

News release 30 January 2009

STUDENT CHEFS CLEAN UP INTERNATIONAL DISTINCTION AWARDS

Tai Poutini Polytechnic students who completed their chef qualifications last year have all achieved distinction at exams conducted by the London City and Guild in England.

The annual exams test students at an international level at both a theory and practical level with students ranked in achievement from fail, pass and credit with the highest achievement being distinction.

Certificate in Professional Culinary Art tutor and professional chef Alex Hayward is overwhelmed with the exam results and says the qualification will help his students significantly when they embark on their careers.

“A phenomenal number of our students travel, so the City and Guild qualification on top of their existing Certificate qualification will put them in the same category as professional chefs all around the world and be recognised anywhere,” Hayward says.

The 100 per cent distinction rate is a huge accomplishment for not only the students, but is also a huge credit to the West Coast Polytechnic. Hayward says the hard work by the students, tutor Jos Wellman and himself has paid off and he and Wellman are thankful to have taught a great bunch of students.

“We must be doing something right, if not everything fantastically right,” he says.

The London City & Guilds operates in around 100 countries, through 8500 centres worldwide offering internationally recognised qualifications.

Tai Poutini Polytechnic begins its Certificate in Professional Culinary Arts programme this year on February 9 with the annual intake being 20 students who are motivated and passionate about becoming a professional chef. Students do not have to pay any tuition fees throughout 2009.

ENDS

For more information please contact:

Alex Hayward

Certificate in Professional Culinary Art Programme Coordinator

Tai Poutini Polytechnic

Phone: 03 769 9439 Certificate

Email: alexh@tpp.ac.nz

www.tppweb.ac.nz

About Tai Poutini Polytechnic:

Tai Poutini Polytechnic (TPP) offers a range of exciting programmes including outdoor education, ski patrol, ecotourism, jade and hard stone carving, professional chef and civil construction. Tai Poutini Polytechnic has campuses in Auckland, Matamata, Christchurch, Wanaka, Invercargill, Westport, Greymouth, Reefton and Hokitika. In 2009 TPP offers programmes at Greymouth, Reefton, Westport and Hokitika Campuses with no tuition fees* (* conditions apply).