

Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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Graduates boost regional development expertise

Next Tuesday's University of Tasmania graduation ceremony in Burnie will highlight the strength of research capacity in the North West, with five new PhDs awarded in 2014 for research into regional development.

The Director of the Institute for Regional Development, Associate Professor Robyn Eversole, said that the PhD students have conducted research on a range of topics of great relevance to regional Tasmania.

"We have some outstanding new researchers who have been working hard for three to four years to create new insights into cutting-edge issues that matter to Tasmania and Tasmanians," Associate Professor Eversole said.

Topics covered include a study of the career aspirations of young women in North West Tasmania; research into the impacts of urban spread into agricultural land in regional areas; a study of the value of leisure spaces and community events in regions; research on the empowerment of migrant communities, and a thesis on the development of sustainable agriculture and food industries on King Island.

An event will be held at the Makers' Workshop on Monday evening to celebrate the achievement of these new PhD recipients, who have been studying through the University of Tasmania's Institute for Regional Development.

The "New Regional Experts – PhDs in Regional Development" event will introduce recent graduates Dr Cherie Hawkins and Dr Kiros Hiruy as well as December PhD graduands Lea Coates, Clayton Hawkins, Christine Angel and Angela Castles.

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