

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

DATE: THURSDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2009

ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Cradle Coast education faculty welcomes new addition

As UTAS students prepare for another university year, the Bachelor of Education at the UTAS Cradle Coast campus will be welcoming a new addition to the fold.

For the first time, the fourth year of the primary teaching degree program will be introduced this year, bringing a whole new chapter to the degree's evolution on the North-West Coast.

“This is not only a real milestone for the Education Faculty, but for students living on the North-West Coast,” UTAS Head of School of Education Associate Professor Geraldine Castleton said.

“The degree continues to be very popular here, where we also receive strong support from North West Learning Services of the Department of Education.

“Over the years it has also been interesting to watch the changes in the student cohort too. We are actually starting to see a lot more young people enrolling.”

First semester for 2009 kicks off next week at UTAS with many new university students enjoying the activities on offer across the State during this week's Orientation Week.

About 150 students are now enrolled in the Bachelor of Education (primary teaching) at the UTAS Cradle Coast campus, with staff numbers tripling since 2007 in order to meet the needs of the growing student cohort.

Among the new staff appointments includes Dr Robbie Johnston (Senior Lecturer – Rural and Regional) and David McBain (Lecturer in Mathematics).

The Cradle Coast campus is also hosting more than half of the Faculty's Honours students.

The Bachelor of Education (primary teaching) degree was introduced to the UTAS Cradle Coast campus in 1996.

Years 1 and 2 have continually been expanded to accommodate growing enrolments, with Year 3 being introduced last year. Prior to the recent addition of Years 3 and 4, students had to travel to Launceston to complete the degree.

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