

Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

Friday, June 20, 2014

University's achievements in education to be celebrated over breakfast

Politicians, mayors, leading public and private educators, teachers and University of Tasmania academics and staff are expected to attend the first University of Tasmania Faculty of Education: Year in Review breakfasts presented by the Dean of the Faculty of Education, Professor John Williamson.

To be held at the University's three main campuses next week starting with Cradle Coast Campus on Tuesday, followed by Sandy Bay on Wednesday and Newnham on Thursday, the review will outline achievements in learning and teaching, research and community engagement and will also feature addresses from researchers who have helped maintain the school's position of prominence in tertiary education on a national and international level.

Prof. Williamson said that the school's recent achievements reflect the shared contributions of a highly skilled and supportive faculty, engaged students, and an intimate connectedness to its profession and communities both near and far.

"We are committed to empowering our students to create educational systems, schools, civic institutions and communities that will shape our shared future," he said.

"And we look forward to working with our stakeholders to build on these achievements in the coming year."

Guest speakers will be:

Cradle Coast Campus, Burnie -

PROFESSOR BRUCE WALDRIP who is leading a unique approach to education that is generating huge interest around the world. Bruce has been involved in a string of Australian Research Council (ARC) research designed to boost student learning and is very interested in forming new partnerships with Tasmanian schools. His latest research outlines ways for schools to improve NAPLAN test results.

DR PETER BRETT, who is a lecturer in society and environment curriculum education, course coordinator for Bachelor of Education (Primary) and Associate Degree of Education Support. Peter is an experienced teacher educator with specific professional expertise in the areas of civics and citizenship education and history education. He worked as a secondary teacher educator at the University of Cumbria in the north of England from 1993 to 2008 before arriving at the University of Tasmania in 2011.

Sandy Bay Campus, Hobart -

DR KERRY HOWELLS, a teacher educator in the University of Tasmania, Faculty of Education, teaching in the areas of educational philosophy, professional studies and practitioner research. Dr Howells is currently coordinating and teaching in the Department of Education Partnerships in Teaching Excellence program (PiTE).

DR JANET DYMENT, a senior lecturer in human movement studies in the Faculty of Education. Prior to her appointment at the University of Tasmania, she taught from 1999-2003 in the School of Outdoor Recreation, Parks and Tourism at Lakehead University in Canada and the University of Boston (1997-1998).

Newnham Campus, Launceston -

DR JENNY McMAHON, is committed to tertiary students' learning experiences and outcomes. She has been awarded three consecutive teaching merit certificates and in 2013 was awarded a Vice Chancellor's citation for outstanding contribution to student learning. Dr McMahon's current research areas include sport pedagogy, body practices, sporting cultures, narrative and autoethnographic research.

PROFESSOR BRUCE WALDRIP (see description above).

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