Tocal College recognises future agriculture leaders

In its 50th year of operation Department of Primary Industries' Tocal College will reward the hard work and achievement of over 300 graduates at the 2015 Graduation Ceremony.

Dr Cameron Archer, Tocal Principal said it’s pleasing to see over 300 students graduating, cementing Tocal College as one of Australia’s largest post-secondary institution in terms of graduate numbers.

“The students have studied a range of courses across agriculture, land management, training and assessment and a number of other disciplines – paving the way for a successful career in agriculture,” Dr Archer said.

“While most of graduates are from NSW, Tocal continues to attract students from interstate.

“The College works with industry to create a productive and innovative workforce to meet the needs of tomorrow’s agriculture.

“Our suite of programs are designed to provide education and training resources to connect industry and participant’s needs through face to face, e-Extension and on-line flexible learning opportunities.

“Full-time students of Tocal College have gained valuable working experience on the College’s own commercial farms and also on farms around the Hunter Valley and further afield in NSW and Queensland.”

Dr Archer said Tocal’s strong emphasis on practical skills training and the development of personal skills and appropriate attitudes ensures graduates are in high demand by industry.

“Tocal graduates are well placed to go on to exciting and diverse careers on farm and in primary industries organisations and businesses,” Dr Archer said.

“The demand for well-trained people to work in our rural industries remains strong and this is reflected both through enrolments and courses and the up-take of graduates into rural careers.”

Tocal College is a key part of the NSW Government’s Agriculture Industry Action Plan and helps to deliver against a range of goals, including improved capability and access to knowledge; a highly skilled and flexible workforce and attractive and secure career pathways.

This strategic roadmap was developed between industry and the NSW Government and ensures the continued growth of the State’s $12 billion primary industries sector.

Media contact: Anne Brook 02 6763 1163 or 0477 358 305

Follow us: http://twitter.com/#!/nswdpi