



The University of Fiji

(An Entity of Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji)



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

FUTURE READY

Report Objectives

This Annual Report provides information for Government, students, staff, and the local and international communities. The Report summarises The University of Fiji's achievements in 2021 and outlines the University's financial position as at 31st December 2021. It reviews activities against our strategic objectives, reports on key milestones reached and highlights immediate priorities for 2022 and onwards.



About The University of Fiji

During the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha's Centenary Celebrations at DAV College, Dayanand Nagar, Nabua on 19 December 2004, the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha (APS) of Fiji announced the establishment of The University of Fiji at Saweni, Lautoka. The Chief Guest of this occasion, Prime Minister of Fiji, Honourable Laisenia Qarase accompanied by over a thousand guests, embellished this historic announcement, with spontaneous acclamation from all present at the celebrations. On December 20, 2004, at the Swami Shraddhanand Memorial Primary School, Dayanand Nagar, Nabua, The University of Fiji, with invited stakeholders and co-opted members, held its first meeting of the Interim Council. Pundit Bhuwan Dutt as the first Executive Chair of the Interim University Council chaired the meeting. On December 22, 2004, The University of Fiji acquired registration under the Companies Act (Cap 247) as an entity of Shiksha (Fiji) Limited – a non-profit company.

The University has two campuses and five academic schools: School of Business and Economics (SoBE), School of Humanities and Arts (SoHA), Justice Devendra Pathik School of Law (JDPSoL), School of Science and Technology (SoST) and Umanand Prasad School of Medicine & Health Sciences (UPSM&HS). The University also has Centres of Excellence devoted to Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Sustainable Development (CCEESD), Centre of iTaukei Studies (CIS), Institute of Human Rights Research and Institute of Hindi Language & Culture Studies.

The University is a recognized provider of higher education in Fiji and is governed by a Council comprising of leading education stakeholders in Fiji, as well as prominent community and business leaders. The University's development is being funded by the sponsor, the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji, a body that has operated in the country for more than a century, providing quality primary, secondary and religious education.

The Fijian Government has also been very generous in providing grants to the University and scholarships/loans through the Tertiary Scholarship and Loans Board (TSLB).

VISION

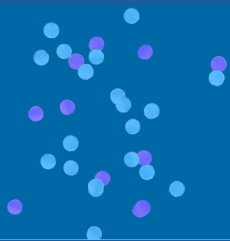
The University of Fiji will gain international recognition for academic excellence in its production of new knowledge and innovation through its transformative impact on society.

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 and partnership-type research projects and research-based education.
- To value academic freedom and foster UniFiji's role as a critic and conscience of society.
- To be a model employer, 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.

OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY





Overview

About The University of Fiji	3
The University Council	6
Committees of Council	7
The Senate	9
Message from the Vice-Chancellor	10
Schools and Centre	
School of Humanities and Arts	12
Umanand Prasad School of Medicine and Health Sciences	14
Justice Devendra Pathik School of Law	15
School of Business and Economics	17
School of Science and Technology	19
Centre for iTaukei Studies	21
University Statistics	23
Support Services	26
Student Affairs	28
University Collaboration	29
Community Service/Projects	30
Financial Reports	32

The Council

Purpose

The Council is the governing body of the University and exercises general oversight over the institution and its affairs.

Membership

Ex-Officio Members - Section 13(1) of UniFiji Act 2011

The Pro-Chancellor and Chair of Council – Section 13(1)(a)

Ambassador Kamlesh Arya, OF ‘Arya Ratna’

The Vice-Chancellor - Section 13(1)(b)

Professor Shaista Shameem

15 Appointed Members - Section 13(2) of UniFiji Act

Appointed by the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji (seven members) - Section 13(2)(a) of the Act

Pt. Bhuwan Dutt, OF ‘Arya Ratna’

Mr. Arun Padarath

Mr. Jagdish Chand

Mr. Parnesh Sharma

Mr. Ravindra Varman

Mr. Chandra Sen

Mr. Balwant Singh

Appointed by the stakeholders involved in the provision of post-primary education in Fiji (six members or any such number of persons deemed necessary) - Section 13(2)(b) of the Act

Mr. Manhar Narsey, Gujarat Education Society of Fiji

Mr. Agni Deo Singh, Fiji Teachers’ Union

Mr. Sarju Prasad, Shree Sanatan Dharam Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji

Mr. Uday Raju, Dakshina India Andhra Sangam

Mr. Bayant Singh, Sikh Association of Fiji

Mr. Netani Druavesi, Fijian Teachers’ Association

Ratu Meli Tora, Ba Provincial Council

The Permanent Secretary for Education or his or her Representative - Section 13(2)(c) of the Act

Dr. Anjeela Jokhan

A Professor appointed by the Senate - Section 13(2) (d) of the Act

Professor Shaista Shameem

One Registered Student Appointed by the Executive of Students Association in accordance with relevant regulation – Section 13 (2)(e) of the Act

Ratu Sailosi Dawai

Ms. Maca Ratabua

An Elected non-professorial member of the academic staff elected by the non-professorial staff – Section 13(3) of the Act

Mr. Mohammed Farik

Co-opted Members - Section 13(4) of the Act

Dr. Rajnesh Sant

Dr. Claire Slatter

Ms. Jane Ricketts

Mr. Kamal Chand

Mr. Ravneet Charan

Secretary: Registrar - Section 11(3) of the Act

Ms. Karishma Mani

In Attendance

Mr. Ravneet Sami (Executive Director Finance, Planning, and Development)

Upon Invitation

Deans of Schools

Committees of Council

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

Purpose

The purpose of this Committee is to apply the set policy and procedures while making an appointment based on the qualification and competence of the role.

Membership

Appointments below Associate Professor

Vice-Chancellor (Chair)

Dean of School

Head of Department

Dean or Professor of another School

Secretary - Human Resources Manager

Appointments at Professor and Associate Professor Level

Vice-Chancellor (Chair)

Pro-Chancellor

Registrar

Dean of School

Head of Department

Dean from another School

Secretary - Human Resources Manager

Appointments at Support Services Levels

Head of the University's Administration

Head of the Section where the appointment will be based

Head of another Section

Secretary - Human Resources Manager

AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

Purpose

The purpose of the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) is to ensure that the University manages its accounting procedures and risks consistent with robust accounting practices and that it meets all statutory obligations in financial management.

Membership

One non-University of Fiji Staff Member of Council appointed by Council:

Mr. Parnesh Sharma (Chair)

Four other persons from outside the University were appointed:

Mr. Manoj Ram

Mr. Vimal Dutt

Ms. Sangita Mishra

Mr. Sashi Singh

One Representative from the Students' Association
Secretary - A member of the Registrar's Office

In Attendance

Vice-Chancellor

Registrar

Executive Director Finance, Planning, and
Development

Internal Auditor

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Purpose

The purpose of the Finance Committee is to ensure that the University develops a robust budgeting process and manages its finances to maintain a healthy financial position.

Membership

A Member of Council appointed by the Council:

Mr Ravindra Varman (Chair)

Pro-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

Council members

Mr. Parnesh Sharma

Mr. Arun Padarath - Chair of Physical Planning &
Development Committee (PPDC)

A Member appointed by Senate

Executive Director Finance, Planning, and
Development

One Representative from the Students' Association
Secretary - A member of the Registrar's Office

In Attendance

Registrar

PHYSICAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Purpose

The purpose of the Physical Planning & Development Committee (PPDC) is to ensure that the University develops and maintains its physical infrastructure to support its academic activities. The Committee also serves to project and manage any infrastructure development.

Membership

A member of the Council appointed by the Council
Mr. Arun Padarath (Chair)

Pro-Chancellor
Vice-Chancellor

Mr. Ravindra Varman - Chair of Finance Committee

Two Council members
Dr. Rajnesh Sant
Mr. Uday Raju

One Representative from Senate
One Representative from the Students' Association
Registrar
Executive Director Finance, Planning, and Development
Secretary - A member of the Registrar's Office

SCHOLARSHIPS AND LOANS COMMITTEE**Purpose**

The Scholarships and Loans Committee aids students by allowing them to be part of the loan scheme which operates on a 'borrow-to-study and work-to-pay' philosophy.

Membership

Pro-Chancellor (Chair)
One Member of the Council
One Member of the Senate
Executive Director Finance, Planning, and Development
Registrar
Secretary - A member of the Registrar's Office

STAFF POLICY COMMITTEE**Purpose**

The purpose of the Staff Policy Committee is to provide oversight of the development and implementation of all policies that relate to the staff of the University.

Membership

Ex-officio members
Vice-Chancellor (Chair)
Pro-Chancellor

Deans of Schools
One Centre Director
Chair of Finance Committee
Appointed member
One Representative of the Staff Association (SAUF)
Secretary - A member of the Registrar's Office

In Attendance
Registrar

Executive Director Finance, Planning, and Development

STAFF REVIEW/PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE**Purpose**

The Staff Review/Promotions Committee is a Joint Committee of the Council that looks at the holistic capabilities of staff job fit and identifies gaps in their performance. The Committee is embedded with powers to renew contracts and responsibilities ranging from monetary rewards based on a good performance to commendation letters.

Membership

Vice-Chancellor (Chair)
Pro-Chancellor
Deans of Schools

A Member of Council who is not a staff of the University

Mr. Arun Padarath/ Dr. Rajnesh Sant
Mr. Ravindra Varman (alternate)

A Centre Director
Registrar
Executive Director Finance, Planning, and Development
A staff member elected from among academic and professional staff
Secretary - Human Resources Manager

TENDER COMMITTEE**Purpose**

The purpose of the Tender Committee is to provide oversight of the tendering for purchases as per the University Financial Policies & Procedures.

Membership

Pro-Chancellor (Chair)
Vice-Chancellor

A member of the Council

Dr. Rajnesh Sant
Chair of PPDC
Chair of Finance Committee
Secretary - A member of the Registrar's Office

In Attendance

Registrar
Executive Director Finance, Planning, and Development

The Senate

Purpose

The Senate is the academic authority of the University and is responsible to the Council; for learning and teaching, consultancy, research, and other academic work of the University, for ensuring the quality of such learning and teaching, consultancy, research, and other work, and for the regulation and superintendence of the education, training, and discipline of the student.

Membership

Ex-Officio Members - Section 26(1) of the University of Fiji Act 2011

Vice-Chancellor, Chair - Section 26(1)(a) of the Act

Professor Shaista Shameem

Pro-Chancellor - Section 26(1)(b) of the Act

Ambassador Kamlesh Arya, OF 'Arya Ratna'

Deans of Schools - Section 26(1)(c) of the Act

Professor Shaista Shameem, Dean JDPSoL

Professor Anirudh Singh, Dean SoST

Professor Tupeni Baba, Dean SoHA

Professor Ranasinghe Amaradasa, Dean SoBE

Professor Fredrick Merchant, Dean UPSM&HS

The Professors - Section 26(1)(d) of the Act

Professor Subramani

Professor Ruvendra Nandan

Appointed Members - Section 26(2) of the Act

Heads of Departments - Section 26(2)(a) of the Act

Mr. Gyaneshwar Rao, Head of Economics

Dr. Navneel Prasad, Head of Management

Ms. Sandhiya Roy, Head of Accounting

Dr. Ramendra Prasad, Head of Science

Mr. Jone Vukinagauna, Head of CSM

Dr. Kamala Naiker – HOD Languages

A/Prof. Dr. Wahab Ali - Head of Education

Dr. Ricardo Corpuz - Head of Basic Sciences

Dr. Robert Bancod - Head of Clinical Services

Dr. Samuela Korovou - Head of Community Medicine

Ms. Merelita Diucamirimiri - Nursing Coordinator

Directors of Centres - Section 26(2)(b) of the Act

Mr. Usaia Gaunavou, Acting Director CIS

University Librarian - Section 26(2)(c) of the Act

Ms. Masiran Kutty, Acting UL

One member of the Executive from the Students' Association appointed by the Executives of the Students' Association - Section 26(2)(f) of the Act

Ratu Sailosi Dawai

Elected Member (A non-professorial member of the staff elected by the non-professorial academic staff) - Section 26(3) of the Act

Mr. Mohammed Farik, Academic

Secretary to the Senate - Section 11(3) of the Act

Ms. Karishma Mani, Registrar

In Attendance

Ms. Nathasha Mudaliar, Assistant Registrar

Mr. Ravineet Sami, Executive Director Finance, Planning and Development

Upon Invitation

Mr. Joel Anjaiya, IT Manager

Mr. Ashneel Singh, Human Resources Manager

Ms. Aliyah Khan, Manager Secretariat

Mr. Jone Veisamasama, Student Counsellor

Ms. Doreen Reddy, Quality Assurance

Ms. Vineeta Narayan, Special Projects Officer

Ms. Karishma Naidu, PA to Registrar

Ms. Shweta Kumar, Administrative Officer

Message from the Vice-Chancellor



experiments online but utilize a wide range of laboratory equipment and resources not normally available to students in our campus laboratories.

As a result of this investment in both TopHat and Beyond Labz, the University was pleased to record a significant improvement in student pass rates in 2021 compared to 2020 and even 2019 (prior to Covid). The University is now considering how the best features of the TopHat and Beyond Labz platforms could continue to be used by the University despite any advisory from the Government to resume face to face classes which is anticipated in Semester 2 2022. Apart from providing quality learning and teaching for the Covid-19 realities, the University was also able to consult widely among its Community on the next 5-year Strategic Plan. The University's 2022-2026 Strategic Plan is an innovation which uses as its foundation the pandemic reality of 2020 and 2021 and sets the scene for educational resilience whatever the world may bring in future. Thus, the heart of the Strategic Plan focuses on the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha's ancient *Gurukul* methodology of teaching and learning which emphasizes holistic education. Alongside *Gurukul*, the University has placed the *Drua Voyage* metaphor representing our journey. Together the University promises its students and staff a **Journey in Holistic Education**, illustrating that the timeless philosophy of *Gurukul* will power our University's *Drua* in future. Our hard qualifications in all the disciplines, namely, the Sciences and Technology, Humanities and Arts, Business and Economics, Medicine and Health Science, Law, and iTaukei Studies will be accompanied by lessons in and awareness of human values represented by empathy, integrity, goodwill towards others including animals, good faith, advocacy for the public good and how to become good ancestors for the generations to come. The world that we live in is currently dominated by pandemics, conflict, wars and environmental disasters caused by climate change. The education that we provide to young people, as well as adults through our continuing community education programme, must be able to build resilience in the nation, as well as the world so that we can withstand crises armed with knowledge and community spirit.

With the benefit of the solid foundation established in our tertiary education offerings in 2021, the University of Fiji looks ahead to its upcoming journey in holistic education with confidence, compassion and a firm commitment to rigorous training in all the disciplines that it offers its *Magistrorum et Scholarium* – its Community of Teachers and Scholars.

The only way to describe the best attribute exhibited by The University of Fiji in 2021, the period covered by this Annual Report, is resilience. Without resilient partnership and active collaboration among all sections of the University, namely staff, students, management and the Founders - the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji - we would have found it very difficult to continue with our mission to educate our students and look after the staff of the University. The University spirit prevailed in all that we did in 2021 despite the challenges and hardships similarly encountered by other organizations in Fiji.

The forward-looking move to offer all classes through the University's investment in the TopHat and Beyond Labz virtual platforms of learning and teaching, though expensive, was a timely intervention. Rather than rely solely on Moodle, or even social media such as viber and similar, as other tertiary institutions had done due to the pandemic crises and lockdowns, the University researched the best learning platforms available and determined that TopHat provided the most comprehensive tertiary learning technology available- one that recorded students' attendance as well as participation- so that they could be monitored closely by their lecturers and the administration on their performance.

The quality in lecturing was also monitored by Deans' and Heads of Departments' reviews of lecturers, lecturing tools and quality of delivery; thus the TopHat platform could be relied on for ensuring that quality, above all, was measured rigorously in every course and programme. The course outlines of each course were also amended to award 15% of the total assessment to student attendance and participation. Beyond Labz is a virtual science laboratory which allowed the students not only to conduct science



NO
SMOKING

AME Z LEEN



School of Humanities and Arts

The School of Humanities and Arts (SoHA) staff are committed to providing excellent courses in a warm, friendly and professional environment, as well as caring for every aspect of students' stay. The School aspires to be a globally-trusted, innovative and professional provider of education.

The current coronavirus outbreak has led universities around the world to find new means of providing uninterrupted education for their students. Travel bans, campus closures and isolation measures have forced university students and staff into their homes, requiring them to adapt quickly to studying and working remotely.

It was a remarkable year for the School considering the unprecedented impact of COVID-19 and subsequent lockdowns. The coronavirus revealed emerging vulnerabilities in education systems around the world, making it clear that society needed a much more flexible and resilient education system for unpredictable futures. The School quickly adopted the online modality using Moodle to remain in touch with the students. Lectures were posted on Moodle and later a blended mode was implemented using Google Meet as an interactive platform. From the second semester, staff adopted the TopHat learning platform, adjusting well to using it effectively for teaching their courses. However, there were a few shortcomings as at times presentations were not displayed with only lecturers seen talking, or students could not interact due to connectivity issues. It is hoped that in time this will be rectified as connectivity issues are addressed.

The School provided a large number of out-of-classroom support services and activities for its students and had three main areas of focus— independent learning, speaking and writing. Independent learning provides students with resources which include printed and online materials for English language learners. The School also offered workshops on specific English language skills to help students work independently on improving all aspects of their English. The speaking area offered presentation skills workshops and had informal speaking activities. The writing section had workshops on a variety of linguistic and rhetorical aspects of writing. The School also houses the

Language Clinic which offers one-to-one peer advice on students' writing assignments.

The formation of the Fiji/ Pacific Educators for HealthCare and Frontline Workers Group was through an initiative of a number of university educators and Professor Unaisi Baba. The aim was to recognize and appreciate the many healthcare and frontline workers for the sacrifices and commitment that they demonstrated during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The prevalence of a global pandemic failed to dampen the spirits of millions of people who observed World Hindi Day in their own ways across the globe. Being an annual celebration in the University of Fiji's calendar of events, World Hindi Day was virtually marked this year on Tuesday, September 14. The theme of the event was: "Badalte Yugmein Hindi Shikshanki Aawashyakta" ("The Need to Teach Hindi Language in the Changing Era"). This year the University joined hands with the World Hindi Secretariat which is based in Mauritius to mark this special event. The programme was financially sponsored by the Secretariat. Ambassador Kamlesh Arya, O. F. Arya Ratna, the Pro-Chancellor of The University of Fiji welcomed everyone by reciting an inspiring welcome poem. The main highlight of the event was poetry recitals by our talented Hindi students on the aforementioned theme. The University of Fiji Hindi Section signed a memorandum to organize a series of webinars under the joint aegis of Trust "Bhartiya Sanskriti Seva Nyas" Haridwar, India and The University of Fiji.

A postgraduate e-seminar was organized by the School in September. The seminar focused on postgraduate students' testimonies and deliberations on their academic journey to Masters and/or PhD at the University of Fiji. An invitation was sent to the different schools within the institution.

The 'English for Communicative Purposes' short course was designed for sharpening communication skills in English— an engaging intensive soft skill development course where participants considered the reason he/she communicates the way he/ she does and made commitments to enhance their approach with anyone they are communicating with, be it

spoken or written. An IELTS (International English Language Testing Skills) short course has also been approved by Council and will be offered in 2022.

The School of Humanities and Arts has developed new programmes to meet the demands of the workforce as a national priority area. A Bachelor of Journalism and Media Studies Programme was approved by FHEC and will be offered in Semester 1, 2022. The School will also offer a counselling programme at the Diploma level to cater for the acute shortage of counsellors in the school system. The ministerial statements and empirical research reveal there is a need for more counsellors, especially following the COVID-19 pandemic and associated socio-economic factors. The aim of the programme is to prepare counselling practitioners, gaining knowledge and competence in working with young people aged 6–18 years in an ethical and effective way. The curriculum was developed amid rising concern for the mental health of young people affected by the unprecedented impact of COVID-19 and subsequent lockdown and the high demand for counsellors in schools. The curriculum was designed to be flexible to meet the varied needs of different students and experiences of practitioners. It aims to enable counselling practitioners to apply an in-depth knowledge of child and family development and transitions, consent and confidentiality, legal issues relevant to child and family work, inter-agency working and engaging with families and young people. The programme aims to prepare counsellors to assist students who

are victims of COVID-19 related socio-economic issues like domestic violence stress and poverty. This is the first time the School has ventured into 'Take-Home Examination' for some of its courses, as it is the current trend in higher education institutes. It further caters for authentic assessment in the form of problem-solving tasks, case studies and application problems. Take-home examination also caters for students who do not have access to a fast internet service and access to a laptop or desktop. These exams require learners to use higher-order thinking rather than regurgitation. They help assess learner readiness to apply course content to scenarios, data sets, case studies and real-world situations.

Staff members have taken the responsibility to mentor and guide the students. Staff not only act as programme coordinators but also act as student advisors and mentors. The School aims to provide academic assistance and encouragement to academically disadvantaged students through online collaborations. Staff members used personal mobile phones to contact students and keep them engaged in the learning process. The School provided much-needed scaffolding, providing academic tutoring, including instruction in reading, writing, and study skills needed by students to complete their studies and make the most of their lives during their time at university. The School is committed to providing a supportive and positive environment for all members of its community.



The outlook for 2022 remains challenging with expected high prevalence levels of Delta and Omicron variants of the COVID-19 virus in the community. In 2021 some of our colleagues and students were affected by it either directly or became secondary sources. Some were asymptomatic but required isolation for the safety of others. Adding to the difficulties were the disruptions caused by Tropical Cyclone Cody that passed by Fiji, causing massive flooding and damages to farms and food crops. Staff members were affected from intermittent power

supply, lack of tap water and spasmodic internet services.

Despite all the adversities, the staff were in good mood and high academic spirit. They were looking forward to another successful year of virtual learning and teaching. They were also planning for the review of their Education Programmes and looking forward to further deliberations on the topic. If all goes well, the School intends to offer its new Diploma in Counselling Programme in 2022.



Umanand Prasad School of Medicine and Health Sciences

All learning and teaching in the School were done in virtual mode following the COVID-19 lockdown in April. In the first half of semester 1 classes were held face-to-face until April 20 and thereafter lectures were delivered online via Google Meet for the rest of the semester. From semester 2, the School switched to TopHat and Virtual Labs for all learning and teaching.

This year's report focuses on the rendering of online teaching with some issues around poor connectivity. However, it was a successful year. The MBBS Year 6 students did their face-to-face activities and practical learning with private practitioners and finished their Basic life Support programme conducted by the Ministry of Health Personnel at Marine Drive Centre.

The impact of the COVID-19 lockdown was significant with profound impact on the entire teaching-learning interaction and dynamics. All face-to-face lectures, lab work, demonstrations and clinicals, wards and hospital activities were placed officially on hold and everyone converted to total online modes of teaching. All UPSM&HS staff and students transferred to online teaching learning modes with no exception. As previously noted, the switch to TopHat/Google Meet/ZOOM/Moodle was complete. Of note was our progressive Vice-Chancellor who inspired and inserted the dynamic option for MBBS Year 6 surgery students during their surgical rotation. They attended and participated in "Clinical-Teaching-Learning" in the onsite offices of volunteer private medical practitioners. This gave students a positive experience for approximately two hours during the morning lecture sessions after which they returned to the online mode. They proceeded to join the regular surgical lectures and dynamically

interacted by presenting their experiences to the class as well as answering questions. When possible and legally permitted, they shared relevant photographic images of clinical pathology and real time patient case presentations. This was consistently positive for both the presenter and the recipients with commentary and guidance by the instructor to maximize value of the experience for the entire class. Overall, the classes were well attended, positively interactive through clear gain-of-function advantage and results. The feedback from the office experiences was universally positive.

Undoubtedly MBBS Year 6 students were in new territory due to the loss of clinical experience in designated hospitals, clinics and medical centres. However, since this was the case nationally, all new graduates of both medical schools will be required to accelerate their learning and take full advantage of all clinical matters as they become interns. Clearly these unprecedented circumstances will pose challenges which will be met. The School is confident that it will be able to overcome the situation through continuous hard work, willingness to follow the safety protocols and to take advantage of all teaching and learning opportunities. All of the rule changes and regulations in place will apply to the entire medical community. Further, the progressive, steadfast dedication and professionalism of the School's science-based medical staff will—in the face of the pandemic-mandated containment, restrictions and controls—allow our current UPSM students every available SAFE opportunity to attend classes, to progress, matriculate and reach their goals.

Finally, by achieving an overall Group MBBS 6 Unit "BLS-PASS", our Senior MBBS 6 graduate class

decisively demonstrated their skills and practicum in this all-important life-saving “Basic Life Support” certification class.

Despite the global COVID-19 pandemic and continuous news presentations, the UPSM Public Health Unit remained focused and delivered its important material. This magnified the often overlooked critical nature of its work. Notably, face-to-face teaching and clinics were put on hold as didactic presentations were successfully delivered on the TopHat platform. Our didactic delivery was challenging with limited staffing, however the

curriculum was successfully presented and delivered. The need to increase staffing became apparent in 2021, as noted elsewhere.

The Nursing Department of the School had a successful year with 100 per cent TopHat participation and attendance as all students adapted well to the new learning and teaching platform. In 2022 the School will have a Centre for Nursing and Clinical Laboratory at Naviti Street in Lautoka.

The Nursing department wishes to introduce Diploma in Enrolled Nursing Programme in 2022.



Justice Devendra Pathik School of Law

JDPSoL began its 2021 Academic year under the threat of COVID-19. Thankfully the School of Law had already begun trialing an online teaching platform called TopHat in Semester 2 of 2020. Both students and staff of the School had become familiar with the platform which measured students' attendance and participation as well as reviewed the delivery of lectures. Thus, when the Government announced a serious lockdown as a result of COVID-19 spreading, the School was able to transit smoothly again to fully online lectures. The School of Law Board of Studies also discussed the examination format since 60 per cent of assessment in the School's is derived from examinations. The Board decided the School would

retain the exam format but allow students to sit the exams over a 48-hour period using the Open Book exam method. This meant students could be properly assessed without diminishing the quality of the learning. In the end, due to the restrictions imposed by the health authorities, even the Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice (GDLP) classes and placements were offered in the virtual format to students with a number of law firms coming on board to assist with the practical components online. In that sense the JDPSoL students did not miss a beat in their learning during the year and would have had an advantage over other law graduates in Fiji in the legal employment sector. This aspect has been appreciated by industry

as all University of Fiji law graduates have been employed since their admission to the Bar.

A new colleague, Associate Professor Nikolaos Stamatakis, joined the School in 2021. Associate Professor Stamatakis hails from Greece and has taught in a number of Universities around the world. He has a distinguished research portfolio which is a welcome addition to the publications portfolio of the School.

GDLP Semester 1 2021 was taught by Retired Judge William Calanchini, a former Court of Appeal Judge and Employment Tribunal. Alongside Retired Judge Mr Jiten Singh, Mr Calanchini brought a wealth of judicial experience to the GDLP Programme. As well as UniFiji, the Programme continued to attract students from USP and FNU. Each year there are more applications for the GDLP Programme than available places.

The weekly Brown Bag Lunchtime Seminar Series allows the academic staff of the School to discuss their research projects in an atmosphere of collegial support and encouragement. All Academic staff at

JDPSoL have been actively engaged in research. In 2021 the Seminar was opened to all staff of the University and has been well attended by colleagues in other Schools.

In 2021 the JDPSoL also hosted the School of Law Students' Association Inter-Tertiary Moot Competition. The Competition was organized by the University of Fiji Student Association in collaboration with and financial support from the Ministry of Women, Fiji Women Lawyers Association, and eminent legal firms Munro Leys and Neel Shivam Lawyers. All three University Law Schools took part in the Moot Competition. Afterwards, the JDPSoL students hosted the Inter-Tertiary Moot Gala Ball which was attended by the two other universities in Fiji as well as lawyers, Ministers of Fiji and the representative of the Hon. Chief Justice.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the School could not engage in community services and projects in 2021 but students continued voluntary service to many NGOs in Fiji.



GDLP group photo with Retired Judge William Calanchini



School of Business and Economics

The 2021 academic year was challenging for education institutions striving to deliver academic outcomes, and so it was for the School of Business and Economics. In April face-to-face teaching and learning activities were halted by a second wave of COVID-19. As per the University announcements, all teaching and learning activities thereafter were conducted online.

The first challenge was with the spread of COVID-19. It was no longer possible to continue holding face-to-face classes and the University chose online modes of delivery to follow pandemic protocols and lockdowns to halt the spread of this virus. Appropriate adjustments were made to teaching programmes to suit online delivery, including assessments of student performance based on 100 per cent coursework, or 60 per cent coursework and 40 per cent take home exams.

The second challenge was the change to online modes of delivery from Moodle/Google Meet to TopHat/Moodle/Google Meet which staff found demanding. TopHat was introduced in semester 2, 2021 and staff attended the training sessions organised by the TopHat support team. In addition, staff shared their experience and discussed issues related to TopHat to gain better understanding and improve course delivery. To ensure students are engaged and retained, staff within the Department also used social media platforms such as Facebook and Viber.

Despite the lockdowns, the School managed its community engagement responsibilities adequately. SoBE actively participated in the Virtual Information Sessions held by the University. These sessions gave the School a platform to engage with the general public and disseminate vital information about the Department's course and programme offerings. Apart from this, staff participated in a number of face-to-face online seminars and conferences on topical issues in the University's region.

Students were continuously guided by well-qualified course coordinators to upgrade their knowledge, skills and attributes gradually through a process of understanding and using what they learned in their respective courses. Postgraduate courses focused more on developing analytical skills through case-

based approaches. Thesis students were guided to sharpen their innovative capabilities. Postgraduate courses were directed towards upskilling the existing workforce. They will also enhance capacity development in Fiji in teaching, research, management, consultancy work and leadership.

The School maintains a friendly and approachable teaching environment to deal with students' requirements. In the pandemic environment the School conducted classes online. Statistics show the student numbers remained intact with higher success rates—an indication of the commitment by staff and students to education.

Despite limited mobility due to pandemic, School staff continued to produce research articles published in ranked journals. Courses and programmes were reviewed and upgraded to meet new demands so that the School incorporates recent developments and the changing needs of the employment market into the subject areas. For example, the School introduced a Certificate Programme in Small Business Administration to cater the needs of the society as the new normal.

The School received support for postgraduate teaching in the first semester of 2021 from Dr Nacanieli Rika as an Adjunct Professor. Dr Rika is a senior lecturer in Accounting at the University of the South Pacific. To ensure continuity of its Doctor of Philosophy programme, the School engaged two external supervisors from the University of Waikato (New Zealand), now appointed as Adjunct Professors in Accounting. They are Dr. Umesh Sharma (Associate Professor/ School of Accounting, Finance, and Economics/ Waikato Management School) and Dr Mary Low (Senior Lecturer/ School of Accounting, Finance, and Economics/ Waikato Management School).

The School has acquired the econometrics software package STATA to complement research efforts of departmental staff. The School intends to acquire additional STATA packages, for the benefit of undergraduate and the postgraduate students.

Dr. Sunil Kumar joined the School as an Associate Professor in Economics at the beginning of 2021,

complementing the skill base of the School and enabling the Economics Department to offer higher MCOM and PhD degrees in Economics.

Undergraduate enrolments improved in 2021 and is an encouraging development. Also, much better prospects were evident for the postgraduate programmes. The School sees comparative advantage offered in the postgraduate programme in the locality but there was a need for more marketing which staff carried out virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Overall, retaining student numbers was challenge in the year due to government policy change on loans. The School has designed programmes to attract students who miss out on scholarships and also those without formal qualifications in the workforce.

The main challenge for the School is to increase its student enrolments both at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The numbers are improving over previous years, however, the government policy on the TELS scheme with higher marks required for loans can have a detrimental effect on student enrolments. Though the Department has introduced the Certificate programme to enable students to obtain a tertiary qualification on private funds, the first-year enrolments in 2022 may be quite bleak. However, the School's prospects on postgraduate studies are brighter, as no other postgraduate institute currently offers postgraduate programmes in the locality—especially in the field of Economics.

The School of Business and Economics became a member of Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) and started work

towards accreditation.

The School has introduced MGT100 Introduction to Business Research Methods which was developed and approved by Senate in 2021 and will replace the UUU100 course for Management for all SOBE programmes, effective in 2022.

The year was a milestone for the MBA programme at UniFiji. It had a record of more than 400 student enrolments. Further, the MBA programme is a component of AACSB membership. The submission by the School of Business and Economics to run Doctor of Business Administration programme was submitted to FHEC for approval. It was evident that the MBA programme at UniFiji is the most attractive and competitive Business Administration programme available in Fiji. The Doctor of Business Administration programme which was introduced in 2020 was also submitted for FHEC approval.

Due to COVID-19 pandemic, MBA classes were continued using online platforms during trimester 2 and trimester 3 in 2021. Guest lecturers from India (Professor TJ Kamalaban from IIT Madras and Professor Mohit Kolay from University of Kolkata, India) were able to conduct online classes allowing students to access high quality international exposure.

Despite these challenges, the Department concluded the academic year achieving the pre-set student learning outcomes. Significant costs of online delivery were absorbed by the staff personally due to the additional equipment required for online delivery and internet data usage.





School of Science and Technology

This 2021 School of Science and Technology (SOST) annual report presents information for reporting requirements and informs the wider community of our School's operations and achievements throughout the year. The report includes information on the School's profile, curriculum delivery, community engagement, international research collaboration, research funding outcome and research publication performance.

At SOST, we offer a broad-based education which is responsive to the needs of the students in the academic, cultural and real-life technical fields, providing them with the essential life skills required to thrive in the smart scientific society. SOST is home to 'state of the art' equipment and facilities including the Research Centre, where students can earn certificates in the industries such as Science and Information Technology.

For the first half of the semester (Weeks 1-7) all undergraduate courses were offered in 50 per cent online mode while 50 per cent of the designated contact hours were face-to-face. After week 8 of Semester I, online teaching was conducted as there were physical distancing restrictions in place due to COVID-19. The teaching modes were changed to online methods and the lecturers smoothly transitioned to online teaching pedagogies with their previous experience. The course assessments were also varied to suit the situation and all courses had 100 per cent coursework. In Semester 2, all lectures, tutorials and labs were conducted fully online using TopHat for lectures and tutorials and Beyond Labz for the lab activities. Assessment for all courses were 100 per cent coursework.

In the coming year the School plans to develop and offer—for 2023—a Bachelor of Geospatial Information System, Bachelor of Software Engineering, Master's in Data Science and Engineering and PhD in Computer Science and Engineering.

The following new programmes have been approved by University Senate and FHEC and would be offered in 2022: Bachelor of Agricultural Engineering, Postgraduate Diploma in Mathematics and PhD in Information Technology.

The School has decided to re-offer all undergraduate Science/Computer Science and Mathematics programmes from Suva Campus. Since the courses will be offered in online modality, the programmes will be offered to all students from various parts of Fiji and the Regional students. This will increase the revenue for the Department/ University as well as allow students to pursue innovative Science programmes we offer.

From Semester 2, 2021, a new course, "ESC 103 – Introduction to Scientific Research" was offered as part of all BSc and BES programmes. The School ventured into the development and delivery of short courses to generate revenue. Short courses in Introduction to Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and Introduction to Environmental Impact Assessment were developed.

SOST organized the following Seminar series in 2021:

1. TIPS FOR REMOTE STEM LEARNING - 13 August.

The seminar was organized and hosted by SOST. In the seminar, Dr Graham Walker shared his experiences in remote learning and some practical strategies for STEM remote teaching. The strategies were relevant for the situation the COVID-19 pandemic has placed the Pacific Island countries in. It was organised by Science Department and SOST staff participated in this seminar.

2. AI AND CONNECTED HEALTH – NOW AND BEYOND THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC - 24 September, 2021.

Dr Sam Gounder shared his research on the importance of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on the health sector considering the impacts of COVID-19. The practical applications of AI are limitless and have been utilised heavily to combat the pandemic.

3. BUSINESS SYSTEMS TO RESEARCH FOR BENEFITTING HUMAN AND SOCIAL FUTURES - 16 September, 2021.

In this seminar, Prof. Shah Miah shared his knowledge on Business Systems to Research for Benefitting Human and Social Futures.

4. NEW UN REPORT ON CLIMATE SCIENCE: IMPLICATIONS FOR FIJI AND THE PACIFIC—13 October, 2021.

The seminar was organized and hosted by SOST. Professor Mark Howden Director, Institute for Climate, Energy & Disaster Solutions, Australian National University (ANU), shared important updates and findings from the recently released IPCC Working Group 1 Sixth Assessment Report (AR6). The findings are important for the Pacific Islands as climate change impacts are projected to worsen in the next few years.

The School has been involved in several projects such as National Implementation of Global Goals: Coherence between Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), and Development of Entrepreneurial skills Post COVID 19 through Rural Aquaculture. The University received a USD350,000 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. This three-year community-based aquaculture project is targeted to provide small and medium scale farmers in Vitawa and Mallau to start a commercial aquaculture as well as improve food and nutritional security in rural environments. The project team is working closely with the Ministry of Fisheries. The project was officially launched on October 15th, 2021 from The University of Fiji Saweni campus

Through the School's collaboration with ANU the University received a set of STEM Learning and Teaching materials from Dr. Graham Walker and his team. The Department is grateful to Dr. Walker and

his team for donating our University with Learning and Teaching materials. This helped our staff to conduct lectures and tutorials efficiently.

The School organized a Secondary School Waste Management Campaign 2021. With secondary schools being closed due to COVID-19 restrictions, all activities involved remote engagement, social media initiatives and piloted methodologies for remote engagement only. The Science Department together with SCP- ANU partners organized an online workshop. The School has revamped our website at www.unifiji.ac.fj/sost/.

The 2021 academic year was successful for SOST in terms of new curriculum delivery, community engagement, international research collaboration, research funding outcome and research publication performance. Our efforts were focused on our community to develop positive attitudes about SOST for families and students. Communication was a key throughout 2021. It was crucial that staff and School leadership communicated clearly with students and families to ensure safety and progression of learning. Our staff and students began to use a few online communication applications as we moved in an alternative education platform such as TopHat, Beyond Labz etcetera. The SOST student support team works closely with families and management to implement plans for students with specific and diverse needs. These students were also catered for throughout the interruptions of COVID-19. Overall, it was great year for SOST at The University of Fiji. The COVID-19 onslaught on all aspects of our lives continued in 2021 but we were better prepared than 2019 for the delivery of our teaching and learning to our students.





Centre for iTaukei Studies

In 2021 the Centre for iTaukei Studies (CIS) followed a plan of action in response to the disturbances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic crises disrupting our face-to-face classes. The mode of teaching for all the CIS courses changed to online teaching and the existing assessment tasks were revised to allow for 100 per cent coursework for all courses. Student attendance was affected as most students were not accustomed to the online teaching mode as they had been on face-to-face mode all along.

This online course delivery and the 100 per cent coursework assessments for all our courses continued in 2021. The course delivery and assessments and the managing of our programmes and courses and other services provided by the Centre were successfully conducted. Students were better prepared to handle the demands of online teaching although not all iTaukei students had access to computers, laptops and mobile phones as some had been economically disadvantaged to pay for such items. The Centre was able to fill up the gaps by emailing notes, printed notes and meeting them face- to-face in small groups.

By now all lecturers have adapted themselves to the teaching and learning platform of TopHat, but there is still room for improvement and there are new features of TopHat introduced that require training on the part of the lecturers.

As far as student support is concerned, students have been given the support needed to complete Semester 2. Most of the students are well adapted to the TopHat learning platform while a few students are still trying to adapt it. Students were able to access the application on their android phones and thus attend their online classes.

Key developments for the year were:

Consultation Meeting with Ministry of iTaukei Affairs Work with the iTaukei Trust Fund Board (TTFB) commenced informally when the representative from the Trust Fund reached out to the University via the Center for iTaukei Studies. The initiative to partner with CIS was important to TTFB as it supported their long-term plan in their endeavour to establish a Cultural Center at Vuda. Discussion in the partnership started earlier in 2021 when discussion

centered on the programmes that are to be featured at the proposed cultural and arts center and on other areas of complementarity.

The first face-to-face meeting was convened in October soon after the lifting of border restrictions when a broader discussion of cultural and traditional issues was the main item on the agenda. This was to assist the TTFB and CIS in identifying specific cultural and traditional issues to be developed further for programmes offered by CIS and eventually to be showcased at the proposed Centre. Cultural and traditional dichotomy are currently being discussed as to how these are to be transformed into pedagogical approaches as this is the first time that some aspects of iTaukei cultural concept and identity are to be given qualification status.

A concept paper was drawn up to articulate as to how CIS programmes and input was going to be showcased at the proposed cultural and arts center. Given the two distinct operation of CIS and the proposed TTFB center, common ground and specific areas of responsibility were discussed, complementarity issues, management of the cultural and arts centre whilst the programmes offered are to remain as a property of the University of Fiji – Center for iTaukei Studies due to the pedagogy approaches as well as for quality assurance. The acceptance of the concept paper then led to the drafting of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between UniFiji – CIS and TTFB that spelt out how both parties are to function. The document was officially signed on 17 of December 2021, coinciding with UniFiji graduation ceremony.

CIS's first official engagement as a partner with TTFB was undertaken when CIS was invited to be part of the Solesau launch that was held at the Grand Pacific Hotel in Suva and launched by his Excellency the President of Fiji. It is envisaged that a workshop will be undertaken during the first quarter of 2022.

The Virtual Information Session was a success. Mr. Mosese Baseisei was given this responsibility to lead the team in the recording of the promotional clip that was produced with the assistance from the IT department. Mr. Baseisei and the team drew up the programme for the live coverage for the two days

of exposition. No new programmes were developed but two of our programmes in which we used to have more student numbers were phased out: namely, the Diploma in Teaching iTaukei Language, Literature and Culture and the Bachelor of Arts Degree in iTaukei Language, Literature and Culture programme and English Language, Literature.

Nevertheless, a degree course has been developed by the Education Department for our Diploma in Teaching iTaukei Language, Literature and Culture (secondary) so that they can upgrade their Diplomas to a Bachelor's degree with some education courses included. The Department is working on developing more short courses and programmes as we successfully sealed a partnership with ITFB which culminated in the signing of the MOU during the December, 2021 graduation ceremony. The iTaukei Trust Fund project is directed towards the establishment of a proposed cultural centre that is to be built in Lomolomo. The iTaukei Trust Fund (ITTF) is a funding agency under the Fijian Holdings Limited. ITTF seeks partnership with UniFiji Center for iTaukei Studies in the designing of short programmes and courses that are to be offered at the Cultural Centre and to be funded by the Trust Fund.

Whilst community outreach programmes were suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic, individual initiatives in terms of highlighting CIS programmes are acknowledged. Invitation from NGO's and CSO's have allowed Mr. Mosese Baseisei to discuss the Centre and its programmes. Numerous invitations from Fiji Council of Social Services, Rainbow Pride and currently with the establishment of the iTaukei radio station with Mix FM will have a positive effect on the reputation and outlook of the Centre.

While no publication is yet to be submitted by the staff of Centre for iTaukei Studies, Team CIS has been encouraged to participate in publishing research, reviews and commentaries on the newly established University of Fiji Press.

With the given challenges faced by the University, CIS continues to perform to the best of its ability using the TopHat platform. While the new norm has brought challenges on connectivity and communication with students, it has also introduced new opportunities that not in the far future will be the mainstay of the Centre's progress.



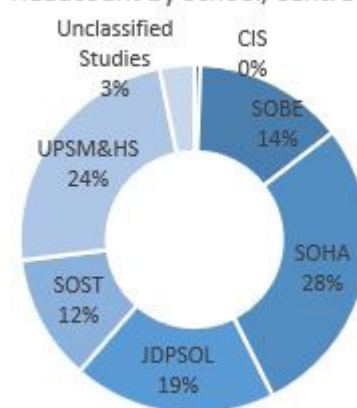
University Statistics

STUDENT ENROLMENT

Headcount by School

School	Headcount 2021
The Centre of iTaukei Studies (CIS)	18
School of Business and Economics (SOBE)	462
School of Humanities & Arts (SOHA)	929
Justice Devendra Pathik School of Law (JDPSOL)	622
School of Science & Technology (SOST)	386
Umanand Prasad School of Medicine & Health Sciences (UPSM&HS)	784
Unclassified Studies	106
Total	3307

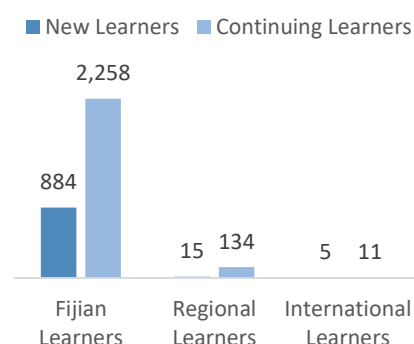
Headcount by School/Centre



Nationality by Headcount

2021 Enrolments by Headcounts	Nationality			Total
Type of Learners	Fijian Learners	Regional Learners	International Learners	
New Learners	884	15	5	904
Continuing Learners	2,258	134	11	2,403
Total Learners	3,142	149	16	3,307

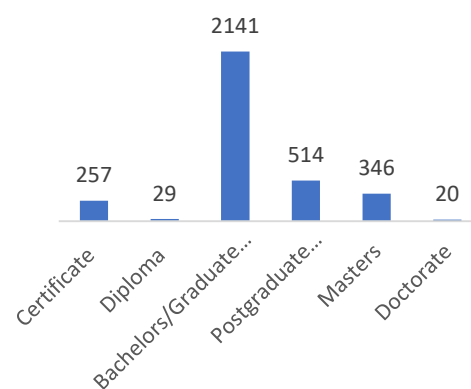
Headcount



Headcount by Programme Type

Programme Type	Programme Level	2021
Certificate	Level 1 - 4	257
Diploma	Level 5 - 6	29
Bachelors/Graduate Certificate and Diploma	Level 7	2141
Postgraduate Certificate/Diploma	Level 8	514
Masters	Level 9	346
Doctorate	Level 10	20
Total		3307

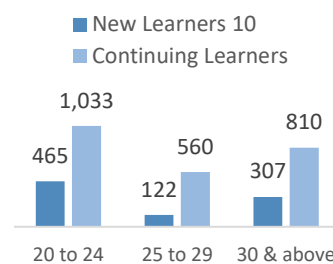
Headcount by Programme



Age Range by Headcount (Gender)

2021 Enrolments by Headcounts	Age Range				Total
Type of Learners	15 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 29	30 & above	
New Learners	10	465	122	307	904
Continuing Learners		1,033	560	810	2,403
Total Learners	10	1,498	682	1,117	3,307

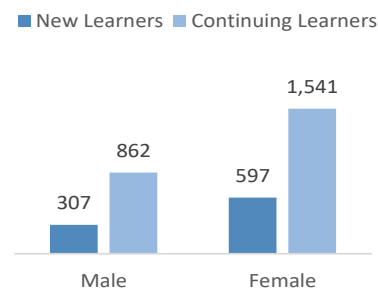
Age Range by Headcount (Gender)



Headcount by Gender

2021 Enrolments by Headcounts	Gender		Total
Type of Learners	Male	Female	
New Learners	307	597	904
Continuing Learners	862	1,541	2,403
Total Learners	1,169	2,138	3,307

Headcount by Gender

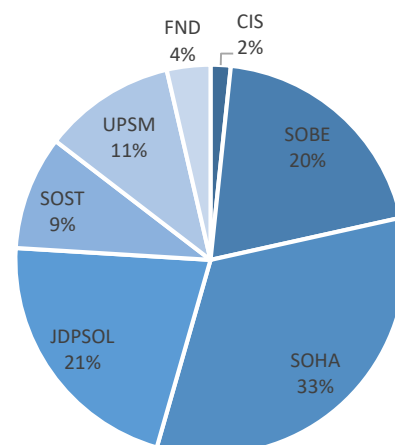


GRADUATION DATA

Headcount by School

School	Headcount 2021
The Centre of iTaukei Studies (CIS)	12
School of Business and Economics (SOBE)	143
School of Humanities & Arts (SOHA)	237
Justice Devendra Pathik School of Law (JDPSOL)	155
School of Science & Technology (SOST)	68
Umanand Prasad School of Medicine & Health Sciences (UPSM&HS)	79
Foundation	26
Total	720

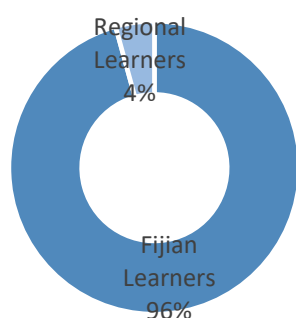
Headcount by School



Headcount by Nationality

Nationality	Headcount
Fijian Learners	689
Regional Learners	32
Total	720

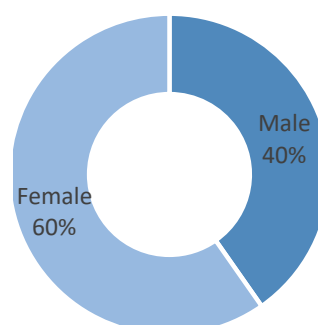
Headcount by Nationality



Headcount by Demography

Gender	2021
Male	290
Female	430
Total	720

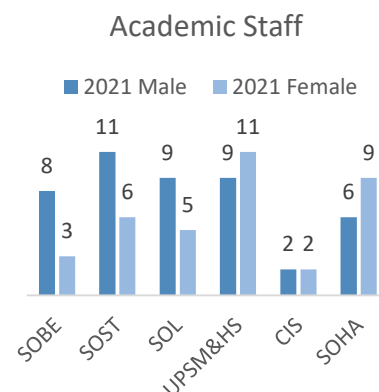
Gender



STAFF DATA

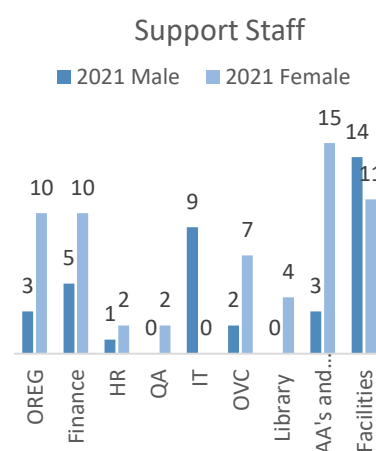
Headcount of Academic Staff

School/Centre	2020		2021	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
SOBE	8	3	8	3
SOST	13	8	11	6
JDPSOL	11	7	9	5
UPSM&HS	10	11	9	11
CIS	1	3	2	2
SOHA	8	13	6	9
TOTAL	51	45	45	36



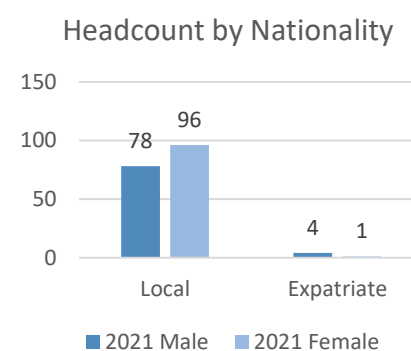
Headcount of Support Staff

School/Centre/ Section	2020		2021	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Office of the Registrar	3	10	3	10
Finance	4	9	5	10
HR	1	2	1	2
QA	0	2	0	2
IT	7	0	9	0
OVC	0	4	2	7
Library	1	4	0	4
AA's and School Supports	3	10	3	15
Facilities	14	11	14	11
TOTAL	33	52	37	61



Headcount by Nationality

	2020		2021	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Local	79	94	78	96
Expatriate	5	3	4	1
Adjunct	2	0	0	0



Support Services

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND MARKETING DEPARTMENT

The Public Relations and Marketing profile of the University transformed in 2021 with the appointment of a Public Relations Coordinator Ro Alipate Mataitini who joined Media Relations Officer, Sonal Shivangani. The Department began the year by re-organising its public relations mandate and focusing on all media platforms and formats to promote the University through a number of different strategies such as innovative and imaginative newspaper advertisements, our Careers Fair video and newspaper reports on the University's Roundtables held in January. All these strategies served to bring the attention of the public to innovative and creative education offered at the University of Fiji.



While traditional marketing methods, such as school visits, holding roadshows or hosting Open Days had been hindered by COVID-19 restrictions and lockdowns in addition to limited funds, the University's public relations profile became more sophisticated and impactful in 2021 because of these challenges. The University relied more on digital marketing and promotions including by launching our Instagram and Twitter accounts. Our LinkedIn profile was also salvaged.



In any university public relations strategy, the content of programmes and courses is important. The University published thought pieces and all major events at the University were opened to the media. Press statements and photographs of all events were distributed to the media. The University ensured that it built strong relationships with the media, both local and international. The new Journalism and Media Programme of the University to be taught from 2022 in the School of Humanities and Arts will also help promote the University.

To reach out to Pacific regional students and governments, the University also published advertisements and articles in the Islands Business magazine. New brochures have also been designed and printed for the 2022 academic year.

One of the innovations of the University's public relations profile was the establishment of the Vox Populi radio station. Aside from radio advertisements, some Schools hosted special segments on the Vox. The station was part of the World Colleges Radio Day events and aims to be one of the best college radios in the world, with its mixture of music, news and current events and information/education. Other innovations supported by the Public Relations and Marketing Department were the Virtual Careers Teachers' Workshop and the Student Virtual Session as online promotions to secondary school teachers and students.



Two sets of UniPulse newsletters were published on the website and soft copies distributed to stakeholders.

The Public Relations Department expects to facilitate the Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Outputs and Outcomes to promote the University in 2022 and beyond.

LIBRARY

The Universities' libraries maintain a wide range of collection of print resources on all areas of study and research and general reading. They currently maintain more than 49, 000 books mostly covering areas relevant to University's teaching programmes. Latest editions of hundreds of resource materials are added to the collection every week.

The libraries have a strong reference collection and have also developed some special notable collections such as Pacific, Hindi, iTaukei, Subramani, Wadan Narsey and Rabindranath Tagore Collection. The libraries ensure materials are updated on a regular basis to meet the requirements of University curricula. Despite the shortfall in the Library budget, the collection continued to grow in 2021. We added more than 10, 054 books to our collection. The majority of these titles were donations from various individuals and organizations.

Compared to previous years the circulation of books had dropped due to COVID-19 restrictions. However, all the students and staff were served through online services by providing scanned copies of required materials. In order to meet the maximum demand in 2021, there were about 200 inter-library loans from the USP Library. The support from USP Library is greatly appreciated for resource sharing. Annual statistics showed that the medical and law books were in highest demand. Due to COVID-19, both Campus Libraries at Samabula and Saweni were closed on 19 April.



During the pandemic both the libraries provided services to the users through the following strategies:

- Scanning of relevant chapters from the prescribed text for the students' readings;
- Scanning of updated Laws of Fiji that are relevant to Law Courses for easy access;
- Networking with other libraries both locally and internationally for resource materials and journal articles;
- Research on further readings for specific topics and areas of interest for students to be uploaded on TopHat;
- Training students on how to do online research.

Provide all previous exam papers through the Library database; and

- Issuing books through the security gates upon urgent needs.

All Students and Staff were served via online tools.

IT SERVICES

It was a challenging year for IT Services. The pandemic brought for us an urgent need to move the delivery of classes to a virtual platform as well as Semester 2 enrolment. The team was able to put their heads together and come up with an integrated system to fulfill this urgent and critical need to evolve with this paradigm shift. They worked collaboratively and were able to deliver the desired results.

Some of the projects completed in 2021 were:

- Implementation of Online Registration Portal for enrolment;
- Implementation of Online Vox;
- Implementation of Online Exam Paper portal;
- Implementation of relevant technology for conducting Virtual Live Classes and Recorded Lectures online (TopHat – Virtual Classroom) Providing training to academics to use the tools for conducting live lectures and recording lectures.



MASTER PLAN AND PHYSICAL FACILITIES

In 2021 the University disbursed approximately \$0.8M to purchase and upgrade IT Services, furniture, fittings and books. Since 2005, the University has spent \$4.9M in repairs to the facilities and equipment.

Annual operating costs in 2021—inclusive of salaries and wages, travel and per diem, electricity, telephone, water and sewerage, FHEC, land lease, rent, insurance, advertising and marketing, printing, stationery, postage and photocopying, cleaning and sanitary, graduation, security, and general expenses—amounted to \$13,014,759, and operating revenues totalled \$17,199,327.

Despite the impact of COVID-19, the University managed its finances in a far-sighted manner. It invested in fleet management and its third Campus at Ba. Work on the Ba Campus is in progress and on completion is expected to have cost \$2M.

Student Affairs

ONLINE REGISTRATION

One important thing COVID-19 has made the University realise is that we must be able to adapt to any given situation. We have always been used to a face-to-face approach to enrollment as it gives a personal touch to the registration and admission process. However, the lockdown made it impossible for the traditional approach to enrolment. The Office of the Registrar and the IT Services team thus developed an in-house online registration system for the University to allow our students to continue with their education.

VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSION

The University of Fiji held Virtual Information Sessions on 6 and 13 November 2021 virtually. Invitations were sent to all secondary schools and flyers were circulated via social media. These sessions gave the Schools and Centres a platform to engage with the general public and disseminate vital information on the courses and programmes offered at the University. Participants were provided with soft copies of the admission forms and list of programmes.

STUDENT SATISFACTION

The University Community has continued to engage students virtually for multiple virtual sessions despite the lockdowns in 2021. Some of these events were cultural events such as World Hindi Day, workshops such as CV writing, talks and awareness sessions on various topics, and competitions such as moot and chess.



ONLINE CHAT PLATFORM

The University introduced the online chat platform with the aim to provide guidance and advice to its potential students on the programmes they wished to enroll in to. It also provided a platform for the continuing students to seek support during the lockdowns. The initiative led by the Office of the Registrar took into consideration the challenges faced by potential and current students who were not able to engage face-to-face with the University. The University has answered over 10,000 written queries.



CV WRITING WORKSHOP

The Office of the Registrar provided students with an excellent opportunity to enhance their job preparation abilities. Mayur Suvarna Vivek Kalbag, International Leadership and Management Trainer and Self Excellence Personal Coach, led the CV Writing and Interviewing Skills Online Workshop on May 14, 2021.

The workshop covered topics such as basic CV writing skills, the importance of job interviews, three ways to make an impression at interviews, recognizing and dealing with specific barriers, planning and preparing for an interview, recognizing and developing presentation skills, and dealing with failures.

University Collaboration

National Implementation of Global Goals: Coherence between Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

School of Science and Technology (SOST) staff were involved in this project that aims to enhance effectiveness of policy coherence efforts at the national level through the implementation of climate policy and the SDGs. The project responds to calls from the scientific community to focus on national implementation and understand domestic factors influencing climate ambition. The first part of the project involved identifying key synergies and tradeoffs between NDCs and SDGs in Fiji, the primary issue area around which they manifest and most prominent governance and policy coherence challenges. The key issues area included economic expansion of Agriculture and Tourism industry. The project team created a policy matrix to assess the degree of coherence of policy content in these key issue areas, utilizing the analytical frameworks developed by the Stockholm Environment Institute in Sweden who are the main project partners. The second phase will begin in 2022, where the team will conduct semi-structured interviews and focused group discussions to examine specifically how (in)coherence is affecting or is expected to affect progress towards the targets under SDG 13, SDG 10, and sectoral SDGs in the issue area.

Learning and Teaching Materials —Australian National University (ANU)

Through the Department of Science collaboration with ANU, UniFiji received a set of STEM Learning and Teaching materials from Dr Graham Walker and his team. The department is grateful to Dr Walker and his team for donating Teaching and Learning materials to our University. This will help our staff to conduct lectures and tutorials efficiently.

Development of Entrepreneurial skills Post COVID-19 through Rural Aquaculture

SOST received a USD350,000 COVID-19 response grant from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to help develop alternative livelihoods in two rural communities of Fiji's Western Division. This

three-year community-based aquaculture project is targeted to provide small and medium scale farmers in Vitawa and Mallau to start commercial aquaculture as well as improve food and nutritional security in rural environments. The project team is working closely with the Ministry of Fisheries. The project was launched in October at The University of Fiji's Saweni campus, attended by important stakeholders, community members and staff of UniFiji. The event was also live streamed through the UniFiji Facebook page. The launch provided a good opportunity for the public and private sector to get a better understanding of the project and its goals.



Community Service/Projects

SECONDARY SCHOOL WASTE MANAGEMENT CAMPAIGN

With secondary schools being closed due to Covid-19 restrictions, all activities in 2021 involved remote engagement, social media initiatives and piloted methodologies for remote engagement only. The Science Department and Science Circus Pacific (SCP) and ANU partners organized an online workshop.

In preparation for the official project launch, the campaign and competitions were advertised through the UniFiji, SOST and SCP Facebook pages. The advertisement attracted participants from high schools across Fiji with 201 students registering.

Four industry partners contributed towards the project through workshops based on the importance of proper waste management practices and health aspects of waste management. The industry partners were:

- Coca-Cola Amatil Fiji Ltd;
- South Pacific Waste Recyclers;
- Lautoka City Council; and
- Waste Recyclers Fiji Pte Limited.

After months of planning, the project was finally launched virtually on 19 October by the Australian High Commissioner to Fiji, His Excellency John Feakes, who highlighted the importance of effective waste management and the role that young people can play in addressing waste management issues. The welcome address was delivered by Professor Tupeni Baba, AVC's representative and Dean SOHA followed by Professor Shawkat Ali who delivered the School of Science and Technology (SOST) address. Dr. Graham Walker delivered a brief address on behalf of ANU and SCP.

HINDI STAKEHOLDERS ROUNDTABLE

The University of Fiji's Hindi section of the Language, Literature and Communication Department coordinated a Hindi Stakeholder Roundtable meeting to discuss the future of the Hindi language and identify strategies to improve its teaching in primary and secondary schools.

The meeting was held on December 12, 2020 and included representatives from the Indian High Commission, the Hindi Teachers' Association, Ministry of Education, Arya Pratinidhi Sabha and Hindi Parishad.



HIGHER EDUCATION ROUNDTABLE

The University held a Roundtable Discussion on January 15, 2021, focusing on human resource needs in Fiji in the next decade. Representatives from the public and private sectors, the media, non-governmental organisations, trade unions, religious organisations, and other opinion-shapers attended the meeting.

Different approaches to agricultural studies were discussed in light of Fiji's vulnerability to natural disasters and pandemics. The current pandemic also required the need for the Tertiary Scholarships and Loans Board (TSLB) to re-evaluate funding for MBBS studies, given the need for more doctors. A major topic of discussion also was the need for tertiary institutions to offer inter-disciplinary studies.



EDUCATION FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH: REMODELLING FIJI'S NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN POST COVID-19

The University of Fiji held its second Roundtable on the topic “Education for Economic Growth: Remodeling Fiji’s National Development Plan post-Covid 19” at the Saweni Campus and also by zoom connection on Friday February 26th.

The Roundtable recommended that the National Development Plan of Fiji be revised with the following Principles:

1. Promote people- and earth-centred efficient production and development instead of production solely for market-driven monetary value;
2. Emphasise the importance of human rights and values in education and investment proposals as opposed to market demand.
3. Ensure the importance of a holistic and comprehensive education at all stages of sustainable national economic development.
4. Promote an innovative education curriculum that adapts technologies for local situations and practices.
5. Pursue new markets for local produce and products.
6. Facilitate innovative and diversified agricultural practices and products.
7. Invest in education, health and welfare for social protection.
8. Government to regulate all investment in Fiji in favour of constitutional provisions on protection of the environment and the local population.
9. Form a nexus amongst Government, higher educational institutions and economic stakeholders for generation, assimilation, and dissemination of knowledge and skills for effective, holistic and sustainable national development.
10. Redefine Fiji’s place in the world as a leader in forward-looking development strategies.



INTER-TERTIARY MOOT COMPETITION LAUNCHED ON INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI: INTER-TERTIARY MOOT COMPETITION

The then Minister of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, the Hon. Mereseini Vuniwaqa launched the Inter-Tertiary Moot Competition at the Saweni Campus of the University to mark the UN International Women’s Day on Monday March 8th. While addressing the hundreds of students and staff gathered to witness the moot competition, she said advancing gender equality required a changing in mindset, and this could be achieved through advocacy, awareness programs, legal reform, settling legal issues through court cases and restructuring out-of-date social, economic and legal systems and mechanisms.

The law is a key contributor to the advancement of gender equality and the empowerment of women.



ONLINE STRESS MANAGEMENT SESSION

The University held an Online Stress Management Session titled “Let’s deal with stress” on May 21, 2021. Mrs Mercy Gogoi of Umanand Prasad School of Medicine and Health Sciences during the session explained what stress is, what were the different types of stress and why some amount of stress is important for our growth and development.

The session highlighted common stressors and symptoms of stress, how different individuals with different personalities deal with stress and why a situation which is stressful for someone is manageable and not so stressful for someone is emphasising on the personality difference. The key component of the seminar, was to identify useful techniques to manage stress.



Financial Reports

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Contents

General information.....	2
Statement by appointed officers.....	3
Council's report.....	4 - 6
Auditor's independence declaration.....	7
Independent auditor's report.....	8-10
Statement of activities and other comprehensive income.....	11
Statement of financial position.....	12
Statement of cash flows.....	13
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements.....	14 - 22

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
GENERAL INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Administration

Vice-Chancellor

Professor Shaista Shameem

Executive Director Finance Planning & Development

Mr. Ravineet Sami

Registrar

Ms. Karishma Mani

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 2021

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 2021 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



Ravindra Deo Varman
Chair- Finance Committee



Ravineet Sami
Executive Director Finance
Planning & Development

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI COUNCIL'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

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 2021, 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. Jagdish Chand
- Mr. Parnesh Sharma
- Mr. Ravindra Varman
- Mr. Chandar Sen
- Mr. Balwant Singh
- Mr. Netani Druavesi
- Mr. Manhar Narsey
- Ratu Meli Tora
- Mr. Agni Deo Singh
- Mr. Sarju Prasad
- Mr. Uday Raju
- Mr. Bayant Singh
- Dr. Anjeela Jokhan
- Ms Maca Ratabua
- Mr. Mohammed Farik
- Dr. Claire Slatter
- Ms. Jane Ricketts
- Mr. Ravneet Charan

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 operating surplus for the year was \$3,536,103 (2020: \$3,515,755). 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 2021**

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 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.

Impact of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak on the University

The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak has developed rapidly, bringing a significant health impact globally. Measures taken to contain the virus are already having a significant impact on global markets and economic activity and Fiji is also feeling the impact with business disruption and levels of activity already reducing in several market sectors.

The University has remained operational since this declaration and continues to engage in its principal activities. We have not seen a significant impact on our business to date. The outbreak and the response of Governments in dealing with the pandemic is interfering with general activity levels within the community, the economy and the operations of our business.

The Council members and management are carefully considering the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on the University, and assessing future operational options. The financial impacts, however, cannot be reasonably estimated at this time, as they will be largely the product of matters the University cannot control.

The Council members and management believe the University have sufficient financial resources together with arrangements with their customers and suppliers at this time to be able to successfully manage their business risks despite the current uncertain economic outlook due to the COVID-19 outbreak. They have a reasonable expectation that the University have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

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.

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 16th day of May 2022.



Pt. Kamlesh Arya
Pro - Chancellor & Chair of Council



Ravindra Deo Varman
Chair- Finance Committee



21 Enamanu Road
Nadi Fiji
PO Box 10812 Nadi Airport Fiji

Tel: +679 666 2433
Fax: +679 666 7282
ey.com


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 2021, 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
Chartered Accountants


Shaneel Nandan
Partner
Nadi, Fiji
16 May 2022

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 2021, 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 2021, 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 University 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.



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.




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
16 May 2022

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	2021 \$	2020 \$
Income			
Tuition fees	14	14,299,736	14,109,075
Amortisation of deferred income		213	213
Donations		-	11,164
Gain on sales		38,000	-
(Deficit)/surplus from bookshop	13	(879)	1,018
Surplus from canteen		1,145	982
Government grant	14	2,491,168	2,487,652
Other income		369,944	396,010
		<u>17,199,327</u>	<u>17,006,114</u>
Expenditure			
Advertising and marketing		92,246	182,368
Auditors' remuneration	3.1	19,501	23,546
Bad debts	3.1	189,187	390,472
Bank charges		29,724	30,853
Cleaning and sanitary		36,566	91,409
Council and other meeting cost		5,923	13,875
Depreciation and amortisation		807,235	925,132
Doubtful debts		598,267	129,166
Electricity		263,206	297,133
Fringe benefit tax		-	2,559
Fiji National Provident Fund - employer contributions		337,577	330,041
Fiji National University levy		13,184	10,115
Functions		12,500	17,209
Fuel expense		2,100	-
General expenses	20	608,320	449,921
Graduation		13,306	4,217
Insurance		74,075	57,771
Interest	16	432,173	593,262
Legal fees		(6,770)	26,182
Learning, teaching and research		15,370	15,500
Photocopier rental		36,361	114,757
Rent and rates	18	618,890	427,999
Repairs and maintenance	17	402,888	226,189
Salaries and wages	15	7,713,756	7,627,580
Security		691,572	542,938
Stationery, printing and postage		70,867	85,562
Telephone, fax and internet		341,187	333,519
Traveling and accommodation	19	244,013	541,084
Total expenditure		<u>13,663,224</u>	<u>13,490,359</u>
Net surplus for the year		3,536,103	3,515,755
Balance at the beginning		13,158,685	9,642,930
Total accumulated funds		<u><u>16,694,788</u></u>	<u><u>13,158,685</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 2021

	Notes	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current assets			
Trade and other receivables	4	4,560,723	3,184,405
Inventories	5	305,481	307,002
Prepayments and other assets	6	410,017	137,446
Cash and cash equivalents	12(ii)	2,039,568	1,615,677
		<u>7,315,789</u>	<u>5,244,530</u>
Non current assets			
Trade and other receivables	4	9,343	20,589
Property, plant and equipment	7	21,356,439	20,171,639
		<u>21,365,782</u>	<u>20,192,228</u>
Total assets		<u>28,681,571</u>	<u>25,436,758</u>
Current liabilities			
Deferred income	2.2(j)	15,301	15,513
Trade and other payables	8	780,979	992,403
Employee benefits	9	369,839	450,984
Interest bearing borrowings	10	1,929,610	1,080,709
		<u>3,095,729</u>	<u>2,539,609</u>
Non current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	8	421,678	421,678
Interest bearing borrowings	10	8,469,375	9,316,786
		<u>8,891,053</u>	<u>9,738,464</u>
Total liabilities		<u>11,986,782</u>	<u>12,278,073</u>
Net assets		<u>16,694,789</u>	<u>13,158,685</u>
Accumulated funds			
Accumulated funds	11	16,694,788	13,158,685
Surplus in shareholders' equity		<u>16,694,788</u>	<u>13,158,685</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 2021

	Notes	2021 \$	2020 \$
Operating activities			
Student fees		12,063,827	13,397,055
Government grants and donation		2,861,325	2,895,039
Other income		38,054	1,788
Payments to suppliers and employees		(12,116,598)	(12,457,616)
Interest and other costs of finance paid		(432,173)	(593,262)
Net cash flows provided by operating activities	12(i)	<u>2,414,435</u>	<u>3,243,004</u>
Investing activities			
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment		<u>(1,992,035)</u>	<u>(793,858)</u>
Net cash flows used in investing activities		<u>(1,992,035)</u>	<u>(793,858)</u>
Financing activities			
(Repayment of)/proceed from related party advances		(25,323)	205,935
Repayment of interest bearing borrowings		<u>(923,050)</u>	<u>(1,005,267)</u>
Net cash flows used in financing activities		<u>(948,373)</u>	<u>(799,332)</u>
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents		(525,973)	1,649,814
Cash at bank/(overdraft) at 1 January		1,615,677	(34,137)
Cash at bank at 31 December	12(ii)	<u><u>1,089,704</u></u>	<u><u>1,615,677</u></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 2021

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 2021 were authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Council members on 16 May 2022.

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 2021

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 2021

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	2021	2020
3.1 Operating expenses	\$	\$
Auditors' remuneration - audit	18,500	17,500
- non audit	1,001	6,046
Bad debts	189,187	390,472
Doubtful debts	598,267	129,166
Other operating costs	4,710,340	5,116,805
Total operating expenses	<u>5,517,295</u>	<u>5,269,517</u>
3.2 Finance costs	\$	\$
Interest on debt and borrowings	<u>432,173</u>	<u>593,262</u>
4. Trade and other receivables	\$	\$
Fees in arrears	5,740,686	3,777,348
Less provision for doubtful debts	(1,179,963)	(592,943)
	<u>4,560,723</u>	<u>3,184,405</u>
Student loan receivables	425,656	425,656
Less provision for doubtful debts	(416,313)	(405,067)
	<u>9,343</u>	<u>20,589</u>
	<u>4,570,066</u>	<u>3,204,994</u>
Disclosed as:		
Current	4,560,723	3,184,405
Non-current	9,343	20,589
	<u>4,570,066</u>	<u>3,204,994</u>

As at 31 December 2021, trade receivables within initial value of \$127,742 (2020: \$413,978) were impaired and fully provided for. In addition, the University had also fully written off bad debts of \$189,197.

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 2021

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.

	2021 \$	2020 \$
5. Inventories		
Bookshop	81,903	81,531
Gowns	223,578	225,471
Total inventories at the lower of cost and net realisable value	<u>305,481</u>	<u>307,002</u>

As at 31 December 2021, \$nil (2020: \$nil) was recognised as an expense for inventories write down.

6. Prepayments and other assets	\$	\$
Deposits	121,455	102,563
Prepayments	288,562	34,883
	<u>410,017</u>	<u>137,446</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 2020	1,588,574	-	15,388,001	6,428,759	1,438,606	1,681,128	26,525,068
Additions	-	34,657	3,033,567	158,599	10,121	19,063	3,256,006
At 31 December 2020	1,588,574	34,657	18,456,224	6,587,358	1,448,727	1,700,191	29,781,074
Additions	-	1,197,483	290,652	466,062	22,220	15,618	1,992,035
Disposals	-	-	-	(253,416)	-	-	(253,416)
At 31 December 2021	1,588,574	1,232,140	18,746,876	6,800,004	1,470,947	1,715,809	31,519,693
Depreciation and impairment							
At 1 Jan 2020	36,801	-	1,128,289	5,220,853	828,235	1,470,126	8,684,304
Depreciation charge	3,099	-	223,691	523,807	98,321	76,213	925,131
At 31 December 2020	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
Net book value:							
At 31 December 2021	<u>1,545,575</u>	<u>1,232,140</u>	<u>17,161,775</u>	<u>891,898</u>	<u>454,647</u>	<u>105,061</u>	<u>21,356,439</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>1,548,674</u>	<u>34,657</u>	<u>17,104,244</u>	<u>842,698</u>	<u>522,171</u>	<u>153,852</u>	<u>20,171,639</u>

8. Trade and other payables	\$	\$
Creditors and accruals (current)	588,914	764,489
Unearned revenue - Government Grant	192,065	227,914
Student loans payable (non-current)	421,678	421,678
	<u>1,202,657</u>	<u>1,414,081</u>

Disclosed as:	\$	\$
Current	780,979	992,403
Non-current	421,678	421,678
	<u>1,202,657</u>	<u>1,414,081</u>

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
9. Employee leave liability		
Balance at 1 January	450,984	751,659
Arising during the year	519,006	618,258
Paid during the year	(600,151)	(918,933)
Balance at 31 December	<u>369,839</u>	<u>450,984</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	949,863	-
Westpac Banking Corporation	4.0%	2026	124,185	130,358
Westpac Banking Corporation	5.5%	2020	-	50,739
Westpac Banking Corporation	5.5%	2024	93,319	87,533
Westpac Banking Corporation	4.0%	2026	557,050	589,482
Westpac Banking Corporation	4.5%	2033	205,193	222,597
			<u>1,929,610</u>	<u>1,080,709</u>
Non Current				
Westpac Banking Corporation	4.0%	2026	2,160,615	2,648,038
Westpac Banking Corporation	5.5%	2024	165,991	220,467
Westpac Banking Corporation	4.0%	2026	246,293	356,496
Westpac Banking Corporation	4.5%	2033	1,971,595	2,141,581
Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji	5.5%	2043	3,924,881	3,950,204
			<u>8,469,375</u>	<u>9,316,786</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 Mortgage given by the Borrower over Crown Lease 130305 being Property located at Lot 1 Wainibuku, Nasinu.
- ▶ Registered First Mortgage given by the Borrower over Native Lease 11105 being Property located at Burekalou, Airport Road, Nausori.
- ▶ Registered Second All Monies Mortgage given by the Borrower over Native Lease 35/209 being property located at Lautoka (also known as Vishnu Deo Memorial High School).
- ▶ Registered First Mortgage 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 Second All Monies Mortgage given by the Borrower over Native Lease 35/209 being property located at Lautoka (also known as Gurukul Indian School).
- ▶ Registered First Mortgage given by the Borrower over Housing Authority Lease 164935 being property located at Vomo Street, Drasa, Vitogo.
- ▶ Registered First Mortgage given by the Borrower over Certificate of Title 6207 being Property located at Lot 1, Yalalevu, Ba.
- ▶ Registered Second Mortgage given by the Borrower over Crown Lease 102489 being Property located at Lot 6, Tavua Township, Tavua.
- ▶ Registered First Mortgage given by the Borrower over Crown Lease 13116 being Property located at Lot 8, Maro, Sigatoka.
- ▶ 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% (2020: 5.5%) 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.

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

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.

12. Notes to the statement of cash flows

(i) Reconciliation of surplus to net cash inflows from Operating Activities:

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Operating surplus	3,536,103	3,515,755
Add non-cash items:		
Amortisation of deferred income	(212)	(213)
Depreciation	807,235	925,132
Provision for doubtful debts	598,266	129,166
Net cash provided by operating activities before change in assets and liabilities	4,941,392	4,569,840

Changes in operating assets and liabilities:

Decrease in grant receivable	-	528,565
Increase in trade and other receivables	(1,963,338)	(1,202,982)
Increase in prepayments and other assets	(272,571)	(37,603)
Decrease in inventories	1,521	8,344
Decrease in employee benefits	(81,145)	(300,675)
Decrease in trade and other payables	(211,424)	(322,485)
Net cash flows provided by operating activities	2,414,435	3,243,004

(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	3,136	683,981
Operating account	2,034,532	930,296
Cash on hand	1,900	1,400
Cash and cash equivalents	2,039,568	1,615,677
Bank overdraft	(949,863)	-
	1,089,705	1,615,677

13. Bookshop trading account

\$ \$

Bookshop sales	29,409	78,266
Less: cost of sales		
Opening stock	81,531	84,889
Purchases	25,799	54,862
Wages	4,861	19,028
	112,191	158,779
Less: Closing stock	(81,903)	(81,531)
	30,288	77,248
(Deficit)/surplus transferred to statement of comprehensive income	(879)	1,018

14. Fees

\$ \$

Tuition fees	14,299,736	14,109,075
Government grant	2,491,168	2,487,652
	16,790,904	16,596,727

15. Salaries and wages

\$ \$

Senior management	1,766,074	1,778,229
Administration and support staff	1,432,897	555,426
Per diems	33,259	128,412
Academic staff	4,481,526	5,165,513
	7,713,756	7,627,580

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	2021	2020
16. Interest	\$	\$
Interest on bank loans	321,190	376,828
Interest on internal loans	110,983	216,435
	<u>432,173</u>	<u>593,262</u>
17. Repairs and maintenance	\$	\$
Building maintenance	304,282	112,824
Compound maintenance	6,560	30,044
Equipment maintenance	92,046	83,322
	<u>402,888</u>	<u>226,190</u>
18. Rent and rates	\$	\$
Land rental	33,130	23,599
Clinical Accommodation/PC labs and Centre	573,820	396,794
Water rates	11,940	7,606
	<u>618,890</u>	<u>427,999</u>
19. Travelling and accommodation	\$	\$
Local traveling and accommodation	231,672	495,358
Overseas travelling and accommodation	12,341	45,726
	<u>244,013</u>	<u>541,084</u>
20. General expense	\$	\$
Sub OHS	478,194	344,009
Medical	-	10,236
Hire charges	102,992	87,104
Staff development	27,134	8,572
	<u>608,320</u>	<u>449,921</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. Jagdish Chand
- Mr. Parnesh Sharma
- Mr. Ravindra Varman
- Mr. Chandar Sen
- Mr. Balwant Singh
- Mr. Netani Druavesi
- Mr. Manhar Narsey
- Ratu Meli Tora
- Mr. Agni Deo Singh
- Mr. Sarju Prasad
- Mr. Uday Raju
- Mr. Bayant Singh
- Dr. Anjeela Jokhan
- Ms Maca Ratabua
- Mr. Mohammed Farik
- Dr. Claire Slatter
- Ms. Jane Ricketts
- Mr. Ravneet Charan

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

21. Related party disclosures (continued)	2021	2020
<u>Related party balances</u>		
Included in payables at year end is the following related party balances:		
(a) <u>Non-current</u>	\$	\$
Internal loan from the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji	<u>3,924,881</u>	<u>3,950,204</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:		
	\$	\$
<u>Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji</u>		
Interest on internal loan	<u>110,983</u>	<u>216,435</u>
<u>Key management compensation</u>		
Salaries and wages	<u>1,057,989</u>	<u>1,285,363</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	183,629	244,781
(ii) Indemnity guarantee provided for staff bond	-	-
(iii) Pending claim for a litigation matter	-	-
	<u>183,629</u>	<u>244,781</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	410,400
Later than one year but not later than two years	1,116,395	-
Later than one year but not later than five years	-	-
	<u>1,666,545</u>	<u>410,400</u>
(c) Finance leases - \$nil (2020: \$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. Impact of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak on the University		
The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak has developed rapidly, bringing a significant health impact globally. Measures taken to contain the virus are already having a significant impact on global markets and economic activity and Fiji is also feeling the impact with business disruption and levels of activity already reducing in several market sectors.		
The University has remained operational since this declaration and continues to engage in its principal activities. We have not seen a significant impact on our business to date. The outbreak and the response of Governments in dealing with the pandemic is interfering with general activity levels within the community, the economy and the operations of our business.		
The Council members and management are carefully considering the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on the University, and assessing future operational options. The financial impacts, however, cannot be reasonably estimated at this time, as they will be largely the product of matters the University cannot control.		

THE UNIVERSITY OF FIJI
 NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

26. Impact of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak on the University (continued)

The Council members and management believe the University have sufficient financial resources together with arrangements with their customers and suppliers at this time to be able to successfully manage their business risks despite the current uncertain economic outlook due to the COVID-19 outbreak. They have a reasonable expectation that the University have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

27. (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.

28. University Details

University Incorporation

The University was incorporated in Fiji under the University Act 2011

Registered office

Pt Vishnu Deo Memorial College

Saweni

Lautoka

Principal place of business

Saweni

The University of Fiji
Private Mail Bag, Lautoka
Fiji Islands

Saweni Campus
Lautoka
Telephone: (679) 664 0600
Mobile: (679) 999 9100

Samabula Campus
1 Kula Street, Samabula
Telephone: (679) 337 3614
Mobile: (679) 999 9111