



SENATOR THE HON ARTHUR SINODINOS AO
MINISTER FOR INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE
SENATOR FOR NEW SOUTH WALES

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University of New South Wales receives \$499,631 to engage citizen scientists

The University of New South Wales (UNSW), in the electorate of Kingsford-Smith, will receive a \$499,631 grant for a project that will connect everyday Australians with skilled scientists in a team called the Sydney Schools Weather and Air Quality Network (SWAQ Network).

One of five Citizen Science Grants announced recently, this project will place meteorology and air quality sensors in 30 schools across Sydney, and students will then collect and analyze research quality data in science and geography curriculum-aligned classroom activities. The data will also be freely available online to the public and to researchers.

This research collaboration between local schools and UNSW is important as Sydney's population is predicted to grow by 30 per cent within twenty years, resulting in urbanization which will adversely impact temperature and air quality in areas of rapid growth. Currently there are few meteorological and air quality observational sites to adequately monitor the effects of increased urbanization on local weather and air quality

Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, Senator the Hon. Arthur Sinodinos AO, said Citizen Science projects were a great way to involve all Australians in science.

“Through Citizen Science everyone can make a valuable contribution to our scientific and research communities on projects of national importance.

I’m pleased to see some of Australia’s top universities involving the community in their work.

It’s great to see the University of New South Wales partnering with local schools on this interesting and worthwhile project,” Senator Sinodinos said.

The announcement comes in conjunction this week with the Coalition Government’s National Science Week program promoting public engagement with Australia’s outstanding science community.

Senator Sinodinos encourages everyone to discover the National Science Week events happening in their communities. For more information visit www.scienceweek.net.au

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