

## Masters Awards for Pacific Doctors

A total of thirty five doctors from around the Pacific graduated with Masters Awards from the College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences in 2016. The fields of study for these students included Applied Epidemiology, Community Eye Care, Emergency Medicine, Anesthesia, Internal Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Ophthalmology, Pathology and Public Health.

This was the highest number of graduates amongst all the colleges at the Fiji National University and a significant increase from last year. Among those who graduated with Masters Awards there were pioneer graduates of Master of Medicine (Emergency Medicine), Masters in Pathology and Masters in Applied Epidemiology.

The Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) was instrumental in establishing and supporting postgraduate education for doctors at the Fiji National University.

CMNHS Acting Dean, Dr William May said it was team effort that allowed CMNHS to overcome the challenges post Tropical Cyclone Winston to deliver the best to students.

FNU Chancellor, Ikbal Jannif said new graduates in the Emergency Medicine specialty called for a celebration.



Figure 1 - Masters in Emergency Medicine Graduates 2016

“We hope the next time one of us has to come through the Emergency Room doors we will have a graduates of our very own College of Medicine, Nursing and Health sciences greeting us with a huge smile,” he said.

Adjunct Associate Professor and former head of Emergency Medicine Programme at the CMNHS, Dr Anne Creaton said she was incredibly proud.

“Never before have I worked with such a talented passionate dedicated hard working group of people. Pioneers need to be extraordinary, and they are,” she said.

Dr Creaton said the day marks academic achievement, however it also heralds the dawn of a new medical specialty in Fiji. Emergency Physicians are generalists and build systems of care. They bridge the gap between public health, primary care and specialist care.