

Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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Teachers feast on facts about food industry future

Southern Tasmanian teachers, Career Advisers and Pathway Planners will indulge in a “Feast of Knowledge” this week, as they learn about career opportunities in the Southern Tasmanian food and tourism industries.

The Feast of Knowledge field day and food experience is being delivered by the University of Tasmania as part of its Pathways to Success initiative, funded under the University’s Higher Education Pathways and Participation Program, with support from TasTAFE and industry.

University Industry Liaison Officer for food, Don Defenderfer, said the aim of the day is to promote interest in and knowledge about future jobs in Tasmania’s emerging food and tourism industries.

“Pathway planners and teachers are ideally placed to inform and guide student aspirations,” Mr Defenderfer said.

“Participants will tour local food and tourism enterprises, engaging directly with industry experts, champions and entrepreneurs and gaining rare behind-the-scenes exposure to some of the key emerging and innovative factors that are shaping the future of these industries.”

Features of the day include discussions about industry supply chains, sources of expertise, skill shortages, future jobs and careers within the industries, and the training and higher education pathways that lead to those jobs and careers. Participants will engage with industry experts from TASSAL, Dairy Tas, Hansen Orchards, Diemen Pepper and more.

Food highlights include morning tea at Grandveve Cheeses and lunch at Home Hill Winery to showcase local produce and discuss career opportunities in the region. Over lunch, participants will have the opportunity ask questions of an expert panel including Dr Richard Doyle, Senior Lecturer, School of Land and Food at the University of Tasmania and Melinda Anderson, CEO of Destination Southern Tasmania.

"There is a huge future in the food and tourism industries going forward, particularly in agriculture where there is still a degree of misconception about what farming has to offer," Mr Defenderfer said.

"With three jobs available for every graduate with an agricultural science degree, the job security prospects are fantastic."

Information released by:

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