

Tuisawau pursues a trade in Carpentry

Neli Tuisawau has a dream of helping people access decent housing. The twenty-one year old recently completed Certificate IV in Autocad from the National Training and Productivity Centre (NTPC) and has now enrolled with the College of Engineering, Science and Technology (CEST) to undertake Certificate III in Carpentry programme.



Neli Tuisawau (left) with her sibling after completing her enrollment at the FNU Derrick Campus Samabula.

Tuisawau, who is originally from Cicia, Lau said she realised her vision while growing up in the village. Her experience with a few cyclones which

caused destruction in the village further cemented her mission to ensure Fijian families have proper dwelling.

“I think having good housing is essential for everyone and it’s my dream to help people have access to this is the reason I took up Carpentry,” said Tuisawau.

She said since Fiji is prone to natural disasters, there’s a need for people to follow the national building code when constructing housing structures. “I have always wanted to try new things. Back in the village, I always used to be fascinated with the skills men showed when constructing houses. I want to have formal education in this area so that I can pursue a job in this field and help my community as well,” she commented.

Tuisawau said she looks forward to commencing classes at FNU’s Derrick Campus and she’s keeping an optimistic outlook despite choosing a programme which has a gender imbalance.

“I want to make my family proud, I have five other siblings who are in various other fields, but I will be the first in my family to do something unique,” she said.

“I have chosen FNU to make my dream come true because FNU provides skills training which I need. Therefore, my message to the new students is to check out the wide range of programmes which FNU offers before making a decision about your career,” said Tuisawau.

I thank the University for providing such courses because not all of us want a white-collar job. There are people like me who love being outdoors, who want to try out different things and I am glad the University is making this possible for me,” she continued.

The newly – enrolled student expects to graduate with flying colors to enable her to achieve her long-term dream which is to become an Architect.