

Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

Thursday 8 January 2015

Tasmanian medical graduates fill local hospital internships

Tasmanian medical students are staying local for their post-graduation hospital internships.

This year, for the first time, all 12 medical interns in the North West are University of Tasmania graduates, and four of them completed their medical degrees at the Rural Clinical School in Burnie.

Karen Linegar, Acting CEO of the North West General Hospital says that keeping medical graduates in the state is a great outcome for local hospitals.

“It is wonderful to see that students who study in Tasmania are happy to stay and work in their own state, particularly in regional areas like the North West,” Professor Linegar said.

The new interns have been completing their orientation at the Rural Clinical School in Burnie this week in preparation for commencement of ward and department based duties next week.

There will be two Interns completing Emergency Department terms at the Mersey Community Hospital and the remainder are based at the North West Regional Hospital.

An event being held **today (January 8)** at the Rural Clinical School will welcome the new interns and recognise the achievements of the 2014 medical interns.

The Tasmanian Health Organisation will announce the top NW Intern for 2014, who will receive the prestigious Paul Huang Intern of the Year Award.

The R. E. Buttfield Resident Medical Officer Award will also be announced to recognise top-performing doctors from both the NWRH and the Mersey Community Hospital.

The winners are chosen after a hospital-wide poll of medical, nursing and allied health staff and management who gave feedback on their day-to-day performance on the job combined with their term report results.

The awards are presented in honour of Dr Paul Huang, who was a radiologist at NWRH for many years until his retirement in the early 1990s, and Dr Richard Buttfield, who was a former Director of Medical Services at NWRH and then CEO of the North West Health Region in the early 1990s.

Media opportunity

What: Intern welcome and awards event

Where: University of Tasmania Rural Clinical School at the North West General Hospital, Burnie.

When: 12.30 pm TODAY (Thursday 8/1/15)

For more information, please contact Merian Ellis 0428 197 878.

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