



The University of Fiji

Celebrating 15 Years

Press Statement

From the Pro - Chancellor and Chair of Council, Pundit Kamlesh Arya

The University of Fiji full Council met at the weekend for the first time since the Covid-19 crisis and determined the way forward for the University in view of the upcoming challenges facing the University and the nation as a whole.

The Council accepted reports from the University Senate that the alternative learning and teaching modes had been successfully carried out over the remaining weeks of Semester 1 with students being fully supported through on-line classes.

Two Schools of the University, namely the School of Science and Technology and the JDP School of Law, will retain their examinations programme at the end of semester while other Schools opted for internal assessments to replace examinations.

At its meeting the Council extensively discussed how the University would meet its remaining Strategic Plan 2017-2020 goals and objectives, with the members agreeing that cost-cutting as well as revenue generation strategies would be put in place to allow the maximum use of its funds to cope with the Covid-19 crisis and achieve its development plans at the same time.

The Council also approved exploring alternative sources of energy for the Saweni Campus with the move to solar energy proposed by the Administration. In that light, the Founders and owners of the University, the Arya Prathinidhi Sabha of Fiji, pledged a start-up contribution of \$10,000 towards investment into solar energy for the University. This initial contribution was received with acclaim by the members who pledged to source additional funds for continuing the solar energy project for the University.

The University's solar energy project is in line with its 'greening the campus' strategic objective.

Among other decisions made by the Council were a Disaster Management Policy for the University and an improvement in the technological services provided at the University.

The Chair, Pundit Arya, said that the Council discussed far reaching plans of the University for the future by raising important questions such as the new role of education in Fiji and, in particular, by considering coherence of the values of the University with education in the broader sense.

Council's reflections at its meeting was welcome as a signpost to looking to the future due to the economic and social crises caused by Covid-19 which affected everyone, Pundit Arya said.

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