Students invited to forge future careers at professional skills expo in Burnie

More than 800 North-West high school students will get hands-on with a number of careers tomorrow (Friday, 26 May) at an event providing them with real-world learning opportunities and avenues to pursue further education and training.

Creating my Career is a joint initiative of the University of Tasmania Schools Engagement Team and the Department of Education, facilitated in partnership with TasTAFE and Rotary Tasmania.

The Burnie showcase will present 17 ‘career clusters’ to students, allowing them to participate in practical activities across industries and workplaces, including agriculture, hospitality, health services, tourism, architecture and design, business, politics and law, mining, building and beauty services.

Mr Brett Williams from the University’s Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Schools Engagement) said the Creating my Career event was a unique example of what collaboration across education and employment could offer students.

“Creating my Career provides year 8 and 9 students with an in-depth look at occupations across several sectors. They will participate in two-three hands-on activities in a chosen career cluster, ideally experiencing a session with the University of Tasmania, TasTAFE and an industry partner,” Mr Williams said.

“The event will equip the students with information and practical skills to guide their decision-making about future careers, whether that be through higher education courses or vocational education and training.

“We also want to highlight the diverse career opportunities there are in Tasmania for our youth, while opening their eyes to what jobs of the future look like. The event will also teach them how to best prepare for gaining employment.”

University staff and students will present activities inviting participants to practice CPR and medical plastering, negotiate a mock bill for parliament, select government policies that please voters, and determine sugar content in food while gaining insight into the work of agricultural scientists.
Information about the University’s diverse course offerings, including the new two-year Associate Degrees, will also be shared at the event.

The Creating my Career initiative follows a successful pilot program in 2016 which has expanded statewide this year. Further events will be held at the University of Tasmania in Launceston (16 June) and Hobart (3 August).

**MEDIA OPPORTUNITY:**

**What:** Creating my Career professional skills expo;  
**When:** TOMORROW, Friday, 26 May, 11.30am (event runs 9.15am – 2.30pm);  
**Where:** C Block, TasTAFE Burnie campus, 41–43 Mooreville Road, Burnie.

*The most visual photo/filming opportunities will be at 11.30am, highlighting the construction and health clusters. Media should report to Client Services upon arrival.*

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**Information released by:**  
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