



MEDIA RELEASE
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Parties unite to support a Bachelor of Environmental Science in Geraldton

Mid West residents wanting to undertake a locally supported Bachelor of Environmental Science are now able to make applications to enter the course at Geraldton Universities Centre after GUC, Central Regional TAFE and CQUniversity signed off on an agreement to run the much anticipated discipline starting Term 1, 2017.

As a result of this integral partnership and exciting development, key parties in the Mid West – the Batavia Coast Maritime Institute (BCMI) and the Northern Agricultural Catchments Council (NACC) – will come together with GUC to support the course.

“Students are therefore ensured to receive the best local professional support academically, administratively and pastorally in their education and development as fully qualified Environmental Scientists,” GUC Director Natalie Nelmes said.

“As distance students enrolled in CQUniversity’s Bachelor of Environmental Science studying at GUC, candidates will undertake both theoretical and practical units participating in weekly tutorials and undertaking 3-4 day intensives each term at the BCMI. Field work will also ensure students get the highest level of integrated theory and practice throughout the course.”

The Bachelor of Environmental Science enables students to develop the knowledge and skills required for employment related to environmental monitoring, land management and ecologically sustainable development, preparing students to pursue careers in roles such as; environmental officer, environmental consultant, environmental scientist and vegetation management officer.

Employment opportunities exist within public and private sectors, such as local catchment authorities (NACC being the largest employer of Environmental Scientists in the Mid West), regional natural resource management (NRM) organisations, State and Federal Government natural resource management departments, environmental consulting firms, local councils and mining companies.

“NACC is extremely pleased about the prospect of high level environmental education now being available locally and excited about what this influx of environmental scientists will bring to our region,” said NACC CEO Richard McLellan.

The Bachelor of Environmental Science is a 3-year full-time (6 years part-time) course and students with the Diploma of Conservation and Land Management or Diploma of Environmental Monitoring and Technology from Central Regional TAFE receive 8 units of credit in the program, meaning they could complete their degree after two years of full time study.

“This pathway provides students with the best of both worlds. They will be able to build on the hands-on practical skills and knowledge that they gain through the Diploma of CALM and/or the Diploma of EMT by undertaking the Bachelor of Environmental Science degree. This will give them a sound academic as well as practical foundation on which to build their future careers. This combination of practical and academic skills is exactly what employers are looking for,”



geraldton universities centre

Training Director (Marine, Environmental Science & Hospitality) Central Regional TAFE Suresh Job said.

Full-time students will also be able to apply for dedicated Environmental Science scholarships with the Hollomby Foundation recently endorsing four \$10,000 scholarships – paid over two years – for eligible students from 2017 thanks to the generous donation received from the Greenough River Solar Farm.

Ends For further information please contact the GUC on 9920 4400, email brendanp@guc.edu.au or visit www.guc.edu.au/courses/environmental-science/

Photo Credit: Emma Jackson (NACC), Suresh Job (BCMI) and Natalie Nelmes (GUC), photo courtesy GUC.