

NEWS

International WASM guests



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THE Western Australian School of Mines' Kalgoorlie Campus will take on an international feel this week as WASM plays host to a delegation of mining officials from African nations.

Officials from Mining Ministries in Morocco, Togo, Malawi, Senegal, Niger, Namibia and Rwanda are being hosted by WASM as part of an international education program administered by Education and Training International.

The scholars will undergo a 12-week course at WASM, with time split between WASM's Bentley and Kalgoorlie campuses.

WASM Director Steve Hall said the courses would cover a number of areas crucial to developing the resources industry in the African nations.

"The courses will focus on mining regulation and management, policy development, mineral finance, socio-economic issues and workforce gender balance, as well as technical topics in mining, environmental impact, health and safety," Professor Hall said.

Prof Hall said the launch of the courses ahead of this year's Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Perth was particularly timely.

"We're going to get a lot more publicity out of this – it gives us that access to the top tier of Government and allows us to build even stronger international links," he said.

"It's certainly a case of all hands on deck at the moment. We're definitely aware of the

benefits this type of program can bring."

He said the first groups of scholars were funded by the Federal Government through the AusAid program, while ETI was administering the program on a local level with WASM and Curtin University.

"WASM staff are running this program in conjunction with the Graduate Business School – particularly in the areas of public health and public policy," Prof Hall said.

"This week the scholars have been getting a crash course in the workings of the Australian political system – how the States and the Federal Government and all the other relationships work.

"This factors into the governance areas they'll be covering are how to set up an effective royalty system and what kind of structure works best to regulate the industry."

He said the Kalgoorlie-Boulder parts of the visit would focus on the practical side of the mining industry – including several field visits to regional mines.

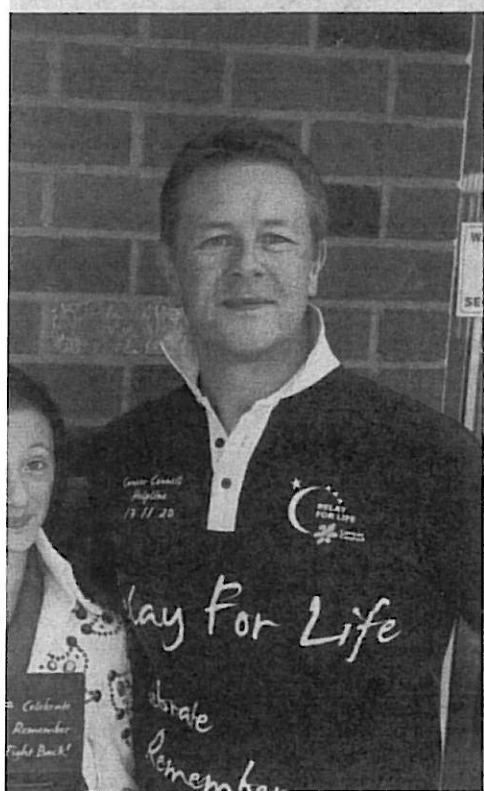
"We've got them going up to Granny Smith, where Julie Shuttleworth is one of the few mine managers in Western Australia," Prof Hall said.

"The Australian Government wanted us to bring in some of the gender issues – so we wanted to take them somewhere to show how women are progressing in the industry.

"Julie also has a background working on mines in Tanzania, so we were very pleased when she volunteered to be part of the program."

WASM will host a barbecue for the delegates tonight at the WASM Social Club on Egan Street, starting at 6.30pm.

Prof Hall said he was particularly keen to see members of the Goldfields African community attend.



Little Miss Elvis (Caitlin Dobbs) are set to rock are pictured with team member and sponsor.

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Life while having a great time.

The Elvis and Tom Jones Tribute night will kick off at 8pm on Saturday at the Italian Club, Lane Street, Kalgoorlie.

Tickets are \$20 and selling fast. For more information or to book for the show, phone Mark on 0402 005 601.

Tickets will also be available at the door on the night.

WENDY LAVENDER

SALE