and finally 34 students continued after dropouts. Classes commenced in August with offerings of two main courses and two bridging courses. Main participants are from Air Pacific, Air Terminal Services, Bank of Baroda, Fiji Sugar Corporation, Courts, Treasure Island, Fiji Water and Punja.

4. Head of the Department of Management: Professor Mohit Kolay joined as Head of the Department of Management in February. This made a big difference in the department due to his academic leadership in teaching, research, and consultancy work. Professor Kolay has also taken the responsibility of coordinating the MBA programme. The programme increased its prominence due to his vast experience as management educator in various countries including Fiji.
5. Visit of External Adviser: Professor Amtrak Shoal, Deputy Head of the Department of Management, Monash University visited the University as External Adviser to the Department of Management during 16-20 August 2010. He had a series of meetings and consultations with the university administration, Deans, Heads, Librarian, IT Manager, and concerned students. Restructuring of under graduate programmes was discussed in the departmental meeting. Professor Sohal also gave a public lecture on a very interesting topic: Supply Chain Management.

6. Link with Business School in the USA: Professor Philip T Powell, Faculty Chair of the MBA Programme, Kelley School of Business, Indiana University visited the School of Business and Economics in August for establishing the link for research activities in business related areas. He also had a short meeting with the Vice-Chancellor. Subsequently, three graduating students came for their research work on Women Entrepreneurs with Microfinance for Small Businesses. The School helped these students in conducting survey of microfinance clients engaged in small businesses: Vegetables, jewellery, handicrafts, salt making and tailoring.
7. Research, seminars and workshops: Staff members worked on their research projects funded by the University Research Committee.

Head of the Department of Economics, Dr Kanhaiya Lal Sharma presented paper on "Food Security and Agricultural Trade in the Fiji Islands: Prospects and Strategies" for Fiji Economy Update 2010 sponsored by the USP and AusAid, from 20 -22 July. Dr Sharma also participated at the regional workshop on "Responding to Climate Change in the Pacific: Moving from Strategy to Action" sponsored by the Asian Development Bank at Hotel Novotel, Nadi from 12th -13th October.

Accounting staff attended FIA workshop on "Tax and Fraud". Mr Ryan Singh presented his paper on Fraud Awareness.

Mr. Wilson Hoerder attended the training programme on HIV/AIDS and the World of Work: 'A Prevention and Social Protection Perspective', Turin, Italy sponsored by the Government of Fiji and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 13-24 September.

8. Consultancy work; Department of Accounting and Finance was involved in undertaking consultancy work with the Ministry of Finance for staff training in the Financial Management Reform Project. Associate Professor Ben Coutman conducted three training sessions in Suva, Lautoka and Labasa.

Dr. Ranasinghe Amaradasa would provide training to supervisory staff of the Air Terminal Services on "Leadership and Decision Making in a Dynamic Environment" during December.

The School submitted its response to Proposed Amendments to Reserve Bank of Fiji Act in May.

9. Postgraduate programmes: The school received large number of inquiries for postgraduate programmes especially in accounting and finance. The Department prepared a postgraduate programme in Professional Accounting. Professor Keith Houghton External Adviser from ANU Australia visited the university in October for the review of the programme for FIA accreditation. Additional resources would be required to offer this highly demanded course at both Saweni and Suva campuses.

10. Students Attachment: The School was able to arrange work attachment of commerce students with business organizations for summer. The Life Corporation of India and Air Terminal Services came forward and accommodated 10 students at their offices in different locations. This helped the students get practical exposure at work place and to organizations to identify potential employee for jobs in their organizations.

School of Humanities & Arts (SoHA)

The School of Humanities & Arts had a successful year with a variety of interesting activities involving staff and students.

The academic programme ran smoothly and successfully. Besides the increase in numbers in all the courses this year, half a dozen postgraduate students completed the minor Thesis for their Masters. This was a significant development for the Language, Literature and Communication Department.

- The visit of Professor Ian Donaldson was a major highlight for the Department of LLC. His report was most positive and his recommendations were considered for implementation.

- Staff of School of Humanities and Arts organized and participated vigorously in celebrating EID, Cultural Night, Diwali, Gandhi Jayanti and Fiji Day. Few Staffs contributed towards the Nadi Bula Festival. These activities created a public profile for UniFiji .
- Professor Nandan was invited to talk at several functions: at Vodafone Philanthropy Seminar, Chief Guests at School and Colleges, FNU Conference, etc.
- His book, 'Beyond Paradise: Rights of Passage' was launched by the Chief Guest, Honorable Chief Justice, Anthony Gates at the Trans International Hotel during the Fiji Day weekend. The Fiji Times serialized three pieces: the Great Journey, The Great Love and The Great Loss - the first time a volume of personal writing has been given so much significance in the local press.
- A book by Post-graduate students, Life-Writing, was edited by Dr Jyoti Nandan for publication next year on Fiji Day.
- Professor Nandan was invited to major conferences in India, in January 2011 and to The Hague and Montreal in July, in Melbourne in December. The organizers paid the expenses.
- Literature, Linguistic books for the Library.

The Librarian, Mr Jose Pulose's note:

Book Donated from New Zealand.

The University of Fiji library received 800 books which was generously donated by Bay of Plenty Polytechnic Library, NZ in July this year through the contact of Prof. Satendra Nandan. Most of these books are virtually new with stiffened and plastic covers barely used. The books are on English language and literature which is very useful and relevant to our students and staff for their study and research at the degree and post degree levels. This can be roughly valued around \$30,000. Neptune Pacific Line, NZ made the arrangement free shipment of these book for the University. Ms. Nirmala Gounder (Bay of Plenty Polytechnic Library Team Leader), Mr. Jose Poulouse (UniFiji Librarian), Mr. Ravineet Sami and Mr. Namlesh Kumar (from UniFiji Finance office) worked together to bring the books from NZ to UniFiji Library.

Department of Language, Literature & Communication

The external assessor for the LLC Program, Professor Ian Donaldson, visited the University in August to assess the program. His report was warmly complimentary of the work of the Department. It said that the Department was in good shape, the LLC team was hard working and the leadership inspirational. He also gave a stimulating seminar at the University.

Earlier in the semester, Professor Greg Battye from the University of Canberra and Georgia, Tayler, a clinical psychologist visited the University. Ms Tayler gave a very interesting seminar on the psychological dimension in Literature.

The Hindi Day celebration organized by the Hindi section of the Department was well attended and appreciated. The Hindi section also organized a very entertaining and informative program for Diwali.

Department of Education

2010 had been a rewarding and very challenging year for the Department of Education with enrolments more than doubling in existing two programs (PGDEL & PGDT) and an excellent response to the new Master of Teaching program.

The total number of enrolments was more than 220 students in Semester 1 and 250 in Semester 2.

New staff member

Mrs. Jasmine Mohammed joined us in October as Part-time Assistant Lecturer. The department is optimistic about the prospects of a senior educator joining the Department early in 2011.

Conferences

Ms. Sarita Harish, Lecturer in Education, presented at the Mathematics MERGA Conference in Perth.

Associate Professor Ken Nobin presented a Paper on 'Being Literate in the 21st Century' at the FNU National Education Conference. In addition, he was the Keynote speaker at the Fiji Head Teachers Conference in Nadi. Professor Ken Nobin was also Chief Guest on prize giving day at a secondary school.

Possibilities for 2011 Programme

The Postgraduate Diploma in Teaching will continue to grow with an expected enrolment of thirty students. This programme will be reviewed after External Advisor Report and in light of current Ministry of Education announcements and expectations. Our Postgraduate Program in Educational Leadership should attract around 200 students per semester as it is offered in Saweni, Suva, Rakiraki and Labasa.

The Master of Teaching degree will also expand as we envisage offering it in Sigatoka as well as Suva and Saweni.

External Advisor

Professor Jude Butcher from the Australian Catholic University will conduct an external review of the Department in May 2011. Professor Butcher will be joined by Mr. Ken Ralph, the Director of Yalbalinga Indigenous Education Unit at ACU with the view to establishing partnerships, collaboration and exchange visits with the Centre for Indigenous Studies.

Partnerships

Associate Professor Ken Nobin met with Education academic staff at Notre Dame University, The University of Sydney and ACU Strathfield regarding partnerships and collaborations. This was very positively received and we can look forward to building on joint initiatives, exchange visits, lectures, in the future.

Community Engagement

The Department of Education with the postgraduate students continued to participate actively in local community initiatives and local organizations. Their day spent at the Golden Age Village had a powerful impact on them and reinforced the importance of Service Learning.

School of Law

An application was made to the Board of Legal Education early in 2010 for the approval of the Bachelor of Laws programme, and the Board, after due deliberations, approved the programme in June 2010. The School of Law was formally launched on 12 August 2010 by His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Fiji, Ratu Epeli Nailatikau. Among the dignitaries present on the occasion were the First Lady, Adi Koila Nailatikau, the Acting Prime Minister, Hon. Ratu Epeli Ganilau, Ministers of Cabinet, the Chief Justice, Honorable Anthony Gates, members of the legal fraternity, members of the diplomatic body and members of the University Council and staff. The students at the Law School entertained the guests with a hilarious skit. The event drew a lot of publicity in the media, culminating in a 4-page supplement in The Fiji Times.

Umanand Prasad School of Medicine (UPSM)

A number of developments took place in relation to the UPSM in 2010.

In June, the Vice-Chancellor, accompanied by the Pro-Chancellor, the Registrar and the Manager Finance & Facility had a meeting with the Honorable Minister of Health and the Permanent Secretary on a number of issues relating to Umanand Prasad School of Medicine including staffing, clinical attachments at Lautoka

Hospital and the provision of infrastructure at the hospital for placing our students. The Minister informed that he would soon be appointing a panel to review the functioning of Umanand Prasad School of Medicine.

- A three-member Panel visited the University from 21st-23rd July and had meetings with students and staff of UPSM, the Vice-Chancellor and the Registrar attempted to address the Terms of Reference given to the Panel.
- The Honorable Minister of Health wrote to the Vice-Chancellor on 16 September saying that he had received the report of the Review Panel, and that he was requesting our presence to discuss a forward plan.
- Accordingly, the UniFiji team (Vice-Chancellor, Pro-Chancellor, Registrar, Manager Finance & Facility Dean of UPSM, and Dr Fatiaki, Chair, UPSM Advisory Board) met the Honorable Minister for Health, Dr Neil Sharma and the Permanent Secretary, Dr. Sala Saketa on Thursday 23 September for about an hour. The discussions included:
 - The appointment of an Academic Dean for UPSM;
 - Staffing of UPSM;
 - Specialist registration for clinical staff;
 - Preparation of 3rd year students for clinical attachments; and,
 - Infrastructural needs for clinical training.
- At that meeting, the Vice-Chancellor pointed out that much had changed (for the better) at UPSM since the visit of the Review Panel in July in terms of staffing and the provision of clinical skills to 3rd year students. Both, the Vice Chancellor and the Pro-Chancellor assured the Minister that the University would do whatever it takes to progress the students towards the completion of their MBBS programme successfully without compromising the quality of the programme.
- A report was prepared and submitted to the Honorable Minister in the first week of October.
- The report was well received by the Honorable Minister and the Permanent Secretary for Health, and a draft MoU was prepared to be signed shortly by the Ministry of Health and UniFiji. The MoU will govern the attachment of UPSM students to the Lautoka Hospital and other MoH facilities.
- We have rented a property at 41 Thompson Crescent, Lautoka for use by UPSM students and staff, as they begin clinical attachments at the Lautoka Hospital next year. The property is just across the road from the Hospital.
- On Tuesday 30 November, a tripartite meeting between the consultants at the Lautoka Hospital, clinical staff from Fiji School of Medicine (FSM) and clinical staff from UPSM took place. The Medical Superintendent, Dr Jemesa Tudravu, chaired this. The objective of this meeting was to discuss the logistics of the clinical attachment of UPSM students from 2011. It was a very useful meeting where each party was given the opportunity to make a presentation.

Centre for Indigenous Studies

The Centre for Indigenous Studies role of promoting the understanding and practice of Indigenous iTaukei Language and Culture, has been fortunate to have the oversight of the School of Humanities and Arts and the continuous assistance and counseling of the Vice Chancellor, Professor Muralidhar. Since its establishment in Semester 2, 2007, (offering only 2 courses - FIJ 10 1 & FIJ 102), the Centre developed further and started to offer one Foundation level course (FIJF 11), three 100 level courses (FIJ 101, FIJ 102, FIJ 111), three 200 level courses (FIJ201, FIJ202 & FIJ203) and three 300 level courses (FIJ300, FIJ30 1 & FIJ302). The Centre also begun research on the migration history and the trend of movement (from country to urban areas) on the people of Magadro in the province of Ba and the people of Namara in the province of Tailevu.

Staffing

The Director for the Centre, Mr. Joji Uluinakauvadra took over the directorship from our Foundation director (Honorable Filipe Bole) and managed the Centre whilst teaching three units per semester. Mr. Usaia Gaunavou (Lecturer) taught two units whilst the Assistant Lecturer, Mrs. Salome Rokuta, taught Foundation Fijian and assisting in the teaching of Spoken Fijian for Medical Students with Mr. Gaunavou. Mrs. Rejieli Racule was in charge of research, translation work and original writing production.

Two post-graduate students, Kasanita Nayasi and Bulou Racava were employed on part-time basis, assisting in translation of 'The New Migrant, The Fijian Way of Life' and in compiling Vuda Research and CIS biannual journal.

Goals

- To produce fully equipped graduates in Fijian Language & Culture

The Centre strives to annually produce teachers in Fijian Language and Culture and translators who will translate many documents used in the legal departments, Bank/credit institution, and media fraternity. There is an urgent need for writers as we have very minimum reading material in the Fijian community.

- Acting and Dance

To preserve our heritage from being extinct, (for example, through the appeal of contemporary dances been taught to our younger generation), the Centre seeks to teach all our interested students cultural activities. This can only materialize once 'the' planned CIS building is built and completed.

Conclusion

The Centre for Indigenous Studies has very high hopes of achieving its aims and thus cooperate fully with stakeholders for the enhancement of its integrated initiative to establish a coordinated Cultural Centre. The completion of its proposed building will encourage greater contribution by providing a greater guarantee that the contributions serve their intended purpose.

The Centre for Indigenous Studies strives to encourage students to speak their language, live their culture, and understand the language and the culture of the students they live with.

8.0 MARKETING AND PUBLICITY

Media coverage

The University featured quite well in the media from May to December this year. This includes; extensive coverage of the University's Open Day, launch of the School of Law and other events such as the CIS publications launch and coverage of the Cultural Night.

Brochures

Most of the brochures on each department are now printed and well stocked.

Posters

A2 size posters for each department were printed prior to the open day. Each poster has a list of programmes offered by the respective departments.

Banners

In addition to the six Notus Smart banners that were made last year, two new PVC banners were printed in October this year. The two PVC banners have already been used twice in educational expos.

University Booth

The marketing team was quite busy participating in various careers expos and other events this year, this includes; Nasinu Secondary School Careers expo (6/08/10), Fiji Day Celebrations (7/10/10), Sigatoka Methodist Open Day (24/10/10) and Nadroga Navosa Careers expo (8/11/10 & 9/11/10). After the Nasinu Secondary School Careers expo, it was felt that our booth had to be decorated more professionally, thus the team bought items such as table cloths, materials for

decoration (and other items such as pins, pegs, ropes, strings, tacks) and production of two attractive banners,

School visits

This year's School visits went really well. The team with the help of a few students covered schools from Sigatoka to Rakiraki. Only schools that did not turn up for the Open Day were visited. A few schools in Suva were visited which include: Suva Sangam College, Mahatma Gandhi Memorial High School and Adi Cakobau School. The team intends to start visiting Suva-Nausori schools from Term 1 of 2011 just to make sure that all schools in these areas are covered.

Open Day

The University's inaugural open day was a huge success. Almost 5,000 students from over 30 schools attended the two-day event. We also received good media coverage and some very positive comments from the students. Many students were quite impressed with the displays at the Umanand Prasad School of Medicine.

Law school supplement

The special 4-page supplement on the launch of the School of Law was well done. Since the supplement appeared on a Saturday, it is certain that a large number of the population had the opportunity to view the print coverage.

Schools that visited the University

A number of high schools visited the University this year. All students and teachers were given a tour of the University by the Marketing team and the opportunity to participate in an information session where our academic staff members talked about the programmes on offer. Schools that visited our campus in semester 2 including Ba Provincial secondary School, Nadi Muslim College, Baulevu High School and Nadogo Secondary School.

Advertising for 2011

This has now begun. Print advertisements started early November and will continue till the end of January just before the closing date of applications, which is 28 January 2011. Radio advertisements will be aired while TV ads will run in the month of January.

Staffing

The Marketing Officer recruited Miss Hettal Solanki a few months before the Open Day to assist with preparations. She has done well in terms of looking after the administrative aspects of the Marketing department and assisting the Marketing Officer with photography, school visits, open day, compilation of the academic calendar, stock taking of Marketing materials, participating in careers expos, etc.

Newsletter

The newsletter continues to be an important part of the University's internal communication. All major university events are covered in the newsletter which is produced on a monthly basis.

IT SERVICES

The following are the activities of the I.T Services for the above stated period;

- Implementation and launch of an open-source e-Learning system - Moodle. Moodle has been used by Accounting, Education and IT departments during Semester 2. This facility is very effective for teaching and learning and has the capability for online discussions, quizzes and questionnaires;

- New Computer lab setup with 25 computers at Medical School building;
- Commissioning of new computers for staff at Saweni and Suva Campus;
- Organized demonstration of Student Information System - EduPoint with Eclipse Australia;
- Implemented off-campus library database access system. This facility allows staff and students to access digital library resources from outside the University campus and
- Implementation and testing of a prepaid self-service photocopying facility for students. Students will use their existing 10 Cards to swipe and use photocopying services at UPSM and library;

Current/Planned Projects;

- Staff Moodle training;
- Email Spam filtering and firewall implementation and testing;
- Networking and IT equipment setup at Simla for Medical staff and Students;
- Moodle training for staff during semester break;
- New library complex Computer lab setup; and
- RFID library book security system for new library building.

9.0 LIBRARY SERVICES

Library opening Hours:

From August 2010 library-opening hours been extended till-10pm.

Presentation ProQuest:

Library arranged a presentation on ProQuest database on 18 February. This was held at the University library and was attended by the university's staff and students. Ms. Clare Bristow, the Customer Education and Training Specialist for ProQuest for Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific, made a presentation about resources available from ProQuest database.

WHO Reference Library:

The World Health Organization has included the University of Fiji Library - Medical Collection as one of its reference libraries for WHO's publications through an agreement between the University and the WHO. The Library is now eligible for a number WHO publications at free of cost. The university library is the only library in Fiji which is listed in the worldwide directory of WHO libraries.

Lexis Nexis Legal:

The University Library added Lexis Nexis legal database to our online resource collection. Through this database the students and staff can access more than 75,000 cases and other legal documents published from United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, and other Commonwealth Countries.

Collection Development:

About 250 books on various disciplines were purchased by the library and added in to its collection for staff and student use.

Book Donations

In August, Bay of Plenty Polytechnic Library, New Zealand Library donated 800 books on English language and literature to our library. American Embassy, Suva donated 68 new books on various topics for the University Library.

10.0 Counselling

The Unifiji Counseling Service was established immediately after the commencement of the student counselor's appointment on 7 June 2010.

The initial tasks that followed were the preparation of the draft Duty Statement for the counsellor, the draft Counseling Policy and the draft counseling Code of Ethics.

Counseling proper began immediately after the student registration for Semester 2 with students who were referred to the counsellor by academic staff. Prior to this some staff members, who had sought the assistance of the counselor directly or was referred to the counsellor through other sources and utilized the counseling service.

The concept of counseling in general and its relevance in a university setting is new to many and therefore it is assumed that it will take sometimes before the value of the service is fully understood and for it to be accessed freely.

Categories:

The two major categories of the client group are;

1. Referrals;
2. Voluntary.

Referrals:

These are mostly students who were referred to the counselling service by academic staff with the intention that the students are provided with guidance and assistance in relation to the development of essential skills that will assist them to improve their academic performance and general behavior.

These also included staff members who were advised by others to seek counseling assistance in addressing their personal difficulties.

Most Common Issues Include:

1. Absenteeism;
2. Motivation;
3. Negative/unaccepted Behaviors;
4. Financial difficulties;
5. Family issues - difficulties faced with nuclear and or extended family members; and
6. Adjustment - difficulties in adjusting to university life and in particular to studies.

Voluntary

This client group consists of students and staff members who learnt about the existence of the counselling service and decided that they may benefit from it in their effort to address their personal issues.

The common issues with this category include;

1. Relationship;
2. Family;
3. Anxiety/Stress;
4. Low self-esteem; and
5. Anger Management

Justice of the Peace (JP) Service.

The Student Counsellor, who is a JP, also provides justice of the peace service as an additional service to counselling. Students and staff are frequently accessing this service and on several occasions. It has been the platform from which several counseling relationships were developed.

Summary

The general themes of counselling are that it is a helping relationship; it involves a process; it *is* about assisting the individual to identify alternative ways of addressing their problems; it assists the individual to develop skills and approaches to make the changes and adjustments required in their lives.

To affect changes in someone else's life, the notion of success and duration is determined by how each individual embraces the above themes and the degree of commitment to the process and the desired outcome.

Since the establishment of the counseling service in June this year, the focus has primarily been about;

1. Delivering Counseling Assistance as clients requires; and
2. Gathering information and designing counseling assistance and approaches that is unique and relevant to the client base at Unifiji.

11.0 MASTER PLAN AND PHYSICAL FACILITIES

The new three-storey Library/IT Complex, the first such facility since the master plan was prepared, is taking final shape on the Saweni campus with funding provided by the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji.

The next major development we are all waiting for is the facility for the centre for Indigenous studies. The plans for a traditional-style building for the Centre are ready, and we are eagerly awaiting the funds to be facilitated by the Government and/or other sources.

With new staff joining us at regular intervals, and with the increase in student numbers, we are mindful of the urgency in creating additional office and teaching spaces. The shifting of the library to the new location will free up three lecture rooms for 2011.

The expansion of the cafeteria in Saweni is already on the drawing board, and discussions are taking place with a potential donor for the provision of recreation facilities for students at the Saweni Campus.

We need to develop the Law School in Suva into a fully fledged campus of the University by offering courses and programmes of study in a number of areas. Again, these developments need additional space and facilities, and additional staff. A sketch has already been prepared for the extension of the Law School.

In time for the start of 2011, we will have the electricity sub-station and a stand-by generator costing over \$500,000 ready to supply power to the Saweni Campus.

The administration block is getting a face-lift in time for 2011. The University thanks generous contributions from several donors.

The steps leading from the canteen to this building, which houses D206, will be redone before the start of the new academic year as directed by the Lautoka Rural Authority.

12.0 STRATEGIC PLAN

The work on the Plan began in earnest in May this year with a day-long consultation involving staff, students and members of the University Council held on Saturday 15 May 2010 at the Saweni Campus. The programme began with a welcome and introduction by the Pro Chancellor Pt Bhuwan Dutt, followed by a presentation by the Vice Chancellor, Professor Srinivasiah Muralidhar, on the shape, content and direction of the strategic plan. After a brief discussion of this presentation, the Deans and Heads of different sections of the University spoke about the current state of the University in terms of the strengths, weakness, opportunities and challenges.

Strategic planning requires clear thinking and strong support at every level of the University, and in this regard, I wish to thank everyone present at the consultation for their honest assessments of where we are and where we hope to be in the future.

Having started the exercise, we needed someone to work on it full-time and produce a draft document as soon as possible. We were very fortunate to secure the services of Mr. Andrew Neeson under the Australian Business Volunteer scheme (ABV) to help us in this task. Mr. Nelson, a very experienced university administrator and planner, spent four weeks in July at UniFiji, meeting staff and students, and gathering ideas and comments about the future of the University. Because of these discussions, a draft plan with the vision, values, goals and strategies was prepared and circulated to all staff and student representatives for comment. We thank Mr. Andrew Neeson for his valuable input into the strategic plan development process, and the ABV for making his visit possible.

Since Mr. Neeson's departure, we put in more work into the Plan, and the draft was circulated to all members of staff for comment before presenting the document to Council. The Council endorsed the Strategic Plan at the October meeting.

13.0 UNIVERSITY EVENTS

Visit of External Advisers

This year we have had visits from three External Advisers, starting with Professor Amrik Sohal with the Department of Management, followed recently by Professor Ian Donaldson with the Department of Language, Literature and Communication, and Professor Dharmendra Sharma with the Department of Computer Science and Information Technology.

Activities involving students and staff

A number of activities held at the University during the year brought students and staff together in organizing the functions and presenting the items. Some of the major functions were: Easter, Prophet Mohammed's Birthday, Cultural Evening, Hindi Diwas/Gandhi Day, University Graduation, launch of the Law School, Foundation Graduation, CIS Book Launch, and Diwali. As well, there were a number of sporting activities involving students and staff.

The Vice-Chancellor hosted an end-of-the-year dinner in Suva for all staff at the School of Law, with the Registrar and the Pro Chancellor in attendance.

The Vice-Chancellor hosted a social get-together for all the Saweni staff on Friday 3 October at 41 Thompson Crescent, Lautoka, and our newly rented property for UPSM staff and students.

A Tribute to the Registrar

2010 was the last year for Ms Sarojini Pillay as Registrar, and it is appropriate that The University of Fiji acknowledge her enormous contributions to the University. We were extremely fortunate that Ms Pillay agreed to help us during the formative stages of the University, and today we see her imprint and influence in almost all aspects of the day-to-day functions of the University. She has been variously described as a legend and as a phenomenon, but words cannot adequately describe her loyalty, commitment and dedication to the institution.

Behind Ms Pillay's seemingly tough exterior, those close to her could see the tender and the humane side to her. Ms Pillay, you have been a great mentor and a wonderful friend—thank you for what you have done for the University. We wish you the very best in whatever you choose to do after leaving us, but you are always welcomed to drop in.

5. VISITORS

A number of prominent and distinguished individuals visited the Saweni Campus during the period of the report:

18/02/10	Dhannendra Prasad, Admin Officer - Scholarship, Department of MultiEthnic Affairs;
23/03/10	Bernard Maizeret, Co-operation & Cultural Counsellor of the Embassy of France;
26/03/10	The Indonesian Ambassador to Fiji, H.E. Franciscus X. Bambang Guritno also visited the University. We discussed the nature of work of the University. The Ambassador expressed a keen interest in our University developing links with universities in Indonesia.;
22/04/10	Matsuzaki Akio, Nainto University of Education, Japan Surkafa F. Katafono, ILO Suva Luke Mataiciwa, US Embassy Sheik W. Hussain;
30/04/10	Michael Trent Schneider, Sungard Higher Education, USA;
3/5/10	H. E. A Chandra Salim, Ambassador, Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia;
7/5/10	Glynis Jones, University of Technology, Sydney Dr. Anil & Saras Mangal, Vancouver Canada Hanna Jenshagen & Sandra Andersson, Sweden Uttiyo Raychaudhuri, University of Georgia, USA;
25/5/10	S. Railoa, the Officer-in-Charge, Natabua Prison;
27/5/10	CPO S. Bakeiyasawa, Chief Officer, Suva Prison;
10/06/10	Hannes Pries, Ambassador of the Republic of Austria;
24/06/10	Apaitia Rokotuni - Program Coordinator, Austraining International - A YAD & VIDA Program;
24/06/10	Daniel Taufaga, In-Country Manager, Austraining International - A Y AD & VIDA Program;
29/06/10	Anjeela Jokhan, USP Suva;
30/06/10	Ifereimi Waqainabete, Medical Superintendent, CWM Hospital; Iva Tavaiqia, Public Service Commission Emele Wara, CWM Hospital Suva Filimoni L. Yavala, CWM Hospital Suva Sera Kaloucokovale, CWM Hospital Suva;
23/7/10	Dr. B.P.Ram Dr. John Fatiaki;
27/7/10	Salik Ram Govind Dr. Nalin Sharma Ms. Nikita Shalini Govind;
2/08/10	Philip T. Powell, Faculty Chair, MBA Program, Indiana University, Kelly School of Business;
5/8/10	Delegation from Tuvalu: Hon. Falesa Pitoi, Minister for Education and Group
19/8/10	Dr. Rajat Gyaneshwar, Sydney Australia, Filipe Bole, Ministry of Education, Suva Professor Dharmendra Sharma, Australia;
23/8/10	Keith Houghton, Australian National University;
14/10/10	Murray Mackenzie, Fiji Institute of Accountants ;
29/10/10	Krishnan Narasimhan, General Manager, LIC, Suva Kodukula Ravi Kanth, LIC Suva;
2/11/10	Decraene Denis, Counsellor for Cooperation & University, French Embassy Suva; Ratubalavu Fernande, Lautoka;
10/11/10	Jeremy Finnaz, French Language Attache, French Embassy, Suva Gaelie le Breton, Director, Alliance Francoise, Suva; and
29/11/10	H.E. Vinod Kumar, High Commissioner, High Commission of India, Suva Dr. Kamal Kishor Mishra, Director Indian Cultural Centre, Suva

6. CONCLUSION

A number of exciting challenges face us next year, but with the support of Council and our colleagues in the University, we can face them with confidence.

The University team must work hard to recruit more students at all levels in all programmes and must ensure that what we offer our students is of the highest quality in terms of the curriculum, teaching, assessment, learning support, and resources. The accreditation of LLB programme is the next item that we need to look into

The completion of the Strategic Plan, developing guidelines for quality management, and the formulation of a teaching-learning policy for the University must all be in place by the middle of next year.

Now that there is a Staff Policy Committee, we need to develop a comprehensive staff development plan across the university, and to introduce additional incentives from time-to-time to attract and retain high-quality staff. Incentives might include provision of medical benefits, increasing the annual leave from 20 to 30 days for academic staff, and subsidising the fees for courses taken by the children of staff.

Fund-raising, both for our loan scholarship scheme and for capital projects is vital, and the university needs to make a firm commitment to it, by assigning groups to target specific donors and specific areas.

The University needs to develop working relationships with the University of the South Pacific and the Fiji National University so our students and staff can benefit from the extensive pool of academic expertise available in Fiji. We can also work collaboratively in many areas for our mutual benefit.

The University would like to thank the Chairman of Council, the National President of APS, the Chairman of the Finance Committee and the Chair of the Audit Committee for their guidance and assistance. We also thank the Registrar, Manager Finance & Facility, the Deans, Heads of Department and Centre Directors for their support and co-operation, and all members of staff, including support staff, as we would not have progressed this far without their support.

7. FINANCIAL REPORT