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PRESS RELEASE

NTPC reaffirms its partnership with the Fiji Fashion Week

Suva, Fiji Islands. The Fiji National University (FNU) through the National Training and Productivity Centre (NTPC) has reaffirmed its partnership with Fiji Fashion Week (FFW) after having provided its training facilities at its Nadi and Nabua Campus to organisers of FFW free-of-charge to use for workshops for emerging designers as part of its sponsorship ahead of tomorrow's grand show in Suva.

NTPC Director, Dr Isimeli Tagicakiverata while commending the efforts of FFW organisers, said it was important for NTPC to support such initiatives as it assisted emerging fashion designers and enthusiasts to break into the national scene.

"The NTPC has been partnering with FFW for some years now and we are happy to continue with this arrangement. I'm informed by the organisers that there are several new designers this year who trained at our facility and this is absolutely good news for us," said Dr Tagicakiverata.

The 11th Fiji Fashion Week provides a platform for local and regional established and emerging designers to showcase their talents. It also provides an opportunity for young men and women to work as models and also get involved behind the scenes to assist with organization and marketing of the event.

Dr Tagicakiverata said NTPC has always had a good history in providing training in the garment industry and it has slowly branched out to offering short courses in fashion and design, pattern making, garment production, dressmaking, pattern making, sample hand, machinist or fashion designing.

He said NTPC will continue to work closely with its fashion industry partners and its Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) in promoting its short term trainings to ensure that these SMEs are well-equipped for the business world.

"Our short courses are vetted and endorsed by the Industry Advisory Committees (IACs) so that they remain relevant and current to our local industry's training needs," Dr Tagicakiverata said.

Fiji Fashion Week Managing Director Ellen Whippy-Knight commended the NTPC on its partnership and its vision by offering programmes in Fashion and Design.

"We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our sponsors who have come forward to support the local Fashion industry. Through this partnership we have been able to host our workshops and trainings at the NTPC centres," she said.

"This year we have six emerging designers, Jacquelyn Rosie Isaac, Seci Burese, Josefa Turaga, Alice Timbal and Kess Baleirara who have been part of the workshops held at NTPC and will be show casing their creativity."

Tomorrow's Events will start off with the Student Designer Show in the morning followed by the Resort Lux Show in the evening.

For more information contact: **Ana Niumataiwalu** | Information Officer | Office of the Director National Training & Productivity Centre P: +679 3311 004 | Ext: 4505 | 9986256 | Ana.Niumataiwalu@fnu.ac.fj

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).