

## ECU journalism and broadcast students take top national awards

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ECU Journalism and Broadcasting students won two of the top awards at the 2013 National Student Journalism Awards.

Haley Francis won for Best Broadcast Current Affairs Story and Tasha Tania won for Best Print Story by an International Student.

Karma Bardon was highly recommended for her online feature article on mental health.



ECU student journalists have swept the finalist positions in the WA Media Awards' Student Journalist section.

These awards were announced at the Journalism Education Association of Australia (JEAA) annual conference at Mooloolaba in Queensland.

They are highly competitive, with 2013 featuring the largest ever number of entries from among 29 universities that teach journalism and broadcast.

The judges were media industry professionals from across Australia.

The awards cap a highly successful year for ECU students with broadcast students winning WA's Best Student Journalism Award for the third year in a row and both journalism and broadcast students receiving three top national tertiary student awards.

ECU's Journalism Coordinator Associate Professor Trevor Cullen said the awards reflect the hard work and commitment by both staff and students and show how ECU's programme is well-respected by industry, media professionals and Journalism educators

in Australia.

"I'm so pleased for the students who won and for our team of broadcast and journalism teachers," he said.

"While our program is small compared to larger universities, our teamwork and commitment has again proved decisive.

"More importantly, we've retained our status as one the top performing programs in Australia and the Pacific."

These awards follow the first-ever meeting of WA news editors and Journalism educators in Perth, organised and hosted by ECU on 19 November.