

Thursday, 27 September, 2018

## Press Release

### Students display creativity in creation of teaching resources and teaching aids

There's always a use for items that is being disposed, one just has to think of a creative or innovative way to use it. These were the words of Fiji National University's (FNU) School of Education Lecturer Fesi Furivai to forty-seven students, who as part of the EDU561 - Enterprise, Innovation and Enrichment, had to create various art and craft work made from recycled materials.

The students who are currently enrolled in Bachelor of Education in Agricultural Science and Industrial Arts programme were given three weeks to come up with ideas for their displays and put them together.

"Most of you will go out to become teachers and community leaders and so it's important that you can encourage our future leaders to become creative, innovative as well as encourage them to become entrepreneurs," said Furivai.

The projects which were displayed at Nasinu Campus yesterday makes up 20 percent of the students course work.

The students will also use the model projects when they undertake their teaching attachments next year.

Some of the items on display included a typical farm house, integrated farming system models and livestock shed and economic development models. First year Bachelor of Education in Agricultural Science student Shayal Kumar said they took a week to research their displays and got together in teams to complete them.

"We used resources such as old cardboards, sticks, recycled bottles, straws, marbles and old toys. So preparing our model farmhouse and animal shed wasn't that costly. We also had a lot of fun making it," said Kumar.

Another student Manisha Prasad said she hopes to utilize the knowledge gained through this unit when she joins the workforce.

"We have to become innovative in the way we teach. I hope to create such models when I become a teacher in the future, so students will get more interested in learning new ideas and hopefully go on to become entrepreneurs," she said.

One of the other attractions was the interactive board games prepared by students using recycled materials.

"We have flip charts, puzzles and other quiz games which we can use to make students learn about their lessons in a more fun environment. It will be easy for students to understand because students have a playful mind," said first year Bachelor of Education in Industrial Arts student Elenoa Dimila.

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**About the Fiji National University:** The Fiji National University (FNU) was established through the merger of 7 government-owned tertiary institutions in Fiji, and commenced operations from 1 January 2010. The constituent institutions are found at over 40 different locations across Fiji, and collectively offer Certificates, Diplomas, Advanced Diplomas, Degrees, Postgraduate qualifications and Skills Upgrading for those who are already in employment. Approximately 30,000 students

pass through the University each year. Over the last six years of its operations, the University has registered major achievements with regard to new programme delivery, quality improvements and contribution to research and publications via its 5 Colleges: The College of Humanities & Education (CHE), the College of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences (CMNHS), the College of Engineering, Science & Technology (CEST), the College of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry (CAFF), the College of Business, Hospitality & Tourism Studies (CBHTS) and the National Training & Productivity Centre (NTPC).