

## Press Statement

## The University of Fiji tackles the Covid-19 crisis head on

The University of Fiji Senate yesterday approved a comprehensive plan to convert all UniFiji lectures to the on-line mode in order to tackle the Covid-19 crisis head on.

"We will not allow the Covid-19 calamity to deter us from our primary role at UniFiji, that is, to teach and to learn", the Acting Vice Chancellor, Professor Shaista Shameem said. "We will win this war on our own terms, by being as resourceful as we can".

She said that the Senate, as the highest academic authority of the University, had determined a path which would offer students the same content but in a different mode.

This required lecturers themselves to start thinking outside their comfort zone, but that was a good thing and it was timely, Professor Shameem said. "We realise that we are well into the 21st century, with all its public health menaces, and this means a paradigm shift in our teaching and learning methods".

She said the University embraced the challenge and had begun to focus on new techniques of communication with its students, even for classes with a practical focus.

The University opens its on-line doors to students on Monday May 4th at both Saweni and Samabula Campuses.