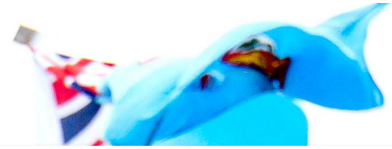




FIJI NATIONAL
UNIVERSITY

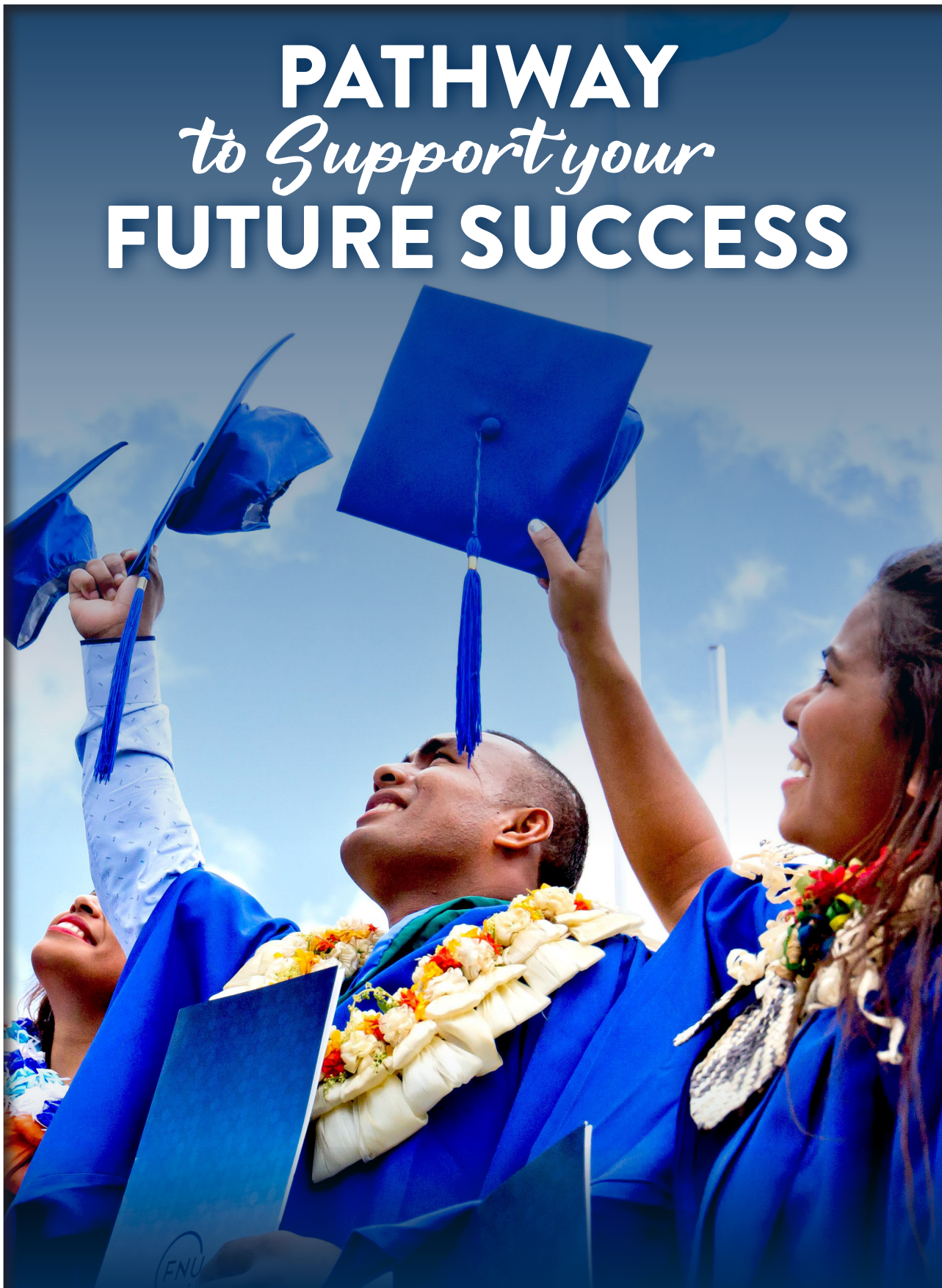
FNU **NIKUA**



PATHWAY *to Support your* FUTURE SUCCESS

ISSUE NO. 01

JANUARY, 2022



PREPARE YOURSELF FOR A
FULFILLING CAREER:
VC PROFESSOR WILKINSON

EVANGELISTA ESTABLISHES
BUSINESS FOLLOWING SKILLS
GAINED FROM FNU



PREPARE YOURSELF FOR A FULFILLING CAREER



The world of work is changing fast.

Even before the COVID-19 pandemic hit in early 2020, industrial digitalisation (sometimes called ‘the fourth industrial revolution’ or Industry 4.0) was radically disrupting whole sectors of the economy, by automating processes that were previously carried out manually. And the pandemic has not halted Industry 4.0, it has accelerated it.

As the world has moved online in response to COVID-19, so businesses have discovered they have to automate and digitise in order to survive. As a result, in just a few years’ time, computers and robots, with the aid of machine learning and artificial intelligence (AI), will carry out many of the tasks that humans perform today – not just in manufacturing, but also in service industries like accountancy and retail, and even in professions like medicine and law.

Most of today’s manual jobs, and many of today’s professional jobs, won’t exist in 20 years’ time.

In their place, new jobs will be created. The United Nations estimates that 60% of children at school today will earn their living doing jobs

that don’t yet exist – jobs we can’t yet imagine, but which will certainly require new skills and competencies, like data analysis. Uniquely human abilities that computers and robots cannot replicate – like creativity, critical thinking and teamwork – will be even more important than they are now.

That is why tertiary studies are the best pathway to support your future success.

Whether you choose technical and vocational education and training (TVET) or higher education (HE), university will teach you the skills you need to succeed – not just today, but tomorrow and throughout the whole of your career. Unlike school, university teaches you how to think, not what to think – to prepare you for a future that will be very different from today. School gives you the right answers, but university encourages you to ask the right questions – to develop your critical thinking skills.

TVET and HE courses train you for today’s jobs while also preparing you for tomorrow’s jobs.

None of us has a crystal ball – we cannot predict

the future. Nobody could have predicted the COVID-19 pandemic, nor the way in which it would disrupt our economies and societies. The only thing that is certain about the future is that it will see further disruptions to our lives and livelihoods. The people who will succeed in an uncertain world are those with the flexibility, adaptability and curiosity to discover and exploit the new opportunities that open up.

If you want a pathway to future success, you need to learn to embrace change.

At FNU, all our courses are informed by the latest thinking – looking to the future – but rooted in the real-world, with industry experience a hallmark of our TVET and HE programmes. By studying with us, you will prepare yourself for a fulfilling career, and develop the skills you need to survive and thrive in a changing world.

We look forward to working with you to future-proof your success. Welcome to the Fiji National University.

**Professor Toby Wilkinson,
Vice-Chancellor.**

How to Apply at the Fiji National University

Prospective students can send their application for both the Higher Education programmes as well as the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) courses by logging on to our website www.fnu.ac.fj.

Admission for Semester 1, Quarter 1 and Trimester 1, 2022 is currently underway and interested students can apply via the Admission Application portal on the FNU website.

Click on www.fnu.ac.fj/study/apply to apply

Registration for continuing students will close on Tuesday 15th February, 2022.

The following certified true copy of the documents will be required to process the application:

- Birth Certificate
- TIN Letter/FRCA Card
- Passport size photo
- Tertiary qualification results (if applicable)
- Reference from the employer (if applicable)
- Passport copy of Biodata page for: International and Regional students

- Affidavit of Parental Consent (if you are under 18 years of age as at 21st March 2022)
- Secondary school results (index number to be filled in the application)

For enquiries students can contact the Academic Team through email: admission@fnu.ac.fj,
Mobile: 9555760, Toll Free Text: 857

New direction for Aisea Toribau

Fiji National University (FNU) graduate Aisea Toribau described his graduation celebration earlier this month as ‘life’s most jovial and special day for him and his entire family.’

Toribau has proudly become the lone family member to have attained a tertiary qualification. He graduated from FNU’s College of Business, Hospitality and Tourism Studies (CBHTS) with a Bachelor of Commerce in Industrial Relations and Human Resource Management.

“I am the eldest in the family of six siblings and I take pride in where I have reached today. I am ecstatic to realise that my younger brothers and sisters will look upon me as a positive influence in their lives,” stated Toribau.

The 26-year-old has worked as a Bank Teller at Westpac Banking Corporation and took multiple roles at Digicel and Unwired Fiji which included retail executive, outbound caller agent, and a corporate care agent before his transition into full-time studies.

Life has not been a bed of roses for the new graduate. “I was once incarcerated and there was fear of how people will judge me for my past situations. I have also been at a point where I did not have real friends. With continuous encouragement from my immediate family members and with the grace of the Lord I was able to lift myself and give a new direction to my life.”

Toribau added that aside from the usual challenges of completing a degree – multiple assignments, readings and competing deadlines - there were also many highlights during his education journey.

“Adapting to a new environment, from a full-time employee to a full-time student was challenging at first, however I have made lifelong friends at the university.”

“One of the most unforgettable moments was when one of our dear colleague passed away and we were finding it really difficult to arrange for a bus service to his funeral. I took our plight to the University Registrar

and she instantly approved our request. Still thankful for her kind gesture,” he shared.

Toribau recommends FNU’s Bachelor of Commerce in Industrial Relations and Human Resource Management programme for aspiring students.

“The skills and knowledge gained from the three-year Bachelors programme has equipped me for a career in any of the diverse fields of management in the industry, commerce, non-profit and government organisations.”

The FNU alumni has also represented Fiji in the Global Goals Model United Nations held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 2019, which provided him with a platform to inculcate public speaking, diplomacy and negotiation skills along with youth from all around the world.

He believes it was a combination of passion and dedication to get to where he is today.

Not letting his past become a deterrent to his future success was Toribau’s motto and this is something which he has highlighted to the current and prospective students.

“I have overcome the biggest hurdle in my life and so can you. Even if you fall down 100 times, stand up 101th time. Do not give up. Keep pushing and keep learning. In all these, make sure you believe in yourself.”

Prospective students who wish to study Bachelor of Commerce in Industrial Relations and Human Resource Management or any other programmes at FNU are encouraged to Apply Now for Semester 1, 2022 studies via the Admission Application portal on the FNU website. Click on <https://www.fnu.ac.fj/study/apply/>

Students can also text on **857** or email on admission@fnu.ac.fj if they face difficulties completing the process online or need further admission information.



Evangelista establishes business following skills gained from FNU



After attaining knowledge and experience through the short course in baking and pâtisserie at the Fiji National University’s (FNU) National Training and Productivity Centre (NTPC), Gina Reyes Evangelista has established a bakery in Ba called GCakes and Sweets Delight.

The 54-year-old, originally from the Philippines, came to Fiji in 2012 with her husband, Dr Joel Evangelista who is working as an Operational Manager in Rooster Poultry in Navau, Ba. Initially, the move to Fiji was solely for job purposes however, she eventually settled in Fiji and later chose to start her own business.

“Fiji is a beautiful place with friendly people, and I fell in love with the nation and its culture, so I decided to try my hand at baking and pâtisserie. I was able to obtain information on the classes, and there was no turning back for me after that. I joined NTPC, and I was lucky to gain the qualification and experience at the same time,” she added.

“I reside in Ba and had to go to Nadi four times a week for theoretical and practical training. I’m delighted I made it in a foreign country, and now I’m giving it back to the country and its people, who have shown us love and made us feel at home.”

“Now that we have dual citizenship, we want to develop our business and hire additional workers to help us meet the demands of the customers. I was inspired to establish the firm by a friend, and it was then that I decided to pursue academic qualifications so that I could deliver the greatest services and goods to my loyal

consumers.”

She expressed her desire to create a similar business in the Philippines, citing her expertise and knowledge of baking and pâtisserie.

“With time, I have gained knowledge and learned about other recipes and items that may become famous in the Philippines. This is a long-term ambition that is a part of my company’s plan, and hopefully, it will become a reality one day.”

Life, according to Evangelista, is about discovering new things along the way.

She emphasised that “one should always be prepared to sail into uncharted seas, to encounter hurdles, and to have the patience to convert those obstacles into accomplishments,” she said.

“By doing so, you will be able to identify your strengths and flaws, and you will be able to become a better and more successful person. I never imagined that one day I would launch a business in another country.”

“I am grateful to the people for their love and support, and it is because of their encouraging words that I have been able to go above and beyond in life. If you believe you are too small to overcome challenges, you have never tried and will never achieve your full potential.”

Students who wish to pursue a short course in baking and pâtisserie or any other courses at FNU’s National Training and Productivity Centre (NTPC) are encouraged to contact the NTPC via email info.ntpc@fnu.ac.fj or mobile +679 2417779.



Single mom breaks barriers and excels academically

Education (CHE).

“Teachers are influential community members who are able to make a difference to young people and their learning, knowledge and skill acquisition and this has influenced me to establish a career in this field. I studied at FNU’s Natabua Campus. Every lecture was worth attending and they were the most interactive sessions I have had,” mentioned Qica.

Two years into her studies, Qica had to overcome ordeals due to her unplanned pregnancy but the strong-willed alumna did not give up.

“My parents have been my pillar of strength in this difficult phase of life. My mother told me to continue with my studies although it meant attending classes while being heavily pregnant with my baby girl. She was confident that I am strong enough to face the tribulation. I would also like to thank my father, who accepted and provided for me and my daughter,” she stated.

“My peers and educators were also very supportive and I am beyond blessed to have crossed paths with people who have continuously inspired me to become a better version of myself.”

There are many skills that Qica took from her studies that have held her in good stead throughout her tertiary journey so far including discipline, the importance of professionalism and effective communication skills.

“With a step closer to reaching my goal of becoming a teacher, I feel I have become more confident than ever. My journey so far has been one of experience and development, where I am continually learning a lot about myself.”

The young graduate stated that the FNU Bachelor of Education (Secondary) in English and i-taukei studies has provided her with the necessary skills and knowledge to be eligible to become a teacher.

“Despite the uncertainties faced whether it was personal or education-related due to the new normal of learning during COVID restrictions, I was able to learn and develop each day.”

Qica hopes to inspire other students and help them believe they can achieve their dreams too.

“Do not run away from difficult situations, face it and you will come out stronger than you imagined.”

Prospective students who wish to study Bachelor of Education (Secondary) in English and i-taukei studies or any other programmes at FNU are encouraged to Apply Now for Semester 1, 2022 studies via the Admission Application portal on the FNU website. Click on <https://www.fnu.ac.fj/study/apply/>

Students can also text on 857 or email on admission@fnu.ac.fj if they face difficulties completing the process online or need further admission information.

Before she even started university study, Lita Rokovora Qica had already imagined herself standing in front of a classroom encouraging the future generation by sharing words of wisdom and motivation.

Qica is now fully equipped and ready to transition into the workforce as a secondary school teacher after graduating with a Bachelor of Education (Secondary) in English and i-taukei studies from the Fiji National University’s (FNU) College of Humanities and

Pillay pursues an interest in architecture

Undertaking a Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) course at the Fiji National University (FNU) enables students to gain industry-relevant skills and knowledge within a quicker timeframe and be workforce-ready, according to FNU graduate Jason Pillay.

The 22-year-old from Lautoka said he developed an immense interest in architecture when he was in high school. He was overjoyed to learn later that FNU had a programme that suited his interest. Pillay enrolled in the Diploma in Architectural Drafting offered at the University’s College of Engineering, Science and Technology (CEST) at Derrick Campus in Suva.

“I took the opportunity to gain qualifications in this field and I believe it is important that people choose a field they have great interest in,” Pillay said. “My learning experience was a positive and enriching one. I was able to transition and cope well at FNU because of the great learning environment.”

“The academic and support services, as well as the resources available on campus whilst studying and doing assignments were also beneficial.”

Pillay said he was able to balance his studies with family time by travelling to the West during the weekends after completing his school assessments.

“I am grateful my family have always been supportive and encouraged me to follow my dreams,” he said.



“The lecturers in my course were also approachable and would explain concepts in an alternative way if needed so that I could understand things better.”

“This is an interesting and exciting field and I plan to continuously upgrade my qualifications and become a highly qualified Architectural draftsman,” Pillay stated.

He is currently a technical Architectural draftsman at TropicX Design Studio in Nadi and assists his seniors with drawings and amendments, site visits and inspections and prepares reports and documentation.

Students completing or have completed Year 12 or 13 have the opportunity to undergo Semester 1, 2022 studies in the Diploma in Architectural Drafting or any other TVET course at FNU through the 5,000 Tertiary Scholarships and Loans Service (TSLs) placements.

Offered through the University’s TVET Pasifika, these courses are Certificate III, Certificate IV and Diploma level qualifications.

Students eligible for TSLs-funded studies must have successfully completed Year 12 with a minimum mark of 200/400 or completed Level I and II studies from the Technical College of Fiji.

Students can visit our website on www.fnu.ac.fj to learn more about our programmes and submit an online application.

Naisoro lauds TVET studies at FNU

Fiji National University (FNU) graduate Kaliova Naisoro believes that the study programmes offered by the FNU’s National Training and Productivity Centre (NTPC) through its TVET stream have played a significant role in the innovation and development of Fiji and the Pacific region.

Naisoro successfully completed a short course in the welding and fabrication programme at NTPC.

“I attended the NTPC, Naceva Campus in 2015, it was a great experience and a challenge to be in a class where 70 per cent of the sessions were hands-on and competency practicum based,” he said.

“I enjoyed this experience. It provided me with an opportunity and introduced me to

the world of engineering (welding and fabrication). There are many things I liked about this trade, but most importantly, the learning environment. I was able to attain the right skills and knowledge during class sessions.”

“Spending time in the workshop, putting things into practice, was the best experience ever with the NTPC. After the programme, I started working with Elia Engineering Services (EES) for three months as a work attaché, and I never regret grabbing other work opportunities.”

“I can guarantee students who are planning to pursue studies in welding and fabrication that NTPC will provide

them with an industrial touch that will transform them to be ready for the industry.”

24-year-old Naisoro said TVET programmes are the backbone of the trade industry in Fiji and the region.

“TVET programmes are in high demand both locally and internationally, and the industries that fall under TVET pay highly for trade-qualified people,” he said.

“We are lucky to have training institutes such as FNU that provide a variety of TVET programmes and create highly trained graduates who have gone on to become successful businesses or who are doing well in the workplace.”

“There is a scarcity of qualified and skilled tradespeople, which has generated a need. I plan to take advantage of this

by learning a new craft that will allow me to provide additional services.”

“It is always good to learn from the best, and in my studies, I am blessed that NTPC provided me with the opportunity to become the best with the courses and programmes they offer. Undoubtedly, they provide the path to a stable career.”

Students who wish to pursue a short course in welding and fabrication or any other courses at FNU’s National Training and Productivity Centre (NTPC) are encouraged to contact the NTPC via email

info.ntpc@fnu.ac.fj or mobile +679 2417779.



Prasad praises FNU for providing a pathway in teaching

From a young age, Sheemal Bandana Prasad was geared to help shape the lives of future generations, and a Higher Diploma in Education from Fiji National University (FNU) gave her the foundation for a wonderful career launch in education.

The 28-year-old graduated from FNU with a Higher Diploma in Education in 2013 and a Bachelor of Education (Primary) in 2014.

According to Prasad, the lessons she learned as a student contributed to her future success in education.

“FNU’s teaching was spot on with trends in education; what I was learning at FNU directly translated into the classroom where I was teaching. It was great to be able to implement my new skills right away,” she said.

“I genuinely enjoyed my first teaching posting at Levuka Public Primary School in Levuka, Ovalau. The knowledge I gained at FNU thoroughly prepared me for a teaching post in the maritime zone. I learned so much from the experienced lecturers, and all of the experiences I had helped shape me into the person and teacher I am today, said the Nadi native.

After teaching in the maritime zone for five years, Prasad was transferred to teach at Mount Saint Mary’s School in Nadi in 2020, which led her to upgrade her studies further. Last year she completed her Post Graduate Diploma in Education and is currently enrolled in the Masters of Education programme at FNU’s College of Humanities and Education (CHE) at Natabua Campus, Lautoka.

According to Prasad, her University preference was always FNU, and she was confident that she was being prepared well for a fulfilling career.

“At FNU, I learnt that education for students in the classroom is not one size fits all. It taught me that there

are a lot of factors that can affect students that hinders their learning, but a teacher can make an impact and difference in a child’s life. In most homes, children are not treated as children but seen as adults, so as teachers, we need to let them be children while being responsible. Therefore, it taught me that it is vital to understand the child and what are they going through so assistance provided can be fruitful,” she explained.

Prasad emphasised that she enjoyed her studies at FNU as faculty members were approachable and always ready to assist.

“At FNU, you will find the lecturers care about you and will help you reach your best self. It is a university where being creative is encouraged and nurtured. It teaches you to be selfless and believes in giving back to the community; if you believe that children are our future and best nurtured when young- this is the university to go to,” she adds.

Prasad’s advice to prospective students is to trust in their skills.

“FNU taught me that teaching is a noble profession and that teachers have the power to influence and bring out the best from the children under their care.”

Prospective students who wish to study Bachelor of Education (Primary), Post Graduate Diploma in Education, Masters of Education or any other programmes at FNU are encouraged to Apply Now for Semester 1, 2022 studies via the Admission Application portal on the FNU website. Click on

<https://www.fnu.ac.fj/study/apply/>

Students can also text on 857 or email on

admission@fnu.ac.fj if they face difficulties completing the process online or need further admission information.



Nisha thrives in the hairdressing industry

As a youngster, Shyna Shagufta Nisha always played and styled her family members hair. She could sit for hours and make something with bobby pins or braid her doll’s hair. To fulfil her lifelong passion that started in her early childhood, she decided to pursue studies in hairdressing at Fiji National University’s (FNU) College of Humanities and Education (CHE).

After graduating in 2018, Nisha is now a successful senior hairdresser and manager of Hair Lounge salon located at Sports City, Suva. She attributes her success to knowledge gained from her studies in Certificate III in Hairdressing from FNU.

“The Certificate III in Hairdressing programme at FNU is focused on the real world and relevant contexts that make students highly skilled and be ready by meeting industry benchmarks. Going through the programme gave me the required skills that I could use immediately and encouraged me to think diversely,” she said.

The proud FNU alumna said she enjoyed her studies as the hairdressing programme delivered all the practical and creative skills that she needed for exciting career opportunities.

“My tutors were very supportive. They made learning enjoyable as they ensured we were taught in a way that we understood. I really enjoy learning new things every day and spending time with my classmates.”

“Being a hairdresser provides a genuine opportunity to touch the lives of people in more ways than one. At FNU, I learned that I could influence my customers’ social lives and shape their personalities as a hairdresser. A good look and a new feel could motivate them to look forward to their professional and social lives.”

“With the ability to touch and change lives at an intimate level, to influence customer motivation, and



to deliver services that customer’s value, hairdressing is an immensely satisfying and emotionally rewarding profession,” she adds.

The former Nasinu Muslim College student said she was attracted to FNU for hairdressing studies because of the practical component element attached to the programme.

“The Certificate III hairdressing programme had developed my knowledge and skills in basic hair cutting, managing salon and my understanding of hair products to meet the needs of the customers. I was able to get real-life experience before graduating. So when I graduated, it was easy for me to get a job as I already had experience working in a hair salon.”

Nisha, who plans to own a hair salon in the near future, has encouraged students to pursue the hairdressing programme at FNU.

“At FNU, you will have access to professionally equipped facilities, including salons, cutting stations and industry-standard equipment. Working with skilled tutors with years of first-hand experience, you’ll learn skills, techniques and treatments that are in trend.”

Students completing or have completed Year 12 or 13 have the opportunity to undergo Semester 1, 2022 studies in the Certificate III in Hairdressing or any other TVET course at FNU through the 5,000 Tertiary Scholarships and Loans Service (TSLs) placements.

Offered through the University’s TVET Pasifika, these courses are Certificate III, Certificate IV and Diploma level qualifications.

Students eligible for TSLs-funded studies must have successfully completed Year 12 with a minimum mark of 200/400 or completed Level I and II studies from the Technical College of Fiji.

Applications for Semester 1, 2022 studies at FNU are now open. Students can visit our website on www.fnu.ac.fj to learn more about our programmes and submit an online application.

Nakaora achieves academic dream at FNU



Although it took a few years due to personal commitments, Viktoria Maria Nakaora relentlessly pursued her dream of attaining a tertiary qualification from the Fiji National University (FNU).

Following her completion of secondary studies at Dudley High School in 1999, Nakaora began full-time work the following year to support her parents and siblings.

“This was a choice I made to care for my family. However, I also worked towards the goal of being able to pay for my university studies. My motivation was my late parents who were always encouraging me to achieve more than they could,” she shared.

“I enrolled in the Diploma in Business (Office Administration) at the then Fiji Institute of Technology (FIT), which is now known as the University’s College of Business, Hospitality and Tourism Studies (CBHTS). I chose this qualification because I had my goal set on being Senior Administrative Officer in an organisation.”

“I believe in the phrase ‘Studying is the Key to Success’, and this was my motivation at FNU because I would always challenge myself to understand and be able to practically apply everything I had learnt during my academic journey.”

The mother-of-two said she was grateful to her late parents and supportive family for helping her overcome the hardships in order to eventually graduate, despite

the period it took.

Nakaora graduated with her Diploma in August 2021 and is currently employed as a Clerical Officer, Recruitment & Selection Unit with the Ministry of Infrastructure and Meteorological Services.

She has also supported her husband at FNU, who has graduated with a Certificate IV in Fitting and Machinery and is currently employed at Pernix Fiji.

Her advice to prospective, continuing and graduate students were to listen and adhere to instructions, always ask questions and learn from your mistakes.

Students completing or have completed Year 12 or 13 have the opportunity to undergo Semester 1, 2022 studies in any TVET course at FNU through the 5,000 Tertiary Scholarships and Loans Service (TSLS) placements.

Offered through the University’s TVET Pasifika, these courses are Certificate III, Certificate IV and Diploma level qualifications.

Students eligible for TSLS-funded studies must have successfully completed Year 12 with a minimum mark of 200/400 or completed Level I and II studies from the Technical College of Fiji.

Applications for Semester 1, 2022 studies at FNU are now open.

Students can visit our website on www.fnu.ac.fj to learn more about our programmes and submit an online application.

Ram specialises in Computer and Information Systems



Sidhant Ulash Ram was interested in the world of technology from a young age and knew he would one day build a career in this field.

To achieve his dream, the Ba lad enrolled at the Fiji National University (FNU) after completing his high school studies at A.D Patel College in Ba.

Ram opted to enrol in the Bachelor of Science (Computer Science and Information Systems) programme that was offered by the University’s College of Engineering, Science and Technology (CEST). He undertook his studies at the Natabua Campus in Lautoka.

“Computer Science and Information Systems consists of various crucial components of the technological world and offered multiple career opportunities,” Ram stated.

“This is why I chose this area of study, as my interests were in the field of Database Administration and Networking.”

“Throughout my university days at FNU, my overall experience as a student could be best described as transformative,” Ram said.

“FNU catered to my avid enthusiasm to learn new concepts and excel in every aspect of my studies.”

“The environment, facilities and resources provided by FNU also contributed immensely to my campus life experience.”

Ram said an added incentive at FNU was being taught by qualified and industry-knowledgeable lecturers who blended the theoretical and practical classes with their own expertise.

“I believe this prepared me to be a successful graduate and to enter the workforce confident and qualified,” he said.

“The compulsory industrial attachment component of FNU’s courses also ensured we were well-versed with current industry needs and demands.”

In addition, Ram also completed a Windows Server Administration Certification from FNU’s National Training and Productivity Centre (NTPC).

After graduating from FNU last year, Ram was employed by Energy Fiji Limited (EFL) as an IT Technician.

“I feel fortunate that I am able to work amidst the COVID-19 pandemic,” he said.

“In this role, I am primarily responsible for the daily maintenance of IT systems and this includes network switch administration, server administration and user support.”

“I enjoy my current work as I am always provided with learning opportunities from my seniors and the entire IT team in a conducive and supportive environment.”

He acknowledged his supportive extended family for their motivation during his studies, as well as his

peers and lecturers.

Ram was also the Gold Medal recipient of his programme from the August 2021 graduating class.

“Time management was key to this. It is crucial to have a balanced student life so that you are able to enjoy both your social and academic life,” he shared.

“Students, or anyone for that matter, must also remember that there really is no replacement for hard work.”

His advice to incoming and current students is to be “an honest and innovative team player”.

Prospective students who wish to study Bachelor of Science (Computer Science and Information Systems) or any other programmes at FNU are encouraged to Apply Now for Semester 1, 2022 studies via the Admission Application portal on the FNU website. Click on <https://www.fnu.ac.fj/study/apply/>

Students can also text on 857 or email on admission@fnu.ac.fj if they face difficulties completing the process online or need further admission information.

Singh balances work, life, and a postgraduate study

Veena Singh has been an advocate of gender equality, social inclusion, women's peace and security and human rights for over fifteen years and has now added a Postgraduate Diploma in Social Policy from the Fiji National University (FNU) into the mix.

Singh, a feminist development practitioner currently works as the Research Officer at the Pacific Community's (SPC) Human Rights and Social Division. She recently graduated from FNU's College of Humanities and Education (CHE).

"I wanted to participate in a field of study that went beyond the textbooks, one that would give me the opportunity to learn, to expand my knowledge base and to also challenge me. The way the programme was structured gave me the flexibility to balance work, life, and a postgraduate study. My professor and lecturer created an enabling environment to learn and were very supportive of my learning and development," stated Singh.

She selected the Postgraduate Diploma in Social Policy programme as it aligned to exactly what she wanted to pursue.

"I was given the opportunity to discuss my future learning plans with my lecturer and professor. So, I suppose the supportive encouragement to learn in an institution like FNU started even before I confirmed and enrolled for the programme. I think the human side of learning that goes beyond systems, paperwork and textbooks came first and was a priority, and very evident through my engagements and this was what had drawn me to FNU and to my chosen area of study," added Singh.

The FNU alumna added that her postgraduate qualification has equipped her with additional skills and value which has enriched her overall professional work experience.

"Now I have in-depth knowledge, strengthened capabilities, analysis, and research skills on social policy. I got to learn more about social policy discourses, philosophical arguments, and have also been able to access journals, academic papers, and critiques on various aspects of social policy."

"I would most definitely encourage incoming students to enrol in this programme. If you are coming in with a teachable and learning attitude then you will learn so much, and more. Having great educators and peers just makes the learning process more fun and bearable especially for someone like me who was juggling full-time work, health, managing home and family life amidst other life commitments."

Sharing some sage words of advice, Singh encouraged the students to "Be teachable, always be curious about learning and be humble"

"It is never too late to study and you are never too old to graduate. Also, surround yourself with different types of diverse people who will introduce you to different or new concepts, new ways of doing things, and those that will allow you access to various knowledge systems that may not be readily available to you."

Prospective students who wish to study Postgraduate Diploma in Social Policy or any other programmes at FNU are encouraged to Apply Now for Semester 1, 2022 studies via the Admission Application portal on the FNU website. Click on

<https://www.fnu.ac.fj/study/apply/>



Students can also text on 857 or email on admission@fnu.ac.fj if they face difficulties completing the process online or need further admission information.

Undertake a free Reskilling and Upskilling Short Course at FNU

Eligible Fijians can undertake a free short course at the Fiji National University (FNU) as part of the Fijian Government's reskilling and upskilling initiative. As announced in the 2021 National Budget, the Government allocated \$1 million to the national University to assist those who lost their employment due to the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. This would assist eligible Fijians with re-employment and or entrepreneurial ventures.

To qualify for the free Reskilling and Upskilling placement at FNU, prospective students will have to submit a Statutory Declaration of unemployability due to COVID-19, a

valid photo ID, TIN details along with their birth certificate.

All applications are to be submitted by 11 February 2022. Visit this link to complete the form: www.fnu.ac.fj/study/apply

The eight-week short courses will begin in March.

The courses offered are as follows:



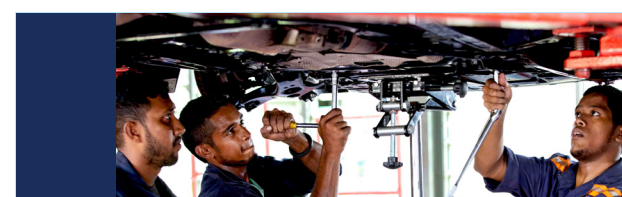
National Training and Productivity Centre

- Management Development and Leadership – Hospitality
- Manage Payroll
- Strategic Planning, Effective Budgeting and Cost Control
- Construction Fundamentals
- Plumbing Basics
- Tile Laying
- Brick Laying
- Plastering Basics



College of Business, Hospitality and Tourism Studies

- Business Startups
- E-Commercial and Digital Marketing
- Sustainable Tourism
- New Tourism Soft Skills
- Basic Operations in a Call Centre



College of Engineering, Science and Technology

- Analysis of Cloud Data Management
- Office Automation
- Diagnose and Repair AHVAC
- Cyber Security Digital Platform
- Data Communication and Networking
- Engineering Project Management
- Explore the Uses and Applications of Artificial Intelligence
- Professional Certificate in Vehicle Inspection

For further information or clarification visit www.fnu.ac.fj or contact the following staff:

Pritika Mala	pratika.m@fnu.ac.fj	General enquiries
Eric Jioji	eric.jioje@fnu.ac.fj	Business and Hospitality courses
Vasenai Kerani	vasenai.kerani@fnu.ac.fj	Engineering courses
Sanjeshni Reddy	info.ntpc@fnu.ac.fj	NTPC courses

Satendra shares studio experience

As a creative person, Shahil Sajnish Satendra gets to enjoy being in a profession that enables him to lead and create engaging, interactive, informative and entertaining content for people to enjoy.

With an eye for detail, Satendra has worked in the film and production field for six years and is grateful he was able to receive the necessary qualifications aligned to his interests from the Fiji National University (FNU).

Education

Satendra attended Rishikul Primary School and Rishikul Sanatan College before enrolling in the Certificate IV in Film and Television Production at FNU's College of Humanities and Education (CHE).

"I was grateful that a friend recommended this course after hearing about my interest in this field," Satendra said.

"After quick research, I enrolled in the programme and had a very rewarding tertiary experience at FNU."

"I created a lot of networks during my studies and had the opportunity to be part of various international production houses that filmed in Fiji. This was part of my attachment to gain first-hand industry experience."

"As a student, one of my highlights was having the opportunity to direct and interview with the then Vice-Chancellor of FNU, Professor Nigel Healey. This enabled my colleagues and me to put into practice our theoretical work regarding film and television production."

Satendra also has prior qualifications from the University of the South Pacific.

Offered at FNU's Nasinu Campus in Suva, the Certificate course provides students with basic and secondary knowledge of Direction & Production, Editing & Sound Design, Cinematography, Script and Screenplay Writing, Entrepreneurship and Communication and Entrepreneurship and Ethics.

Career

Following his graduation from FNU in 2018, Satendra began work at the Fiji Television Limited as a Promo Producer. He has also worked as a Graphic Artist and Creative Director at Fiji TV.

"During my time at Fiji TV, I did the entire animation and graphics work for the Fiji Sports Awards in 2018," he said.

"I was also responsible for all the graphics work during the 2018 General Elections."



In 2019, Satendra joined the Fijian Broadcasting Corporation (FBC) as a Production Assistant. His skills, knowledge and experience have enabled Satendra to progress in his career at FBC to being a Video Editor, Promo Producer and now as a Studio Director.

"My current job requires me to direct all the local production shows and live news segments. I was part of FBS's first-ever live morning news segment on TV at 6:15 am," he said.

"I am also involved in other aspects of work such as editing and shooting."

"During my checking of news stories, I have to make sure the stories are edited properly, confirm the names of talents (people) in the stories, be mindful of the audio levels and make sure all shots are taken in accordance with FBC's standards and requirements."

Satendra said he would also assign crew members to certain roles for news, such as sound person, playout person, graphics, assistants and those responsible for auto cue.

"I also ensure that everyone is in the studio on time and all the necessary checks are done at least one hour before going live."

It is clear that Satendra is passionate about his work. Without hesitation, he also credits his success to his mother and sister, who he said have both supported and helped him overcome the challenges he has faced in life.

He one day hopes to own a multimedia company and share his knowledge with others.

Words of Wisdom

Satendra shared that three simple yet effective approaches to starting out and progressing in one's

career is to "ask plenty of questions if you're unclear, be focused and achieve objectives and to always have a positive mindset".

"Work hard and follow your dreams," he added. "Even if others try and discourage or persuade you to follow a direct career path, be firm in following your own interests and turn it into a qualification or means through which you would earn an income from to support yourselves and your families."

Satendra said FNU had also instilled in him the confidence he needed in his professional and personal life.

"Being confident in your knowledge and experience will allow you to progress in life."

Study at FNU

Students completing or have completed Year 12 or 13 have the opportunity to undergo Semester 1, 2022 studies in the Diploma in Land Surveying or any other TVET course at FNU through the 5,000 Tertiary Scholarships and Loans Service (TSLs) placements.

Offered through the University's TVET Pasifika, these courses are Certificate III, Certificate IV and Diploma level qualifications.

Students eligible for TSLs-funded studies must have successfully completed Year 12 with a minimum mark of 200/400 or completed Level I and II studies from the Technical College of Fiji.

Applications for Semester 1, 2022 studies at FNU are now open.

Students can visit our website on www.fnu.ac.fj to learn more about our programmes and submit an online application.

The Fiji National University's Nikua is a monthly newsletter which aims to promote the University's activities to the wider community.

This newsletter is produced by the University Marketing and Communications team.

For views or comments please email mprc@fnu.ac.fj or contact 3394000.

Publisher: Fiji National University | Editor: Ranbeer Singh | Design & Layout: Vetaia Dakua | Division Head: Director Marketing and Communications Karen Lobendahn
Writers: Saleshni Chaudhary, Shireen Lata, Charlene Lanyon, Pravin Narain | Contributors: Professor Toby Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor

FNU NIKUA wants to hear from you

FNU NIKUA welcomes submissions by staff and students for publication in the newsletter. Please send your suggestions, comments or articles for consideration to mprc@fnu.ac.fj



Published in partnership with

