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SIX TERTIARY EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO TORRES STRAIT STUDENTS

The Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) Chairperson, Mr Joseph Elu, has announced the award of six tertiary scholarships for 2013 under the Assistance with Tertiary Education Scheme (ATES).

Recipients of the Torres Strait Regional Authority ATES Scholarship for 2013 include Mr Kevin Savage (Bachelor of Engineering, Griffith University), Ms Donella Mills (Bachelor of Law, James Cook University) and Mr Zachariah Matysek (Bachelor of Arts (Science), James Cook University).

For the first time, the TSRA is also supporting two Diploma students, Ms Sasau Mills and Ms Annie Seriat, who are completing the Diploma of Nursing as part of their goal to complete a Bachelor of Nursing Science at James Cook University.

The students to receive scholarships also include Ms Mary Mills who is in her second year as a Bachelor of Nursing Science student at the James Cook University (JCU), Thursday Island Campus.

Ms Mills said she was inspired to study nursing by her Aunt and Mother who are both nurses.

She plans to utilise her nursing degree to help close the gap in Indigenous health.

“I am committed to staying in the Torres Strait and using the skills and knowledge acquired to meet the health care needs of my community.”

“I am passionate about assisting my people in their health and wellness.

“Studying on TI is fantastic! I have all the benefits of family and community support, small tutorial classes, supportive JCU staff with access to lecturers on the mainland and online resources.

Ms Mills said she was also passionate about promoting the benefits of tertiary study to the Torres Strait community.

“Through completing this degree I wish to be a role model to my peers and other young community members by serving my community and demonstrating the importance and benefits of tertiary study.”

The TSRA offers one-year ATES Scholarships to assist people in the Torres Strait region to commence or complete university study with each scholarship valued between \$3,000 and \$6,000.

Applications for the 2014 academic year will open in November and mature aged students are encouraged to apply with applications closing on the second Friday of January 2014.



Caption: ATEs Scholarship nursing student, Mary Mills, is a strong advocate for Thursday Island based tertiary study. (High resolution image available)

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