

Successful UniFiji Open Day

The University of Fiji had a successful Open Day, on July 11 and 12, 2019. The Open Day saw numerous Secondary Schools visiting the University to explore the programmes and facilities at both, Samabula and Saweni Campuses. Approximately 3000 students attended the Saweni and Samabula Open Day.

Giving the keynote address at the Saweni Campus on July 11, 2019, Dr. Sant Raj stated that quality education was critical in Fiji because of the issues that the country was facing and it needed highly skilled and qualified people who would invest back into their country.

“This University acknowledges that tertiary education should not have restrictions within national borders but also has to prepare its students for the global environment. The University is developing to have a global academic presence and to be a globally-networked University. UniFiji is in full compliance with international best practices and standards to forge its relationship with the global community. With such high standards, The University of Fiji has an excellence agenda: excellence in learning and teaching; excellence in research; student experience; partnerships; environment; and leadership and governance,” he explained.

In addition, he commented that the University had already produced graduates who were making a difference in varied fields not only locally but in other countries.

“As students of this University, not only you will have the opportunity to get a world class education but also learn from the cultural diversity that students and teachers from different backgrounds bring to the University culture. UniFiji has seven professors amongst its teaching staff which is more than any other University in Fiji. This indicates the high calibre of teaching at UniFiji,” he said.

Mr. Jagdish Chand was the keynote speaker on July 12, 2019 at the Samabula Campus. He reiterated that The University of Fiji was a young but dynamic and ever growing institution with great potential to outshine other universities in the country. He told the students that when they became part of the University, they would have the opportunity and also be empowered to be associated with the exciting future developments at UniFiji.

Students had positive responses to the Open Day. Mr. Lekima Vuladawa, a Year 13 student of Saint Thomas High School stated that the Open Day was an exciting experience for him. He said that he enjoyed the time spent visiting the booths and getting to know about the UniFiji programmes. He also mentioned that he wishes to study at UniFiji in the coming year.

An elated Ms. Simran Kumaran, a Year 13 student of A.D. Patel College said that the time they spent visiting the booths was very productive. She particularly liked the presentations done by the Schools and the way the staff interacted with the students. She intends to study MBBS next year stating that studying at UniFiji would be a great opportunity for her to become a successful doctor.

The University conveys its hearty thanks to sponsors, Vodafone for providing free giveaways for the Open Day; Kontiki Finance and Vodafone for having information booths for the students; and volunteer students for not only distributing posters and banners prior to the Open Day but also for ushering and showing around the labs, rooms, booths, library, and collecting survey forms.