

## Media Release

### Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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## Governor's Environment Scholarships foster excellence in environmental management

Three scholarship recipients will devote their Honours year of study to projects focused on Tasmanian environmental issues.

Ms Prudence Hamill, Mr Brendan Adair and Ms Tamika Lunn are the 2015 recipients of the Governor's Environmental Scholarships.

The Governor of Tasmania, Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AM, is Patron of the prestigious scholarships, which are sponsored by the Tasmanian Government and business organisations. Students undertaking an Honours or Masters project, in any faculty, which relates to management of the environment are eligible to apply for the \$6000 scholarships.

The first Governor's Environment Scholarships were awarded in 1999, and there have been 37 students awarded since the inception of the scholarship. These scholarships are funded by organisations that are leaders in Tasmania in promoting best practice, sustainable environmental management. The current organisations who give to the Governor's Environment Scholarship are the Environment Protection Authority, Bell Bay Aluminium, Hydro Tasmania, TasNetworks, SEMF, Nyrstar Hobart and the Local Government Association of Tasmania.

Dean of the University of Tasmania's Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology, Professor Margaret Britz, said the commitment of the recipients to environmental concerns was inspiring.

"These scholarships are an admirable example of Tasmanian organisations working together for the greater good. By providing support to our future scientists, we are allowing them to focus their studies on pressing environmental issues and to plan for their academic futures at the same time.

"I extend my congratulations to the three recipients and I have no doubt they will achieve their goals during their all-important Honours year, and continue to produce valuable environmental research into the future."

**Ms Prudence Hamill**, of Longford, was awarded her Bachelor of Environmental Science in 2014. Her Honours project, *An investigation into the Remediation of the Scotia Open Pit Tin Mine and its Tailings Dams in North Eastern Tasmania*, will look at Historic mining activities

at The Scotia Mine site, near Gladstone, and the remediation of the site relevant to water pH and heavy metal levels. Ms Hamill began working as a Youth Leader in her church as part of the Vice-Chancellor's Leadership Award, which she gained in 2013.

**Mr Brendan Adair**, was awarded his Bachelor of Applied Science (Marine Environment) in 2014. His Honours project, *Exploring New Methods of Pest Fish Control*, will investigate the potential to hijack pheromone communication pathways to aid eradication of Common Carp - a highly destructive invasive species. Mr Adair also participates at a high level in mountain bike riding.

**Ms Tamika Lunn**, (from Burnie originally) was awarded her Bachelor of Science last year. Tamika aims to eventually study a PhD degree in conservation biology. Tamika's Honours project, *Looking at the impact of land use change on the distribution and health of platypus*, will look at how habitat modification affects the platypus with a focus on the population in the Upper Esk river catchment. In her spare time Tamika enjoys playing the saxophone, clarinet and flute and taking part in soccer, waterskiing and dancing. She is also involved in community volunteering and has been awarded Citizenship and Service Awards in 2006 and 2008.

**Information released by:**

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