District helping educate leaders of tomorrow

Sydney Local Health District is proud to announce it has partnered with the University of Tasmania to host a new training centre aimed at developing and educating Australia’s health managers of the future.

The Australian Institute of Health Service Management, launched around the nation today, offers outstanding postgraduate training, executive development programs, executive succession planning support, research into health administration and policy, and will act as a think-tank for leaders in both the public and private health sectors.

It is guided by an advisory board made up of some of the leading executive figures within Australian health care and is already being seen by many health services as a key plank in their leadership and executive development courses, capable of adding considerable substance to their succession planning processes.

The Sydney Local Health District’s Chief Executive and member of the Institute’s advisory board, Dr Teresa Anderson, said the decision to host the Institute was "one of the best investments we’ve ever made" because it fostered loyalty and dedication in senior managers and executives.

"We sponsor new postgraduate students each year, and have seen material benefit in the quality and impact of senior managers," Dr Anderson said.

"I’d unreservedly encourage chief executives from any health service to partner with the Institute," she said.

The Australian Institute of Health Service Management, which offers both a Master and Doctor of Health Service Management, is open to those with and without clinical backgrounds. Courses are part-time, and the majority of students complete their degrees in two to three years.

The chief operating officer of the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health and founding director of the Institute, Mike Wallace, said the collaboration was “building a generation of professional health service managers”.

“The Australian Institute of Health Service Management is without doubt one of the premier education providers for health service leaders in the world,” he said.

“It’s a challenging role to lead our health care facilities and services, but our graduates are more than up to it.”

The chair of the Institute’s advisory board, Professor Gary O’Donovan, said: “Historically, 24 per cent of our Master students were promoted while undertaking their degrees, and a further 47 per cent were promoted within one year of completing their degrees. Our Doctoral students fare even better, with 83 per cent promoted while still undertaking their degrees. Without exception, all those promoted attribute their success to undertaking our postgraduate courses.”
The Institute’s advisory board includes:

- Professor Gary O'Donovan, Dean of the Faculty of Business;
- Mike Wallace, Chief Operating Officer of the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health;
- Associate Professor Jeff Patrick, Deputy Director of the Australian Institute of Health Service Management;
- Dr Teresa Anderson, Chief Executive of Sydney Local Health District;
- Karen Crawshaw, Deputy Director General (Governance, Workforce and Corporate), NSW Health;
- Matthew Daly, secretary of the Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services;
- Heather Gray, Chief Executive of the Health Education and Training Institute;
- Amanda Larkin, Chief Executive of South-Western Sydney Local Health District;
- Professor Debora Picone, Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health;
- Tim Sinclair, Acting General Manager of Concord Hospital
- Associate Professor Vicki Taylor, Chief Executive of Northern Sydney Local Health District;
- Associate Professor Martin Grimmer, Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Business, University of Tasmania;
- Dr Rob Hecker, Academic Director (Postgraduate Coursework Program) of the Faculty of Business, University of Tasmania.

The Institute’s website can be accessed at http://aihsm.org.au

For more information on the Australian Institute of Health Service Management call Sydney Local Health District's Media Unit on 9515 9607.