



18 September 2014  
Media Release

## **New Director announced for GUC**

The Geraldton Universities Centre (GUC) Board has announced that Natalie Nelmes will succeed Meredith Wills as the next Director of the GUC.

With Ms Wills set to retire at the end of 2014, the Board has just completed a rigorous recruitment and selection process which attracted applicants from throughout Australia and beyond.

"We're delighted to announce that after this very competitive process, Natalie Nelmes has been selected as the next Director of the GUC," Chair Steve Douglas said.

"Natalie, GUC's Special Projects Manager, already has very strong relationships with all GUC's university partners and indeed with GUC's own staff, students and our wider community.

"That aside, the Selection Panel was unanimous in its view that Natalie was the stand out candidate who exceeded all criteria for the role and the GUC Board has absolute confidence that she will maintain and grow the supportive culture of the GUC that was so ably created under the leadership of Director Meredith Wills."

Ms Nelmes' appointment is effective from 1 January 2015.

"I'm passionate about the opportunities GUC provides to our community and about our Mid West community itself," Ms Nelmes said.

"I have been fortunate in my five years at GUC to have worked closely with the Board, Director Meredith Wills, all GUC staff, our students, our partner universities and key community stakeholders to build the knowledge and foster the relationships necessary to guide the future of this great local institution.

"I'm very much looking forward to the challenge to lead GUC on our continued path to sustainability and further extend the opportunities we provide for our community."

Ms Wills said she was delighted that she would be leaving the GUC in safe hands.

"I've given my heart and soul to GUC and know that Natalie also shares the same values," Ms Wills said.

"We've been conscious of succession planning for some time so I know there will be a smooth transition for staff, students and all our stakeholders."

GUC will celebrate Ms Wills outstanding contribution to the GUC toward the end of November.

## **Ends**

*For further information please contact the GUC on 99204400*