Inaugural summer school program hits the mark with high school students

Students taking part in a four-day residential experience at the University of Tasmania's Launceston campus have given the inaugural program a big tick.

Around 30 Year 10 students took part in the inaugural Summer School program from Cressy District High School, Deloraine High School, Prospect High School, Queechy High School, Queenstown High School and Scottsdale District High School.

Pro Vice-Chancellor (Academic Quality and Schools Engagement) Professor Margaret Noble said the program was aimed at giving participants a chance to experience university life, while developing the confidence in their ability to undertake higher education.

“The feedback we received was incredibly positive with 100 per cent of the students saying that because of this program they all want to go on to higher education,” she said.

“Many reported they liked the hands-on experience of their AMC visit and visiting the School of Architecture and Design and the Launceston Clinical School as some of their highlights, while on the downside most of the students said they would've liked to sleep in a little longer past the 7am wake time.”

The four-day program built on outreach and school engagement work already undertaken by the University in offering a number of discovery, taster and open days and activities for students across Tasmania.

Professor Noble said one of the keys to the success of the program had been the involvement of the University’s Student Ambassadors.

“The Student Ambassadors were central to the program running so smoothly and for the way in which the school students were able to experience university and meet and be supported in activities by university students within a safe and encouraging environment.

“My hope is they all enjoyed their experience and can now actively consider higher education as a real possibility for their future.”

The Summer School program is a joint initiative by the University of Tasmania’s Schools Engagement program and the Department of Education.