

Chand aspires to be an exemplary Industrial Arts teacher

Having a creative mind, being good with his hands and the love for innovation has led Nehal Niklesh Chand to enrol in the Bachelor of Secondary Education in Industrial Arts, offered by the Fiji National University (FNU).

The 19-year-old was all smiles after he received his offer letter and completed the enrolment process at FNU Nasinu Campus. The BED programme is offered by FNU's College of Humanities and Education (CHE), and Chand will undertake his studies at Derrick Campus in Samabula, Suva.

"I'm excited that I've completed my enrolment and look forward to starting my studies at FNU," said Chand.

Chand said his fascination with sketching images and using his hands to create small tools further developed when he started high school.

"When given a choice in secondary school, I did not have to think twice before opting for technical drawing studies. Since I already loved sketching – this boosted my confidence and interest in schoolwork."

Chand said he chose to become an Industrial Arts teacher because teachers in this field equip their students with the know-how and hands-on skills needed to succeed in this fast-growing and technically advanced world.

"The economy in this century depends on a diverse array of talents and occupations, where the work of electricians, mechanics, carpenters, welders and builders is essential to a functioning society. Therefore, Industrial Arts teachers play a significant role from the time students commence their studies at the secondary level."



Nehal Niklesh Chand with his dad Nilesh Prasad at FNU Nasinu Campus.

Chand believes that a teacher's impression can have a significant impact on the way the students perceive a particular subject.

"Since Industrial Arts are connected to so many careers, I want to be at the forefront of moulding students to develop a great interest in this subject. Apart from teaching them the normal classroom lessons and activities, I also want to assist students in understanding the job functions of various trades so they also become successful in life with good professional outlooks," Chand added.

Originally from Labasa and now residing in Suva, Chand attended Vunimono High School.

Meanwhile, his father Nilesh Chand, who accompanied him for the enrolment process said he was proud of his son's achievements.

"I have always dreamt of seeing my children graduate from a tertiary institution, and this is the first step towards that dream," said Chand.

"I want to thank my children for their sacrifices and hard work to reach where they are today. I pray that they keep succeeding in life and have a good job in future."