

News around the Uni Hub

Port Augusta's Uni Hub launch

Port Augusta's Uni Hub Spencer Gulf campus is on track to open in 2020 – with the launch of the project to be held at the Central Oval Community Sporting Complex on September 13, at 2pm.

The project will be officially launched by Member for Grey, the Hon Rowan Ramsey MP with the local community, including local industry and schools, invited to attend.

Uni Hub Spencer Gulf board chair Dr Jen Cleary said the launch was the next step in plans to open a Port Augusta Hub in 2020.

"The launch will provide the local community the chance to find out more about courses the Uni Hub Spencer Gulf will support and what it means for Port Augusta," she said.

"We are a new model of tertiary education facilitation for the region. We are providing local people with a unique opportunity to study a range of mixed mode tertiary courses and other programs, via our university partners, without the need to leave the region."

Dr Cleary said statistics demonstrated that face-to-face support and purpose-fit facilities increased completion rates of distance education by more than 80 per cent.

"Not only will the facility be available to Uni Hub Spencer Gulf students who are studying with our university partners or in our programs, but it will be available to anyone studying with any university," she said.

"Our goal is to grow our own solutions and increase our workforce capability in the region to attract industry. It's about building a better future for the Spencer Gulf."



SHOWCASE...South Australian Premier Steven Marshall visited Port Pirie's Uni Hub Spencer Gulf last month. Premier Marshall, left, was pictured with Bachelor of Nursing student Pam Brown and Uni Hub Spencer Gulf director, Moira Coffey.

SA Premier visits Pirie Uni Hub

Port Pirie's Uni Hub campus received a welcome visit from the South Australian Premier Steven Marshall late last month.

The Premier was in the region as part of the Global Maintenance USG annual trade and resources conference.

Uni Hub Spencer Gulf director Moira Coffey said Premier Marshall's visit provided a valuable opportunity to showcase the Port Pirie hub to the State Government.

"Premier Marshall's visit to the Port Pirie Uni Hub allowed us to share with him our achievements so far and some of our plans for the future," she said.

"We discussed how the Uni Hub provides people in the region with the chance to study at a tertiary level without leaving the region and how we provided the support, space and technology to help them succeed in their studies.

"We also spoke about the important role the Uni Hub played in assisting workforce development and addressing skill shortages in the region. We explained that there is a real need to increase our workforce capability in the region for both established and emerging enterprises.

"We were extremely grateful that the Premier was able to include us in his busy schedule whilst in the region. We would welcome any future opportunities to develop partnerships with the State Government that would align with our goals to address skills shortages in the region and would ensure local people's academic and career aspirations are met."

Port Pirie Mayor and Chair of Spencer Gulf Cities Leon Stephens said he was really pleased the Premier took time out his busy schedule to see the facility first-hand.

"We are really proud of this facility and it is so important to our future", said Mayor Stephens.

"So many school leavers and existing workers in the Upper Spencer Gulf can't just pack up and head to university in Adelaide and for many the challenge of unsupported on-line learning doesn't work either."

"The Upper Spencer Gulf is the place to be when it comes to economic growth, but we don't want a fly-in-fly-out professional workforce – we want our own community to have better access to the university qualifications to fill those roles. Uni Hub is a huge part of making that happen."