

Study can lead to travel

UNE students get ready to fly overseas to the USA and UK

KAMILAROI woman Eliza Barnett and Wiradjuri woman Emily Sherwood have scored the opportunity of a lifetime to visit leading overseas universities as part of the annual Aurora Indigenous Scholars International Study Tour.

The University of New England students will fly out of Australia on October 20.

They will spend approximately three weeks in the USA visiting Berkeley, Stanford, Columbia, New York University and Harvard, and approximately 10 days in the UK at Cambridge, Oxford, and the London School of Economics.

Final-year Bachelor of Education student Eliza is from Tamworth and is looking forward to the opportunities offered by the scholarship.

"I'm very excited about the Study Tour," she said,

"Not only will it allow me to further develop my teaching ability and skills, but also allow me to continue my studies in new and different educational settings."

Fellow student Emily lives on the Central Coast and is studying a double degree in Criminology and Law.

Emily says that for her the Study Tour is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

"I have always wanted to know what it was like to study overseas and to visit



UNE student Eliza Barnett.

such prestigious colleges and universities," she said.

"By participating in the Aurora Study Tour I hope to gain insight into the option of pursuing postgraduate study in the UK or the USA.

"I also hope to meet like-minded people and take advantage of the



UNE student Emily Sherwood.

networking opportunities the Study Tour will offer."

The pair was assisted by staff from the Oorala Aboriginal Centre to complete their applications.

Oorala director Greg Davison said Oorala staff provided advice, support and assistance to the students as required.

"I'm very proud of their achievement as this is the first time UNE Indigenous students have been awarded these scholarships," he said.

"Participating in an international opportunity such as this will further enhance their UNE experience."

Study Tour participants will meet with key academics and administrators at each university, as well as current students in their areas of interest.

They will also have invaluable opportunities to gain insight into the realities of undertaking postgraduate study overseas.

The Indigenous Scholars International Study Tour is made possible by the Aurora Education Foundation, which has been supporting high-achieving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and graduates to attain academic excellence at some of the most prestigious universities in the world.

Since its inception seven years ago, 118 Indigenous Australians have participated in the Study Tour.

Of these, 50 have applied for overseas study at the universities visited and 44 have been accepted – an 88% success rate.

The 2018 Study Tour is jointly funded by the Australian Government.

UNE: Strengthening Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student success

UNE and the Oorala Aboriginal Centre provide a wide range of assistance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students including:

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- ▶ Specialist Tutors
- ▶ Alternative Entry Pathways
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