

THE PRESIDENT'S WELCOME & VISION



Greetings in the name of our transformer, Jesus Christ.

It is indeed an honor and my privilege to note something visible and readable on the 2024 Handbook of Davuilevu Theological College. Obviously, it is the beginning of an academic year of the institution and no doubt, in a very challenging time.

I give thanks to God almighty for his trust and support for the new leadership of the College. A new leader with his visions cannot be materialized without the support of staff members and the community. Let the communal sense of belonging and unity drive the hearts of DTC towards success at the end of the academic year. The leadership of the church is also embracing on Christian principles and virtues to guide the community of DTC into a new horizon.

Our world is moving faster to somewhere and everything is changing. The pace is unbearable and it is difficult to comprehend what is emerging and occurring within our human communities. New technologies and physical developments are pushing human beings into a new world with different mindsets and languages used in a common ground. The competitive spirit within our human society is a major concern to our religious organizations, as we always predict and foresee the unity in diversity within the household of God. Climate change is also a worrying issue for the inhabitants of our beloved country. Human beings begin to raise their concern and awareness regarding the rising sea-level and associate issues within. The behavior and attitude of humankind is becoming a worrying issue for the survival and sustainability of God's creation in the whole world.

However, God has given us knowledge and insight to think outside the box and acquire what is relevant and appropriate for this modern age. Our College is currently offering religious discipline courses as primary tools of service on the ground. Ironically, the emergence of socio-economic issues and even political issues, challenge and confront our clergies off-guard. The curriculum of the College should be reviewed in order to respond and counter the emergence of different facet of issues. It is appropriate to design the College's curriculum as a reflection of the current challenges of the day. We cannot escape from the new challenges that are confronting us daily.

We need to merge or blend the religious perspectives and secular views of any emerging issues in context. In this regard, the language may somehow make the difference. It's the right time to use different lenses or glasses and to see a particular object from different angles. Different strategies with different approaches will add more strength to our mission. Hopefully, its time to make a shift and move forward cautiously with courage and determination. Our ministers and deaconesses are challenged with issues such as: conflicts or tensions within the traditional leaderships; Church and Vanua relationship; Climate change; issues surrounding the ownership and utilization of resources; indiscipline and bad management of wealth and resources; rising poverty in the country; issues of diaspora and broken families; cyber- crime and drug addiction; violence against women and children and so forth. These are real issues within our different communities.

We need to re-design and re-focus our training programs to meet the demands of our different communities. May we continue to equip and send students with appropriate tools.

May God bless our beloved College.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Semisi', written over a horizontal line.

Rev. Dr. Semisi Turagavou
PRESIDENT of Methodist Church in Fiji

PRINCIPAL'S FOREWORD



As Principal of the College, I take this time and space to welcome each and every member of the Davuilevu Theological College and the Methodist family at large. The College belongs to you, in as much as you belong to the college, that relationship and connection have proven stronger over the course of 116 years since the College moved from Navuloa to Davuilevu in 1908.

I took over the reign of leadership of the college after my predecessor the Rev. Dr. Jolami Lasawa ascends to the position as General Secretary of the Methodist Church in Fiji. I cannot thank him enough for the enormous effort he has shown over the years in directing this learning community in all aspects of college life. And I salute his family as well.

This academic year is a full house one in that all three streams of Diplomas [Years 1-3], and the Bachelor of degree Year Three, are part of the Academic Programme. More to that is the fact that DTC will be gearing up for the 2025 Accreditation Processes and the college will be preparing for this programme accreditation mandate this year. It implies that DTC is accredited by the Higher Education Commission Fiji [HECF], and the South Pacific Association of Theological Schools [SPATS]. Both these accrediting bodies have really lifted the quality and standard of Theological Education. This is a green light in that Theological Education here at DTC cannot really afford to be lagging behind, or remain complacent in terms of development, striving to be relevant, be influential, and be in par with the challenges and opportunities of a contemporary Fiji.

This year will mark the preparation for the launching of the Master's Degree in 2025. It is a far cry from the years of Lth., Diploma, and BD as standard academic program here at DTC. PreparationS include designing new courses, designing pathways for the program, acquiring the services of brilliant mind in the field, uplifting of infrastructure, getting the program accredited by SPATS and HECF, and the financial side of this higher standard of academic learning. Shortly, DTC will witness the opening of the new Master's Program building to coincide with the launching next year. That building will remain a living testimony to the financial contribution of present and past Ministers within the MCIF. And to add on to that, it showcases what Ministers can further contribute to the MCIF in terms of finances using the concept of '*kacivi yaca*'.

Ecumenism is very much alive in DTC with the inclusion of students from the Anglican Church. However, courses here at DTC are in themselves transcending the boundary of a 'confined ecclesiological way of Theological thinking', to a broader and more inclusive one for that matter. Arguably, courses are doing wonders in these aspects of academic journey. DTC intends to reaffirm that its roots are deeply entrenched in the soil of Methodism with newness, and freshness. The life and work of our current and future Ministers will be shaped, and molded by a sort of theology that is deeply stooped in the soil of Methodism in Fiji. That in-depth knowledge will direct the 2024 theme "Towards a Quality and Effective Theological Education". And DTC will think deeply into achieving that theme. With certainty and hope, DTC will venture into the end of the year graduation in both programs of study. Wishing DTC a blessed Academic Year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Savenaca Vuetanavanua'.

..... Rev.
Savenaca Vuetanavanua
PRINCIPAL

Historical Background of Davuilevu Theological College

When the Wesleyan Methodist Missionaries arrived in 1835, serious consideration of introducing theological training in Fiji was at the forefront of their mission work. That dream was actualized when the first Theological College was built in Nasima, Taveuni, Cakaudrove in 1841. Rev. John Hunt was its first Principal when 8 were registered as students. The Fiji District Meeting in 1841 resolved to close the theological institution in Nasima in early 1842 due to the disagreement of its location.

They shifted the theological institute to Viwa, Bau in 1842 and Hunt was still its head. The institution was there until 1848. Eight registered students also registered for training. It was in Viwa on 4th October 1848, John Hunt, first theological institution Principal, was called to eternal rest. On the same year, the Fiji District Meeting agreed that the theological institution be shifted to Bucainabua in Lakeba. Rev. Richard Lyth was its Principal. The Theological College was in Lakeba from 1848 until it closed down in 1855.

After a year of confusion of where the institution to be shifted, the missionaries agreed that Mataisuva in Rewa be the appropriate sight. Rev. John Polglase was its Principal. It began in 1857 until 1860 when it was again closed. The Theological Institution moved to Kadavu in 1861 and located at Richmond, until 1872. Three staff members managed the institution. They were Reverends Jessey Carey, Joseph Nettleton, and Joseph Waterhouse.

From 1873, when Rev. W. A. Heighway was the Principal, the theological institute was shifted to Navuloa, the land belonged to the Naibati tribe in Buretu. The institution was there until 1907. Location continued to be a problem. In Navuloa, the Fiji District Meeting resolved after some serious discussions that the location of the institution be moved to Davuilevu as the Navuloa land is unproductive and swampy. Members of the District Meeting preferred that Davuilevu be the appropriate sight. In 1908, the final journey of the theological institution canoe landed at Davuilevu. The first Principal in Davuilevu was W. E. Bennett, the presiding Principal of Navuloa.

One of the purposes of shifting the Theological institute from Navuloa to Davuilevu was to let the Theological Institute closely follow the new developments the Government of Fiji has initiated for the development of this country. As the theological institute's purpose is mission, it has to embrace its prophetic mission in a changing face of Fiji by encountering the negative side of civilization.

In addition to that, the Fiji Mission believed that the institute should move into the idea of enhancing quality theological training in a changed Fiji. Rev. Dr. Allan Tippet in 1960 paved the way forward of the idea when he partnered the Davuilevu Theological Institute with the Theological Institute in Melbourne, Australia. During that time, the Davuilevu Theological Institute awarded the Degree of LTh or Licentiate of Theology. After some year, the degree awarded became the Diploma in Theology. In 2003, the Bachelor of Divinity program started. Now the theological institute has moved on into the deeper water of enhancing theological training to its ordained ministry by introducing the program of Bachelor of Ministry in 2005. From Nasima in 1841 to Davuilevu in 1908, the theological institute embraces what the mission pioneers believed, that theological education and its mission is important in Fiji.

INSTITUTIONAL VALUES¹

1. Vision

- 1.1 The College vision is: Effective and transforming ordained ministry for a successful society in a changing world through sound spiritual formation and development.
- 1.2 The College's vision is rooted in the commitment by the Methodist Church to ensure its effective role in the future of Fiji, thus the institutionalized study of Methodist divinity in Fiji.
- 1.3 The vision stands alongside the Ministry of the Word, that is, the Old and New Testaments.

2. Mission

- 2.1 The College's mission since the establishment of the first training institution is to train ministers of the Methodist Church in Fiji for ordination, as follows –
 - (a) to prepare men and women fully for ordained ministry for the Methodist Church in Fiji through effective spiritual and theological training and development;
 - (b) to encourage higher theological understanding and enhanced spirituality in an evolving society through a well-trained Christian workforce and leadership.

3. Specific Objectives

- 3.1 To achieve its mission in the training and preparation of ministers, the College has the following four main objectives –
 - (a) to direct a student to understand the vitality of spiritual and character formation, where his or her faith, repentance, freedom from sin, justification, renewal, sanctity, scriptural holiness and being a child of God are of utmost priority;
 - (b) to train and instil humility, piety, patience, diligence and wisdom in students so they become successful Methodist Ministers;
 - (c) to develop a student's critical thinking relevant to the pursuit of academic excellence;
 - (d) to instil, in a student, an earnest desire for knowledge and wisdom through advanced scholarship of the Word of God and God's love for humanity.

¹Please refer to the College Policies and Regulations 2011 which has been given approval by the Fiji Higher Education Commission, Article 2.0 Institutional Goals (2.1, 2.2 and 2.3).

Chapter 2

ACADEMIC AUTHORITY AND GOVERNMENT²

1. Academic Authority

- a) The College receives its academic authority from the Annual Conference of the Methodist Church in Fiji.
- b) The College uses this authority to offer the Bachelor of Divinity degree and a Diploma of Theology.

2. Validation

- a. The South Pacific Association of Theological Schools (SPATS) Accreditation Commission accredits the College as a Diploma of Theology and Bachelor of Divinity provider.
- b. Both the Diploma and the Bachelor of Divinity programs have been accredited for the next six years until 2025 by both Fiji Higher Education Commission and SPATS.
- c. All academic processes are vetted by the Board of Studies.

3. Government

- a) The College is a Conference Institution.
- b) It is governed by the monthly Staff Meeting, Board of Studies³, Ministerial Training Committee⁴ and the Standing Committee.

4. Constitution

(See full document in the *College Policies & Regulations 2011*)

5. Staff Appointments

- a.) This College is designed to train young men and women for the ordained ministry. Therefore:
 - (i) It is staffed by suitably qualified ordained ministers for the religious and theological subjects.
 - (ii) The Ministerial Training Committee may appoint suitably qualified lay professionals as lecturers in non-religious subjects on the recommendation of the Principal.⁵
 - (iii) It offers courses only to candidates accepted by the Ministerial Session of the Annual Conference or the Ministerial Training Committee.

The Conference Stationing Committee stations the Principal and lecturers to the College. Other staff appointments, like the Vice Principal, Registrar, Dean of Studies, and Head of Department posts, are internal arrangements only.

²Please refer to the *College Policies and Regulations 2011* which has been given provisional approval by the Fiji High Education Commission, Article Governance 2.0 – 3.0 and 4.3.

³Terms of Reference and functions of members are stipulated in the *College Policies and Regulations 2011*, 4.3.

⁴Terms of Reference and functions of members are stipulated in the *College Policies and Regulations 2011*, 3.1.2

⁵*College Policies and Regulations 2011*, 4.2.1, 5.1.6

Chapter 3

ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATION STAFF

1. ADMINISTRATION & FACULTY MEMBERS

Principal and HOD Theology

Rev. Savenaca Vuetanavanua
(DTC)., BD (DTC)., PGD (University of Auckland). M.Th. with Hons (University of Auckland).
Cert. in C/Counselling (Sydney)., Dip. Theo

Vice Principal

Rev. Mesulame Senimoli
Dip. Theo. (*Davuilevu Theological College*), Dip.
(*Manchester*).
M.Th. (*Pacific Theological College*), BD,
Business English by Ext.

Dean of Studies

Rev. Kameli Bola Waqalevu
Theo. (*Davuilevu Theological College*).
M.Th. (*Pacific Theological College*), BD, Dip.

Registrar/HOD History

Rev. Raki Tigarea
Theo (*Davuilevu Theological College*). Certificate of Theology (MLTC), Diploma in Pastoral
Counselling (AWC). Dip. In Leadership and Management (AWC)
M.Th. (*Pacific Theological College*), BD, Dip.

Head of Departments

Rev. Mereia Votomosi
HOD Biblical Studies
M.Th. BD (*Pacific Theological College*), Cert.
Theo. (*Davuilevu Theological College*).

Rev. Taniela Balenaikorodawa
HOD Ministry
(University of the South Pacific), STTC (Fiji College of Advanced Education) Dip.
Theo. (*Davuilevu Theological College*).
PhD in Progress (Pacific Theological
College) M.A. (Birmingham University) BA

Lecturers

Rev. Sefanaia Vuetikadavakimaiwai
Theo.
M.Th. (*Pacific Theological College*), BD, Dip.
(*Davuilevu Theological College*).

Rev. Josaia Betomakita
Theo. (*Davuilevu Theological College*),
M.Th. (*Pacific Theological College*), BD, Dip.

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS
Department of Biblical Studies



Rev. Mereia Votomosi
HOD Biblical Studies



Rev. Sefanaia Vuetikadavakimaiwai
Lecturer



Rev. Kameli Bola Waqalevu Academic Dean/ Lecturer

Department of Theology and Ethics



Rev. Savenaca Vuetanavanua
Principal & HOD Theology



Rev. Josaia Betomakita
Lecturer

Department of Church History



Rev. Raki Tigarea Registrar/ Lecturer

Department of Church Ministry



Rev. Mesulame Senimoli
Vice Principal/Lecturer



Rev. Taniela Baleinakorodawa
HOD Ministry

2. SUPPORT STAFF



Ms Susana Bainivalu
Mrs. Alowesi Q Soko
Records Clerk



Receptionist



Mrs. Aneeta Reuben
Asst. Librarian



Mrs. Linda Powell-Vakalahi
College Bursar



Mr. Samuela Moce
Finau – Handyman

MINISTERIAL TRAINING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. Rev. Dr. Semisi Turagavou (President)
2. Mr. Joji Qaranivalu (Vice President)
3. Rev. Dr. Jolami Lasawa Sedra – (General Secretary)
4. Rev. Savenaca Vuetanavanua – (Principal & HOD Theology)
5. Rev. Rusiate Tuidrakulu – General Secretary SPATS
6. Rev. Jone Matanatabu –T/Q Davuilevu
7. Rev. Inia Vidovi - T/Q Naitasiri
8. Rev. Manasa Saraqia -T/Q Suva
9. Rev. Lal Mohammed - T/Q Indian Division
10. Rev. Tevita Vuniwaqa - T/Q Nabua
11. Rev. Waisale Ketedromo - T/Q Kinoya
12. Rev. William Powell – T/Q Wesley
13. Mr. Saimoni Waibuta - Education Secretary
14. Principal Lelean Memorial School
15. Mr. Uraia Waibuta – Principal NATI
16. DTC Tuirara Levu – Mr. Leone Bale
17. Rev. Mesulame Senimoli – Vice Principal
18. Rev. Bola Waqalevu – Academic Dean
19. Rev. Raki Tigarea - Registrar
20. Rev. Tanieala Baleinakorodawa – HOD Ministry.
21. Rev. Mereia Votomosi - HOD Biblical Studies
22. Mrs. Linda Powell-Vakalahi - College Bursar
23. Savu Tawake - President Student Body Association.

BOARD OF STUDIES MEMBERS

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Filipe Jitoko | - Forum Secretariat (Chair) |
| 2. Mr. Joji Qaranivalu | - Vice President (Deputy Chair) |
| 3. Rev. Dr. Jolami Lasawa | - General Secretary |
| 4. Mr. Apisalome Tudreu | - Coordinator of the JBME |
| 5. Rev. Rusiate Tuidrakulu | - SPATS Secretary |
| 6. Mr. Uraia Waibuta | - Principal NATI |
| 7. Mr. Saimoni Waibuta | - Methodist Education Secretary |
| 8. Mrs Atelina Koroi | - SPATS Training Officer |
| 9. Dr. Akanisi Kedrayate | - Academic |
| 10. Dr Eci Naisele | - PTC Registrar |
| 11. Rev. Savenaca Vuetanavanua | - Principal & HOD Theology |
| 12. Rev. Mesulame Senimoli | - Vice Principal & HOD Ministry |
| 13. Rev. Bola Waqalevu | - Academic Dean |
| 14. Rev. Raki Tigarea | - Registrar |
| 15. Rev. Mereia Votomosi | - HOD Biblical Studies |
| 16. Rev. Taniela Baleinakorodawa | - HOD Ministry |

Chapter 4
ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2024

TERM 1		
WEEKS	DATES	PROGRAMME
	Tuesday 16th January.	Faculty Meeting & Devotion Worship Service: To be led by the Principal of the College Rev. Savenaca Vuetanavanua.
	19th January	Students' arrival on Friday 19 th – 4.00 pm Welcome Service on Sunday at Baker Memorial Church (10:30am) on the 21 st .
	22 nd – 26 th	Sorting out of houses for students, cleaning and admission of school children to various schools, colleges, and settling down processes.
1	29 th January – 2 nd February	Orientation Week Monday 29 th : Devotion Rev. Mesulame Senimoli (VP), Cleaning up. Beginning of Term 1 in Fiji Schools: 29 th . Tuesday 30 th Official Opening of the DTC Academic Year by the President of the MCIF The Rev. Dr. Semisi Turagavou. Wednesday 31 st : Orientation continues. Thursday 1 st : Registration after devotion, SBA Meeting. Friday: Holy Communion: Principal the Rev. Savenaca Vuetanavanua. College Welcome Feast. Medical Clinic 3 rd February
2	5 th – 9 th	Lecture Begins. Term 3 Transcript Distributed. Deaconess Day (10 th Feb)
3	12 th – 16 th	Small Committee Meeting
4	19 th – 23 rd	Community Meeting (23 rd)
5	26 th Feb– 1 st March	World Day of Prayer (1 st March) 27 th -29 th : <i>Talatala Qase & Tuirara Levu</i> Retreat.
6	4 th – 8 th	Men's Fellowship Week (4 th -10 th March). Small Committee Meeting House, Compound & Flower bed Inspection (8 th March). DTC <i>Sevu</i> and <i>Vakamisinare</i> (8 th March). <i>Sevu</i> Sunday & Men's Sunday (10 th March).
7	11 th – 15 th	First <i>Talanoa</i> Session Faculty Meeting 11 th . Ministerial Meeting 14 th

8	18th – 22nd	MCIF Sunday School Week (18-24th March). Palm Sunday 24th March. Faculty Meeting: Launching of the Academic Planning for DTC. First Public Lecture
9	25th – 29th	Holy Week Maundy Thursday – 28th March – Holy Communion. – Weekend Out 29th March Good Friday BOS: Submitting of the Academic Planning for DTC.
10	1st -5th April –	Easter Monday: Public Holiday, 1st April Endorsing the Academic Future Plan for DTC Good Friday – 7 th April
11	08th – 12th	
12	15th – 19th	Faculty Meeting 15th Ministerial Meeting 17th
13	22nd – 26th	Reading Week DTC Family Fund Day
14	29th -3rd May	Exam Week School Break for Three Weeks: 6. 05. 24 – 26.05.24. Community Meeting. Candidate to the Ministry Examination in all Three Centres. <i>Bose Vakayabaki</i> 14th -18th)
S C H O O L B R E A K 1ST T E R M: 6th – 26th May 2024		
TERM 2		
	24th May	MCIF Mother's Sunday 12th May Pentecostal Week: 13th-19th May Faculty Meeting 24th May 2024 – 9.30 am Arrival of Students on Saturday 25th – 4pm 26th May - Worship at Baker Memorial Church Sunday
1	27th – 31st	John Wesley Day: 24th May. Presentation on Wesley: <i>A Historical Perspective on the Development and Shifts in Wesley's Theology within the MCIF in Fiji's Contemporary Society</i> . General Secretary of the MCIF Rev. Dr. Jolami Lasawa. (It will be organised in the format of Public Lecture) Small Committee Meeting. House, Compound & Flower Bed Inspection. Probation Papers arrived.
2	3rd -7th June	Ratu Sukuna Day Holiday 31st May. Key Note Speaker: Challenges & Possibilities
3	10th – 14th	Ministerial Meeting 13th

4	17th – 21st	Family Week: 3rd – 9th. BOS Meeting: An important Item in this meeting is the drawing up of the Academic Pathway to the Master's Degree Program in 2025. Reviewing of the College Policy. Putting in place New College Policies to bolster the Academic Standard and Performance. Creating new policies that borders on Ministerial Posting and other Ministerial Issues.
5	24th – 28th	Ministerial Training Committee Meeting: Endorsing the Academic Planning
6	1st – 5th July	Second Public Lecture. Probation Papers from All Divisions are due.
7	8th – 12th	Candidate to the Ministry Requirements Papers and Relevant Documents are due.
8	15th – 19th	Faculty Meeting 15th Ministerial Meeting 18th Second <i>Talanoa</i> Session. Junior MYF Week.
9	22nd – 26th	Community Meeting
10	29th – 2 nd August	Small Committee Meeting. Faculty Meeting (Refer to below Agenda of the Ministerial Meeting)
11	5th – 9th	BOS Ministerial Meeting: Items important in these month's meeting is the BD Intake for 2025. The Launching of the Masters Degree in 2025; and the launching of the Masters Programme Intake for 2025. Pathways for the Masters Degree. Courses for the Masters Programme. Lecturers for the Masters Programme.
12	12th – 16th	
13	19th – 23rd	Reading Week Registration
14	19th – 23rd	Exam Week House, Compound & Flower Bed Inspection August 23rd – End of Term 2 in Fiji Schools. Annual Conference 24th August – 6th September.
S C H O O L B R E A K : 23th August – 8th September		
TERM 3		
	6th September	Faculty Meeting on Friday 6th at 9.30 am Arrival of Students on Saturday 7th September at 4 pm Worship at Baker Memorial Church on Sunday 8th September

1	9th – 13th	Ministerial Meeting 12th Lectures begin Due date for Diploma Project.
2	16th – 20th	16th Public Holiday: Prophet Mohamed's Birthday. Due date for BD Thesis.
3	23rd – 27th	Third <i>Talanoa</i> Session.
4	30th – 4th October	World Federation Week: 1st – 4th. Fiji Day: 10th.
5	7th -11th	Arrival of the Missionary: 7th – 13th October: <i>Cabe ni Lotu</i> 12th. Celebrating the arrival of Christianity & Methodism: Service to be conducted Fiji wide <i>*A Keynote Speaker will be invited to speak on this Historical Development in Fiji over time.</i> Evangelism Week: 9th - 13th.
6	14th – 18th	Faculty Meeting 14th Ministerial 16th Third Public Lecture
7	21st – 25th	Social Services Week, Dilkusha Girls Home, Veilomani Boys Home, Correctional & Hospital 21st – 27th. Second Fun Day for DTC Community. House, Compound & Flower Bed Inspection.
8	28th – 1st November	Community Meeting.
9	4th – 8th	
10	11th – 15th	Reading Week. Faculty Meting 11th. Small Committee Meeting.
11	18th – 22nd	Exam
12	25th – 29th	BOS: Vetting of All Grades from both Academic Streams College Feast
13	2nd – 6th December	Ministerial Meeting to Endorse Vetting from BOS. Graduation. College Break for Christmas.
School Break – 6th December 2024 – Christmas Holiday		

Important Conference Sundays and Weeks

- The College will observe these events in such a way that it does not disrupt normal classes.
- Students may be involved in Conference Departmental Weeks such as Easter, MYF and Family, but must make sure that they attend classes and keep up with the requirements of their courses.

Republic of Fiji Public Holidays

- The College will observe the public holiday dates marked in our Calendar.