



## Connecting our community It's what we do

Welcome to the October edition of our Connection Series – bringing our community together online.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> October we celebrated International Day of Rural Women; in this edition we showcase PhD student Ms Zahra Naqvi as she discusses her experience working on dairy farms in Pakistan as well as Dr Tania Areori who has recently returned to Papua New Guinea as the country's first female veterinarian.

In this edition we will also give updates on the Port Macquarie expansion and the progress of the School of Rural Medicine based in Orange along with the announcement of the Alumni Awards finalists.

### **International Day of Rural Women**

PhD student Ms Zahra Naqvi describes her experience working with women from small holder dairy farms in Pakistan as one of the most rewarding in her career and reflects on her work and the value of education. [Read the full story here.](#)



When recent alumna Dr Tania Areori started studying veterinary science she did not realise she would become a pioneer in her field in her home country of Papua New Guinea. [Read her full story here.](#)



### **Development News**

#### **Port Macquarie expansion**

Stage 2a of the nearly \$66 million development is complete and sees the addition of learning and teaching spaces, tiered lecture theatres, an event space, technology studio, engineering and sciences labs, a student gym, and staff offices to the campus.

The 'Stage 2 Development' project will almost triple the Port Macquarie campus's capacity from 1,000 to 2,800 students to create the largest campus in NSW outside metropolitan cities. [For more details click here.](#)



### **School of Rural Medicine**

Take a sneak peek at our School of Rural Medicine on our beautiful Orange campus. The brand-new learning and teaching space includes an ultrasound room, anatomy lab and replica hospital rooms for practical skills work.

[Watch the video here.](#)



### **Alumni Award Finalists**

Our Alumni Award winners will be announced on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October. We were overwhelmed by the number and the quality of nominations! We would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank all of our alumni for their submissions. A huge congratulations to the following finalists.

#### **Professional Achievement**

- Alison Michalk
- David Ohana
- Dr Kathryn Crowe
- Judith MacCormick

- Peter Wheeler
- Shanna Daly
- Stuart Blacksell

#### **Young Alumni of the Year**

- Dr Sarah Verdon
- Jacqueline Frei
- James Lenigas
- Lisa Jackson
- Rebecca Drummond

#### **Association Member of the Year**

- Gail Metcalfe
- Helen Egan
- Simon Selvakumar

#### **Service to the Community**

- Andrej Verity
- Dr Lisa Griffiths
- Dr Sam Osborn
- Megan Giddy
- Melinda Stevenson
- Toby Finlayson

### **Australia China Alumni Awards**

Congratulations to Anna Robb and Jason Palmer for being announced as finalists in the Australia China Alumni Awards. Anna has been nominated in the Arts and Creative Industries section, and Jason in the Social and Community Impact award. The winners will be announced at the end of November.

You can read more about our finalists and the awards program [here](#).

### **Revitalised Master of Health Management and Leadership**

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### **Connect**

If you're an alum and keen to get involved in our Connection Series, get in touch! We'd love to hear from you if you've got a story or an opportunity to share. Please email us your ideas at [alumni@csu.edu.au](mailto:alumni@csu.edu.au)