

13 January, 2012

2012 wine industry Future Leaders named

The wine sector has chosen 15 participants for the fifth intake of its successful development program *Future Leaders – Succession for the Australian Wine Sector*.

As in previous years, they represent a broad cross-section of the industry, from winemakers and viticulturists to professionals involved with marketing, sales, public relations and industry development.

More than 50 applications were received for the program, which will be delivered for the third time by the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation (ARLF).

Five sessions will be held in different venues over six months, beginning in Canberra in May.

“The quality and diversity of the applicants remains very high and that has been a key part of the program’s success,” said Stephen Strachan, Chief Executive of the Winemakers' Federation of Australia (WFA).

“These are young or mid-career leaders who we are hoping will get involved with important issues for the sector at a national, state and regional level.

“We want them not just to learn, but also to engage, contribute and debate, and to develop the range of skills that underpin strong leadership.”

A number of graduates from the first four programs have taken on formal roles, ranging from serving on boards and committees through to providing leadership and new ideas at a regional level. There was no program intake in 2011, allowing for a greater focus on alumni development.

Future Leaders is a joint initiative of WFA, Wine Grape Growers Australia, Wine Australia and the Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation.

Two scholarships have been provided for 2012, including the third year of the Trevor Drayton Scholarship in honour of the late Trevor Drayton, a serving WFA Board member at the time of his death.

The scholarship recipients are Liam Heslop from Lowe Wines in NSW (Trevor Drayton Scholarship) and Victoria Leeke from Ripe Viticulture in Victoria.

The 15 successful program applicants for 2012 are listed below.

Future Leaders participants, 2012

James Agnew	General Manager	Agnew Wines Pty Ltd (NSW)
Trish Barry	Managing Director	Mastermind Consulting (NSW)
Kristy Bartrop	Industry Development Officer	Riverina Wine Grapes Marketing Board (NSW)
Katherine Brown	Public Relations Manager	Brown Brothers Milawa Vineyard (Vic)
Julian Forwood	General Manager Sales	Wirra Wirra Vineyards (SA)
Martin Gransden	Company Viticulturist	Cumulus Wines (NSW)
Liam Heslop	Winemaker	Lowes Wines Pty Ltd (NSW)
Ashley Keegan	Chief of Viticulture	Food & Beverage Australia Ltd (SA)
Daniel Killey	National Business Manager	Samuel Smith & Son Pty Ltd (SA)
Victoria Leeke	Viticulturist / Owner	Ripe Viticulture (Vic)
Suzanne McLoughlin	Viticulturist – Sustainability	Treasury Wine Estates (SA)
Nikki Palun	Marketing & Trade Manager	De Bortoli Wines (NSW)
Anthony Quinn	National Supply Manager	Orlando Wines (SA)
Anthony Scholz	Owner / Manager	Scholz Estate (SA)
Chris Tyrrell	Assistant Winemaker	Tyrrell's Vineyards (NSW)

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