



UNIVERSITY *of*  
TASMANIA

Friday 10 August 2018

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## Media Alert

# Students to get hands-on experience of future employment landscape

High school students will be undertaking a new tech training program that is launching on the North-West Coast this **Monday, 13 August**.

The University of Tasmania in partnership with Bitlink and the Pathways in Technology (P-TECH) program will be delivering Hackerspace workshops.

Taking place at Burnie and Parklands high schools, the sessions are aimed at educating the next generation about the latest industry technologies and trends.

Students will be introduced to key concepts relating to advanced manufacturing, electronics, the Internet of Things (IoT) and computer programming.

They will also gain hands-on experience during demonstrations involving 3D printing, robotics, electronics, coding and virtual reality.

The objective is to equip students with transferable skills that ultimately make them more employable.

University Strategic Projects Officer Lyndal Bond said it was important for students to be furthering their learning in the technology space.

"The Hackerspace workshops will provide students with insight into how technology and innovation is changing the employment landscape around the world," Ms Bond said.

"This opportunity will ensure they are well placed and informed to further their education and training in technology as they look towards forging a future career."

James Riggall, Bitlink Managing Director and program facilitator, said that importantly, students would be learning how technology was now shaping local industries.

“Students will gain insight into how the ICT industry is changing, and how technology is being used in innovative ways by industries across Tasmania,” Mr Riggall said.

Both participating schools are already involved in P-TECH, a collaborative program focused on providing students with an industry-supported pathway to a science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM)-related qualification.

“The Australian Government has engaged Skilling Australia Foundation to assist local stakeholders to work together to implement P-TECH learning programs at all 14 pilot sites across Australia,” Industry Liaison Officer for the Greater Burnie Partnership Mark Shelton said.

“P-TECH is pleased to be supporting students in accessing cutting-edge technology and industry knowledge that is helping them shape their futures.”

### **MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES:**

#### **Monday, 13 August:**

8.50am – 10.20am  
Parklands High School, 11 Atkins Drive, Romaine.

1.10pm – 2.40pm  
Burnie High School, 43 Fidler Street, Coee.

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#### **Information released by:**

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