**HOT TOPICS**

- Earth Sciences scholarships
- UTAS success in ARC grants
- New Rhodes Scholar
- High Achiever Program 2008

### 2008 applications

Applications for UTAS for 2008 are still open for some programs. Phone the Uni Info Centre on 1300 363 864 for more information on course options still available.

### Earth Sciences scholarships

UTAS is offering some very lucrative scholarships for honours study in earth sciences for 2008, ranging from $3000 to $20,000 a year. With the current major mining industry boom, graduates can expect excellent job prospects, opportunities for travel, and starting salaries of $70,000–$110,000! Scholarship applications close 30 Nov. 2007. For more information, contact Tas.Scholarships@utas.edu.au

### UTAS success in ARC grants

The University of Tasmania secured over $5 million in recent Australian Research Council grants. Among the successful academics was Prof. Michael Bennett from the School of History & Classics, who received $300,000 for research into a global smallpox inoculation program that occurred over 200 years ago, and how the success of that program might be applied to modern health concerns such as bird flu and malaria.

Despite Prof Bennett’s high-level research activity, students studying History at UTAS are privileged to have access to Prof Bennett’s expertise, whose teaching commitments include first-year units.

### Accommodation options

Places for residential colleges for 2008 are filling fast! We recommend that students apply for accommodation at the same time as applying for admission to a program – if students wait to apply for accommodation until they have been accepted for a course, they may miss out.

UTAS has a number of accommodation options. For further information, go to the UTAS homepage www.utas.edu.au and choose ‘Accommodation’ under the Quick Links pull-down menu.

### Senior Secondary Programs

SRMU staff are in the process of contacting senior secondary college career advisors to schedule dates for our course information sessions next year. Thanks to those of you who have already responded to us to confirm your date.

We are hoping to run the northern program as a block in the first week of July, as we did in 2007, and the north-west coast program as a block from 13–15 May. Dates for southern colleges are currently being negotiated between college career advisors and Student Recruitment staff.

### Young Tassie Scientists

From King Island to Geeveston, this year’s Young Tassie Scientist program reached over 2500 students in 30 schools around the state. Thirteen early career researchers, including UTAS postgraduate students and recent graduates, were involved in the program, which promotes awareness of the value and relevance of science, engineering and technology. The Young Tassie Scientists presented a range of talks and hands-on activities, covering topics from brushtail possums to brain injury. Profiles can be found at www.youngtassiescientists.com

The program is supported through funding from DEST as part of National Science Week, as well as the Department of Economic Development and the Faculty of Science, Engineering & Technology.
Jess Andrewartha is investigating ways to make hydro-electricity generation more efficient: “By reducing the friction between the water and the concrete canals that deliver the water from the dams to the power stations, we can deliver more water at a faster rate to the turbines. I work both out in the field and in a high-tech laboratory and spend a lot of time investigating how freshwater algae moves around in flowing water.”

2008 Rhodes Scholar
Lionel Nichols was recently announced as the 2008 recipient of the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship. Lionel graduated with a combined Arts–Law degree in 2006, having intermitted his studies with a one-year Master of International Politics.

Lionel completed his senior secondary schooling at Elizabeth College in Hobart. His academic career at UTAS has been impressive, with numerous awards for academic achievement. He has a substantial amount of voluntary experience, including providing pro bono advice to the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre in Melbourne and the Homeless Persons Legal Clinic.

Now based in Victoria, Lionel expects to be admitted to practice in March 2008. His plan for the future is to work as an international criminal lawyer.

High Achiever Program 2008
Brochures for the 2008 High Achiever Program were mailed out early in Term 3, to school principals, grade coordinators and career advisors. Subject options, to name just a few, include Ancient Civilisations, Economics, Maritime Studies, Marketing and Philosophy. UTAS units completed may be counted towards the student’s TER. Full details of all units available, a conversion table of grade equivalences, and application forms can be downloaded from the website at www.utas.edu.au/hap

Creative Arts Summer School
Applications are still open for the Tasmanian Creative Arts Summer School, which is coordinated by the Academy of the Arts in Launceston and runs from 9–18 January 2008. Creative Arts workshops include: Art and the Wilderness, Computer Imaging, Culinary Design, Performing Tasmania (Theatre), Playing Shakespeare: Rhetoric and Reality, Sculpture: Fine Art Metal Casting, and Background to Asian Theatres. For more information go to www.acadarts.utas.edu.au/summer_school/ or call 6324 4400 for a copy of the brochure. Enrolment deadline is 14 December 2007.