

## Research arm at CMNHS receives significant funding from Global Alliance for Chronic Disease



(Standing middle, L-R) Dr Gade Waqa, Dr Donald Wilson, and Dr Jacqui Webster with other collaborative members.

Signing up as an apprentice with Wormald Fire & Security for 19-year-old Louise Farrell provides her with an opportunity to prove to critics that females are stepping up to take on roles in the growing electrical engineering industry.

Farrell is amongst five National Training and Productivity Centre (NTPC) students who signed contracts today signalling the beginning of a four-year paid training career.

Following her Certificate in Electrical Engineering at the Fiji National University (FNU), Farrell said she chose to train under Wormald given its reputation as an industry leader in Fiji and knowing the company will give her equal opportunities to grow.

“I know this is going to be a big challenge which I am willing to take up mostly to prove to people that there are women in Fiji eager to take up roles in this field,” shared an excited Farrell.

“In the next four years, I see myself graduating as an apprentice and making a career with this company by taking up all the experiences and opportunities that come my way.”

Speaking at the signing ceremony, NTPC Director Dr Isimeli Tagicakiverata advised trainees to train hard and work diligently.

He said that thousands had gone through the apprentice scheme over the years and became highly successful people, “you have an apprentice alumni reaching government minister level and many more became senior civil servants, as well as executives of corporations in

Fiji”.

“I must emphasise the importance of discipline, consistency and honesty. Listen to your supervisors and learn as much as possible. With this, you will be able to grow within the company and industry and you will have a bright future,” Dr Tagicakiverata said.

“This is a big commitment from the company (Wormald) as they have undertaken a big responsibility in taking you on so we need to ensure that you reciprocate by showing commitment to your role as well.”

Wormald Fire & Security General Manager, Rigamoto Taito while welcoming the new recruits said it was a pleasure to enter into the tripartite partnership.

He said apprenticeship schemes allows his organisation “more successfully tap into the employment market”.

“We really appreciate our history with NTPC as we have come a long way from doing basic training programmes into a venture such as this,” Taito said.

“When it comes to a specialised industry, it is important to try to get the training you get from the start aligned to what we doing out in the field as technologies rapidly change.”

The General Manager informed the apprentices they would be mentored and provided proper guidance to ensure a successful career.