

Gold Medalist dedicates award to Wife and Mother

Nitesh Madhwan, the recipient of the Outstanding Law Student Medal, credits his wife and mother for helping him obtain the award.

“The sheer commitment and devotion led me to what I am today and I cannot thank more than enough my wife, Shareena Madhwan who supported me emotionally and kept filling my fervour with her never ending promising words towards this Gold Medal. My wife had struggled a lot during the course of my education and kept providing me with everything that I needed to in order to achieve this award,” he said.

Madhwan expressed gratitude to his deceased mother, who scolded him as a blessing and continued to push him to complete his Law degree.

Before joining Justice Devendra Pathik School of Law, the Sigatoka lad worked in a variety of organizations.

“Considering everything else and coming from a struggling family background, I did not want to leave behind my family and go far to invest into this venture. As such, I knocked on the door of UniFiji School of Law and got selected immediately, as I also worked for couple of Law firms whilst doing the application,” he said.

For Madhwan, studying law was not easy; he had to make many sacrifices.

“One needs to spend absurd amount of time reading materials at the library and at home. The key of overcoming this hurdle was Time Management. At first, it will seem like an insurmountable amount of reading list, but once you master the technique, you will find doing an assignment wasn't that difficult after all,” he said.

He also mentioned that studying for examinations and overcoming "Law School Drama" were some of the challenges he experienced.

“At a point of time students will start losing their heart into learning law and their morale will be low. This is natural as there will be mountain load of cases to read and review to be done. Now, to handle this one needs to prioritise the basics and in doing so, it is essential that one should concentrate on their diet, sleep and exercise,” he said.

Madhwan stated that he is taking wonderful memories from Law School with him that he will cherish for the rest of his life.

“The School has provided me many opportunities in the form of academic guidance and career counselling, where I showcased my abilities and skills. The atmosphere of the UniFiji’s School of Law, the positive attitude of my fellow class mates and the enthusiastic faculty lecturers and professors made a vast impact in my personal and professional growth. I am very grateful for the remarkable dedication and commitment exhibited by my teachers, who kept me motivated and enhanced my knowledge and confidence,” he said.

Madhwan plans to pursue a Master's degree in Environmental Law at an international university.

His advice to anyone considering joining UniFiji as a student is to set high personal and academic goals for themselves and strive to meet them.

“Listen to your inner instinct that should echo nothing, but “I can do this.” Believe in yourself. Realise that university is work; it is not play time. Settle for nothing less than your very best,” he concluded.