

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

**NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA**

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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## **Science careers of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century sampled in scholarship program**

A group of Tasmanian senior secondary students will sample science careers of the 21st Century in this year's Primary Industry Science Scholarship Program.

The program begins today (December 8) with a week-long camp (December 8 -12), where students can explore the latest in science career opportunities including nanotechnology and biotechnology.

“Science careers of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century are vast and varied with issues such as food and water resources, renewable energy and climate change opening up a world of career opportunities,” UTAS School of Agricultural Science education officer Paul O'Halloran said.

“Many students are already switched on to these issues, and what we are aiming to do is provide an opportunity for them to explore their interests further, connecting them to career pathways.”

About 50 Year 11 and 12 students from across the State will join peers from South Australia, New South Wales, Western Australia and Victoria at Camp Clayton in Turners Beach.

The week-long camp activities include:

- Conducting experiments in biotechnology and nanotechnology
- Learning about climate change through a carbon storage exercise at the Tarkine rainforest
- Visiting various agricultural industries across the North-West Coast including vegetable processing
- Participating in field research with scientists including the Tasmanian Institute of Agricultural Research (TIAR).

As part of the camp's evening activities, students will also have the chance to learn more about the relationship between spatial technologies and science.

The Primary Industry Science Scholarship Program continues in January next year where students spend a week working alongside industry professionals.

The program is co-ordinated by the Primary Industry Centre for Science Education (PICSE) and funded by the UTAS School of Agricultural Science and the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC).

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