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MEDIA RELEASE

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APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR MI'S SCHOLARSHIP/CADETSHIP PROGRAM

- **Applications open for MI's 2012 Scholarship Cadetship Program**
- **Program aims to support locals in gaining a wide range of skills for future careers**
- **For a list of eligibility criteria visit MI's website or phone (02) 6962 0200**
- **Applications close 5 February 2012**

University students are invited to apply for a scholarship or cadetship under Murrumbidgee Irrigation's (MI) 2012 Tertiary Support Program.

MI Acting Chief Executive Mr Geoff Beard said the program, now in its second year, aims to support local students in gaining a wide range of skills for their future careers.

Jessica Dalton, one of the 2011 scholarship recipients, has just finished her fourth year of tertiary studies in Veterinary Science and Veterinary Biology at Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga.

Ms Dalton, who plans to begin her career in a rural area in 2013, said she was honoured to receive a scholarship this year and strongly encourages students from the MIA to apply for the 2012 program.

"The scholarship has helped to cover some of the expenses which go along with university study especially when living away from home, such as accommodation, text books and uniforms."

Nicholas Zumbo was also awarded a 2011 scholarship and has one year to complete in a double degree in Engineering and Commerce at The University of Sydney.

"The scholarship removed the need to get a part-time job which meant I could concentrate fulltime on my studies," said Mr Zumbo.

Mr Zumbo has already commenced his career path in the local area - having undertaken work placements at A&G Industries and MI in Griffith during university vacations.

"There are great career opportunities in regional areas, with benefits such as a more relaxed lifestyle and a strong sense of community," said Mr Zumbo.

Rebecca Robertson was awarded a 2011 cadetship and said that vacation work experience provided through the cadetship has helped pave the way for career opportunities.

MI now invites eligible students to apply for funding under the 2012 program. Applications close on 5 February 2012.

Selection is merit based and to apply for either a cadetship or scholarship, students must meet the eligibility criteria which includes a willingness and capacity to make a long standing commitment and contribution to the MIA.

For a list of eligibility criteria and for further information, please visit MI's website www.mirrigation.com.au or phone (02) 6962 0200.

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For further information, please contact Monica Armanini, MI Public Relations Coordinator on 02 6962 0200.