

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

**NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA**

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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## **Cool Science for School Summer Holidays**

### **SIEMENS SCIENCE EXPERIENCE 2008**

Instead of hitting the beach this summer, high-school students from Burnie to Dover are swapping their bathers for lab coats.

Sixty grade-ten students from 30 different schools around Tasmania will descend on the University of Tasmania Hobart campus this week to take part in the Siemens Science Experience, a three-day program which inspires students about the fascinating world of science. The Launceston campus event will be held next week.

Students will learn about Tasmania's lizards, look for allergy-causing types of pollen in air, examine the micro-textures of rocks under the microscope, use computers to create movie animations, and study the stars at the UTAS radiotelescope facility, as just some examples of the many activities happening over the three days.

Now in its 18th year, the Siemens Science Experience has influenced over 50,000 Australian high school students to enter higher education courses. The program is sponsored by Siemens and supported by the Australian Science Teachers Association, Rotary and universities around the country.

**\* Potential photo opportunities are listed below.**

**For more information/interviews please contact:**

**Jeannie-Marie LeRoi, UTAS Faculty of Science & Engineering**

**Phone 6226 2125, or Mobile 0409842981 (between 11.00am – 12.30pm)**

## **Photo Opportunities:**

### **Hobart campus**

#### **Tuesday 15 January.**

9.45 - 10.30am: Zoology Lab, Life Sciences Building – learning about Tasmania’s lizards; looking at life in decaying forest logs; finding about studying marine mammals in the Southern Ocean.

11.00 – 12.00pm: Agricultural Science Labs, Life Sciences Building – Examining soils; finding about growing cherries and effects of rainfall; bacterial testing.

2.00 - 3.00pm: Chemistry Labs, Chemistry Building - Making slime; growing crystals; separating mixtures.

#### **Wednesday 16 January.**

10.00 - 10.30am: Earth Sciences building - Testing seismographs; using microscopes to look at multi-coloured rock structures

12.30 - 1.00 pm: Engineering workshops - Students have to build a structure to drop an egg the greatest height without breaking it!

#### **Information Released by:**

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