



# Fiji Teachers Union

(The Child Our Hope)

April 2012

## NEWSLETTER

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### 2012 AGM & CONFERENCE



**Dr. Ganesh Chand**, the Vice Chancellor of Fiji National University has consented to the Union's invitation to be the Chief Guest and Keynote Speaker at the 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting and Conference at Tilak High School, Lautoka.

Dr. Chand is a well known academic.

He was Director, Fiji Institute of Technology from 2007 to 2009 before being appointed to his present position. He was elected to the House of Representatives in 1999 and served as Minister of National Planning, Local Government, Housing and Environment till 2000. Dr. Ganesh was re-elected in 2001 for a five year term.

He has served on numerous Boards, both as a member and as the Chairperson.

### FLOOD APPEAL

Ba, Nadi and Sigatoka were the worst hit areas.

The disaster has had a major impact on the livelihood of so many families and businesses.

FTU is appealing to the members to come forward and assist the needy children, especially during unprecedented times like this.

Please kindly show your generosity by donating at least \$5.00 to assist the flood affected children and schools.

**All Branch Executives, School Reps and Heads of Schools are requested to take a leading role in collecting the donations.**

Victims are in need of immediate assistance and therefore, money must be collected and deposited in **FTU – Account No 0011040893** by **27<sup>th</sup> April, 2012.**

### NEW GRADUATES

A large number of primary and secondary teachers graduated from Fiji National University. A number of them are yet to be placed in schools.

Some FCAE graduates, who were absorbed in primary schools in 2009, were relieved of their duties in 2012. They have been asked to go and look for secondary postings.

The Union has written to MOE and PSC stating that those who had been absorbed in the service must be allowed to continue. MOE has been requested to deal with such cases with empathy.

## **CONFERENCE VENUE AND PROGRAMME**

**Venue: Tilak High School, Lautoka**

### **Sunday 6<sup>TH</sup> May 2012**

10am : National Executive Meeting

2.00pm : Sports Committee Meeting

### **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2012**

8.30 – 9.00am: Registration of Delegates

9.15am : Guests get seated

9.30am : Official Opening

Welcome Address by  
Chairperson – Lautoka  
Branch

Presidential Address &  
Introduction of Chief Guest

Keynote Address & Official  
Opening

Vote of Thanks

10.30am : Morning Tea

11.00am : Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the 2011 AGM  
2011-2012 Activities Report  
Including Audited Financial  
Report

Resolutions

2.00pm : Lunch

3.30pm : Sports – Parade & Opening

7.00pm : Cultural Night

### **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2012**

9.00am : FTU – CTCLAGM

10.30am : Morning Tea

1100am : Women's Wing Meeting

1.00pm : Lunch

2.00pm : Sports

7.00pm : CTCL Social

### **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2012**

8.30am : FTU Sports

Presentation of Trophies

10.00am : Post Conference NE Meeting

## **CONFERENCE SPORTS REGISTRATION**

Branches are reminded that all duly completed AGM Registration forms and Sports Registration forms are to be submitted to the Head Quarters by 27<sup>th</sup> April 2012, as per National Executive decision.

Verification of forms is mandatory and your cooperation in this matter is solicited.

**Interested players are also asked to note the requirements.**

## **SCHOOL REPS SEMINAR**

A Workshop for School Reps is scheduled for all the Branches in Term Two.

School Reps play a critical role in the effective dissemination of information. They are the link between the members at school and the Branch. And they also play a pivotal role as a link between the school and the HQ.

A good School Rep is a rounded figure who is able to balance his/her school work with that of his/her union work.

## **PUBLICITY MATTERS**

Newsletter Vol. 2 No. 4 was sent to all schools in February.

- ✓ The 2012 Year Planner was also sent to the Branches in February. Branches were to distribute to all the members.
- ✓ Copies of the FTU Constitution [Amended] have also been sent to all the Branches for distribution to members.
  
- ▲ All articles [one A4 page] to reach the HQ by 15<sup>th</sup> April 2012.
- ▲ All borrowed materials must be acknowledged.
- ▲ Journals will be with the Branches in Week One of Term Two. Members are to get their copies from their respective Branches.

## **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY**

International Women's Day was celebrated at the FNU Campus in Lautoka on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

The Chief Guest for the function was Dr. Premila Devi, Campus Director, USP, Lautoka.

Other speakers present to mark the day were:

Ms. Sashi Kiran, CEO – FRIENDS

Ms. Reijeli Nairuma, Chairperson – FTUC Women's Committee

Ms. Aloesi Logavatu, Head of Secondary, FNU, Lautoka.

General Secretary FTU also addressed the gathering, providing support to the women folk.

FTU and FTA Branch Executives were also present to mark the day.

Sis. Vidya Singh, Chair Womens Wing, is thanked for coordinating the function.

COPE is sincerely thanked for providing the funding to mark the IWD.

## **ACTING APPOINTMENTS**

The Union has been continuously reminding MOE to advertise and have the substantively vacant positions filled.

PSC had stated that the acting appointment would strictly be for three months and all allowances to cease with effect from 29/2/2012.

The Union had written to MOE to make a submission to PSC stating that MOE needed more time to fill the vacant positions.

Subsequently, PSC has extended the cut-off date to 30/4/2012.

The Union has reiterated its call that all acting appointments be done according to the “acting appointment guidelines.”

The Union has further submitted that while posts are being processed expeditiously, non payment of acting allowance is totally unjust and void of reasoning. Officers who are acting on higher positions have no say on advertising and processing of posts.

## **REMINDERS**

- Inform HQ if you have changed your Branch.
- Ensure that MOE changes your details in FESA once you have upgraded your qualifications.
- Note that you lose your benefits if your subscription is in arrears for 13 weeks.
- Members of the Union shall become affiliated to the Branch of the Union either in the area of service or residence during the working week.
- All MABS claims to be made within a month.
- Insurance – all payment(s) for treatment will only be made by FTU upon prior approval from IHL.

- Referral must be obtained from FTU nominated doctors for all specialist treatments, blood tests and scanning.
- No corporal punishment please.
- It is a good idea to revisit the Code of Ethics for the Teaching Profession.

- And do not forget to reflect on the Public Service Code of Conduct and PSC Regulation 1999. It should be the topic of discussion for the faculty during recess and lunch.

## 2011 AGM IN PICTURES



*IWD Celebrations at FNU Lautoka - 2012*