

MEDIA RELEASE

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Toowoomba Hospital specialist wins UQ award

The teaching work of Toowoomba Hospital consultant endocrinologist Dr Sheila Cook was recognised at a University of Queensland (UQ) awards ceremony on 17 October.

Dr Cook was one of two recipients of the 2016 UQ *Leading Change and Excellence in Teaching and Learning* award.

“It’s an annual award from UQ and there were two awards given for teaching this year with both of those going to teachers at the UQ Rural Clinical School, being myself and Jules Bennett, who is one of our academic teachers at Hervey Bay,” Dr Cook said.

Dr Cook received her award in recognition of the work she has been doing on with the University of Queensland Rural Clinical School preparing student doctors for day-to-day work as a junior doctor in the hospital wards.

“We’ve been running the program for the past two years and it’s dedicated to helping prepare final year medical students to become better skilled junior doctors,” she said.

“Day-to-day life for a young doctor can be very demanding, so the program has a very practical focus.

“It’s not as much about improving clinical knowledge, but more focussed on professionalism, time management and how to cope with a busy hospital environment.

“As far as we are aware, it is the first program of its kind in the world, so we created it from scratch here in Toowoomba.

“Many of our junior doctors at Toowoomba Hospital have trained here at the University of Queensland Rural Clinical School, and have successfully participated in the program. They are amongst the best junior doctors we have seen and are now passing on what they have learned to medical students coming through.

“It is very pleasing to see, and certainly good for Toowoomba Hospital.”

Ends

Caption: Dr Sheila Cook of Toowoomba Hospital has been presented with an award by the University of Queensland for her work preparing student doctors for day-to-day work in hospitals.

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