

FALL SEMESTER 2016 TO SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY BRITISH COLUMBIA, VANCOUVER CANADA.

NASON NUNUFIA

SFU ID: 301323225

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SFU SURREY CAMPUS

“TO GOD BE THE GLORY GREAT THINGS HE HAS DONE AND GREAT THINGS HE WILL CONTINUE TO DO”

GENERALIZATION

Coming from a large family that survives through subsistence gardening for the entire life is quite complicated. Being the first person in the family to enter tertiary level, was a blessing indeed for the family. Imaging from the scratched sleeping on a single wood as your bed to a six-inch mattress is far beyond once perspective in life as this opportunity to Simon Fraser University, Vancouver Canada. Coming to Canada, SFU is more than just a dream come true. The tenses and the roaring waves, the whispering sounds of the birds reminds me that I am still in the Highlands of North Malaiata, Solomon Islands. The fortunate aspirations and the desires of being an Ambassador of Solomon Islands to SFU is far beyond what I expected as I have ever imagined, I just thought that I am only here at the University of the South Pacific for my three-years doing the bachelor degree in Environmental Science and Earth Science. Not only that but representing the entire Pacific region to Canada is a live story telling. My little faith rest assured on this bible text from (Jeremiah 1:5) that proves, "I was ordained before I was formed in my mother's womb". That great assurance reminds me that, in all seasons in life, God places the potential within us to fulfil our plans and purpose in life according to His (GOD) riches through Christ Jesus our Sovereign King. Amen

Ku sore lea I e mu God ae; "To God be the Glory"

I dedicated this report to my great late Grandfather (Fairii Faialatha), who pays the sacrifice in ensuring I can pursue education. I am here today with the new beginning for my entire family, My Province Malaita, My nation Solomon Islands and My Oceania the South Pacific.

PRE-DEPARTURE/ ARRIVAL

Days are gone faster and time spins more than just the 360 degrees as I waited for the 26 August for my departure. There are certain formalities which the USP International Office needs to do to arrange, for instance, the Course credit transfer, course approval from the FSTE and SFU and Payment of the ETA. This is one of the most prominent process that needs to be done for efficiency purposes for travelling to Canada SFU. It is difficult because all my second-year Earth Science Major courses are restricted for Exchange student at SFU, therefore, I must course-match all my third-year courses which, I find it very tough and challenging. Any ways, I managed to match all the courses which are required for the exchange and finally I made it with the help of the International Office department especially Ms. Archana Priyadarshani. As time pass by, I am counting down for August 26, 2016 as my departure date and time. I am super excited and looking forward to feel the breeze of the different climate and environment. Hence, I am amaze as I took the Taxi from Suva to Nausori Airport then took the plane to Nadi International Airport arrived early morning on Friday 26th. As the sun rises from the east showing that I am beginning a new Journey to join the multicultural students with different backgrounds and beliefs. The 10 hours from Nadi to South Korea Incheon is totally an exciting journey watching the movies and eating the two meals in the plane. After transiting through South Korea for 3 hours, I finally made the longest air journey which took me about 12 hours from South Korea to Vancouver International Air Point. It was overwhelmed for me, whence, the host family came and picked me at the Airport where we board the Train to the Olympic Village where I lived.

FIRST WEEK OF ORIENTATION AT SFU

The first day in school was overwhelmed especially for me coming from a small Island country and language barrier might be another obstacle. However, the orientation went on well, there are total of 27 countries about 270 plus students all over the globe exchange this fall to SFU. I was the only one coming from the South Pacific excluding Australia and New Zealand. It was an interesting orientation because I was special in the sense that we have unique and different Island combination styles but with similar communalities as one people, one Ocean. With the Oneness, it really develops the characteristics that I need to foster for the world to see the beauty that lies within the Oceania. With the first weeks of academic, I find it tough though, but I am putting all efforts that expected.



Exchange Students Talanoa together ready for Orientation SFU