



The University of Fiji

(An Entity of Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji)



QAA
Global

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The Quality Assurance Agency
Valid 03/2023 – 03/2028

Annual Report

2022



Future Ready

Acknowledgement

The University of Fiji acknowledges, recognizes and respects the Arya Pratindhi Sabha who are the owners and builders of this tertiary institute.

The University of Fiji acknowledges, recognizes and respects the traditional owners of the University land, on which the campuses are situated. These groups, and their cultures continue to have a unique and important role in the life and ambience of the University of Fiji.

All staff, students and visitors to the University of Fiji acknowledge, understand and respect the Gurukul philosophy, which is intertwined with the Drua Voyage Methodology for higher education to be delivered in a holistic manner with human values, equality and respect for others as the core foundation.

Registered with the Fiji Higher Education Commission as a University under the Higher Education Act 2008. Registration Certificate Number (RGN0020/11)

To **Stakeholders, Partners and Friends** of the University of Fiji,

In accordance with the regulations of the *Higher Education Commission Act*, we are pleased to submit for your information the University of Fiji Annual Report for the year ending December 2022.

Ambassador (Pt.) Kamlesh Arya, OF 'Arya Ratna'
Pro-Chancellor

Professor Shaista Shameem
Vice-Chancellor

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Vision

The University of Fiji will gain international recognition for academic excellence in its production of new knowledge and innovation through its transformative impact on society.

Mission

- To provide lifelong learning opportunities to all through a student-friendly environment with creative thinking and innovative values to advance knowledge-based development.
- To offer quality, research-based, relevant, disciplinary, interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary learning and teaching to provide new knowledge and innovation in problem-solving.
- To create and advance public engagement with the local community, industry, governmental agencies, and international bodies for collaborative partnership in research projects and research-based education.
- To value academic freedom and foster the University of Fiji's role as a critic and conscience of society.
- To be a model employer through just and fair practices, showing respect to staff and promoting their welfare and development.
- To strive for the best possible international governance practices to enhance transparency and accountability in policy formulation and implementation in academia, finance, human resources, information technology services, local and international student experience, and facilities.

Core Values

- Innovative** – supporting innovation and reforms that will fulfil its mission, advance its vision, and integrate its values by encouraging personalised learning and pedagogy/heutagogy that recognises living and learning in a technology-rich world;
- Flexible** – promoting flexibility in the pursuit of theoretical and practical knowledge while encouraging a life well-lived, a lifelong philosophy of informed, creative thinking and attitudes to meet evolving challenges and opportunities;
- Affordable** – considerate of the socio-economic status of the students and offers an affordable learning environment.
- Contemporary** – offers contemporary and exciting programmes that will equip students with the skills, knowledge and experience to support the next generation of children and young people;
- Futuristic** – to integrate technologies, engaging students in ways not previously conceivable, creating new learning and teaching possibilities, enhance achievement and extending interactions with local and global communities; and
- Values and Civic Orientation** – inclusive to all and has respect for human values and ethics of the Founders the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji.

Graduate Attributes

A University of Fiji graduate will:

- Be a creative and strategic thinker
- Have strong interpersonal skills;
 - Be ICT literate;
 - Have an enterprising ability;
- Have an internationally - oriented mind-set;
- Have an environmentally responsible attitude;
- Be committed to ethical, human and social values; and
- Have allegiance to the University of Fiji, appreciate and promote its values and
 - focus and become its best ambassadors.

Staff Attributes

A University of Fiji staff member will:

- Show deep intellectual capacity;
- Be a creative and strategic thinker;
- Have an appropriate attitude towards work/ life balance;
 - Have allegiance to the University;
 - Provide student-friendly service; and
- Be ethical in conduct and attitudes with respect for and promotion of human values



Foreword by the Pro-Chancellor and Chair of the Council



It is with great pleasure that I submit my message to the stakeholders on the 2022 Annual Report of The University of Fiji.

The University of Fiji was established by the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji in 2004 and the operations began on 5 March 2005 with its main campus at Saweni, Lautoka.

With steady growth in student numbers and facilities, the University has reached its 18th Anniversary in 2022. It has had its own ups and downs since establishment, firstly denial by the then government an approval followed by a whole host of negativity from public and social quarters. Years 2020 and 2021 proved to be more challenging due to the onset of the Global Pandemic of COVID19.

Having faith in its intentions of the Founder and the governing instruments, UniFiji utilized innovative means of conducting its business to ensure that the students were not short changed due to restrictions placed by the government on face-to-face learning and teaching mode. Innovation brought in a positive end result and UniFiji with Financial limitations, bounced back to deliver its core business of educating the nation and students from beyond our shores in 2022.

With prudent financial measures in place, The University of Fiji in 2022 was able to deliver to its stakeholders without loss of jobs and learning benefits to its student population. It is pleasing to note that with its tight financial base the University has been able to sail through the academic year 2022 with on a positive financial year. To this end, on behalf of the Council, I express my appreciation to the CEO and Vice-Chancellor Professor Shaista Shameem, her finance team led by Dr. Ravineet Sami, the Senate, the staff and the Members of the Council for taking prudent decisions to mitigate prevailing circumstances and working in the best interest of The University of Fiji and the student community.

With positive changes in the environment, I am confident that The University of Fiji will grow stronger and will have sustainable performance in the years ahead.

On behalf of the Council and the University as a whole, I seek support of all the stakeholders so that the Peoples' University – The University of Fiji can continue with its contribution to Fiji's as well as the region's Human Resource Development in the years ahead.

Thank-you, Vinaka Vakalevu and Dhanyavaad.

Ambassador (Pt.) Kamlesh Arya, OF 'Arya Ratna'
Pro-Chancellor/Chair of Council

Message by the Vice-Chancellor and Chair of the Senate



The year 2022 will go down in the annals of University of Fiji's history as the year which launched the University's Renaissance. Strategic Plan 2022-2026 was approved by the Council after a 12-month period of intense consultations with staff and stakeholder communities and was released on our website in time for Sections, Departments and Schools to start developing Sub-strategic Plans for 2022 and annually thereafter.

The Strategic Plan 2022-2026 moved the University away from mere resilience to the Covid-19 effects of the previous years to re-birth, rejuvenation and enlightenment with

our emphasis on fostering both excellent formal qualifications as well as emotional intelligence in the university community. Our assessment of the post-Covid-19 environment was that employers and communities now require graduate skills to include ethics, inclusivity, compassion, good communication strategies and empathy for the vulnerable in society.

Fortunately, the University's human values approach to education involving both the gurukul philosophy of teaching and learning ('guru' for teacher and 'kula' for home and family) and the iTaukei concept of the Drua Voyage towards holistic education fits very well with the call for emotional intelligence in graduates by employers in the post-Covid-19 world. This strategy is particularly apt, not just for the pandemic realities but also for solutions that may be posed for climate change resolution and the Sustainable Development Goals in the Pacific.

Our Annual Report 2022 illustrates the University of Fiji's attainment of the objective of developing education more broadly for nation-building. The University aims to be a significant influencer and opinion-shaper in resolving issues that affect the world in the 3rd decade of the 21st century. It shows the University's commitment to regeneration of people, place and planet. Our emphasis on our organic gardens which now produce organic honey, our determination to reduce waste and as much pollution as we can and our new cutting edge programmes such as the Bachelor of Medical Health Sciences, Earth and Planetary Sciences including Volcanology, and Agricultural Engineering all serve the University's human values focus. We plan to set an example for the nation to follow.

We invite the Government to appreciate such an innovative direction in education and to provide the necessary support to make it possible for the University to do even better in years to come.

In 2023 the University is expecting to achieve its Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) rating for international accreditation for which we have been working hard since 2021. Acquiring the International Quality Review Accreditation Badge and placing it symbolically next to our own logo will show the University of Fiji as being in the same league as Cambridge University, St Andrews, London University and others in Europe that have been operating for hundreds of years. It also means our students will be internationally highly rated alongside other reputable universities who are seen as being 'simply the best'.

In 2023 the University will also begin internal and external reviews of all our programmes to determine whether we need to revise, transform or recalibrate existing offerings. We look forward to this self-evaluation and re-assessment which some sections have already begun.

Professor Shaista Shameem

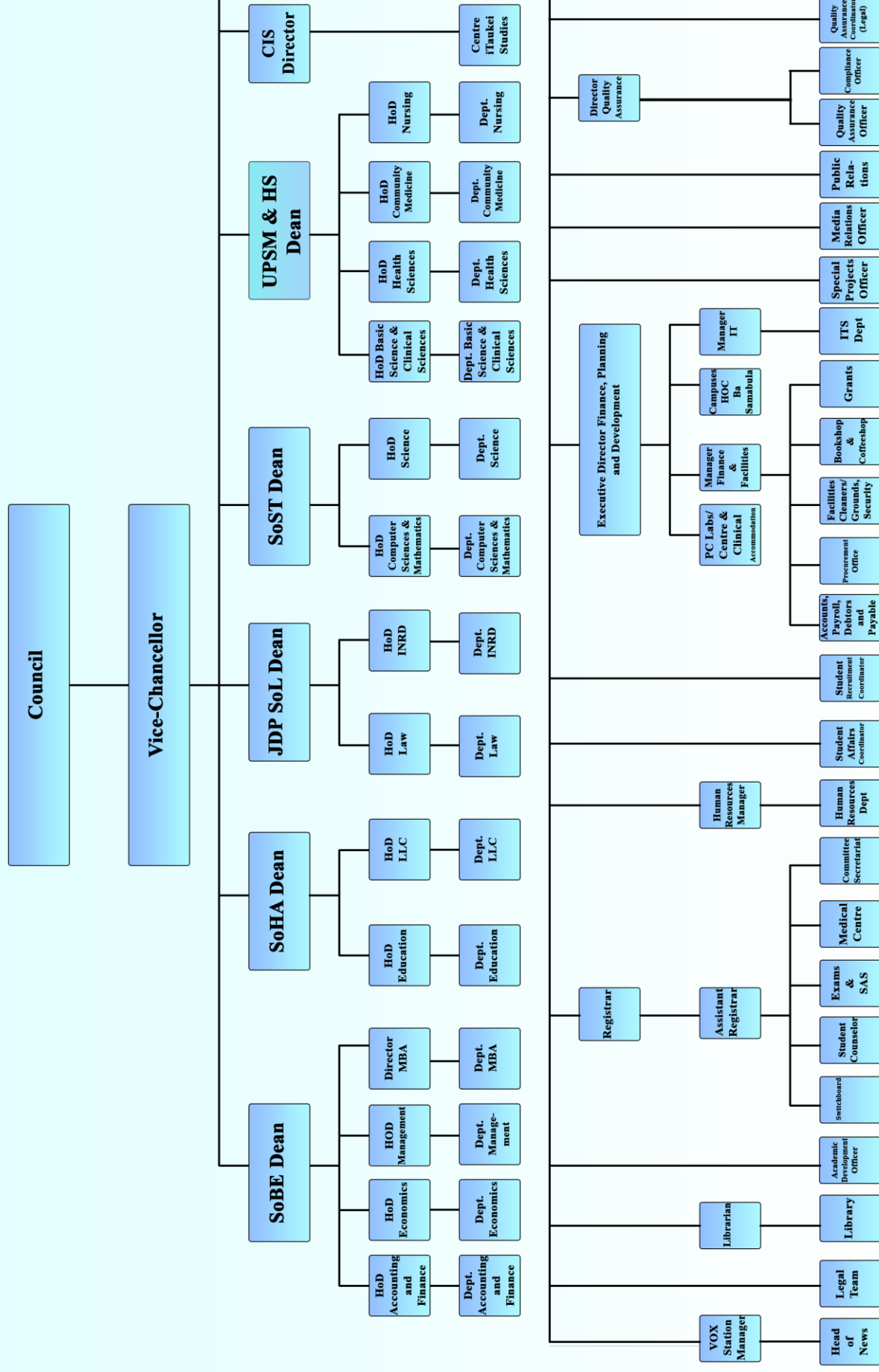
Vice-Chancellor

Officers of the University



Pro-Chancellor, Ambassador Kamlesh Arya, OF 'Arya Ratna', **Chancellor**, Ratu Epeli Nailatikau,
Vice-Chancellor Professor Shaista Shameem

ORGANISATION STRUCTURE

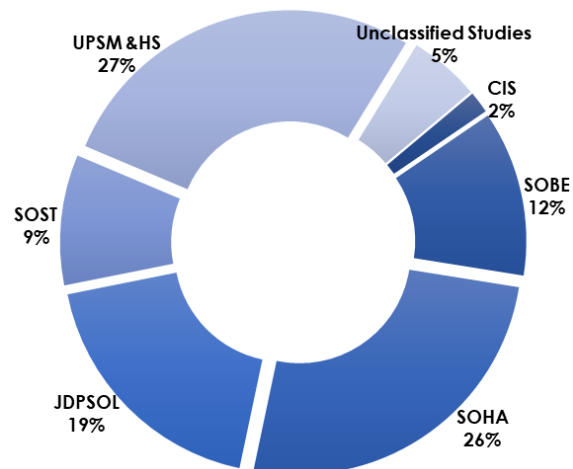


Statistics

Student Enrollment Data

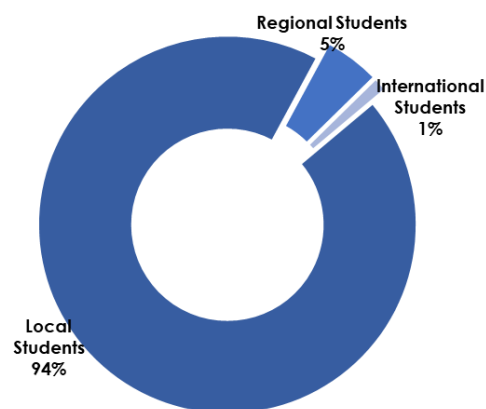
Student Headcount per School/Centre

School/Centre	2022
Centre of iTaukei Studies (CIS)	49
School of Business and Economics (SOBE)	370
School of Humanities & Arts (SOHA)	793
Justice Devendra Pathik School of Law (JDPSOL)	570
School of Science & Technology (SOST)	292
Umanand Prasad School of Medicine & Health Sciences (UPSM&HS)	842
Unclassified Studies	158
Total	3074



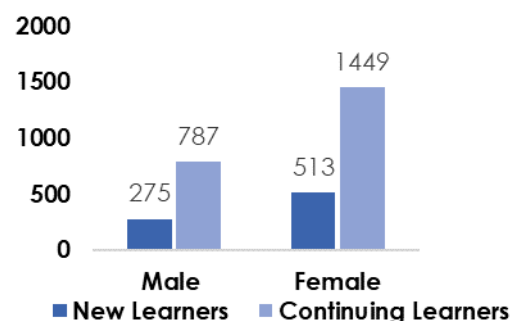
Headcount by Nationality

Nationality	2022
Local students	2,889
Regional students	147
International students	38
Total	3074



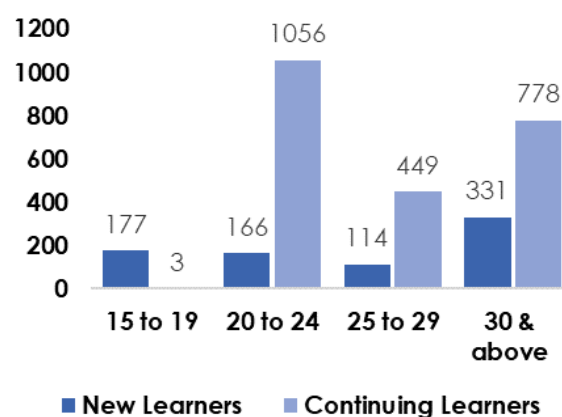
Headcount by Gender

Type of Learners	Gender		Total
	Male	Female	
New Learners	275	513	788
Continuing Learners	787	1449	2286
Total Learners	1062	1962	3074



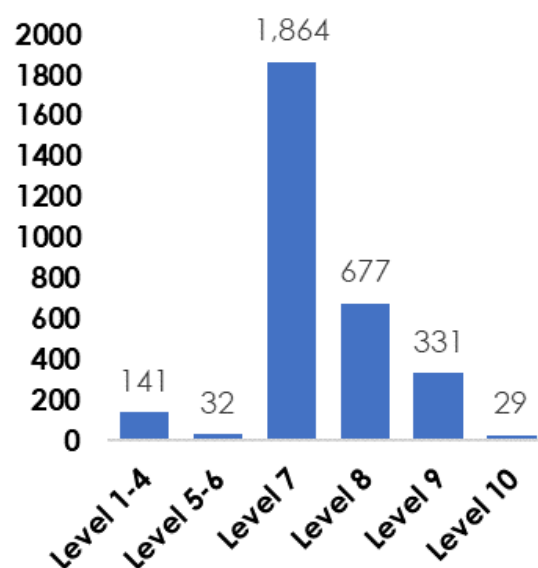
Headcount by Age Range

Type of Learners	Age Range				Total
	15 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 29	30 & above	
New Learners	177	166	114	331	788
Continuing Learners	3	1056	449	778	2286
Total Learners	180	1222	563	1109	3074



Headcount by Programme

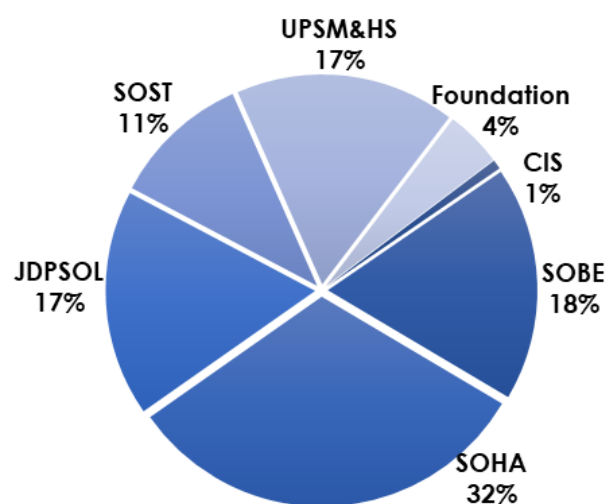
Programme Type	Programme Level	2022
Certificate	Level 1-4	141
Diploma	Level 5-6	32
Bachelors/Graduate Certificate and Diploma	Level 7	1,864
Postgraduate Certificate/Diploma	Level 8	677
Masters	Level 9	331
Doctorate	Level 10	29
Total		3074



Graduation Data

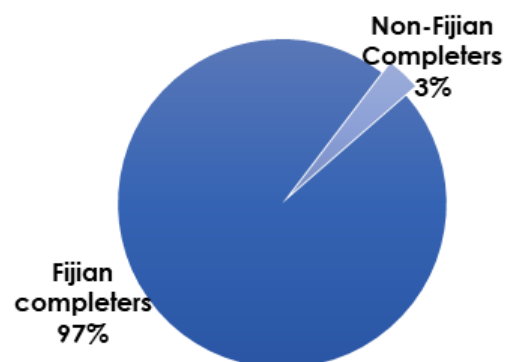
Headcount per School/Centre

School/Centre	2022
The Centre of iTaukei Studies (CIS)	6
School of Business and Economics (SOBE)	149
School of Humanities & Arts (SOHA)	262
Justice Devendra Pathik School of Law (JDPSOL)	144
School of Science & Technology (SOST)	88
Umanand Prasad School of Medicine & Health Sciences (UPSM&HS)	140
Foundation	36
Total	825



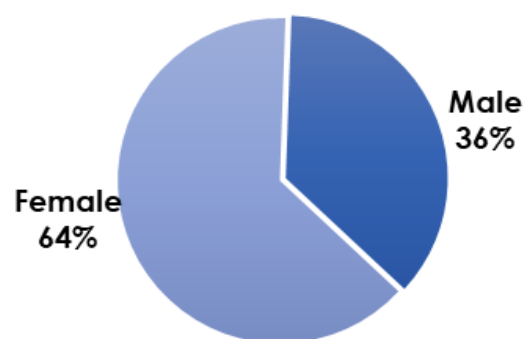
Headcount by Nationality

Graduation Data by Nationality	2022
Fijian Completers	798
Non-Fijian Completers	27
Total	825



Headcount by Gender

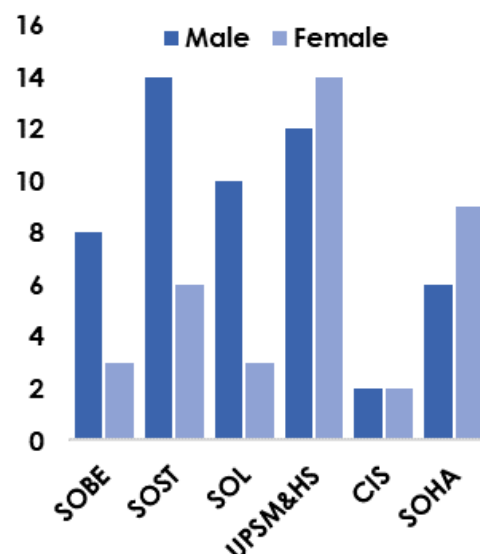
Graduation Data by Gender	2022
Male	300
Female	525
Total	825



Staff Data

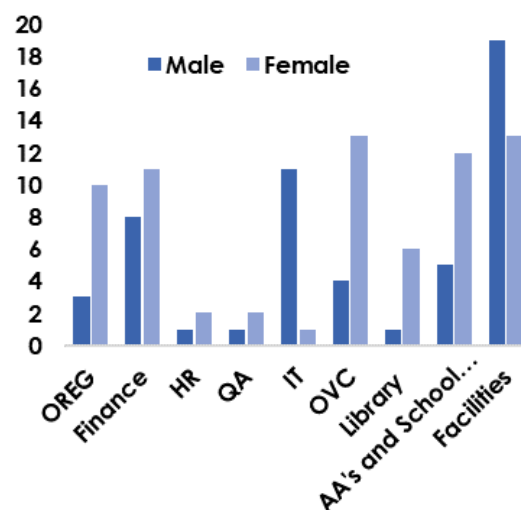
Headcount of Academic Staff by School/Centre

Academic Staff	2022	
	Male	Female
School of Business and Economics (SOBE)	8	3
School of Science & Technology (SOST)	14	6
Justice Devendra Pathik School of Law (JDPSOL)	10	3
Umanand Prasad School of Medicine & Health Sciences (UPSM&HS)	12	14
The Centre of iTaukei Studies (CIS)	2	2
School of Humanities & Arts (SOHA)	6	9
TOTAL	52	37



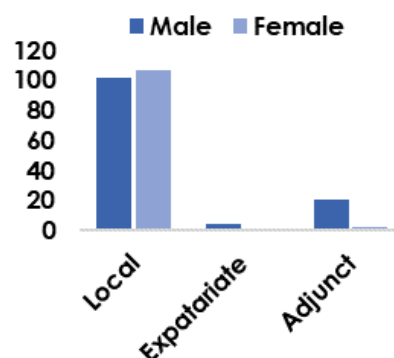
Headcount of Support Staff

Support Staff	2022	
	Male	Female
Office of the Registrar (OREG)	3	10
Finance Office	8	11
Human Resource Department (HR)	1	2
Quality Assurance Department (QA)	1	2
IT Services (IT)	11	1
Office of the Vice-Chancellor (OVC)	4	13
Library	1	6
AA's and School Supports	5	12
Facilities	19	13
TOTAL	53	70



Headcount by Nationality

Staff by Nationality	2022	
	Male	Female
Local	101	106
Expatriate	4	1
Adjunct	20	2
TOTAL	125	109



Governance

The University of Fiji was established by the Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji. The University is governed and regulated by The University of Fiji Act 2011, to provide local, regional and international post-secondary education. The University is registered with the Fiji Higher Education Commission, for a period of seven years from 2016 to 2023. It is also recognised as a University by the statutory Fiji Higher Education Commission (FHEC), under the premise of the Higher Education Act 2008.

The University of Fiji provides five Schools and one Centre which are: Umanand Prasad School of Medicine and Health Sciences; Justice Devendra Pathik School of Law; School of Business and Economics; School of Science and Technology; School of Humanities and Arts; and the Centre for iTaukei Studies which teaches and promotes indigenous Fijian culture, history and language. The University offers programmes through its Schools and Centre at the Certificate, Diploma, undergraduate and postgraduate levels, in Accounting, Economics, Management, Computing Science, Information Technology, Mathematics, Law, International Relations and Diplomacy (INRD), Medicine, Nursing and Public Health. All programmes have attained recognition, and recording by the Fiji Higher Education Commission, the regulatory body.

The University's main Campus is in Saweni, Lautoka with an additional campus located at Samabula, Suva. To continue with the learning and teaching process while complying with the COVID-19 protocols, many transformations were undertaken by the University in 2020 and developed in 2021, including offering all programmes through the hybrid (online/face-to-face) mode through purchase of TopHat a superior technology; moving student registration online; and digital marketing.

Council

The University Council is the executive governing body. It is responsible for the management, administration and general control over the conduct of the University. The Council has powers to delegate its functions and responsibilities to sub-committees.

Its functions include, as follows:

- Be the executive governing body and be responsible for the management and administration of the revenue and property of the University;
- Have general control over the conduct of the affairs including disciplinary matters;
- Have the custody, control and disposition of all movable and expendable property, funds, fees and investment of the University;
- Strive to attain the highest standards of excellence in education, teaching and learning, training and research;

- Require the preparation and revision of the strategic plan and funding needs;
- Ensure that the University is managed in accordance with the law, the general principles of good governance and the existing social policies of the Sabha;
- Engage in joint venture activities;
- Determine all fees and charges to be paid;
- Establish policies and procedures for accountability;
- Have custody of the seal and regulate the use of the seal;
- Prescribe or regulate the status, appointment and continuance in office of the Vice Chancellor or officers of the University;
- Refer to Senate any matter which Council considers to bear directly on the academic responsibilities of the Senate.

The Council is served by a network of committees, with special responsibilities. The Council convened for five (5) sittings this year, two (2) of which were through flying minutes, and one (1) a Special meeting. The Council Sub-Committees convened for ten (10) meetings throughout the year; these are:

- Audit and Risk Committee
- Finance Committee
- Physical Planning & Development Committee
- Scholarships and Loans Committee
- Staff Policy Committee
- Staff Review/Promotions Committee
- Tender Committee
- Appointments Committee



Senate

The Senate convened four (4) times this year, had three (3) special meetings, and the Senate Sub-committees convened regularly over the year.

Senate Committees

The Senate is the academic authority of the University and is responsible to the Council for the teaching and learning, consultancy, research and other academic work. The implementation of the Senate's role is carried out under the Senate Sub-Committees, as follows:

- External Advisors Committee
- Information and Communications Technology Committee
- Library Advisory Committee
- Medals and Prizes Awards Committee
- Post Graduate Committee
- Publications Committee
- Research Committee
- Academic Programme Development Committee
- Board of Studies (School/Centre)
- Office Utilisation Committee
- Learning and Teaching Committee
- Graduation Organising Committee

Strategic Plan Achievements in 2022

Learning and Teaching

TopHat Hyflex mode

The past two years were overshadowed by the disruption of the pandemic, yet the Schools and the Centre for iTaukei Studies continued to thrive in their roles by stepping up in response to the pandemic. The year 2022 was a remarkable year for the University considering the unprecedented impact of COVID-19 and the subsequent return to a hybrid modality of learning and teaching, called Hyflex, from strictly on-line during the lockdowns. HyFlex combines the terms “hybrid” and “flexible modes of learning.” Hybrid learning represented by the TopHat Hyflex mode refers to learning and teaching that integrates complementary face-to-face (synchronous) and online learning (asynchronous) experiences in service of intended learning objectives. Students are given a choice, whether vaccinated or not, to participate in learning irrespective of their location or health/ability status. This practice has made the University of Fiji an attractive destination for working students and regional students for study.

Reinforcing Educator qualifications

In addition, all staff at the University reinvigorated the University's commitment to professionally developing its staff towards PhD and high-level publications. All Schools also worked on their curriculum, with some new programme proposals submitted to the Fiji Higher Education Fiji Qualifications Council through the FHEC and approved.

The University is nationally recognized by the Fiji Higher Education Commission as the provider of cutting-edge new programmes, as follows:

- Diploma in Counselling
- Bachelor of Journalism and Media Studies
- Bachelor of Agricultural Engineering
- Doctor in Business Administration
- Bachelor of Science in Earth and Planetary Sciences
- Postgraduate Diploma in Volcanology
- Master of Science in Earth and Planetary Sciences
- Doctor of Philosophy

The Centre for iTaukei Studies (CIS) played an important role at the University of Fiji as it is through the Centre that the University of Fiji as a whole responds effectively to the learning needs of the indigenous Fijian or iTaukei communities. The CIS will be reviewed for its programmes and offerings in 2024.

CIS developed the following short courses which were offered to the community at large:

- Screen printing & Marbling.
- Tapa printing & Tie and Dye
- Salusalu making
- Mat weaving

CIS encourages learning and teaching at all levels of engagement. It is for this reason at least two of the CIS lecturers are members of civil society and non-government organizations that focus variously on health, human rights, social services and sustainable development. In pursuing the University's holistic methodology in learning, the Fiji Council of Social Services-FCOSS (Western Division) in 2022 awarded Mosese Baseisei the Kunaika Award; named after the former Board Chair for the Fiji Council of Social Services.

Adjunct Professorship Recruitment

To strengthen the Educator and Teaching component of the University, experts and professionals in their various fields were recruited to reinforce teaching and learning in the Schools as Adjunct lecturers and professors, as follows:

Dr. Mary Low

Prof. Md Kazi Saidul Islam

Prof. Dibyendu Maiti

Prof. Umesh Prasad Sharma

Prof. Samantha Kumara

Prof. Mohit Kolay

Prof. T.J Kamalanabhan

Dr. W M J I Wijayanayake

Prof. Renuka Mahadevan

Prof. Chris Boyle

Prof. Bimal Roy Krishna

Dr. Nalin Samarasinha

Mr Simione Sevudredre

Ambassador Isikeli Mataitoga

Prof. Malakai Kalaomatangi

Dr Farzana Gounder

Brown Bag Lunchtime Seminars

Educators and staff of the University engage at an interactive lunchtime seminar series to share their research and innovative and creative methods of teaching, thereby broadening the University Community's intellectual perspectives which reinforces academic freedom and the development of theories, research, concepts and applications.

The Brown Bag Seminars are moderated by the staff themselves which encourages advocacy skills and confidence.

Brown Bag Seminar highlights in 2022 included:

- Disaster Management – An Intelligent Machine Learning Approach
- Ecocide
- Students-Teacher Relationship
- Education for What: Fiji's Dilemma
- Online Modality - A Theoretical Perspective
- Review and Reform of iTaukei Land Trust Act (Cap: 134)
- Custody of Children under the Family Law Act
- Political & Economic Crisis in Sri Lanka: A Lesson
- Constructive Dismissal in Employment Law
- The Incomplete Business of Happy Isles
- Ukraine Crisis
- Divorce and Property Settlements
- Fake News Detection Using Machine Learning Algorithms
- An Overview of the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS)
- Education in Fiji Then, Now and Beyond the 21st Century
- Non-Communicable Diseases
- Traditional iTaukei Cooking Styles - A Partial Remedy to the Incidences of NCD
- Government Assisted Export Promotion Programs: Insights from Fiji's National Export Strategy
- Pediatric Emergency: A Child with Difficulty of Breathing
- Cyber Attacks and Cyber Security

These topics, based on staff's research interests, have elevated the intellectual capacity of the University in accordance with the 'Think Tank' outcome advocated in the Strategic Plan 2022-2026.

International and National Recognition & Accreditation

The University worked very hard over 2022 to attain the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Global Accreditation for the International Quality Review (IQR) Badge. The process to successfully attain all the 10 European Standards & Guidelines after rigorous examination by the Quality Assurance Agency Team was an exercise which took the University two years of self-evaluation, evaluation by the QAA Team from the UK and Europe and final assessment by an independent IQR assessment team. The review highlighted areas which the University strengthened its operating and quality assurance procedures. These included Standard

Operating Procedures for Learners, systems and processes, and strengthened the decision-making processes for student recruitment, learning, awards, refunds and feedback and reporting from such a process.

Engagement with the Fiji Higher Education Commission was a major priority in 2022, with compliance placed at the forefront of the University's administration. The University received its registration for the next 5 years.

The University was invited to national dialogues, and engaged vigorously to highlight the importance of the knowledge-based society and strengthening intellectual content to contribute towards our campaign for a national circular economy.

The University is recognized as a leader in higher education in the region.

Student Support Services & Student Affairs

Academic Advisors

Academic Advisors at each campus were identified at the beginning of each semester and were required to monitor at-risk students and follow up on their return to classes after lockdowns to ensure students were provided with full support.

The continual review of learners, through the Academic Advisors, has seen a vast improvement in student retention and success rates.

Stakeholder Engagement

A virtual Information Parents' Day was facilitated by the School on 16 March 2022 to provide information to parents of prospective Year 12 and 13 students about the University's programmes in Foundation, Undergraduate and Postgraduate levels as well as the University services including Student Academic Services, Finance, Information Technology, Library, Medical Services, Student Counselling Services, the University of Fiji Student Association and the Senior Administration officers.

The communities at both locations, Saweni and Samabula are fully informed of the University's activities through media reports and social media.

Student voice

The partnership between the University Administration and the University of Fiji Student Association grows from strength to strength, as exhibited by our collaboration in the following: (i) UFSA Social Night; (ii) Drua Voyage Launch; (iii) Fiji Higher Education Commission Review of Legislation; (iv) Multicultural Event; (v) Exhibitions, Book Launches and Poster Competitions, (vi) Student Bure; (vii) Graduation events; (viii) regular consultations on matters of mutual interest; and the QAA Accreditation Review. Students express satisfaction with the comprehensive consultation process which includes surveys and promotional activities.

The Office of the Vice Chancellor had a Student Recruitment Festival Committee which has a permanent tent at all festivals. A full-time Year 13 Student Recruitment Coordinator was also been appointed in 2022 who takes the leading role in presenting the University of Fiji's programmes to all Year 13s in Fiji.

All students were encouraged to be part of various University clubs. The Art and Craft Club has produced art for sale at the Enlightenment Bookshop, Treasures and Art Gallery at Saweni.

The University has an Artist in Residence, well known Artist Mr. Mason James Lee, who holds art classes for students and staff at Samabula Campus, as well as short classes for the public.



Research

The University perceives itself to be at the forefront of pursuing research and innovations that generate real-world impact. As an essential hub at an established University, we see the world's great challenges as a call to action. We have been involved in several projects such as the "*Coherence between Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)*" project, and the "*Development of Entrepreneurial skills Post*

COVID-19 through Rural Aquaculture" project.

The University received a USD 350,000 COVID-19 response grant from The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to help develop alternative livelihoods in two rural communities in Fiji's Western Division. Through this project the University conducted three community trainings focused on aquaculture capacity development (including financial literacy and supply chain management training).

The University was also awarded a grant by the United Nations Development Fund (UNDP). The project focuses on establishing the state of plastic waste management (PWM) and designing interventions for effective PWM strategies in peri-urban communities.

A memorandum of understanding has been signed for a 10-year project with Engaging Society for Sustainability (ES4S). ES4S is based in Brussels, Belgium and is a think-tank focusing on sustainability and neuroscientific messaging to inspire and foster behavioural transformation at planetary level. This is a flagship project named '*The Great Transformation*' (TGT). TGT is a new 10-year project, which combines research and networking activities aiming to raise awareness and generate impact at local and global scale around the importance, for every individual, to behave more sustainably.

A local grant from the Direct Aid Programme through the Australian High Commission Fiji, was also received by the University. In this project the school initiated the enhancement of digital skills of vegetable farmers in the selected settlements in Ba area. A total of 80 farmers with 70% of them being women were trained through this project.

To establish collaborations and knowledge sharing, the University hosted a two-day workshop on *Loss and Damage in Climate Negotiations*. This workshop was organized in collaboration with the Ministry of iTaukei Affairs, the Pacific Islands Development Forum, Linköping University, Sweden, and the Australian National University Institute for Climate, Energy, and Disaster Solutions, Australia.

The University also co-hosted an event with the Australian National University Institute for Climate, Energy & Disaster Solutions called *IPCC's Sixth Assessment Report: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability–Implications for Fiji and the Pacific*. The event focused on the region's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change, as well as options for adapting to and responding to climate stressors.

A panel discussion included speakers from the British High Commission, Fiji Meteorological Service and The Climate Change and International Cooperation Division (CCICD) of the Ministry of Economy, Fiji.

We also provided support in organizing conferences in Fiji such as the 7th IEEE Southern Power Electronics Conference (IEEE SPEC 2022). The conference provided an opportunity for researchers, engineers, academics and students from all over the world to bring the latest technological advances and applications in power electronics to the Southern Hemisphere, as well as to network and promote the discipline. The University also assisted in the organization of the 2022 International Conference on Big Data Intelligence and Computing

(DataCom 2022). This event provided an international platform for engineers and scientists to present their ideas and experiences in the fields of Big Data intelligence and computing. The school concluded the year with the coordination of the 16th International Conference on Network and System Security (NSS 2022) providing a forum to foster interaction between researchers and developers with the network and system security communities. It also created an opportunity to interact with experts in academia, industry, and governments.

The publication by the University, in highly-ranked Quartile 1 journals including Food Biophysics, Scientific Reports, Atmospheric Environment, Agricultural Water Management, Women's Studies International Forum, Computers in Biology and Medicine, Informatics in Medicine Unlocked, International Journal of Environmental Science and Technology, Clean Technologies and Environmental Policy, Cognitive Computation, Water Resources Management, and Water Supply.

Currently the University has Memoranda of Understanding with 20 stakeholders in Fiji and internationally, including Universities, international agencies, public/private partnerships and individual companies.

Community Engagement, Environmental and Social Responsibilities

The community engagement, environmental and social responsibilities and goals of the University have progressed again after the lockdown period. Through the staff members, the University has contributed towards social services, such as food distribution, hygiene packs distribution, and assistance to SMEs.

In an effort to advocate for a Green and organic food producing community, the Gaia Garden Project was implemented whereby the University set aside some land at Saweni Campus for organic gardening with its own borehole water supply powered by solar energy and bee-keeping.

The University approaches development in the post-Covid environment in a holistic manner with emphasis in organic production of products such as the University of Fiji Organic Yummy Honey.

In future the University will move towards identifying innovative income streams to supplement its income; planned are a container marketplace and an art gallery.

Infrastructure and Systems

The University invested in the TopHat platform to conduct classes during the lockdown period. The TopHat platform allowed fully virtual classrooms for local, international and regional students and provide a choice in learning. Students surveyed requested the hyflex model to continue for their convenience without losing quality in learning.

The University administration is progressing to provide a robust, modern and quality assured

Finance Systems, IT Systems, Facilities and Landscaping, Library, Registry support and Communications/Public Relations strategies for teaching, administrative responsibility, and public relations.

Governance and Financial Sustainability

The governance structure of the University through its Council has improved dramatically over the years. All appointments to Council are made through the University of Fiji Act and Human Resources Policy and a rigorous and transparent process of advertisement or nomination and interview process is followed for co-opted members. The selection of members is based on qualifications, experience in education in Fiji and ability to serve the University with commitment and valour. The University attracts people with courage and determination to serve the higher interests of intellectual development, commitment and duty to the community and a visionary attitude.

Risk Management

The Covid-19 risk was managed within budget and plans. The risk management strategies for natural disasters, for example cyclones and floods, are managed within our capacity also. The University is ready for any risks, human or natural. The main risk is always due to funding. The University is now moving into the business of growing organic food and produce for our Marketplace to supplement our income.

Accountability Framework

The University has a Quality Assurance Office, with a Director and ancillary staff, who are responsible for tracking the progress of the Strategic Plan 2022-2026 and to ensure compliance with Sub-strategic Plans of each Section, School and Department. The University conducts scheduled reviews and ensure that it complies with Fiji Higher Education Commission and international quality standards.



Financial Statement 2022

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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**THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
GENERAL INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

Administration

Vice-Chancellor

Professor Shaista Shameem

Executive Director Finance Planning & Development

Dr. Ravineet Sami

Bankers

Home Finance Company Limited, Suva, Fiji

Westpac Banking Corporation, Suva, Fiji

Solicitors

M. C. Lawyers

Krishna & Company

Auditors

Ernst & Young

Nadi

Fiji

Registered office

The University of Fiji

Private Mail Bag

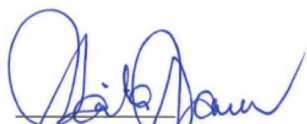
Saweni

Lautoka

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
STATEMENT BY APPOINTED OFFICERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

In our opinion, the accompanying Financial Statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of The University of Fiji as at 31 December 2022 and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date.

We are not aware of any circumstances which would render any particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.



Professor Shaista Shameem
Vice Chancellor



Mr. Ravindra Deo Varman
Chair- Finance Committee



Dr. Ravineet Sami
Executive Director Finance
Planning & Development

**THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
COUNCIL'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

In accordance with a resolution of the Council of The University of Fiji, the Council members herewith submit the statement of financial position of The University of Fiji ("the University") as at 31 December 2022, the statement of activities and other comprehensive income and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date and report as follows:

Council members

The names of the Council members in office at the date of this report are:

- Pt. Kamlesh Arya - Pro Chancellor & Chair of Council
- Professor Shaista Shameem
- Mr. Arun Padarath
- Pt. Bhuwan Dutt
- Mr. Uday Raju
- Mr. Bayant Singh
- Mr. Ravindra Varman
- Mr. Chandar Sen
- Mr. Balwant Singh
- Mr. Netani Druavesi
- Mr. Manhar Narsey
- Ratu Meli Tora
- Ms Maca Ratabua
- Dr. Claire Slatte
- Ms. Jane Ricketts
- Mr. Ravneet Charan
- Mr. Arvind Chand
- Professor Tupeni Baba

Formation of The University of Fiji

The University of Fiji ("the University") was established by The University of Fiji Act 2011.

Principal activities

The principal activities of the University in the course of the financial year was to provide tertiary education for foundation, undergraduate, postgraduate and general education under the trading name of the University of Fiji.

Results

The deficit for the year was \$571,458 (surplus 2021: \$3,536,103). No income tax was recorded as the University has been granted an exemption from income tax.

Reserves

The Council members recommend that no transfer be made to reserves.

Bad and doubtful debts

Prior to the completion of the University's financial statements, the Council members took reasonable steps to ascertain that action had been taken in relation to the provision for doubtful debts. In the opinion of Council members, adequate provision has been provided for doubtful debts.

As at the date of this report, the Council members are not aware of any circumstances, which would render the amount written off for bad debts, or the provision for doubtful debts in the University's, inadequate to any substantial extent.

Non-current assets

Prior to the completion of the financial statements of the University, the Council members took reasonable steps to ascertain whether any non-current assets were unlikely to be realised in the ordinary course of business compared to their values as shown in the accounting records of the University. Where necessary these assets have been written down or adequate provision has been made to bring the values of such assets to an amount that they might be expected to realise.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
COUNCIL'S REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

Non-current assets (continued)

As at the date of this report, the Council members are not aware of any circumstances, which would render the values attributed to non-current assets in the University's financial statements misleading.

Basis of accounting

The Council members believe the basis of the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate and that the University will be able to continue in operation for at least twelve months from the date of this statement. Accordingly, the Council members believe the classification and carrying amounts of assets and liabilities as stated in these financial statements to be appropriate.

Unusual transactions

Apart from these matters and other matters specifically referred to in the financial statements, in the opinion of the Council members, the results of the operations of the University during the financial year were not substantially affected by any item, transaction or event of a material unusual nature, nor has there arisen between the end of the financial year and the date of this report any item, transaction or event of a material unusual nature likely, in the opinion of the Council members, to affect substantially the results of the operations of the University in the current financial year, other than those reflected in the financial statements.

Events subsequent to balance date

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the University, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the University in future financial years.

Other circumstances

As at the date of this report:

- (i) no charge on the assets of the University has been given since the end of the financial year to secure the liabilities of any other person;
- (ii) no contingent liabilities have arisen since the end of the financial year for which the University could become liable;
- (iii) no contingent liabilities or other liabilities of the University has become or is likely to become enforceable within the year of twelve months after the end of the financial year which, in the opinion of the Council members, will or may substantially affect the ability of the University to meet its obligations as and when they fall due.


As at the date of this report, the Council members are not aware of any circumstances that have arisen, not otherwise dealt with in this report or the University's financial statements, which would make adherence to the existing method of valuation of assets or liabilities of the University misleading or inappropriate.

No Council members has received or become entitled to receive a benefit (other than those disclosed in the financial statements) by reason of a contract made by the University or by a related corporation with the Council member or with a firm of which he/she is a member, or with an entity in which he/she has a substantial financial interest, except members who have a contract of employment with the University.

Auditor independence

The Council members have obtained an independence declaration from the University's auditor, Ernst & Young. A copy of the auditor's independence declaration is set out in the Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Council members The University of Fiji on page 7.

Signed on behalf of the Council and in accordance with a resolution of the Council members this 29th April 2023.


Pt. Kamlesh Arya
Pro - Chancellor & Chair of Council


Mr. Ravindra Deo Varman
Chair - Finance Committee

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
COUNCIL'S REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022


Other circumstances (continued)

No Council members has received or become entitled to receive a benefit (other than those disclosed in the financial statements) by reason of a contract made by the University or by a related corporation with the Council member or with a firm of which he/she is a member, or with an entity in which he/she has a substantial financial interest, except members who have a contract of employment with the University.

Auditor independence

The Council members have obtained an independence declaration from the University's auditor, Ernst & Young. A copy of the auditor's independence declaration is set out in the Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Council members The University of Fiji on page 7.

Signed on behalf of the Council and in accordance with a resolution of the Council members this 29th April 2023.



Pt. Kamlesh Arya
Pro - Chancellor & Chair of Council

Mr. Ravindra Deo Varman
Chair- Finance Committee



21 Enamanu Road,
Nadi, Fiji
PO Box 10812, Nadi Airport

Tel: +679 666 2433
Fax: +679 666 7282
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Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Council of The University of Fiji

As lead auditor for the audit of The University of Fiji for the financial year ended 31 December 2022, I declare to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- (a) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements in relation to the audit
- (b) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

This declaration is in respect of The University of Fiji during the financial year.

Ernst & Young
Ernst & Young
Chartered Accountants

Shaneel Nandan
Partner
Nadi, Fiji
29 April 2023

A member firm of Ernst & Young Global Limited



21 Enamanu Road,
Nadi, Fiji
PO Box 10812, Nadi Airport

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Fax: +679 666 7282
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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Council of The University of Fiji

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The University of Fiji ("the University"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2022, the statement of comprehensive income and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the University as at 31 December 2022, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium-sized Entities (IFRS for SMEs).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the *International Ethics Standards Board for Accountant's Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) (IESBA Code)* together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Fiji and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Information

The University Council and management are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises Council's report but does not include the financial statements and the auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information identified above and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained during the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based upon the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the University Council and management for Financial Statements

The University Council and management are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with IFRS for SMEs, and for such internal control as the University Council and management determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the University Council and management are responsible for assessing the University's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the University Council and management either intend to liquidate the University or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The University Council and management are responsible for overseeing the University's financial reporting process.

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Independent Auditor's Report (Continued)

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud and error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISA, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- ▶ Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- ▶ Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the University's internal control.
- ▶ Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- ▶ Conclude on the appropriateness of the University Council and management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the University's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the University to cease to continue as a going concern.
- ▶ Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with University Council and management regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We communicate with those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

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Independent Auditor's Report (Continued)

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

In accordance with the requirements of The University of Fiji Act 2011, in our opinion;

- a) proper books of account have been kept by the University, so far as it appears from our examination of those books
- b) the accompanying financial statements;
 - i. are in agreement with books of accounts
 - ii. to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, give the information required by The University of Fiji Act 2011 in the manner so required.


Ernst & Young
Chartered Accountants


Shaneel Nandan
Partner
Nadi, Fiji
29 April 2023

A member firm of Ernst & Young Global Limited

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022 \$	2021 \$
Income			
Tuition fees	14	12,150,247	14,299,736
Amortisation of deferred income		213	213
Donations		12,702	-
Gain on sales		250	38,000
(Deficit) from bookshop	13	(7,466)	(879)
Surplus from canteen		10,220	1,145
Government grant	14	2,304,774	2,491,168
Other income		391,237	369,944
		<u>14,862,177</u>	<u>17,199,327</u>
Expenditure			
Advertising and marketing		103,518	92,246
Auditors' remuneration		22,331	19,501
Bad debts	3.1	337,830	189,187
Bank charges		27,679	29,724
Cleaning and sanitary		78,035	36,566
Council and other meeting cost		15,000	5,923
Depreciation and amortisation		774,322	807,235
Doubtful debts		704,388	598,267
Electricity		368,080	263,206
Fringe benefit tax		-	-
Fiji National Provident Fund - employer contributions		343,099	337,577
Fiji National University levy		14,278	13,184
Functions		35,283	12,500
Fuel expense		28,000	2,100
General expenses	20	844,853	608,320
Graduation		59,938	13,306
Insurance		96,753	74,075
Interest	16	322,966	432,173
Legal fees		10,285	(6,770)
Learning, teaching and research		18,171	15,370
Photocopier rental		61,150	36,361
Rent and rates	18	808,458	618,890
Repairs and maintenance	17	447,501	402,888
Salaries and wages	15	7,912,106	7,713,756
Security		713,048	691,572
Stationery, printing and postage		91,680	70,867
Telephone, fax and internet		361,193	341,187
Traveling and accommodation	19	833,690	244,013
Total expenditure		<u>15,433,635</u>	<u>13,663,224</u>
Net (deficit)/ surplus for the year		(571,458)	3,536,103
Balance at the beginning		<u>16,694,788</u>	<u>13,158,685</u>
Total accumulated funds		<u><u>16,123,330</u></u>	<u><u>16,694,788</u></u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of this statement of activities and other comprehensive income.

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022 \$	2021 \$
Current assets			
Trade and other receivables	4	4,518,976	4,560,723
Inventories	5	283,860	305,481
Prepayments and other assets	6	304,995	410,017
Cash and cash equivalents	12(ii)	39,865	2,039,568
		<u>5,147,696</u>	<u>7,315,789</u>
Non current assets			
Trade and other receivables	4	-	9,343
Property, plant and equipment	7	22,496,012	21,356,439
		<u>22,496,012</u>	<u>21,365,782</u>
Total assets		<u>27,643,708</u>	<u>28,681,571</u>
Current liabilities			
Deferred income	2.2(j)	15,088	15,301
Trade and other payables	8	1,178,067	780,980
Employee benefits	9	365,364	369,839
Interest bearing borrowings	10	1,873,876	1,929,610
		<u>3,432,395</u>	<u>3,095,730</u>
Non current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	8	421,678	421,678
Interest bearing borrowings	10	7,666,305	8,469,375
		<u>8,087,983</u>	<u>8,891,053</u>
Total liabilities		<u>11,520,378</u>	<u>11,986,783</u>
Net assets		<u>16,123,330</u>	<u>16,694,788</u>
Accumulated funds			
Accumulated funds	11	16,123,330	16,694,788
Surplus in owners' equity		<u>16,123,330</u>	<u>16,694,788</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of this statement of financial position.

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022 \$	2021 \$
Operating activities			
Student fees		11,601,971	12,063,827
Government grants and donation		2,708,926	2,861,325
Other income		2,791	38,054
Payments to suppliers and employees		(13,217,726)	(12,116,598)
Interest and other costs of finance paid		(322,966)	(432,173)
Net cash flows provided by operating activities	12(i)	<u>772,996</u>	<u>2,414,435</u>
Investing activities			
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment		(1,913,895)	(1,992,035)
Net cash flows used in investing activities		<u>(1,913,895)</u>	<u>(1,992,035)</u>
Financing activities			
Repayment of related party loans		(360,000)	(25,323)
Repayment of interest bearing borrowings		(152,819)	(923,050)
Net cash flows used in financing activities		<u>(512,819)</u>	<u>(948,373)</u>
Net (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(1,653,718)	(525,973)
Cash at bank at 1 January		1,089,704	1,615,677
(Bank overdraft)/cash at bank as at 31 December	12(ii)	<u>(564,014)</u>	<u>1,089,704</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of this statement of cash flows.

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1. Corporate information

The University of Fiji ("the University") is incorporated and domiciled in the Republic of the Fiji Islands. The financial statements of The University of Fiji for the year ended 31 December 2022 were authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Council members on 29th April 2023.

2 Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the University have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium-sized Entities (IFRS for SMEs) as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB).

The financial statements have been prepared under the convention of historical cost accounting and do not take into account changing money valued or current valuations of non-current assets unless stated otherwise. The financial statements are presented in Fijian dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest dollars except when otherwise indicated.

2 Summary of significant accounting policies

a) Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are recognized at original invoice amount (inclusive of VAT) less any provision for uncollectible debts. Bad debts are written off during the year in which they become known. A specific provision is raised for any doubtful debts. Aggressive debtors collection is not practiced as the University plans to collect these by retaining graduation certificates unless full payment by the student or any other payment arrangement is made.

b) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash comprise cash at bank and short-term deposits with original maturities of one year or less. For the purpose of statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents consist of cash and short-term deposits as defined above, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

c) Property, plant and equipment

Plant and equipment is stated at cost, net of accumulated depreciation and/or accumulated impairment losses, if any. Such cost includes the cost of replacing part of the plant and equipment and borrowing costs for long term construction projects if the recognition criteria are met. When significant parts of property, plant and equipment are required to be replaced in intervals, the University recognises such parts as individual assets with specific useful lives and depreciation, respectively. Likewise, when a major inspection is performed, its cost is recognised in the carrying amount of the plant and equipment as a replacement if the recognition criteria are satisfied. All other repair and maintenance costs are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income as incurred.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of the asset as follows:

► Land	Amortised over the lease
► Building	1.25%
► Apparatus and equipment	10% and 20%
► Computers	33.33%
► Furniture and fittings	10%
► Books	20%

An item of property, plant and equipment and any significant part initially recognised is derecognised upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal. Any gain or loss arising on derecognition of the asset (calculated as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset) is included in the statement of comprehensive income when the asset is derecognised.

The assets' residual values, useful lives and methods of depreciation are reviewed at each financial year end, and adjusted prospectively, if appropriate.

d) Inventories

Inventories have been valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value after allowances for damaged and obsolete inventory. Cost is determined on an average cost basis.

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

2 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

e) **Trade and other payables**

Liabilities for trade creditors and other amounts are carried at cost (inclusive of VAT where applicable) which is the fair value of the consideration to be paid in the future for goods and services received whether or not billed to the entity. Amounts payable that have been translated to local currency using the rates of exchange ruling at the end of the financial year.

f) **Value Added Tax (VAT)**

The University was VAT exempt and hence all revenue and expenses are VAT inclusive.

g) **Revenue recognition information**

Revenue comprises the fair value of the considerations received or receivable for the sale of goods and services in the ordinary course of the University's activities. Revenue is shown net of value-added tax, returns, rebates and discounts.

The University recognises revenue when the amount of the revenue can be reliably measured, it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the entity and when specific criteria have been met for each of the University's activities as described below. The amount of revenue is not considered to be reliably measurable until all contingencies relating to the sale have been resolved. The University bases its estimates on historical results, taking into consideration the type of customer, the type of transaction and the specifics of each arrangement.

Revenue is recognised for the major activities as follows:

i) **Government grants**

The University treats operating grants received from the Fiji Government as income in the year of receipt or when entitlement to the grant is established. Government grant in respect of capex are recognised initially as deferred income when there is reasonable assurance that they will be received and the University will comply with the conditions associated with the grant and are then recognised in profit or loss as income on a systematic basis over the useful life of the asset.

ii) **Project income**

Grants that compensate the University for expenses incurred are recognised in profit or loss as income on a systematic basis in the same periods in which the expenses are recognised.

iii) **Student tuition fees**

Student tuition fee income is generated from fee-paying courses for local and overseas students. Revenue is recognised in the same period as the courses for which the fee income is derived are held. Upfront payments by students for courses being held in the next teaching year are treated as deferred income and recorded as revenue in the following year as the course is provided.

iv) **Non tuition fees and charges**

Fees and charges comprise other services provided to students, which are recognised as the service is provided.

v) **Trading activities**

Revenue in respect of trading activities is recognised at the point of sale for goods, or as the service is performed.

vi) **Asset sales**

The net gain on asset sales is included as other income and the net loss as an expense. The profit or loss on disposal of assets is brought to account when the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the assets have been transferred to the buyer.

h) **Foreign currencies**

Foreign currency transactions are translated to Fiji dollars at rates of exchange ruling at the dates of the transactions. Amounts receivable and payable in foreign currencies are converted to Fiji currency at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. All exchange gains or losses whether realised or unrealised are included in the statement of comprehensive income.

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

2 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

i) Income tax

From 2011, the University is exempt from income tax in accordance with the provision of Section 17 of the Fiji Income Tax Act.

To write off deferred tax from prior years, tax effect accounting is adopted whereby the income tax expense is matched with the accounting profit after allowing for permanent differences. The future income tax benefit relating to tax losses and net cumulative timing differences in the University is not brought to account as an asset unless the benefit is virtually certain of realisation.

Income tax on University's net cumulative timing differences is set aside to the deferred tax account or future income tax benefit account at current rates.

j) Deferred income

Donations received in the form of property, plant and equipment is treated as deferred income which is recognised as income on a systematic basis over the useful life of the asset.

k) Comparatives

Where necessary, the comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation in the current year.

3. Revenue and expenses	2022	2021
3.1 Operating expenses	\$	\$
Auditors' remuneration - audit	18,500	18,500
- non audit	3,831	1,001
Bad debts	337,830	189,187
Doubtful debts	704,388	598,267
Other operating costs	6,134,014	4,710,340
Total operating expenses	<u>7,198,563</u>	<u>5,517,295</u>
3.2 Finance costs	\$	\$
Interest on debt and borrowings	<u>322,966</u>	<u>432,173</u>
4. Trade and other receivables	\$	\$
Fees in arrears	6,393,984	5,740,686
Less provision for doubtful debts	<u>(1,875,008)</u>	<u>(1,179,963)</u>
	<u>4,518,976</u>	<u>4,560,723</u>
Student loan receivables	425,656	425,656
Less provision for doubtful debts	<u>(425,656)</u>	<u>(416,313)</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>9,343</u>
	<u>4,518,976</u>	<u>4,570,066</u>
Disclosed as:		
Current	4,518,976	4,560,723
Non-current	<u>-</u>	<u>9,343</u>
	<u>4,518,976</u>	<u>4,570,066</u>

As at 31 December 2022, trade receivables of \$4,518,976 (2021: \$4,570,066), the University had also fully written off bad debts of \$337,830.

Student loan receivables shall be recovered by the University as follows:

- (i) within three years following completion of undergraduate degree.
- (ii) within eighteen months following completion of diploma or one year following completion of certificate.

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

4. Trade and other receivables (continued)

(iii) for any other programme of study, within the equivalent period of time as that normally required for the completion of that programme of study, after the completion of that programme of study.

	2022 \$	2021 \$
5. Inventories		
Canteen	1,140	-
Bookshop	64,701	81,903
Gowns	218,019	223,578
Total inventories at the lower of cost and net realisable value	<u>283,860</u>	<u>305,481</u>

As at 31 December 2022, \$nil (2021: \$nil) was recognised as an expense for inventories write down.

6. Prepayments and other assets

	\$	\$
Deposits	142,855	121,455
Prepayments	162,140	288,562
	<u>304,995</u>	<u>410,017</u>

7. Property, plant and equipment

	Leasehold land	Work in Progress	Buildings	Apparatus, equipment and motor vehicles	Furniture and fittings	Books	Total
Cost	\$		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
At 1 Jan 2021	1,588,574	34,657	18,421,568	6,587,358	1,448,727	1,700,191	29,781,075
Additions	-	1,197,483	290,651	466,062	22,220	15,618	1,992,034
Disposals	-	-	-	(253,416)	-	-	(253,416)
At 31 December 2021	1,588,574	1,232,140	18,712,219	6,800,004	1,470,947	1,715,809	31,519,693
Additions	-	1,044,357	96,194	694,731	54,727	23,886	1,913,895
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	1,588,574	2,276,497	18,808,413	7,494,735	1,525,674	1,739,695	33,433,588
Depreciation and impairment							
At 1 Jan 2021	39,900	-	1,351,980	5,744,660	926,556	1,546,339	9,609,435
Depreciation charge	3,099	-	233,121	416,862	89,744	64,409	807,235
Disposals	-	-	-	(253,416)	-	-	(253,416)
At 31 December 2021	42,999	-	1,585,101	5,908,106	1,016,300	1,610,748	10,163,254
Depreciation charge	3,099	-	234,283	391,808	88,913	56,219	774,322
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	46,098	-	1,819,384	6,299,914	1,105,213	1,666,967	10,937,576
Net book value:							
At 31 December 2022	<u>1,542,476</u>	<u>2,276,497</u>	<u>16,989,029</u>	<u>1,194,821</u>	<u>420,461</u>	<u>72,728</u>	<u>22,496,012</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>1,545,575</u>	<u>1,232,140</u>	<u>17,127,118</u>	<u>891,898</u>	<u>454,647</u>	<u>105,061</u>	<u>21,356,439</u>

8. Trade and other payables

	\$	\$
Creditors and accruals (current)	986,002	588,915
Unearned revenue - Government Grant	192,065	192,065
Student loans payable (non-current)	421,678	421,678
	<u>1,599,745</u>	<u>1,202,658</u>

Disclosed as:

	\$	\$
Current	1,178,067	780,979
Non-current	421,678	421,678
	<u>1,599,745</u>	<u>1,202,657</u>

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
9. Employee leave liability		
Balance at 1 January	369,839	450,984
Arising during the year	436,016	519,006
Paid during the year	(440,491)	(600,151)
Balance at 31 December	<u>365,364</u>	<u>369,839</u>

A liability has been recognised for employee benefits associated with outstanding annual leave balances.

			\$	\$
10. Interest bearing borrowings				
Current	Effective	Maturity		
Bank overdraft		On demand	603,879	949,863
Westpac Banking Corporation	5.0%	2026	99,369	124,185
Westpac Banking Corporation	6.5%	2024	99,493	93,319
Westpac Banking Corporation	5.0%	2026	582,248	557,050
Westpac Banking Corporation	5.5%	2033	214,952	205,193
Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji	0.0%	2043	180,000	-
Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji Savings Cooperatives Limited	7.0%	2029	93,935	-
			<u>1,873,876</u>	<u>1,929,610</u>
Non Current				
Westpac Banking Corporation	5.0%	2026	1,642,903	2,160,615
Westpac Banking Corporation	6.5%	2024	67,630	165,991
Westpac Banking Corporation	5.0%	2026	160,274	246,293
Westpac Banking Corporation	5.5%	2033	1,788,838	1,971,595
Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji	0.0%	2043	3,564,881	3,924,881
Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji Savings Cooperatives Limited	7.0%	2029	441,779	-
			<u>7,666,305</u>	<u>8,469,375</u>

(a) Details of securities of the interest-bearing loan from Westpac Banking Corporation:

The loan from Westpac Banking Corporation is guaranteed by the Trustees of the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji as mortgagor on the following properties:

- Registered First All Monies Mortgage No. 446242 given by the Borrower over Native Lease 21299 being Property located at Queens Road, Saweni, Lautoka (Property is also known as University of Fiji).
- Registered First All Monies Mortgage given by the Borrower over Certificate of Title 25684 on DP 6413, situated at 2 ½ miles Samabula, Suva (To Be Taken).

(b) Internal loans - Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji

Internal loans are loans from the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji at an interest rate of nil% (2021: nil) that have been used to supplement the capital and operating requirements of the University. These loans are not due for repayment in the near future and the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji and its entities will continue to provide supplementary funding for ongoing financial requirements of the University.

11. Accumulated funds

The University operates under the "University of Fiji Act 2011" to serve the post secondary educational needs of the communities of Fiji and any other global communities that wish to receive tertiary education at the University. The transfer of legal ownership from a University by guarantee to an educational institute has not been effected at the date of the financial statements.

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

12. Notes to the statement of cash flows	2022	2021
(i) Reconciliation of surplus to net cash inflows from Operating Activities:	\$	\$
Operating surplus	(571,458)	3,536,103
Add non-cash items:		
Amortisation of deferred income	(213)	(212)
Depreciation	774,322	807,235
Provision for doubtful debts	704,388	598,266
Net cash provided by operating activities before change in assets and liabilities	907,039	4,941,392
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
(Increase) in trade and other receivables	(653,298)	(1,963,338)
Decrease/(increase) in prepayments and other assets	105,022	(272,571)
Decrease in inventories	21,621	1,521
Decrease in employee benefits	(4,475)	(81,145)
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	397,087	(211,424)
Net cash flows provided by operating activities	772,996	2,414,435
(ii) Reconciliation of cash:	\$	\$
For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, cash comprises of cash at bank. Cash as at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the statement of financial position as follows:		
Grant account	3,094	3,136
Operating account	34,471	2,034,532
Cash on hand	2,300	1,900
Cash and cash equivalents	39,865	2,039,568
Bank overdraft	(603,879)	(949,864)
	(564,014)	1,089,704
13. Bookshop trading account	\$	\$
Bookshop sales	40,396	29,409
Less: cost of sales		
Opening stock	81,903	81,531
Purchases	25,799	25,799
Wages	4,861	4,861
	112,563	112,191
Less: Closing stock	(64,701)	(81,903)
	47,862	30,288
(Deficit) transferred to statement of comprehensive income	(7,466)	(879)
14. Fees	\$	\$
Tuition fees	12,150,247	14,299,736
Government grant	2,304,774	2,491,168
	14,455,021	16,790,904
15. Salaries and wages	\$	\$
Senior management	1,844,644	1,766,074
Administration and support staff	1,409,205	1,432,897
Per diems	85,793	33,259
Academic staff	4,572,464	4,481,526
	7,912,106	7,713,756

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022	2021
16. Interest	\$	\$
Interest on bank loans	298,466	321,190
Interest on internal loans	24,500	110,983
	<u>322,966</u>	<u>432,173</u>
17. Repairs and maintenance	\$	\$
Building maintenance	188,446	304,282
Compound maintenance	56,704	6,560
Equipment maintenance	202,351	92,046
	<u>447,501</u>	<u>402,888</u>
18. Rent and rates	\$	\$
Land rental	32,829	33,130
Clinical Accommodation/PC labs and Centre	755,176	573,820
Water rates	20,453	11,940
	<u>808,458</u>	<u>618,890</u>
19. Travelling and accommodation	\$	\$
Local traveling and accommodation	785,088	231,672
Overseas travelling and accommodation	48,602	12,341
	<u>833,690</u>	<u>244,013</u>
20. General expense	\$	\$
Sub OHS	694,248	478,194
Hire charges	129,111	102,992
Staff development	21,494	27,134
	<u>844,853</u>	<u>608,320</u>

21. Related party disclosures

The following were Council members during the financial year and up to the date of this report:

- Pt. Kamlesh Arya - Pro Chancellor & Chair of Council
- Professor Shaista Shameem
- Mr. Arun Padarath
- Pt. Bhuwan Dutt
- Mr. Uday Raju
- Mr. Bayant Singh
- Mr. Ravindra Varman
- Mr. Chandar Sen
- Mr. Balwant Singh
- Mr. Netani Druavesi
- Mr. Manhar Narsey
- Ratu Meli Tora
- Ms Maca Ratabua
- Dr. Claire Slatter
- Ms. Jane Ricketts
- Mr. Ravneet Charan
- Mr. Arvind Chand
- Professor Tupeni Baba

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022	2021
21. Related party disclosures (continued)		
Related party balances		
Included in payables at year end is the following related party balances:		
(a) Non-current	\$	\$
Internal loan from the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji	<u>3,564,881</u>	<u>3,924,881</u>
During the year, The University of Fiji traded with its related entities, the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji and Pundit Vishnu Deo Memorial College. The amounts included in the determination of net surplus that resulted from transactions with related entity were as follows:		
	\$	\$
Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji		
Interest on internal loan	<u>24,500</u>	<u>110,983</u>
Key management compensation		
Salaries and wages	<u>1,053,389</u>	<u>1,057,989</u>
22. Principal business activities		
The principal activities of the University in the course of the financial year was to provide tertiary education for foundation, undergraduate, postgraduate and general education under the trading name of the University of Fiji.		
23. Contingent liabilities	\$	\$
Contingent liabilities at balance date are as follows:-		
(i) Indemnity guarantee provided for immigration bond	190,031	183,629
(ii) Indemnity guarantee provided for staff bond	-	-
(iii) Pending claim for a litigation matter	-	-
	<u>190,031</u>	<u>183,629</u>
24. Expenditure commitments	\$	\$
(a) Capital expenditure commitments	<u>3,000,000</u>	<u>3,000,000</u>
(b) Operating lease commitments	\$	\$
Not later than one year	550,150	550,150
Later than one year but not later than two years	575,845	1,116,395
Later than one year but not later than five years	-	-
	<u>1,125,995</u>	<u>1,666,545</u>
(c) Finance leases - \$nil (2021: \$nil)		
25. Events subsequent to balance date		
No matters or circumstances have arise since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the University, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the University in future financial years.		
26. (a) Loan scheme		
This scheme is operated by The University of Fiji's Loans Committee as per the approval of the Council and specific request of the donors. Scholarships are granted on application to students who are facing financial hardship but demonstrate academic excellence.		
(b) Students loan funds		
This fund is operated by The University of Fiji's Scholarships and Loans Committee as per the approval of the Council. The students loan fund is a pool of donor funds which are disbursed as loans to students who face financial hardships but have satisfactory academic performance. Recipients enter into an undertaking to repay.		

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

27. University Details

University Incorporation

The University was incorporated in Fiji under the University Act 2011

Registered office

University of Fiji

Saweni

Lautoka

Principal place of business

Saweni



The University of Fiji

(An Entity of Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji)



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