Willetton whiz-kid wins scholarship

Maths whiz-kid Jonathan Blanchard’s numerous mathematics achievements, certificates and awards have all added up to a generous Academic Merit Scholarship from Curtin University of Technology.

The Willetton Senior High School student will be honoured at a special presentation ceremony at Curtin’s Bentley Campus on Monday 20 February, along with around 160 other scholarship recipients from across Western Australia.

The Scholarship will cover the full cost of Jonathon’s chosen course – which is, not surprisingly, Mathematical Science.

“It is a great honour to receive the Scholarship and it is really rewarding to know that all my hard work in the TEE has paid off,” Jonathan said.

According to Director, Student Services, Mr John Rowe Curtin has one of the most comprehensive and generous undergraduate scholarship programs in Australia, with over $4 million worth of scholarships being awarded in 2006.

Assistance is shared between Academic Merit Scholarships and Access Scholarships.

“The University implemented this scheme for two main reasons – one was to attract high calibre students to the University and provide financial support for their studies through a comprehensive scholarship program.

“The other was to provide opportunities and financial support to students who might not otherwise have had the chance to attend university,” Mr Rowe said.

Curtin Vice-Chancellor Professor Lance Twomey said the Scholarship Program was a great initiative and would open doors for many students in the future.

“This is the first year such a generous and wide-ranging scholarship program has been running at Curtin and it will continue to be developed further for 2007.

“This is another way we can support the community and show our commitment to education in Western Australia,” Professor Twomey said.

The Academic Merit Scholarships were awarded to high academic achievers, and were distributed amongst the University’s various courses by a panel including the Director, Student Services and the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Academic Services.

Applicants for the Access Scholarships were assessed against a range of criteria including financial hardship, educational disadvantage, disability and/or medical condition and rural or remote isolation.

Contact: Katie McGregor; Public Relations Assistant; Corporate Communications; Curtin; 08 9266 4364; k.mcgregor@curtin.edu.au