

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## International youth leaders sail into Menzies School of Health Research

### 11 February 2019

The Ship for World Youth Leaders (SWY) program, have visited the Menzies School of Health Research (Menzies) to learn about some of the key public health challenges being addressed by the organization, 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 youths from Japan and countries around the world including 11 Australian participants.

The participants study and discuss common issues from a global perspective and participate in various activities that involve multi-cultural and multi-national exchange opportunities to cultivate international awareness and leadership.

Menzies HOT NORTH Director Professor Bart Currie says it was a privilege to host the group on a tour of Menzies Research facilities whilst 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.

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" said Professor Currie.

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, participants 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.

Students had the opportunity to ask researchers about opportunities at Menzies and hopefully increase their knowledge about the issues faced in Northern Australia and gain understanding about the great work being done at Menzies School of Research. ENDS

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#### **Menzies School of Health Research**

Menzies School of Health Research is one of Australia's leading medical research institutes dedicated to improving Indigenous, global and tropical health. Menzies has a history of over 30 years of scientific discovery and public health achievement. Menzies works at the



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frontline, joining with partners across the Asia-Pacific as well as Indigenous communities across northern and central Australia. Menzies collaborates to create new knowledge, grow local skills and find enduring solutions to problems that matter.