Students get a head start to careers during summer break

A group of Tasmanian senior secondary students are getting a head start to future career opportunities this month.

More than 40 students are participating in the Primary Industry Science Scholarship Program, where each student will spend a week working alongside scientists and researchers in the agricultural industry.

From the science of soil to vegetable production, students will step into a hands-on role within their host organisation, taking part in research projects, field days and lab experiments.

“The placement program not only gives students a taste of what life is like working in primary industries, but provides an opportunity for the students to get to know local scientists,” UTAS School of Agricultural Science education officer Paul O’Halloran said.

“The students get to find out what pathways they can take to reach their career goals, while also participating in research projects.”

A number of agricultural companies and research institutions from across the State are taking part in this year’s program, which runs until Friday, January 23.

At the end of the placement program, students will share their experiences during the reporting-back session.

The session will be held on Thursday, January 29 via a three-way video conference between UTAS’ three campuses – Hobart, Launceston and Burnie, with the conference also linking up with other program students from Western Australia and South Australia.

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 & Development Corporation (GRDC).

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