

Human Agency made the difference: Professor Misir



The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Prem Misir presenting his book to the attendees at the book presentation ceremony

The Vice-Chancellor of The University of Fiji, Professor Prem Misir is the author of 10 books. He also has a good number of journal articles and other publications to his name.

His recent book "The Subaltern Indian Woman: Domination and Social Degradation" focuses on marginalized Indian indentured women, who constantly faced race, gender, caste, class oppression, and inequality on various European-owned overseas plantations in the Colonial Era.

The book is a welcome addition to Girit Literature focusing on the plight of Indian women in Colonial history surpassing the biases of colonial historiography against women.

Professor Prem Misir presented his new book on Wednesday, February 14, 2018 at Girit Centre, Lautoka.

Speaking about his inspiration to write the book, Professor Misir said that contradictory to the popular Western Elite Theory, Indian women were not mere passive creatures.

"Looking at renowned academic, Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak's work, "Can the Subaltern Speak?" the Western Elite while referring to women in the Third-World Countries would metaphorically remove their clothes.

They were marginalized and treated as 'Others' and as passive creatures. But when a person's survival is at stake, they align to human agency. The Indian women became powerful as a result of human agency and joined the fight against colonialism. There are many examples of this in literature including "Kunti's Cry", he said.

He stressed that human agency made the difference in this revolution.

The event was attended by several academics and students including renowned academic and Chairman of the Global Girit Institute, Dr. Ganesh Chand.



The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Prem Misir with Dr. Ganesh Chand, Professor Tupeni Baba as well as other esteemed attendees at the book presentation ceremony.

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UPCOMING EVENTS



BOOK LAUNCH

Professor Prem Misir's 10th Book titled:
**The Subaltern Indian Woman:
Domination and Social Degradation**
Publisher: Palgrave Macmillan (2018)

On March 28, 2018, Australia Pacific Lecture Theatre, USP from 6.00 p.m.



Budget Consultations



Honorable Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum
Attorney-General and Minister for Economy,
Public Enterprises, Civil Service & Communications
Minister of Education, Heritage and Arts.

The University of Fiji would host budget consultations with its students on April 5, 2018. The Ministry of Economy in Fiji has begun their budget consultations with various throughout Fiji including the private sector.

Date: Wednesday, March 21, 2018
Time: 2:00 P.M. - 4:00 p.m.
Venue: Samabula Campus, Suva.

Date: Thursday, April 5, 2018
Time: 2:00 P.M. - 4:00 p.m.
Venue: Saweni Campus, Lautoka.

The Minister of Economy, Honorable Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum would be leading the consultations himself with support from senior members from the Ministry.

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Professor Misir, with Shri Vishvas Sapkal, Her Excellency, Mrs. Leela Devi Dookun-Luchoomun, His Excellency, Dr. Satya Pal Singh and other attendees at the book presentation ceremony.

Professor Misir also took a lecture for Language, Literature and Communication (LLC) 321 class discussing some of the findings of the book.

During the lecture, he explained some of the facts of the indentureship period.

He mentioned that in the 19 colonies under the British rule, very few women were part of the indentureship and there was a high rate of violence and cruelty against women.

He stated that the British Raj finally created a ratio- for every 100 men, 40 women were part of the indentureship.

While discussing the plight of women, the learned Professor described the violence that women post the colonial period go through.

He stated that he had done a research study on violence against post-colonial Indian women and compiled the last chapter of the book which suggests that there was elevated violence against women.

“As young female students remember ‘the pen is mightier than the sword’. Always resist violence as the Indian indentured women did,” he commented.

Students raised various questions including questions on Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak’s work, “Can the Subaltern Speak?”, “Kunti’s Cry”, human agency and so forth.

The interactive session concluded with a vote of thanks and a student commenting

that they will take the learning from the class and apply it to real life.

They said they will stand up against violence against women.

Professor Misir presented his book to an audience of over 80 academics, students and members of the India High Commission on Friday, February 23, 2018.

Speaking at the presentation, Professor Misir stressed on the last chapter of the book depicting violence against women post the indentureship period.

He explained that despite the change in times, women underwent violence at the hands of their loved ones.

He added that this could be due to various reasons including the bias Colonial historiography, Indian patriarchal system, caste system and so forth.

Describing the civilization method and history of indentureship, Professor Misir explained that the Western Elites presented Indian women as immoral and sustained a negative image of them. They said that these women need to be civilized.

He further stated that this was the bias of the colonial historiography against women.

In addition, the Vice-Chancellor spoke about the way India played a role in ending indentureship in the 19 colonies of the British rule.

“India, through national movement by women, against popular notion of being passive, raised their voices and moved towards putting an end to the humiliating movement of indentureship. Hence, women were not passive creatures; they resisted,” he stated.

Dr. Ganesh Chand, Chairman of the Global Girit Institute, stated that Professor Misir, being an expatriate had published a book on Indian Indentureship and by doing so had challenged academics in Fiji to research and write more about Indian Indentured women.

Dr. Premila Devi, Director of the Lautoka Campus of The University of the South Pacific, stated that the book was a welcome addition to the literature on indentured Indian women, and their social being in Girit nations from 1834 to 1917.

She urged anyone interested in indenture, social and political transformation, colonial studies, and gender studies to read the book as it provides a unique perspective.

The Indian High Commissioner to Fiji, Shri Vishvas Sapkal, Minister of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research, Mauritius, Her Excellency, Mrs. Leela Devi Dookun-Luchoomun and Minister of State for Education His Excellency, Dr. Satya Pal Singh also attended the book presentation ceremony.

This book is a must read for all who seek a unique perspective into Girit history surpassing biases of colonial historiography.

Palgrave Macmillan, a prominent international academic and trade publishing company published the book.

Professor Misir’s books gained worldwide acclaim and received various positive reviews from academics.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Prem Misir, will launch the book on Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at The University of the South Pacific.

Good Health Leadership and Governance Paramount in Combating Epidemics



The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Prem Misir with the Honourable Minister for Health and Medical Services, Ms. Rosy Akbar.

The University of Fiji in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Fiji and The University of Hamburg hosted a conference to launch the Zika project titled “Climate Change and Prevalence Study of ZIKA Virus Diseases in Fiji” (Zika under a climate change and epidemiological perspective)” on Friday, March 2, 2018 at the Tokatoka Resort, Nadi.

The Zika project is funded by Ministry of Health, Germany and costs 120000 euros.

The project intends to assess the extent to which climate change influences the spread of Zika virus diseases in Fiji and provides recommendations for improvements.

Speaking at the launch on the theme “Climate Change: Threats and solutions”, the Vice-Chancellor and Project Director, Professor Prem Misir stated that climate change was amongst variables that influenced the rapid multiplication of mosquitoes.

He commented that with the temperatures soaring high in the past few decades, Zika was present in many parts of the world where there were high levels of temperature and where there were vagaries of climate change.

“Global warming continues to increase the spread of mosquito borne diseases. The Zika virus has to reproduce in the mosquito for a certain period of time before it can be transmitted to another person in a subsequent bite. The higher the air temperature, the shorter the incubation period and the faster the transmission of the virus. Higher temperatures also cause the mosquitoes to mature faster,” he explained.

Further to his point, he said that Zika virus and many epidemic viruses had a lot to do with prevention. A strong Health system was crucial for a country to be able to combat such epidemics.

“In the final analysis we have to have the Health Systems that are strong enough to withstand, to help you to prevent the diseases. We need to have good health leadership and governance including good service delivery, quality workforce, proper health information system (data collection, processing of the data, and interpretation of the data) and medical products to help with the prevention approach,” he stressed.

Honourable Minister for Health and Medical Services, Ms. Rosy Akbar launched the project and thanked The University of Fiji’s initiative in collaboration with University of Hamburg for contributing towards an important topic of Zika.



Professor Misir with UPSM&HS staff and other attendees at the Zika Project launch.

School of Law Commences Bema Open Forums



JDP School of Law students listening attentively to one of the Bema Open Forum.

Justice Devendra Pathik School of Law (JDPSoL) commenced its weekly Bema Open Forum Lectures on Wednesday, February 7, 2018.

The Bema Open Forum, initiated by the School of Law in 2017, and commencing in earnest on both campuses in Semester 1 2018 is an innovative idea to extend the contact hours of students and staff at the School of Law. It is an additional lecture method devised specifically to disseminate knowledge to students specifically into the laws of Fiji as well as to the legal community more broadly.

The SoL Bema was established in 2017 and launched by the Commissioner of the Independent Legal Services Commission, Commissioner Dr Thomas Hickie, with the Hon. Chief Justice, Mr Justice Anthony Gates, the Fiji Law Society and senior practitioners attending the event.

The Bema is an ancient Greek oratory platform where legal experts impart legal knowledge to the audience in a performing style that is reminiscent of great legal orators.

The Dean of the JDP School of Law, Professor Shaista Shameem said that the Bema Open Forum lectures are a way to expand the JDPSoL curriculum and educate students holistically for the purposes of legal practice and to become good citizens.

The first Bema speaker in 2018 was Dr Thomas Hickie, Commissioner, Independent Legal Services Commission, who spoke on the topic “Aspiring to be a lawyer? Problems and Prospects”. In

his lecture, Dr Hickie advised students to focus on learning by researching the law and to construct arguments well.

“You will need to learn skills to summarize a case in a sentence or a phrase. A good advocate should be a truthful storyteller,” he stated.

The Bema Open Forum lectures are held regularly on Wednesdays from 12-2 pm at the Suva and Saweni Campuses with VBC being provided to both campuses.

Other speakers in future are the Honourable Chief Justice, Anthony Gates, political party leaders and opinion shapers, senior legal practitioners and international visitors to the School of Law.

Professor Shameem said that even though this is a JDP School of Law event, all members of the University of Fiji community are invited to attend the Bema Open Forum lectures. They are held in the new Samabula Upper Lecture Theatre and in Saweni in Room B101.

High Emphasis on Work-Ready Graduates- Student Orientation



Students listening to the important remarks made at the student orientation.

The University of Fiji conducted its student orientation at the Saweni and Suva Campuses on February 5, 2018.

Student orientation is an important day in the academic calendar of the University.

Students are able to explore the University facilities, the courses being offered, gain important knowledge about the University as well as get to know some of the roles and behavior expected from them at the University.

The University of Fiji is unique and considers the students as an integral part and the most important stakeholders of the University.

Providing quality and affordable higher education is one of the core values of the University.

Speaking at the student orientation, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Prem Misir, highlighted on key aspects that students need to be aware of when they enter the University including plagiarism, absenteeism, student evaluations, the importance of interdisciplinarity approach to studying and much more.

He stressed that UniFiji continues to put high emphasis on producing work-ready graduates to help develop a knowledge-based economy.

“I harbor no illusions that your entrance into the intellectual halls of this University would provide face-to-face interactions with three components as building blocks of a knowledge society, among others; these building blocks are internationalization, interdisciplinarity, and academic-industry collaboration,” he stated.

He further added that as students at The University of Fiji, they would experience both disciplinarity and interdisciplinarity teaching.

“Disciplinarity is the expertise within a particular discipline; and interdisciplinarity will enable students to study problems and their solutions that require inputs from several disciplines,” he explained.

Mr. Ravinesh Kishore, Divisional Head West, of the Tertiary Scholarships and Loans Board (TSLB), advised students on the various policies and regulations of the scholarship and loans scheme.

Registrar, Mr. Kamlesh Arya spoke on the student academic support structures as well as the regulations governing the University while Mr. Ravineet Sami, Executive Director Finance at UniFiji, deliberated on the financial and facilities aspects.

After the general orientation, the five Schools and Centre held individual and a more detailed orientation for students advising on various aspects within the Schools as well as important regulations.

Zika Project



Dr. Abhijit Gogoi addressing on Zika Project at the Launch Ceremony.

The University of Fiji in collaboration with The University of Hamburg have commenced a Zika project titled “Climate Change and Prevalence Study of ZIKA Virus Diseases in Fiji” (Zika under a climate change and epidemiological perspective).¹

The aim of the project is to better understand the relationship between climate change and *Aedes aegypti* induced Zika virus to human health in Fiji. This project describes the Zika virus spread through the global climatic change and the epidemiology of the disease.

The Zika virus study in Fiji would complement the global distribution of *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes and other vectors to better comprehend the global human-health risk.

Speaking about the project, Dr. Abhijit Gogoi, Conference Planning Chair and Associate Professor at Umanand Prasad School of Medicine and Health Sciences (UPSM&HS), stated that the findings of the research project will be published for the general public.

“The results from the research will be published to influence greater local understanding on climate change and human health, outlining mosquitoes’ sensitivity to temperature changes. Overall, the data sharing between medical entomologists, concerned public health professionals responsible for managing disease outbreaks, and policymakers will be needed to improve preparedness for vector-borne

diseases,” he explained.

A conference was hosted on Friday, March 2, 2018 at the Tokatoka Resort, Nadi to launch the project.

The conference deliberated on the highlights of the project, climate change and its impact, threats and solutions, climate change and its relation to cancer, use of tools and collection of data, and meteorological study.

At the Conference, Dr. Gogoi explained that people needed to get tested early for the Zika virus if they had fever, rash, joint pain and conjunctivitis.

“If you are pregnant and traveled to a Zika-affected area during your pregnancy and developed at least 2 symptoms within two weeks of travel, see your healthcare provider for testing. Public health recommends a fetal ultrasound every 3-4 weeks for anyone who has traveled to a Zika-affected area during pregnancy but not experienced symptoms,” he commented.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Prem Misir, who is also the Project Director inaugurated the conference and spoke on the topics “Climate Change: Threats and solutions” and the Honourable Minister for Health, Ms. Rosy Akbar also addressed the ceremony. The Project Supervisor and Dean of UPSM&HS, Dr. Elick Narayan spoke on the topic “Climate Change and Cancer”.

Vakaitavi na Centre of iTaukei Studies ena bose ni Commonwealth Museum ena 14-16th ni Fepurueli e Suva.



“Preserving your culture is important” Dr Kuridrani in yellow at the iTaukei Trust Fund Meeting House..



Dr. Kuridrani with Commonwealth Participants at Ratu Sukuna Memorial School.

E vakadeitaka nai liuliu ni Centre of iTaukei Studies na nodra marautaka na veisureti ni iTaukei Trust Fund kina dua na boseka ni veimatanitu ena wasa Pasifika ka wili tale ga kina ko Ositerelia, Niusiladi kei matanitu levu ko Kenada.

E ya vakayacori na boseka oqo mai na Valeni bose ni iTaukei e Suva ka i vakavakarau kina nodra bose levu na Minisita ni Vuli mai na limasagavulu ka tolu na veimatanitu vaka Commonwealth.

Na bose oqo e tara cake tale na vakatutu ni kedra maroro'i na kilaka vakai iTaukei, tovo vakavanua, noda yavutu, yaubula ka vakaceuta cake talega na ka vovou baleta na veisau ni draki kei na kedra i wali vakai Taukei.

E tiki talega ni bose na kedra tuvatuva taki vaka vuli na veivakasama qo. E sa dua na vakanamata vou kina Centre of iTaukei me vakatavulici ena vei porokaramu ni vuli sa tiko rawa kei na veika vou me rawa ni maroro'i na veika eda kilai tani kina nai Taukei ni vanua se kawa iTaukei.

Climate Change may Cause Skin Cancer- Dr. Narayan



Project Supervisor, Dr. Elick Narayan addressing the attendees of the Launch ceremony.

Dr. Elick Narayan, Project Supervisor of the Zika Project, while addressing the attendees of the Zika Project launch on “Climate Change and Cancer”, stated that Climate Change could potentially cause skin cancers.

“When it comes to climate change, we have often neglected it can affect certain types of cancers. Research has been farfetched whether climate change does cause cancers and one of the most researched areas where climate change can cause cancers is skin cancer and it is not very far from Fiji, just our backyard, Australia,” he mentioned.

He added that Australia had the highest number of skin cancers in the world and one of the main reasons attributed there was the opening of the Ozone layer which was the result of climate change.

He mentioned that he decided to speak on skin cancer because Fiji was a popular tourist destination, famous for its sunshine.

“Imagine the impact of climate change if an Ozone layer was to open up on or around Fiji. The amount of ultra violet light, the wave length to cause those damages, to skin cancer became a reality in Fiji. That would lead to a loss of a lot of jobs in the tourism industry because the amount of tourists coming to Fiji would definitely reduce,” he commented.

Further to his point, he said that the association between the ultra violet exposure from the sun and the development of Malignant skin cancer had long been recognised, however, the macalism of action and how it goes about causing those problems was not yet completely understood.

“Ozone depletion and climate change are separate entities however they are intricately linked. They both have the capacity to increase the incidence of skin cancer and with different means. There is an increase in the skin cancer incidences. WHO says that climate change is dangerous and there can be an increase in cancers in the coming future,” he concluded.

More Catastrophic Weather Patterns Predicted- Mr. Kumar



Mr. Ravind Kumar, Director of Fiji Meteorological Services addressing the students.

The Director of Fiji Meteorological Services, Mr. Ravind Kumar, while speaking at the Zika Project Launch on the topic “Climate Change Impact on Health & Fiji Metrological Database and Data Use” said that the air temperatures had been increasing for the past 5 decades.

“The air temperatures since the 1960s have been increasing which means we are getting more hot days and less cooler nights. The national air temperature in terms of day time temperature have increased by 1.2 degrees centigrade and it is at an alarming rate. At the same time, the national night time temperatures have in

creased by 0.6 degrees centigrade,” he explained.

He added that the mean temperatures increased in Fiji by 0.9 degrees centigrade in comparison, the global change is looking at 0.6-0.9 degrees.

He explained that Fiji was at the top of the global edge of climate change.

He also said that the mean increase in sea level was 4.7mm.

“The ecosystems around the seas, in the coastal areas they would be suffocating themselves as the sea rises. The temperature has increased by 0.3 degrees centigrade and for some ecosystems 0.3 degrees is catastrophic and we need to understand that most of our population depend on sea resources around our islands,” he added.

Further to his point, he said that there were various health effects of climate change and increase in temperature.

“The health problems that come with climate change are the temperature related illnesses, extreme weather related health effects, air pollution related health effects, water and food borne diseases, vector borne and rodent borne diseases, effects of food and water shortages and effects of population displacement especially with sea level rise,” he stressed.

In his speech he stressed that an increase of 1.5 degrees in the global temperature was a flipping point and could be catastrophic for Fiji.

“In the global climate negotiations the 1.5 degrees is being considered but most of the countries say that we should be standing at 2.0 to reduce their green house gas emissions. For Pacific island countries 2.0 is not an answer because as we see that before 1.5 we seeing massive impacts, if we go to 2.0 which means that we won’t be able to survive,” he voiced.

He concluded that for the countries that make an early intervention would be the ones fighting for survival as Darwin said in the theory of evolution, survival of the fittest.

UniFiji Receives Recent Climate Change Books



Ms. Priyatma Singh handing over the IPCC books to the Librarian, Mr. Jose Poulouse.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) secretariat donated a total of 30 textbooks and some recent reports on climate change and mitigation, to the library at The University of Fiji, on Friday, February 16, 2018.

Global climate change continues to impact communities, ecosystems and livelihood of millions of people around the world. Pacific Islands are among the most vulnerable communities due to small populations, limited resources, remoteness, susceptibility to natural disasters and fragile ecosystems.

Adaptation and mitigation towards climate change is a priority area for the Fiji-

an Government. In November, 2017, Fiji headed the climate change negotiations at COP23.

The University of Fiji supported the foresight of the Fiji COP23 Presidency and through the vision of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Prem Misir, and activation from the School of Science and Technology (SoST), the University hosted monthly COP23 awareness seminars as curtain raisers to the main COP23 event.

The highlight of the seminar series was the closing outreach event conducted by renowned scientists from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

The IPCC, established by the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1988, assesses the scientific, technical and socio-economic information relevant for the understanding of human induced climate change, its potential impacts and options for mitigation and adaptation.

Speaking at the event, Ms. Priyatma Singh from the School of Science and Technology commented that the books were written by leading world experts in the area of climate change.

“These books and reports offer a comprehensive; cutting-edge overview of the scientific basis of human-induced climate change, its potential and options for adaptation and mitigation. The books are critical resources for our students and we are extremely grateful to the IPCC for their generous contribution,” she stated.

The donation of books by IPCC is amongst the over 25 collections of books in various disciplines donated to the University library over the course of 3 years.

यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ फीजी में हिन्दी की पढ़ाई उपलब्ध

यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ फीजी सावेनी और सूवा कैंपस में हिन्दी की पढ़ाई डिप्लोमा से लेकर पोस्टग्रेजुएट डिप्लोमा इन हिन्दी लिटरेचर तक होती है।

विद्यार्थी ये कॉर्स फुल टाइम या फिर पार्ट टाइम आधार पर कर सकते हैं।

डिप्लोमा के लिए तेरह यूनिट्स, डिग्री के लिए चौबीस यूनिट्स तथा पोस्ट ग्रेजुएट डिप्लोमा के लिए चार यूनिट्स करने पर विद्यार्थी संबंधित क्षेत्रों में ग्रेजुएट हो सकते हैं।

ईयर तेरह की पढ़ाई समाप्त करके परविद्यार्थी यूनिवर्सिटी में दाखिला पा सकते हैं।

इसके अलावा विद्यार्थी अपने पढ़ाई के लिए छात्रवृत्ति या फिर लोन सकीम की अर्जी भी लगा सकते हैं।

अधिक जानकारी के लिए यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ फीजी को 6640600 या फिर हिन्दी विभाग को ext 127 पर सम्पर्क किया जा सकता है।

UniFiji Major Sponsors of the Master's Competition in the Futsal Carnival

The University of Fiji, beginning from the year 2018, will sponsor the Master's Competition in the Futsal Carnival for three years.

The sponsorship will be of \$1500 cash. UniFiji will also participate in the carnival as a means of sponsorship as well as support towards the course of the carnival; preventing violence against women. The Futsal Carnival is organized by the Fiji Muslim League Nadi Branch for the past four years.

The theme for the 2017 Futsal Carnival, which was hosted on February 24, and 25, 2018 was “Violence against Women”.

UniFiji contributed \$750 to the carnival and 6 teams comprising of three staff teams and three student teams participated in this year's carnival.

Speaking about the sponsorship, Executive Director Finance, Ambassador Ravineet Sami, stated that since the participation in the carnival was nationwide, the

sponsorship would be an excellent way to strengthen the network with corporate sectors and also to market UniFiji to all secondary schools participants.

As enshrined in the University's Strategic Plan 2017-2021, Academic-Industry collaboration is a means to strengthen University's role to create work-ready graduates and enhances industry-based research.

Assistant Minister of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, Honourable, Veena Bhatnagar and Registrar of UniFiji, Ambassador Kamlesh Arya were among the esteemed guests at the carnivals opening ceremony.



Participating teams with the Management and Chief Guest. PC: Anushil Kumar

UniFiji's Rabindranath Tagore Centre receives 100 Books



His Excellency Dr. Satya Pal Singh handing over the books to the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Prem Misir.

The University of Fiji's Rabindranath Tagore Centre received a donation of 100 books from the Government of India through the Minister of State for Education His Excellency, Dr. Satya Pal Singh and the High Commission of India in Fiji on Friday, February 23, 2018.

The University of Fiji in an active role, with assistance from the Indian High Commission, established the Rabindranath Tagore Centre (RTC) at UniFiji's Saweni Campus in December 2016.

Initiated by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Prem Misir, the RTC works as a research unit for students where they can use Tagore's work as well as other books

to learn about Tagore's life together with the rich history and culture of India.

"The RTC holds importance of its educational content and creates awareness of India's culture and educational advancement," he explained.

The High Commissioner of India to Fiji, Shri Vishvas Sapkal, stated that the books will benefit students and stated that they will continue to work with UniFiji for educational and awareness purposes.

The 100 books were an addition to the 150 books provided by the High Commission of India in late 2016.

Attendance at Commonwealth Ministers' Meeting



From left: Manpreet Kaur, Lecturer in English, The University of Fiji, Associate Professor Lingam, Head of School for Education at USP and Troy Irwin, Programme Manager, Fiji Higher Education Commission at the Commonwealth Ministers' Meeting.

The University of Fiji, recognising the importance of the 20th Commonwealth Education Ministers Conference, and the Integrated Partners Forum (IPF), saw 10 students from The University of Fiji partake in the weeklong Education Conference at Sheraton, Denarau from of February 19-23, 2018. The theme of the 20th meeting was, 'Sustainability and Resilience: Can Education Deliver?'

Ms. Manpreet Kaur, Lecturer in Linguistics and Professor Shawkat Ali of School of Science and Technology at The University of Fiji attended key sessions during the weeklong event. Ms. Kaur said that the conference provided her an opportunity to partake in discussions during parallel sessions.

"As an academic in the tertiary education sector, I feel the conference provided a platform to review progress in realizing the targets of Sustainable Development Goal 4, and also deliberate existing issues facing education system throughout the member nations," she concluded.

RANDOM SHOTS



The School of Science & Technology staff with Year 1 Students on the student Orientation Day.



Professor Misir with H.E. Dr. Satya Pal Singh and H.E. Mrs. Leela Devi Dookun-Luchoomun



JDPSoL students at the Open Bema Forum.



Mr. Vuetaki addressing the JDP SoL students at the Bema Open Forum.



Mrs. Amelia Tuilevuka registering students.



Professor Prem Misir addressing the attendees at the book presentation ceremony at Girit Centre.