

15 April, 2011

More than 1000 Fiji National University students graduated in a ceremony held at the Vodafone Arena in Suva today.

The first group of students graduating from the University's National Training and Productivity Centre took part in the ceremony. The Centre runs many of the University's short courses.

Among those who received awards and prizes was Mohammed Zhoer Aiyub.

Aiyub received a gold medal for being the best Fitting and Machining student at the School of Mechanical Engineering.

He was a full time student who also worked as an apprentice at Golden Manufacturers.

"It took me a lot of time to complete my studies because I was working and studying at the same time. It was a tough journey," he said.

Aiyub said the industry he was in was now seeing people with qualifications coming into the field. He was encouraging about others taking up a career in the area because there is a high demand for his sort of work, he said.

Rashmeen Nikisha Khan, who graduated with a Certificate in Hair Dressing and Beauty Therapy said she enjoyed transforming people's appearance.

"It's great to see satisfaction on the customer's face," she said.

Adi Alisi Lomasalalo graduated with Diploma in Nursing and said the graduation ceremony is a special moment in every student's life. But the most important thing was getting a job after graduation, she said. She was amongst the large group of excited new nurses who were anxious to find out where they were being posted.

"I am grateful that our postings will be confirmed after graduation and that I don't have to hunt for a job."

The 22 year old from Tailevu said she worked hard to achieve what she has.

Vitale Varo received a Postgraduate Certificate in Field Epidemiology.

"I am really happy with the course I have chosen," he said. Mr Varo is working as a health Inspector in Rakiraki. Students who received Gold Medals are:

- 1) Mohammed Zhoer Aiyub - School of Mechanical Engineering.
- 2) Ronil Ronit Chand - School of Electrical Engineering
- 3) Evon Prasad - Department of Accounting

Students receiving Special Awards from the School of Nursing are:

- 1) Callistus Fabian Naiqama
- 2) Powel Honoch Joseph Sahayam
- 3) Rahul Rajeev Prasad
- 4) Luisa Ratule
- 5) Luseni Ana Lesumailepanoni
- 6) Romika Riteshma Reddy
- 7) Jeenal Chauhan
- 8) Todua Mocevatukoula

Note: We do not have copies of the speech to hand out. You will need to record the addresses by the Minister and the Vice Chancellor.