

# SCHOLARLY REWARDS

## Assisting the next generation

Despite the current economic pressures influencing the industry, the WA Mining Club remains as committed as ever to supporting the development of the next generation of mining professionals. It achieves this through the annual WA Mining Club scholarship program, whereby future mining professionals are provided with the opportunity to realise their potential and create valuable industry connections.

Aimed at meeting one of the Club's key goals of encouraging consideration of, and interest in, the mining sector, each winning student receives a cash grant of \$10,000 (paid over a period of one year) to relieve some of the burden that full-time studies can create by assisting with some living costs.

Importantly, the scholarships also provide those selected with

the opportunity to access senior industry participants through a mentoring program. Scholarship winners frequently gain the opportunity for vacation employment with their scholarship co-sponsors or their own approaches to mentors and other members of the Club, and the non-pecuniary benefit of these expanded contacts, confidence and knowledge can benefit a young person's chosen career immeasurably.

The WA Mining Club first introduced the scholarships as a major educational initiative in 2003, when it initially awarded a single student with one scholarship. By 2008, thanks to the generous support of four industry co-sponsors, the scholarship program was expanded to four students, and by 2011, with the backing of another co-sponsor, the Club was delighted to increase



the number of scholarships awarded to five students. In 2014, yet another scholarship was provided, and the program now offers a total number of six scholarships.

In order to select an eligible recipient in each of the scholarship categories, the Club's education committee come together with sponsor representatives to consider applicants' academic and/or work record, personal circumstances, commitment to his/her chosen career and potential to achieve a position of leadership within the mining industry.

The following education institutions were engaged in the 2016 program: Curtin University including the WA School of Mines, University of Western Australia, Murdoch University, Edith Cowan University, Ballajura Community College, Eastern Goldfields College, Esperance Senior High School and Kalgoorlie-Boulder Community High School.

Each \$10,000 scholarship is offered in the mining sector areas of environmental sciences, geology, engineering, female student in a technical mining discipline and most recently, Indigenous student in the mining sector.

### 2016 Scholarships awarded

During an Awards lunch held at the Hyatt in August, 18 exceptional scholarship finalists were individually recognised, with six finally announced as the winning 2016 WA Mining Club scholarship recipients.

This year's co-sponsoring companies were Newmont Asia Pacific, Western Areas, Vimy Resources, Mount Gibson Iron and Independence Group co-sponsored two scholarships.

The Club strongly acknowledges these organisations, because with their backing, winners receive support that is beneficial in both a tangible manner – in the form of a generous financial contribution at a time when a student is usually stretched, and an intangible way – through expanded potential opportunities, encouragement of the values of career development and the rewards of striving for excellence amongst WA's mining graduates.

The Club offers its congratulations to the 2016 Scholarship winners, and wishes them success in their future studies towards a productive and satisfying career in the resources industry.



(L-R) Scholarship coordinator Damian Quail, WAMC President Neil Watson, award winner Grace Formentin and Vimy Resources CEO Mike Young

## 2016 Scholarship Winners



### Engineering in the Mining Sector Scholarship

Co-sponsored by Western Areas Ltd

Elliot Puccinelli has been awarded the 2016 Engineering in the Mining Sector Scholarship. Elliot is currently studying a Bachelor of Engineering at Curtin University. After graduation he would like to be employed as a mining engineer to discover and design newer, safer and more time and economically-efficient methods of material extraction and metallurgical processes, and intends to constantly improve in his field of work.



### Indigenous Student in the Mining Sector Scholarship

Co-sponsored by Independence Group

Paul Jackson has been awarded the 2016 Indigenous Student in the Mining Sector Scholarship. Paul is in Year 12 at Ballajura Community College and aspires to be a role model in his community where he can meet new people and interact with people to positively impact on their lives. He has a strong drive to succeed and is keen to pursue a career in human resources.



### Female Student in a Technical Mining Discipline Scholarship

Co-sponsored by Newmont Asia Pacific

Natasha Farr has been awarded the 2016 Female Student in a Technical Mining Discipline Scholarship. Studying a Bachelor of Honours in Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering at Murdoch University, Natasha has had a keen interest in mathematics and chemistry since a young age. After completing her study, Natasha aspires to live and work abroad as a plant metallurgist before settling back home in Australia.



### Female Student in a Technical Mining Discipline Scholarship

Co-sponsored by Mount Gibson Iron

The 2016 Female Student in a Technical Mining Discipline Scholarship has been awarded to Anis McGowan. Since choosing her career path and studying mining engineering at WA School of Mines, Anis was given the opportunity to show leadership and commitment to the industry by becoming the President of Women of WASM, where she has been inspired to achieve success through hard work and dedication.



### Geology Scholarship

Co-sponsored by Independence Group

The 2016 Geology Scholarship has been awarded to Jakub Cichosz. A second year student in Applied Geology at Curtin University, Jakub has a keen interest in mineral and oil and gas exploration as well as basin analysis. He enjoys every day of his course, and is looking forward to graduating and finding an interesting job in the resources industry.



### Environmental Sciences in the Mining Sector

Co-sponsored by Vimy Resources Ltd

The 2016 Environmental Sciences in the Mining Sector Scholarship has been awarded to Grace Formentin. Studying Bachelor of Environmental Science at Murdoch University, Grace is undertaking research that will be relevant in the mining sector and would like to align her thesis specifically with any topical mining research questions. She has applied to complete honours in her fourth year of study, specialising in air pollution meteorology.

## 2016 WA MINING CLUB SCHOLARSHIPS - INDUSTRY CO-SPONSORS

