

## Media Release

### Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

Monday, 16 May 2016

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## Practical program provides pathways into healthy careers

Year 10 students from across the North-West will gain practical insight into a diverse number of health related opportunities offered by the University of Tasmania, when the Rural Clinical School hosts two educational events this week.

Delivered by Rural Clinical School staff with the support of medical students, the annual *Practical Skills Workshop* program gives young people who are considering a career in health, a chance to see the range of skills used by workers in the sector when they respond to emergencies and manage patients with ongoing health issues.

Year 10 students will take part in hands-on activities as they deal with emergency scenarios through first aid procedures such as CPR and the recovery position. A “Sherlock Holmes” themed station will challenge groups to piece together clues and use medical equipment including microscopes and x-rays as they examine mannequins to help them make a diagnosis.

Activities “beyond the emergency room” will allow students to learn how health professionals treat patients with chronic illnesses.

Dr Lizzi Shires, Co-Director of the Rural Clinical School said an important aspect of the workshop was giving students advice on the number of health career avenues which they could pursue.

“It is so important for students at this age to start thinking beyond years 10, 11 and 12, and what groundwork they could begin to lay now with a health career goal in mind,” Dr Shires said.

“These workshops provide pathways for students by giving them practical insight into a number of occupations. We want students to be encouraged by this experience to start forming decisions about future health careers, and hopefully one day we might see them returning to practice their professions in this region.”

Year 11 and 12 representatives will attend both workshops to present their personal experiences in transitioning from high school to college and explain what is involved during the process. They will share advice on how to stay focused throughout the

college curriculum, and how to develop invaluable study skills, while informing their younger counterparts about the expectations from new teachers and school staff.

**Information released by:**

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