

Thursday, May 22, 2014

## **LambEx Young Guns selected and heading to Adelaide**

A NEW, national competition highlighting the huge depth of talent and knowledge in the youth of the Australian lamb industry has selected 13 finalists to head to LambEx 2014 in Adelaide on July 9-11.

This is a new event sponsored by the Australian White Suffolk Association (AWSA) involving young people sharing their experiences, projects, research, studies, thoughts or ideas on the whole lamb value chain.

Finalist selection judges, Andrew Heinrich, AWSA, Associate Professor Wayne Pitchford, University of Adelaide, and Bruce Hancock, National CRC/MLA Lamb Supply Chain Group Coordinator and PIRSA/Rural Solutions SA, all concurred that between the entrants and within the three categories there was great depth and diversity, varying roles, jobs and careers, and a strong demonstration of high achievement at such a young age.

“All in all, the finalists conveyed enthusiasm, passion and motivation for the industry, were creating change around them, were innovative in their thinking and application, are demonstrating their desire to be a servant of the industry, have a clear vision and are worthy champions,” Mr Hancock said.

“And all this was in their written word and draft poster, we can’t wait to meet them in person and hear what they have to say in their three-minute presentations to the judges at LambEx.”

“We encourage everyone to get along to LambEx, view the posters and meet these Young Guns. You never know, one of them might be on a committee with you over the next five years, or be a future employee.”

The 13 finalists have received complementary admission to LambEx and have been invited to develop a laminated, hard-copy poster, which they will bring to LambEx 2014 to display and talk to exhibitors. They will also deliver a three-minute presentation to the panel and their finalist peers on the afternoon of Wednesday, July 9.

There are three categories for the competition: high school and undergraduate students; honours, masters and PhD students; and early career professionals (30 years old or younger at July 10, 2014).

The winner of each of the three sections will be interviewed in a panel session on-stage by Assoc Professor Graham Gardner from the Sheep CRC/Murdoch University in front of the LambEx audience and will each receive a \$400 prize from AWSA.

AWSA council member and LambEx representative Andrew Heinrich says the competition is a fantastic way to recognise the ‘young guns’ coming up through the industry.

“The association is really excited to be able to be part of LambEx and particularly to be involved in the youth of the lamb industry,” he said.

“I attended the previous conference in Bendigo with a bus load of South Australians, including many young people, and it was great to see there are a lot of young farmers out there excited about the prime lamb industry and keen to learn and be innovative.

“We want to recognise their contribution to the industry to date and encourage them as they build their own careers to ensure the lamb industry has many young people excited and enthused about their future in the industry.”

# Lambex<sup>2014</sup>

JULY 9-11 ADELAIDE SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**ENDS**

**More information...**

- Find out more about the Young Guns at [www.lambex.com.au](http://www.lambex.com.au)
- Bruce Hancock, convenor and LambEx committee member, 0417 813 545, [bruce.hancock@sa.gov.au](mailto:bruce.hancock@sa.gov.au)