



Media Release

Thursday, August 5th, 2010

NRM NORTH & UTAS ANNOUNCE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

NRM North and the University of Tasmania have announced the successful recipients of two new scholarships for students studying at the Australian Maritime College, Newnham Campus.

The AMC's Professor Chad Hewitt and NRM North's Chief Executive Officer James McKee today presented the scholarships to Chris Slavin and Richard Knight.

The scholarships of five thousand dollars each are funded by NRM North and were made available for students studying in the National Centre for Marine Conservation and Resource Sustainability (NCMCRS) and the Human Interface Technology (HIT) Laboratory area.

Chris Slavin's scholarship project is titled Types and Sources of Marine Debris in Northern Tasmania.

Richard Knight's PhD project is designed to assess the efficacy of coastal/marine restoration efforts.

Mr Knight said he was surprised and delighted to receive the news about the NRM North scholarship.

"This money will go towards Occupational SCUBA Diver training and equipment and other materials essential for my research."

Mr McKee said today's announcement of the successful scholarship recipients was the first outcome of a Memorandum of Understanding between the natural resource management organisation and the university.

"We are pleased to be able to help Chris and Richard with their research in these two important areas. I look forward to following their progress and seeing the final results of their hard work.

"There will be more opportunities for students at the Newnham campus as NRM North will fund another two five thousand dollar scholarships next year." Mr McKee said.

Professor Hewitt said the scholarships would significantly benefit efforts to attract top quality research students to the AMC's National Centre for Marine Conservation and Resource Sustainability.

"NRM North's financial support and contribution to research project development ensures mutual benefit in the areas of student outcomes and NRM North's project priorities."

**** Chris Slavin, Richard Knight, Professor Chad Hewitt and James McKee will be available to speak to the media today at the official scholarship presentation at 11am above the AMC Library in Room MF2.**

Ends

For more information contact:

Melissa Lewarn, Manager – Community Engagement & Communications, NRM North, 6333
7776 or 0427 354 058

***** PLEASE NOTE:** NRM North should not be referred to as 'Natural Resource Management North.' While NRM does stand for Natural Resource Management, 'NRM North' is the official name of the organisation.