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PRESS RELEASE

Young designer, big dreams

Suva, Fiji Islands.

Graphic artist Penioni Kolinisau, is excited about starting his new business after graduating from the Fiji National University.

The young lad, currently enrolled in the Certificate IV in Film & Television programme is one of the 90 students enrolled in the new *Entrepreneurship Matters* (EM) unit offered by the College of Humanities & Education (CHE).

The unique curricular is part of selected CHE certificate programmes that will assist graduates seek assistance from the government's Young Entrepreneurship Scheme (YES) to launch their small businesses upon graduation.

"I recently completed my Certificate IV in Graphics Design and I chose to enroll in Film & TV as I can see how the two programmes intertwined and because TV is big and a growing industry. I have done a few private jobs with some established signage companies with my designing knowledge and I hope to go further with my work in the future. I hope to establish myself first and learn from any TV firm, maybe FBC and then kick off my own business," said Mr Kolinisau.

The young designer is originally from Namuka-i-Lau and is pleased with the new unit and enjoys how the class is being conducted.

"I enjoy how Dr Nabalarua tries to come down to our level of understanding and make the class so interactive and interesting. It's good for us as young people to start thinking about how we can create our own business. I do private jobs, but I hope I can register my small business in the future. With funding and guidance I know I can make it in the long run."

Dean College of Humanities & Education and core unit facilitator, Dr Eci Nabalarua has challenged participants to absorb as much information as possible to support them in their different fields.

"This is a very exciting unit where students will learn about detailed business techniques that will help them start-off their own business. What we are trying to create is to teach our graduates be job creators and not job seekers," said Dr Nabalarua.

The Dean highlighted, EM will provide students with the necessary tools to use their skills and knowledge to operate a small business.

“Through this class we aim to educate and discuss ways to help you thrive in your own business. You need to know about business ethics and how you can turn your weakness into a strength that can propel your business further.”

Entrepreneurship Matters is aimed at:

- Equipping students in the trades with skills, knowledge and competencies on how to start a small business
- Responding to the government’s call to provide training in job creation rather than job seeking
- Providing opportunities for the emergence of young people in small businesses to help boost the economy
- Developing a cohort of graduates who will be trained in both content and business skills

EM is being offered as a unit for Certificate IV in Film & Television, Certificate IV in Graphics Design, Certificate IV in Graphic Arts, Certificate IV in Music, Certificate III in Hairdressing and Certificate IV in Sports Science.

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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).