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PRESS RELEASE

MRA awards scholarships to UPNG Geology students

The Mineral Resources Authority's (MRA) Acting Managing Director (AMD) Jerry Garry yesterday announced the MRA's school fee scholarships worth K26, 000.00, for two University of Papua New Guinea's School of Natural and Physical Sciences (SN&PS) students.

The students are McKenzie Tukuliya and Harold Philip who are doing their final year Bachelor of Science Degree, in Earth Sciences majoring in Geology.

The sponsorship covers school fees, tuition, boarding and associated expenses for their final year of studies. Mr Garry when making the announcement, also offered five additional scholarship packages to disadvantaged students at the school, and the procurement of a brand new 10-seater Landcruiser for the institution (SN&PS), to be utilized in students field excursions for all-weather road terrains.

The AMD said in terms of the scholarships on offer, that he was not necessarily looking for bright students but candidates with the right attitude, behaviors, passion and commitment to work.

"Good Character is the most important asset you can have in your life," said Mr Garry.

He said, he was one of many geologists that had been initiated to the rock world by this humble institution, which propelled him to work around the world, simply because of the right attitudes, adding, that he was therefore, happy to contribute to the development of young generation of geologists through the scholarship.

He said Geology (study of rocks) was an important part of mankind's everyday life.

"When you talk about rock, rock is everything. The very foundation of roads, bridges and even the houses you build are built upon rocks. Even the soil that you grow your crops on, is derived from rocks," said Mr Garry.

The two recipients of the scholarships Messrs. Tukuliya and Philip, thanked the MRA for the scholarship saying that would do their best in their final year studies.

Associate Professor and the Head of Earth Sciences Division of UPNG, Dr Joseph Espi, acknowledged the MRA for its contributions to the division and the sponsorship of geology students by the MRA as being the first of its kind.



Photo: Mr. Garry (5th from right), the two students (shaking hands with Mr. Garry), Dr Espi (first from left) and staff of MRA during the announcement of the scholarships.