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## **GRANT TO RUN FOR STUDENT SUCCESS PROJECT**

The Regional Universities Network (RUN) has received a grant of \$146,500 from the Higher Education Participation and Partnerships National Priorities Pool for a project in 2016 to facilitate success for students from low socio-economic status (SES) backgrounds at regional universities.

The Chair of RUN, Prof Jan Thomas, said that the network was delighted with the grant, which will look at what helps students stay at university.

“The project will be led by Federation University Australia, and involve all of RUN’s member universities. It will focus on what helps low SES students at regional universities stay and succeed at university, despite the challenges and obstacles they face. It will also look at what program and other improvements might universities make to better support and encourage low SES, domestic, regional students to complete their studies,” Professor Thomas said.

“The proposal will generate evidence to determine successful current approaches to increasing the success of low SES domestic students studying at regional universities. It will also provide guidance about how to begin addressing gaps in current approaches to supporting these students. Finally, it will provide policy advice around priorities for potential new approaches to fostering success for these students,” Professor Thomas said.

“This project will build on the other collaborative work that the network’s universities are undertaking to improve student outcomes, including considering the use of predictive analytics to inform evidence-based student retention initiatives.”

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