

## CPA Australia Accreditation



From left: Mr. Mohammed Riaz Azam, Mr. Shivneil Raj, Dean of the School of Business and Economics (SoBE), Dr. Ranasinghe Amaradasa, Head of Accounting Department, Ms. Sandhiya Roy, Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Narendra Reddy, Professor Ruvendra Nandan, Registrar, Ambassador Kamlesh Arya, Executive Director Finance, Mr. Ravineet Sami, SoBE students and Ms. Karishma Naidu.

Chartered Practising Accountants (CPA) Australia, on July 16, 2018 fully accredited the Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting programme offered by The University of Fiji.

CPA Australia is a prestigious and one of the largest professional accounting bodies in the world.

Speaking at the Press Conference held on July 30, 2018, the Acting Vice-Chancellor (AVC), Professor Narendra Reddy, highlighted that universities were about education and value of education.

He stated that when programmes were accredited, it brought in value to the University's programmes.

He further commented that there were four types of accreditation for universities: national accreditation, accreditation from regulatory agency, international accreditation and accreditation from professional bodies such as other universities.

AVC also said that accreditation was not the final part of a journey; it was the beginning of a journey.

He said that the journey included bettering the university programmes and facilities.

An accreditation from CPA Australia means that the Bachelor of Accounting programme at UniFiji is fully recognized by them and is on par with Australian and New Zealand tertiary accounting qualifications.

The accreditation adds value to the Accounting programme at the University and shows that the accounting offerings at UniFiji are second to none in the country.

The accreditation also enhances credibility of the Accounting programme and those enrolled therein, demonstrating that the qualification is recognized internationally.

The accreditation depicts that the programme structure, the course contents, delivery and the resources are of a high standard.

Accreditations are for limited time; CPA Australia would renew the accreditation in 2022 while FIA renews accreditation every 3 years.

Accounting is an ever-changing field with new ideas and ways to account constantly on the move in this complex world.

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## UPCOMING EVENT



**The University of Fiji**  
"Fully-Registered University"

## School of Science and Technology Conference

*Theme: Oceans interdisciplinary  
Science*

*Date: September 28, 2018*

*Venue: Sofitel Fiji Resort and Spa*

**More details in the next edition.**

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The accreditation from CPA Australia will bring about various benefits to the University and its students including building networks, sharing of resources and keeping up to date through professional development of staff as well as students.

Being associated with international bodies such as CPA Australia also allows for discounts and concessions on many resources, particularly for the members and the students.

CPA Australia Fiji Branch has kindly sponsored a medal for the best Accounting Student with a GPA of 4.0. The student will also receive a free lifetime associate membership to CPA Australia.

The Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting at UniFiji has also been fully accredited by the Fiji Institute of Accountants (FIA). The FIA also sponsors cash prizes for top Accounting graduates each graduation.

## Successful UniFiji Open Day



Sigatoka Methodist College students at the Open Day.

The University of Fiji had a successful Open Day, on June 25 and 26, 2018. The Open Day saw numerous Secondary Schools visiting the University to explore the programmes and facilities at both, Samabula and Saweni Campuses.

Speaking at the official programme, the Registrar, Ambassador Kamlesh Arya stressed that UniFiji was a fully-registered University under Fiji Higher Education Commission (FHEC) and the programmes offered were second to none. He also commented that UniFiji had experienced lecturers at Professorial and other levels to impart quality education to students.

Students shared positive experiences of the Open Day. Amasai Meli, a student at Mulomulo Secondary School said that she found the Open Day to be very informative and it opened her eyes towards future career prospectives.

Arieta Tagituimua, a Year 13 student at Nadi Sangam Sadhu Kuppaswami Memorial College, mentioned that before coming for the Open Day, she wanted to become a Chef, however, after the informative presentations she found that her passion lay in becoming a doctor to help care for people.

An intrigued Inje Martin Jeong, from Nadi Muslim College stated that after coming to the Open Day, he realized how higher education operates. He mentioned that he was interested in studying Law from Justice Devendra Pathik School of Law because all the courses were offered in Fiji.

The Open Day also attracted some mature people who showed interest to study iTaukei language, Law and Renewable Energy Management programmes.

According to the Marketing and Public Relations Officer, Ms. Shirley Prasad, this year's Open Day brought more schools compared to past years. Students came in huge numbers and all staff and current students played their role well to make this a successful Open Day.

The University conveys its hearty thanks to sponsors, GemIT and Telecom for providing free giveaways for the Open Day; Mr. Ritesh Chauhan of Evolution Designs Studio, for designing all the Open Day posters and banners; and volunteer students for not only distributing posters and banners prior to the Open Day but also for ushering and showing around the labs, rooms, booths, library, and collecting survey forms.

## Ambassador Sami Sworn in as Commissioner for Oaths

The University of Fiji's Executive Director of Finance, Ambassador Ravineet Sami, was sworn in as a Commissioner for Oaths on June 27, 2018. Ambassador Sami was amongst the 12 Commissioners for Oaths and numerous Justice of Peace sworn in front of Justice Anthony Gates in Suva.

Being a Commissioner for Oaths, Ambassador Sami will bring positive outcomes not only for the University community and students but also for other people. He will be able to certify that a document was a true copy, prepare and draft bank documents such as transfers, bills of sale, mortgages, charges, debentures, guarantees and much more. Speaking about this honour, Ambassador Sami said that he was emotionally touched as he is passionate about community work and after becoming the Commissioner for Oaths he is in a position to selflessly serve the Fijian community.

He mentioned that students and staff of the University would not need to go anywhere else for the services that could be fulfilled by the Commissioner of Oaths. This, he said, would be an effective and efficient way of working. When students apply to the University, they are required to bring certified copies of birth certificates, exam results and transcripts. Previous trends showed that it would take a lot of time for students to do so because finding a Justice of Peace near the Saweni area and their availability was an issue. Now, with the Commissioner for Oaths present at the University during working hours, students can minimize this time as they could bring their original copies and duplicates could be certified by Ambassador Sami.

Ambassador Sami concluded by stating that his services would be available to people 24/7 depending on the urgency of their needs.



Ambassador Ravineet Sami at the Swearing-In ceremony.



### Over 200 Accounting Books Donated



School of Business and Economics staff with Professor Narendra Reddy, Mr. Kamlesh Arya, Mr. Jose Poulouse and Mr. Parmodh Rai's family at the book donation ceremony.

The University of Fiji received a generous donation of over 200 books in several subjects including Accounting, Information Technology, and more from various donors including Mr. Pramodh Rai, Professor Chris Patel, Associate Professor Parmod Chand and Dr. Rajni Mala from Macquarie University, Sydney on July 17, 2018.

The Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Narendra Reddy received the books from Mr. Pramodh Rai who represented the donors.

Speaking at the ceremony, Professor Reddy stated that libraries were the nerve centre of Universities and receiving such generous donation will be beneficial to the students.

Mr. Rai, while addressing the attendees, thanked Professor Ruvendra Nandan and Registrar, Ambassador Kamlesh Arya for the support provided while bringing the books to the University.

He also mentioned that his colleagues and he in Australia will assist in other occasions as a way to give back to the community that they grew up in.

At the ceremony, Professor Nandan mentioned that the books were extremely valuable resources to the University.

"The books will be particularly useful as they are all fairly recent editions and students can refer to the books for their assignments and research," he stated.

The donation of books by the donors is amongst over 30 collections of books in various disciplines donated to the University library over the course of 3 years.

### UniFiji Holds Students Orientation



Students listening attentively to Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Narendra Reddy during Students Orientation.

The University of Fiji held students orientation on Monday, July 9, 2018 at the Saweni Campus for all new students and continuing who enrolled into Semester 2, 2018.

The Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Narendra Reddy while addressing the students, spoke on a number of pertinent issues including transparency, discipline, attendance, University regulations, policy breaches and bullying.

Professor Reddy stated that UniFiji endeavored to operate in an open and conducive manner.

He mentioned that should a student or a staff has any concern, then they were to register the same with relevant authority for consideration and action if found to be valid.

Explaining the discipline aspect, he commented that to keep a harmonious learning environment discipline amongst staff and students remained a key priority at UniFiji. Discipline was also the key factor for success.

Hence, he advised all to exercise discipline in all areas of engagement as staff and students of UniFiji.

Moreover, Professor Reddy encouraged students to attend all lectures and tutorials.

He also advised staff not to cancel classes without proper authorization and in case of cancelled classes, to reschedule the classes at the earliest possible time.

He also explained the regulations gov-

erning the University and advised staff and students to follow all regulations as regulations were meant to safeguard everyone's interest.

Professor Reddy advised staff and students to refrain from bullying.

"As adults both staff and students need to be wary of unpleasant outcomes of bullying. Bullying comes in many forms and one of those is usage of unpleasant and unprofessional language," he stated.

He summed by saying that the University will not tolerate any forms of bullying.



The Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Narendra Reddy addressing the students and staff during Student Orientation.



Students during the Orientation.

## Addressing Climate Change and Global Warming Issues in Schools



Dr. Wahab Ali.

Climate change is a reality for the Pacific Island nations as they constantly face the aftermath of climate change on a daily basis. There is significant impact on eco-systems, economies and communities.

With this in mind, Dr. Wahab Ali of the School of Humanities and Arts completed a research project titled “Green leadership as an emerging Style for addressing Climate Change and Global Warming issues in Schools”. The paper attempts to investigate the concept of green leadership towards a greener environment through addressing issues of climate change and global warming. The paper is aimed at eliciting views of principals about climate concepts and their opinions about green leadership.

Speaking about Green Leadership, Dr. Ali stated that a green leader needed to have the ability to change and adapt quickly-with a future smart eye on what was possible. He added that green leadership was ideal for current and emerging principals and teachers. Green leadership would make principals aware of these austerities and would enable them to transmit the knowledge to their subordinates and in way it trickles down to the students.

“The threat of climate change needs to be taken very seriously and awareness need not be confined to scientists only. It is necessary to bring this knowledge to students, teachers, parents and the community at large. This is where the principals need to be in the picture, as change agents. Principals can create more awareness and actions through their students and teachers by entailing them in climate change awareness programs,” he stressed.

The research paper will be published soon.

## Vaka Pasifiki Education Conference

Ms. Manpreet Kaur, Ms. Sanjaleen Prasad and Mr. Satesh Kumar from the Department of Language, Literature and Communication (LLC) at the School of Humanities and Arts attended a 2-Day Conference by the Institute of Education (IOE).

The Conference titled “Vaka Pasifiki Education Conference” (VPEC) was hosted at The University of the South Pacific (USP) on July 5 and 6, 2018.

Ms. Kaur presented a joint paper with Mr. Avitesh Kumar (UniFiji student and school teacher), titled “Probing the Place of English Language in Fiji Secondary Schools in the Present Day – from English Facilitators Perspective”. The paper examined the status of the English language in Secondary Schools in Fiji from the English teachers’ perspective. Mr. Kumar and Ms. Prasad also presented a joint paper titled “Teacher Beliefs on Second Language Acquisition (SLA)”. The paper investigated teacher beliefs about second language acquisition (SLA).

Both the papers were well received by the audience and generated discussions on the learning and teaching of English Language in secondary schools. The papers were later presented at UniFiji on July 13, 2018 and were attended by School of Humanities and Arts staff and students.

The Conference aimed to bring into focus the notion of rethinking Pacific education for resilient and healthy communities. VPEC provided an opportunity for sharing of ideas, presentation of research and best practice, and discussion of issues relevant to teacher education, educational policy and practice, and teaching and learning in Oceania.

The Conference was attended by more than 300 participants with 113 papers presented on the theme “It takes an island and an ocean: Rethinking Pacific Education for resilient, healthy communities”.



Ms. Manpreet Kaur with a Mr. Avitesh Kumar presenting their paper at the conference- USP.

## Ministry of Education, Heritage and Arts Careers Expo at Tavua College



Ms. Manpreet Kaur and Ms. Vineeta Narayan at Careers Expo, Tavua College.

The University of Fiji’s Marketing Team comprising of Ms. Manpreet Kaur from the Department of Language, Literature and Communications, together with a student volunteer, Ms. Vineeta Narayan went on a day-long marketing visit to Tavua College. The College held Careers Expo on August 19, 2018 organized by the Ministry of Education.

Speaking at the Official Opening Ceremony, the Guest of Honour, the Principal Education Officer Curriculum Development Unit, Mr. Shiek M. Masud impressed upon the significance of hosting Careers Expo sessions. He said that the event provided tertiary education providers and other key corporate sectors an opportunity to showcase their products, programmes as well as the myriad career options for students after they complete high school.

The day-long session saw UniFiji promote the various programmes it has on offer. UniFiji marketing booth was visited by numerous high schools from Ba, Tavua and Rakiraki. The duo representing UniFiji shared a lot of eager and zealous students, as well as practicing teachers showed interest in the various programmes of the university.

The Chief Guest while making a tour of all the marketing booths shared his delight on being proud Alumnus of The University of Fiji. Mr. Masud and Tavua College Principal, Ms. Vikashni were proud post-graduate students of the University.

The University of Fiji under the able leadership of the Marketing and Public Relation Officer, Ms. Shirley Prasad is leaving no stones unturned when it comes to promoting the university. Ms. Manpreet Kaur is appreciative of Student Volunteer’s commitment to market UniFiji and its programmes.



### JDP School of Law Staff Attend Mediation Seminar



Professor Shaista Shameem with other attendees at the Mediation Workshop.

Academic staff and students of the Justice Devendra Pathik School of Law (JDP SoL) attended the Fiji Women Lawyers Association (FWLA) Seminar on Mediation at the Judges Common Room, Government Buildings on Monday July 16, 2018.

JDP SoL Dean, Professor Shaista Shameem together with law staff, Ms. Fariyal Varsha Bano and Ms. Evelyn Chuang were among the various senior legal practitioners and judges from around Fiji who attended the high level seminar.

The panel comprised Mr. George Lim of the Singapore Mediation Centre, Ms. Jenny Seato of the Fiji Mediation Centre and Justice Kamal Kumar of the High Court of Fiji.

The seminar informed legal practitioners of the benefits of mediation process and outcomes instead of the adversarial approach to legal work.

Professor Shameem said that attending the workshop had future benefits to the JDP SoL programme.

“Mediation training is part of JDP SoL’s continuing legal education and will assist in alternative dispute resolution courses in our programme. Mediation also is a very important aspect of organisational management nowadays and also has the potential for sustainably resolving disputes university-wide,” she explained.

“Like any organisation, the University will have internal disagreements but mediation, which involves consultation, will normally resolve disputes amicably. In our traditional Fijian societies we tend to solve disputes quite well internally and it is encouraging to see alternative dispute resolution entering the formal legal field. It is the modern and sustainable way to bring greater cohesion among people”, she said.

“It is now widely recognised that the high-handed top-down approach to organisational governance can create disputes within organisations. We need a different way to resolve such disputes, and this leads to greater productivity” Professor Shameem added.

The UniFiji JDP SoL was thanked by the President of the FWLA and Chairperson of the Fiji Mediation Centre for attending the Seminar. The President of the FWLA said the Association appreciated the support of the JDP SoL at their events and seminars.

### Bema Open Forum

The Justice Devendra Pathik School of Law (JDP SoL) hosted its first Bema Open Forum for staff and students on Wednesday, July 25, 2018. The Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission (FCCC) staff Mr. Nilesh Chand, Senior Research and Policy Officer and Ms. Lusia Ting spoke on the topic “Consumer Protection in Fiji”.

Mr. Chand and Ms. Ting spoke on the Commission’s successful cases, examples of products wrongfully priced, examples of advertisements that were misleading and also baiting of the general public.

Mr. Chand in his response to questions on increase of fuel prices said that the matter was regulated by FCCC unlike previous years where there were no regulations or ceiling of profit margins on LPG (cooking

gas) but now it was under price control.

While explaining the rent freeze currently in Fiji, Mr. Chand mentioned that landlords should not have a change in tenancy agreement to increase rent because there was a freeze in place. He commented that matters concerning Value Added Tax (VAT) would be managed by Fiji Revenue and Customs Service (FRCS) and taxi permits by Land Transport Authority (LTA).

The Dean of JDP SoL, Professor Shaista Shameem, emphasized and reiterated that there would be relevant films screened during future Bema sessions that would cover law, human rights, media freedom, and so forth. The Bema sessions were open not only for law students and staff, but all other Schools as well.

### JDP SoL Staff and Students Partake in Conference



JDP SoL Staff and Students at the Conference.

The University of Fiji’s Justice Devendra Pathik School of Law (JDP SoL) staff and students took part in the Pacific Law and Culture Conference at the University of Canterbury in New Zealand from July 2-4, 2018. The theme of the 2018 conference was “Voices of the Pacific in a Globalised World” and the conference was aimed towards increasing an understanding of Pacific legal issues and towards strengthening relationships between Pacific legal scholars and students.

Mr. Ronald Singh, Senior Lecturer in Law, presented a paper on “Legal and Cultural Challenges to Wealth Creation in Fiji”. In his paper, Mr. Singh advanced the argument ‘that legislation and indigenous cultural disposition conspire to hinder indigenous wealth creation and maximization, legislation is either non-existent, or restrict property rights, while the use of cultural elements for individual economic gains is tabooed’. Moreover, Mr. Shivendra Nath, presented a paper on “Impediments of the International Criminal Court and the Pacific”. The paper focused on the principles and the policies of ICC, challenges in prosecution against the backdrop of prosecution in African States, its constant struggle with State sovereignty and the proposal towards encouraging cooperation in the Pacific Island states that is consistent with International Law.

Mr. Waisele Tabuya chaired a session on Customary Law. Three students, Joseph Rao, Elizabeth Rao and Nayna Kasturi took part in the moot event. The team was coordinated by Ms. Varsha Bano. Though the students did not qualify for the finals, moot team still had an opportunity to interact with participants from other attending Universities and build on their networks.

The JDP SoL hopes that International mootings would become an annual event in future as it gives a profile to the University, the Law School, International exposure to staff and students and greater initiatives for future mooters.

## IT Lecturers Address Students in Tavua College



Ms. Shireen Nisha (second left, seated) and Mr. Alvin Prasad (third left, seated) with teachers at Tavua College.

Ms. Shireen Nisha and Mr. Alvin Prasad, staff from the Department of Computer Science and Mathematics were invited to speak at Tavua College on Monday, July 9, 2018 as part of the Technology and Employment Skills Training (TEST) Week.

Tavua College like all other secondary schools in Fiji had organized TEST & Enterprising week from July 9-13, 2018 with the aim to empower students on different career opportunities they had and also to broaden their knowledge on various technical and vocational education and training (TVET) subjects.

Ms. Shireen Nisha addressed on the theme “Skills for All”.

Ms. Nisha stressed that students should not only look at being job seekers but look at career path as job creators. She made emphasis on agriculture science, home economics, wood work, industrial arts, office technology and computing since this week was to help students broaden their understanding on these TVET subjects. Students were reminded to pay heed to Fiji's situation and plan a career path around that.

She also advised students that their aim should not only be to please their teachers, their parents or the society and struggle in getting into a career which but to tap into their inner most self and to find their skills; to find what they were good at and to go for a career in a field which made them happy.

After the official opening ceremony, Mr. Prasad and Ms Nisha had a chance to talk one to one with Year 13 students, answering their queries regarding applying for admission, programmes available and The University of Fiji.

## Professor Anirudh Singh's Book Launched

With global warming becoming a major issue in the world and climate change soaring high, threatening the life of Pacific Island Countries as we know it, renewable energy is one of the solutions looked towards to help prevent catastrophic events in the near future. Professor Anirudh Singh, Professor in Renewable Energy Management at The University of Fiji, has recently published a book on renewable energy titled “Talking Renewable: A Renewable Energy Primer for Everyone”. The book was launched amongst Professors and students at the University on Friday, July 20, 2018.

Speaking at the book launch, Professor Singh highlighted that the book was meant for the general public who wish to advance their knowledge in the area of Renewable Energy.

He further stated that the book covered all areas of renewable energy (RE), commencing from biomass energy and hydropower and proceeding to wind, solar and geothermal energy before ending with an overview of ocean energy.

The last two chapters considered how the technologies were actually being implemented today and their roles in climate change mitigation and poverty alleviation.

Speaking at the launch, the Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Narendra Reddy commented that universities were about learning, research and publication. He said that the book was a welcome addition to the area of renewable energy.

“With climate change clearly visible around the world, a book as such would help mitigate some impacts of climate change. The book is also particularly helpful because it will help alleviate poverty,” he stressed.

He further commented that the best part of the book was that it was in plain English because not everyone was at Professorial level in the world. By doing so, the reach of the book in the public had expanded.

The book is published by IOP Publishing under their Concise Physics programme in conjunction with Morgan & Claypool (UK).

## गिरमिट काल में जागृति

by: SALESHNI DEVI (Part 2)

यादि कुछ गिरमिटिया विवाह करते भी थे, तो उनपर गुलामी वाले नियम लागू होते थे। जैसे कि औरत किसी को बेची जा सकती थी, युवा आरतों को मालिक लोग रखल बनाकर रखते थे और उनका भरपूर यौनशोषण करते थे।

गिरमिटियों को केवल जीवित रहने लायक भोजन दिए जाते थे। इन्हें शिक्षा मनोरंजन आदि मूलभूत जरूरतों से वंचित रखा जाता था।

ये लोग बारह से अठारह घंटों तक प्रतिदिन कमरतोड़ मेहनत करते थे। पाँच वर्षा की गिरमिट बहुत मुश्किल से कटता था। कुछ लोग आत्म-हत्या करके मृत्यु के शिकार हो जाते थे। जब अत्याचार सीमा से बाहर हो जाती थी, तब श्रमिक भी उन पर प्रहार कर बैठते थे।

जो भारतीय सरदार औवरसियरों के पक्ष लेकर श्रमिकों को परेशान करते थे, उनपर अत्याचार करते थे। महिलाओं को दूर भेज देते थे, बहुत सारा काम देकर और रात होने पर औरतों पर अत्याचार, मारपीट, यहाँ तक की अंग्रेज लोग बलात्कार भी करते थे।

गिरमिट की कुछ शर्तें भी थी। काम करने का समय, काम का दिन, वेतन और गिरमिट की आखिरी वर्ष। गुलाम पैसा चुकाने पर भी गुलामी से मुक्त नहीं हो सकता था।

गिरमिटियों के साथ केवल इतनी बाध्यता थी, कि वे पाँच सालों बाद छूट सकते थे।

१६१७ में गिरमिट प्रथा खत्म हो गया और कुछ लोग जकड़ से खुल गए थे। पाँच वर्ष की गुलामी समाप्त हुई। पच्चीस हजार भारतीय भारत वापस लौट गए थे, शेष ने फीजी को ही अपना देश स्वीकार कर लिया था। जकड़ से खुल गए थे, लेकिन कुछ लोगों के पास वापस भारत लौटने के लिए पैसे भी नहीं थे।

गिरमिट काल में संस्कृति और धर्म में बहुत बड़ा जगृति हुई।

हमारे पूर्वजों ने संस्कृतिद्वारा धर्म में जगृति रखने के लिए, गाँव में मंडली द्वारा सत्सर्ग करते थे, रामायण पाठ करते थे, भजन कीर्तन और राम लिला भी करते थे।

हर दृष्टि से अपने कार्य और प्रयास से जीवन में सुख- शांति पाना ही भारतीय संस्कृति और धर्म का परम उद्देश्य था।

रामायण पढ़ने से कई काम में भी जगृति हुआ।

कई माता-पिता अपने बच्चों के नाम भी रामायण के पात्रों के तरह रखने लगे, जैसेकि लक्ष्मण, राम राज, राम भरत और राम औतार।

विवाह के क्षेत्र में भी जगृति आने लगी। शादी विवाह भी होने लगी। शादी के दिन, शादी के तिथि और लगन सब राशिफल, सभी एक पंडित, जन्म कुंडली देख कर निर्णय लिया करता था।

पोशाक पहनने का तरीका भी बहुत अलग था।

भारतीय महिलाएँ हर वक्त केवल साड़ी पहनती थी, चाहे घर पर रहना होता था या खेतों में काम करना पड़ता था। उस समय आभूषण भी अलग होती थी। महिलाएँ भारी गहने पहनती थी, और साड़ी की चुनरी से ढकी होती थी, उनका चेहरा।



## Yoga and Health Workshop



Students practising one of the poses of Yoga.

The Umanand Prasad School of Medicine and Health Sciences organized and hosted a Yoga and Health Workshop for all staff and students at the Saweni Campus on July 27, 2018.

Ms. Sangeeta Kumar and Ms. Riddhi Damodar spearheaded the Yoga session for all the attendees.

Speaking at the official ceremony, Marketing and Public Relations Officer, Ms. Shirley Prasad highlighted that Yoga is something that could be practiced at home and it was particularly good for the body as it engaged the mind, soul and body.

The coordinator of the workshop Dr. Abhijit Gogoi mentioned that doing Yoga not only exercised the body, it allowed a person to relax and helped in mental and spiritual positivity.

The fun-filled session concluded with questions and answer session. The University is currently looking at the possibility to hold Yoga sessions on a fortnightly basis for interested staff and students.

## Abhidhaa



Dr. Abhijit Gogoi and students who produced the song "Abhidhaa".

The University of Fiji continues to foster a culture of holistic development of staff and students at the University. In this regard, Umanand Prasad School of Medicine and Health Sciences (UPSM & HS) Associate Professor, Dr. Abhijit Gogoi in collaboration with five students of the University have produced a song titled "Abhidhaa".

The song Abhidhaa depicts different phases of a mother's relation to her child. The song sung by Dr. Gogoi and Shigo (a UniFiji Law student) is getting worldwide appreciation and has already crossed 24000 viewers in just 10 days on YouTube.

Dr. Gogoi while stating his inspiration for the song said that he thought of the song three years ago seeing his child and wife share a very sacred bond.

"I saw how instantly babies would get attached to their mothers and inherit their wisdom and characteristics. I also noticed how the babies responded to a mother's gesture in their own language," he mentioned.

Students involved in the song include Surya Sumukesh, Rahil Kumar, Sheenal Swastika, Rahul Sadiq and Shigo. They stated that they were elated to be part of the group in composing an original song.

"It was a team effort. Production and publication takes a lot of patience and perseverance. 'Dedication to all mothers' move was my personal favorite part. It's because of the entire crew that the song has been receiving such appraisals," mentioned Surya.

The Abhidhaa album is a series of 4 songs where each song depicts core, in-depth attachment between a mother and her baby's unconditional love and divine bonding.

The songs were recorded in FBC studio and a short video would be made for Abhidhaa.

The next song of this series is titled "Chalo" which is a fusion of Hindi, English and Fijian music. The song will be released shortly.

## Na iTukutuku mai vua na Dairekita ni CIS (Tabana ni ITaukei) ena Univesiti ni Viti

Na Tabana ni vuli ni ITaukei (Centre for ITaukei Studies- CIS) ena Univesiti ni Viti, e sa mai tekia tale edua na isausau vou ena yabaki qo ena nona sa mai cicivaka tale edua na parokaramu ni vuli dikiri na BA ITKMGMT se na vuli ka rau semati vata kina na vulici ni veika vakaITaukei kei na vulici ni kena Lewai Vakamatau kei na Vakatoroicaketaki ni bula ni Veil-iutaki.

Na vuli qo era vakarautaki kina na gonevuli mera veiqaravi ena veitabana ni cakacaka vakaITaukei eso ka ra okati talega kina o ira me ra na cakacaka ena tabana ni dauvakadewa vosa ena valeniveilewai, na veitabana ena veivalenivolavola ni yasana kei na valenivolavola ni tabana ni ITaukei. Na tabana ni vuli ni ITaukei ena Univesiti ni Viti e cicivaka tale tikoga e tolu (3) tale na parokaramu oya na Dip ITKLC, Dip in Teaching ITKLLC (sekedri) kei na BA ITKLLC & LLC ka ra vakata vulici kina ena kena vulici ni vosa, vakacacali, veiqaravi vakavanua, itovo kei na kena maroroi ka vakamareqeti na veika e noda na ITaukei ka da kilai tani tu kina.

E sasaga sara tale tikoga vagumatua na tabana ni ITaukei ena Univesiti ni Viti me biu talega ena nodratou parokaramu na vuli ni Dikiri ni iTaukei BA ITK kei na kena vulici na Postgrad ni iYaubula Management. Ena BA ITK era na vakarautaki tiko na gonevuli ena vulici ni bula vakakawatamata se anthropological study, na veitosoyaki ni kawa kei na tuva kawa; na yavu ni nodra yavutu; wainimate vakaViti kei na veivakabulai. Sa vakanuinui tiko na tabana ni ITaukei ni da na veitauriligatakavata kei kemuni na itubutubu dauniveisusu ka meda tokona tale tikoga vakalevu na Tabana ni Vosa kei na iTovo VakaViti ni Tabacakacaka ni ITaukei na kena ilovi vakayalomatua na veika era vakata vulici kina na luveda me baleta na maroroi ni yavu ni bula vakaITaukei me rawa ni maroroi ka taqomaki kina na noda dui vosa ni vanua, itovo vakavanua kei na ivalavala ni veivakarokorokotaki vakaveiwekani ka vaka talega kina na veika e noda.

Na Tabana ni ITaukei (CIS) e ratou veisureti tiko ena vuku ni kauwai ena kena maroroi na yavu ni bula ni kawa ITaukei ka mera vakauqeti na luveda mera mai vuli ena tabana ni vuli qo ena Univesiti ni Viti. Sa vakanuinui tiko na tabana ni iTaukei me na sobu tiko na veivakalougatataki ni Kalou ena sasaga ni vuli qo ka me noda vata tiko na nona loloma.

Community Profiling at Namatakula Village



Students conducting the Community Profiling at Namatakula Village.

The Centre for iTaukei Studies again, opened a new door towards a holistic approach to learning when the students were allowed to conduct a research study on community profiling and resource capacity building in a village setting as part of their Diploma and Degree in iTaukei programmes.

Namatakula Village which is famous for its Green Village project and Kainicola Youth Village Non Governmental Organisation’s had been acknowledged for receiving these students to do a stock take of their yaubula, and collect data for village demographic study.

The research was part of the students’ trajectory course of study enhanced the

students’ knowledge and competency in their application to work in various sectors of the iTaukei institutions or in schools. It also assisted Namatakula Village in identifying their yaubula which could be utilized for economic development.

Some of the problems that were been identified could also be structured in a problem tree and recreated to become a resource in an objective tree. The students witnessed various integrated approaches in teaching and learning in this community engagement project.

A shared facilitative approach and constructive pedagogical approach with life-skills activities and bonding create a conducive environment for learning. The binding spirit amongst the cohorts was complemented by the delicacies prepared by the village women daily.

The Centre wishes to convey its hearty thanks to the villagers for providing a safe haven for the students to learn as well as imparting their knowledge to the students.

Former Librarian Donates Books to the University Library

The former head librarian of The University of Fiji, Ms. Parnita Sharma, donated over 500 books amounting to approximately \$5000 to the University library.

Ms. Sharma, in a non-formal ceremony, handed over the 37 cartons of books to the Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Narendra Reddy and University Librarian, Mr. Jose Poulose on Thursday, July 19, 2018.

Ms. Sharma, now the Librarian at Blacktown Mount Druitt Hospital Libraries, Sydney Australia, had been very supportive towards the University. She has donated books on three different occasions to the University with the first shipment arriving in 2016.

Ms. Sharma donated books in medicine, management, nursing and other disciplines.

Mr. Poulose stated that Ms. Sharma collected books from various medical institutions around Australia and shipped the books to the University. He also commented that the books would add value to the already existing library resources and be helpful to students when it came to research.

Random Shots



From Left: Pro-Chancellor, Mr. Anil Tikaram, Dr. Sheena Winder, and Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Narendra Reddy. Dr. Winder from Air Force Office of Scientific Research presented an insight of her organisation and the kind of proposals one could write to get grants to conduct basic research, site visits and conference support.



From Left: Professor Ruvendra Nandan, Acting Vice-Chancellor and Dr. Ranasinghe Amaradasa during a press conference hosted on July 30, 2018.



School of Science and Technology faculty with Professor Reddy, Professor Singh, Professor Tupeni Baba and Professor Subramani at the Book Launch



The Registrar, Ambassador Kamlesh Arya receiving a Belize student Ms. Audery Grinage at Nadi airport.



Professor Ruvendra Nandan receiving an appreciation plaque for exceptional work towards the CPA Australia Accreditation from Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Narendra Reddy.



Staff during the Yoga Workshop.