

Monday 15 April 2019

Future scientists gather for State forum

Year 11 and 12 students will trade in their school holidays for a chance to test drive careers in science this week.

Students from across the State will spend three days at the University of Tasmania as part of the Tasmanian Youth Science Forum in Hobart.

The annual event is designed to provide information and hands-on experiences in careers across science, engineering and technology.

Activities will include drone flying, laboratory experiments, collecting field samples and a range of workshops with university researchers and students.

"The Tasmanian Youth Science Forum provides an opportunity for Year 11 and 12 students to explore what studying science at university involves and to ask

questions of those already working in the diverse careers in science, engineering and technology," program coordinator Tanaz Knott said.

"It is an invaluable experience in helping students to identify what they are interested in studying and which careers inspire them.

"Another focus of the forum is to assist participants in developing a better understanding of future study options and what life is like at university through question and answer forums, tours of accommodation services and university facilities."

The program will run from 15-17 April and include two days at the University of Tasmania's Sandy Bay Campus and another day visiting other University sites including Mt Pleasant Observatory, University Farm, the Menzies Institute for Medical Research and the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS). Now in its sixth year, the forum is hosted by the University's College of Sciences and Engineering.

Media opportunities (photos and interviews welcome)

Monday 15th April

2 pm – 3:45 pm Zoology (Sandy Bay Campus, Life Science Building Room 222/228) – Students will be in the laboratory undertaking experiments.

Tuesday 16th April

11 am – 12 noon University Farm (Cambridge) – Students will be collecting leaf samples and preparing slides to examine differences in stomatal patterns.

1:30 pm - 2:45 pm Menzies Centre (Hobart CBD) – Students will be learning about medicine, medical research and participating in workshops.

Wednesday 17th April

10-11 am Geography and Spatial Sciences (Sandy Bay campus, Geography Room 237) - Students will be flying mini-drones and learning about their applications in conservation and land management.

Media contact on the day to arrange interviews with the participants and

scientists - Tanaz Knott, 0400 152 096, Tanaz.Knott@utas.edu.au

Information released by: Communications and Media Office University of Tasmania +61 3 6226 2124 <u>Media.Office@utas.edu.au</u> Twitter.com/utas_newsroom