

MEDIA RELEASE



DATE: 11 February 2013 | Release TIME: Immediate

Calling All Future Illawarra Leaders

Now in its second year, The Leadership Illawarra Program is calling all potential leaders to find out how to expand their knowledge; opportunities and their practical leadership experience by applying for the 2014 Leadership Illawarra Program.

The Leadership Illawarra Program is a two-year learning program for the region's emerging leaders. Developed by Sydney Business School, RDA Illawarra and The Illawarra Connection, the program aims to produce inspired and well-connected visionaries who will lead our region into the future.

Participants will interact with and learn from today's leaders and gain practical leadership experience working on team-based projects. The program will bring together individuals from a wide range of business and community backgrounds focusing on four main themes through a series of master classes and site visits to leading organisations across the Illawarra.

"We have been delighted with the inaugural year of the Leadership Illawarra Program" said Rochelle Jeffery, Business Development and Relationship Manger – Sydney Business School. "The program saw the first cohort learn themes such as Challenges for the Illawarra, Governance and Ethics, Emotional Intelligence and Managing People in Organisations. These master classes were complemented with sites visits to Port Kembla Harbour Operations, BlueScope Steel, IMB, KPMG, IRT and UOW's Innovation Campus to gain a more in-depth insight into industries across the Illawarra. We look forward to bringing the next round of future leaders through this program."

Members from the inaugural cohort of the program have gained valuable experience, networking opportunities and developed the ability to achieve commercial outcomes as well as social services and charitable initiatives.

"I have been able to apply my experiences with the Leadership Illawarra Program on the board of a charity called MINDBLANK, as well as developing commercial opportunities with other students and mentors, leveraging off the relationships which have been formed." stated Mike Leask, an inaugural member of the Leadership Illawarra Program. "I urge the Illawarra Business, Government and Not For Profit communities to identify their talented decision makers within their own organisations, who can be inspired to make a difference, be empowered to effect change and see what a difference the Leadership Illawarra Program will make to them and their organisation"

Recruiting has commenced for the second cohort with interest from many local organisations. Applications are closing shortly. For more information, contact Rochelle Jeffery on 4221 3751 or by email at rjeffery@uow.edu.au.

####

Interviews Available. Please direct media inquiries through:

Leigh Jewiss: leigh@rdailawarra.com.au | 02 42257 4500 | 0407 636 889 | @leighjewiss | @rdailawarra