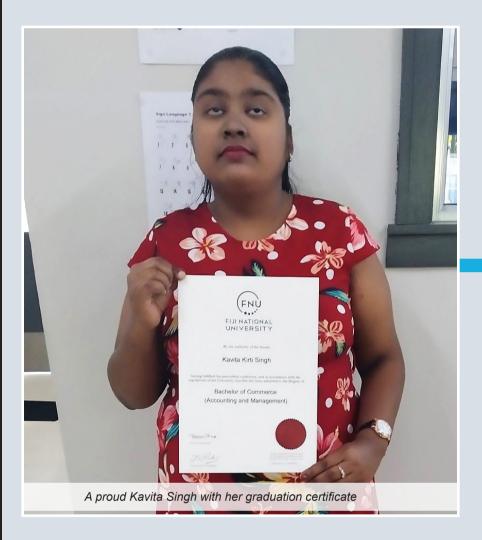


FNU News

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hile visual impairment is the greatest challenge of her life, Fiji National University (FNU) alumni Kavita Singh is a testament that nothing is impossible for a dedicated individual.

Singh, who recently completed her Bachelor of Commerce degree in Accounting and Management, has a bright future ahead of her. Not only did she complete her tertiary education, but Kavita has also found employment as a teacher at the Fiji School for the Blind.

"I did not want my disability to hold me down in life. I have worked hard to fulfil my dreams, and I am extremely blessed and thankful to everyone who has supported me throughout this journey either financially or in any other way," she added.

Having received her graduation certificate last week, Singh added she was excited to graduate in April. Sadly, the graduation ceremonies were put on hold due to COVID-19.

"Nonetheless, I am proud of what I have achieved. I want to encourage others who are differently-abled but are determined towards their goals of achieving academic excellence, to take up higher education," she added.

No barriers to Learning

The alumni acknowledged the role of FNU's newly established Disability Centre located at the Nasinu Campus, which provides an empowering environment for students with disabilities to ensure equal access for their academic pursuits.

"As a student with vision impairment, I sometimes needed support while at the Campus, and this is where staff from FNU's Disability Centre stepped in and enabled me to complete my Bachelors," she highlighted.

"The Disability Centre played an integral part in my academic journey through the provision of learning resources in accessible formats; for example, providing enlarged prints, arranging consultations with Lecturers and facilitating arrangements for examinations amongst other things," said Singh.

"FNU's Department of Student Services through the Placement Unit under the Office of the Registrar also assisted me in applying for opportunities at various companies."

She completed her practical attachment at the Fiji Revenue and Customs Authority before taking up a fulltime position at Fiji School for the Blind.

Singh has advised others not to give up despite the many challenges one may face.

"Go through your challenges, embrace your hardships and learn from your failures. Hard work through sacrifices and prayer will go a long way in helping you achieve your dreams."

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