

Health Careers



NEWSLETTER

October 2006

New Bachelor of Exercise Science degree at UTAS in 2007

Study in this exciting and very popular area will be available in Launceston from 2007. The new 3.5 year UTAS course is designed to produce graduates who meet the professional requirements for registration with the Australian Association for Exercise and Sports Science as exercise physiologists or sports scientists. The degree may also lead to postgraduate study in physiotherapy and rehabilitation.

Exercise and sport scientists provide assessment and monitoring and prescribe programs for fitness and exercise, working with a wide range of people, from elite athletes to the chronically ill.

Pre-requisites are Physical Sciences 5C and one other science or maths subject from the following list - Health Studies HP810, Sports Science HP817, Maths Applied MAP5C, Maths Methods MME5C, Maths Specialised MSP5C, Biology BIO5C, Chemistry CHM5C, Physics PHY5C. Applicants should aim for a TER score of around 75.



For more information, go to the School of Human Life Sciences website at www.hls.utas.edu.au

Find out more about career opportunities for graduates of this degree at www.hls.utas.edu.au/info/careers/

Alternate pathways to Medicine and Pharmacy

From 2007, UTAS will accept limited numbers of students into Medicine and Pharmacy on the basis of their performance in the following UTAS courses:

Bachelor of Medical Research
Bachelor of Science
Bachelor of Biomedical Science
Bachelor of Biotechnology
Bachelor of Health Science
Bachelor of Environmental Science

To be eligible to apply, students must have completed a full-time year of study in one of these degrees in the year prior to the proposed enrolment and achieved a distinction average (or above). Applicants must also satisfy Year 12 pre-requisites, and for application to medicine, must be competitive in UMAT scores.

For full details and information about other alternative pathways, go to the School of Medicine and School of Pharmacy websites.

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Alannah Smith, final-year Pharmacy student

I chose pharmacy because I've always wanted to be a health professional but I was unsure of what area I wanted to work in. Throughout college, I realised I loved Chemistry and so decided to combine these two areas of interest into Pharmacy.

I chose to study Pharmacy at UTAS because I'm originally from Devonport and UTAS was close to home. Also UTAS is a smaller university which allows you to have a closer interaction and better learning experience with lecturers and tutors.

I'm currently in my final (fourth) year of pharmacy, and have recently spent a month in Port Douglas (think Great Barrier Reef and Daintree Rainforest!). This was one of the rural community placements for my course and was just amazing. I'm also completing an honours project focusing on proteomics (studying cell and tissue proteins and their role in the healing and disease process).

I've also spent some time at the Burnie hospital. Getting to know patients and the health care team was a fantastic experience and I learnt heaps. I also had a week-long placement at Swansea which inspired me to work in a rural environment. The pharmacist played

a big role within the community there. Rural areas are much more community driven and everyone works together.

Throughout my time at UTAS, I've been heavily involved with RUSTICA (the student rural health club). Through the club I've had opportunities to travel to many areas across Australia and to get to know students from other health courses.

When I finish this year, I'm hoping to complete my training year in the North West of Tasmania. At the end of that year, all going well, I become a registered pharmacist! As well as working in hospitals, I would also like to work in a community pharmacy, spend some time being a pharmacy owner and perhaps do some further research.

Hi, I'm Alannah.

I've had such good experiences in all my rural placements; I can see that I'm basically always going to be working in a rural area.



Rural Allied Health Undergraduate Scholarships

As with any other scholarships, you have to be in it to win it. So go to the SARRAH website to check the criteria and application process for these scholarships, introduced for the first time in 2006.

The Rural Allied Health Undergraduate Scholarships (RAHUS) scholarships will be of interest to students with a rural background who wish to undertake their first degree in a range of courses including audiology, chiropractic, dentistry, dietetics, exercise physiology, indigenous health (tertiary degree only), occupational therapy, optometry, osteopathy, physiotherapy, podiatry, psychology (postgraduate), social work (approved course) and speech pathology.

Each scholarship will be worth \$10,000 per annum for each year of the student's degree. Australian Government funding of \$4 million will provide for 65 scholarships in the first year, rising to more than 180 by the third year. Students part-way through a course may also be eligible to apply. For full criteria, go to www.sarrah.org.au and to the Scholarship link, or phone the SARRAH freecall information line on 1800 460 440.

(Please note that nursing, pharmacy, oral health, public health or medical students are not eligible to apply for a RAHUS scholarship.)

Health Careers education activities

Year 10 Health Careers Camps

Two residential Health Careers Camps for Year 10 students from around Tasmania were held during early Term 2 at Camp Clayton on the North-West Coast. Current uni students lived-in for the duration and shared their own career pathways and experiences of uni life with the participants.

This year's program featured some interesting new approaches to illustrating health careers. One of these was put together by Judy Stone, Physiotherapy Clinical Supervisor with the North West Regional, and a team of allied health professionals. Students were involved in deciding "Who you gonna call" to help in the complicated treatment of "Mrs Client".

Students also had the chance to work with some of the life-like learning mannekins at the Rural Clinical School, and to get a feel for how our uni students learn some of their practical skills.

This is what students said about their experiences at the Camps.

I learnt a lot about the careers I am considering – what subjects would help me for uni in Year 11 and 12.

The good part was the uni students telling their own life experience in the presentation.

It was really good. I learnt a lot and the hands-on activities were great.

I now have a really good understanding about all of the different areas in health. I'm really excited about studying in this area at uni.

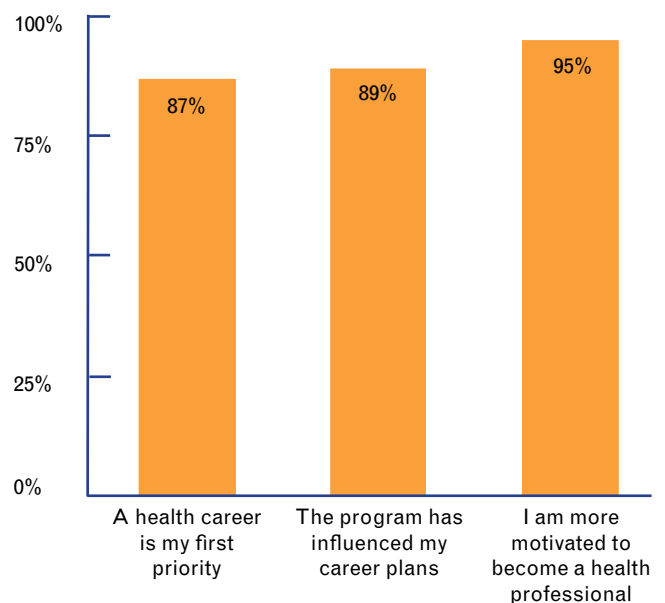


Year 9 North-West Pilot Program

A new program for Year 9 students was developed through a partnership project between the Faculty of Health Science at the University of Tasmania, the Tasmanian Department of Education and the North West Regional Hospital. The program grew out of shared concerns about the quality of health careers education for students undertaking Year 9 at high schools on the North West Coast of Tasmania.

The program was developed with a team of health practitioners and medical and careers educators. The 2-day program was run twice during the year for a total of 80 Year 9 students using a mix of activities based on the health workplace, using scenarios and role plays and demonstrating the important team approach to health care. The program was delivered by health professionals themselves.

Feedback was extremely positive and a review of the project is now underway.



Surf's up for Nursing students

Nursing student Jean Hodgson and Registered Nurse Daniel Fassett are among the new generation of male students who see nursing as a great career pathway. Keen surfers from way back, the two are featuring on booklets and posters promoting the School of Nursing and Midwifery's Bachelor of Nursing course.

Jean will complete his course at the end of this year, while Daniel has partly completed post-graduate study in mental health.

Traditionally completed over 3 years, a degree in nursing can be accelerated or fast-tracked over 2.5 or 2 years. To find out more, go to the School's website at www.snm.utas.edu.au/ and then to Programs.



Daniel Fassett

Jean Hodgson

Photo courtesy: robburnettimages

First-year Medical students "going bush"

As part of the bigger plan to encourage more doctors to "go bush", sixty-three first-year medical students from the University of Tasmania spent a day at Oatlands and Swansea Health Centres recently, to get a feel for rural practice at the coalface.

The day was part of a "Rural Week" program running from 11 - 15 September. As part of the re-designed 5-year medical curriculum, the week aimed to provide medical students with an early high-quality introduction to rural medicine.

After a welcome by local GP's, students got to try out basic patient communication skills which they'd been learning through classroom-based teaching. They interviewed patients and their carers, and talked with local health care providers and community leaders.

Students were impressed with the variety offered by rural general practice and got a better feel for the importance of local practitioners to rural patients and their families. They couldn't help but be impressed by lifestyle options at idyllic Swansea!

Dr Jan Radford, UTAS GP academic and Rural Week leader, said that students will be involved in a number of rural learning experiences during the first three years of the course while based at the Hobart campus. Ultimately it's hoped to attract more graduates to work in rural areas by giving them a better appreciation of the rewards and challenges of rural practice early in their careers.

Rural Week was funded under the federal RUSC program (Rural Undergraduate Support and Coordination).



2007 Scholarship booklet available NOW

UTAS has a very generous scholarship scheme, currently valued at around \$3.5million. Drop in to your careers office to browse through the 2007 Tasmania Scholarships booklet and to find out how to apply by Tuesday 31 October (unless otherwise specified).

If you need help with your application, call the Tasmania Scholarships Office on 1300 363 864 or email Tas.Scholarships@utas.edu.au

For more information, please contact:



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