



MEDIA RELEASE

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Two new degree courses expands range of supported offerings at GUC in 2017

Two new CQUniversity courses have been added in 2017 to the supported offerings at GUC, providing an expanded range of local university options.

"We've added a Bachelor of Education (Secondary Teaching) for the first time as well as welcoming a really strong cohort of students in the Bachelor of Environmental Science," said Director Natalie Nelmes.

"The addition of the Bachelor of Education (Secondary) strengthens education options for Mid West students who are now able to graduate in programs from early childhood and primary education through to secondary education, providing qualified local professionals for the region across the whole schooling system," Ms Nelmes said.

The new undergraduate course will see students undertaking mixed mode delivery across education core units and predominantly supported distance education units in two chosen subject areas. Graduates will be qualified to teach professionally in secondary schools in the selected subject areas.

The first cohort of students studying to be Secondary teachers includes; Joshua Arundell (Chemistry/Health & Physical Education), Chloe Vasic (Health & Physical Education/Biology), Whitney Jane (English/History) and Maddison Pomeroy (English/Biology).

As a result of an integral partnership between GUC, Central Regional TAFE and CQUniversity, a cohort of Mid West students are also undertaking a locally supported Bachelor of Environmental Science for the first time in 2017.

"Enrolled in CQUniversity's Bachelor of Environmental Science but studying at GUC, students take both theoretical and practical units, participating in weekly tutorials and undertaking 3-4 day intensives each term at TAFE or the Batavia Coast Maritime Institute. Field work also ensures students get the highest level of integrated theory and practice throughout the course," Ms Nelmes said.

"The opportunity to do this course locally is amazing! My aim is to work in natural resource management as a professional Environmental Scientist," said first year student Jarna Kendle. "I'm particularly interested in bio-security, pest and disease management."

"I've always been passionate about education, especially education in conservation and the environmental sciences. When I complete my studies. I plan to take the knowledge I have learned and pass it on by teaching hands-on in the field," said fellow student Margy Tyler

Ms Kendle and Ms Tyler join Jessica Gillespie and 4 other students in the inaugural cohort who have articulated into the Bachelor of Environmental Science after successfully completing Diploma pathways from Central Regional TAFE (Diploma of Conservation and Land Management and Diploma in Environmental Monitoring and Technology, respectively). These



Diplomas earn candidates 8 units of credit upon entering the CQUniversity undergraduate course – the equivalent of one-year of study off the 3-year full time degree.

"I value the opportunity to continue furthering my education in Environmental Science from the Diploma to Bachelor level. My academic goal is to work in conservation or research," said Ms Gillespie.

Having recently completed the STEPS-Bridging units required to enter the Bachelor of Environmental Science Scott Hishon said, "I hope to get a job in the sector that allows me to make a positive impact on our community and environment as well as to educate others on the importance of environmental science and preservation."

With options now available at GUC in Accounting, Business, Education (Early Childhood, Primary and Secondary), Environmental Science, Engineering, Nursing, Psychological Science, Social Work and the STEPS Bridging courses, students have diverse options for education and pathways into important professional fields in the Mid West, building the capacity of the region.

Students study their courses through GUC's university partners - CQUniversity and the University of Southern Queensland – and are supported administratively, pastorally and academically at GUC.

For further information about local university study options please contact GUC on 9920 4400 or email info@guc.edu.au

Ends ... Photo Credit: Inaugural Bachelor of Environmental Science cohort coming from TAFE Diploma pathway. From left to right; Joshua Shiosaki, Colin Johnson (Academic tutor), Jessica Gillespie, Margy Tyler, Jarna Kendle and Corin Desmond.