

# Youth leaders learn about health hurdles of NT

GLOBAL youth leaders have visited a leading Territory Health researcher to gain insight into health and social problems in world wide tropics and how to deal with them from.

The Ship for World Youth Leaders (SWY) program visited the Menzies School of Health Research (Menzies) to learn about some of the key public health challenges being addressed by the organisation, through the Improving Health Outcomes for the Tropical North (HOT NORTH) program.

The SWY program is sponsored by the Cabinet Office of the Japanese Government and involves young people from Japan and countries around the world, including 11 Australian participants.

The participants studied and discussed common issues from a global perspective and participated in various activities that involve multicultural and multinational exchange opportunities to cultivate international awareness and leadership. Participants gained an understanding of the importance of developing a unified response to address these critical health issues in Northern Australia, the region and globally.

In particular, the young people learnt more about the ongoing global public health

threats and the emerging issue of antimicrobial resistance and get an overview of the work currently being undertaken to address these threats.

A number of specialist researchers discussed their experiences working in Northern Australia and the Northern Territory.

Menzies HOT NORTH director Professor Bart Currie said it was a privilege to host the group on a tour of Menzies Research facilities while they were docked in Darwin.

"We introduced our international and Australian visitors to some of our star young researchers to share the challenges and opportunities in working in health science research in North Australia," he said. "Dr Chris Lowbridge spoke about tuberculosis control in our region, Dr Teresa Wozniak shared her experience as an epidemiologist in Northern Australia and Dr Michael Binks explained his experience working on childhood respiratory infections in the Northern Territory."

Students had the opportunity to ask the researchers about opportunities at Menzies and increased their knowledge about the issues faced in Northern Australia, as well as gaining understanding about the great work being done at Menzies School of Research.



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