



St George Hospital and Community Health Services

13 February, 2017

St George clinicians encourage students to pursue STEM careers



- Role models, from left: Dr Jodi Lynch, Professor Kate Moore and Associate Professor Theresa Jacques

Professor **Kate Moore**, Director, Pelvic Floor Unit, Associate Professor **Theresa Jacques**, Director, Intensive Care Unit and Chair of the Medical Staff Council and Dr **Jodi Lynch**, Head of the Department of Oncology, are leading the way in encouraging high school girls to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

The specialists joined with doctors, medical students, nurses and allied health staff in engaging with more than 100 students at a careers workshop held at St George Hospital recently.

St George Hospital's Medical Staff Council organised the event as part of the UNESCO international day of women and girls in STEM.

Theresa said international data showed an increasing number of girls were interested in science and technology subjects at school but not taking it any further.

"They may even get to the stage of graduating with a degree in that area, but they are hitting a glass ceiling and not coming to prominence in leadership positions. We really need to not waste that talent," Theresa said.



Health
South Eastern Sydney
Local Health District

Jodi told the students St George Hospital had some incredible role models for younger women: “They are not only in medicine, but in nursing and allied health disciplines, as well as our scientific researchers,” Jodi said.

At the event, Kate was presented with the inaugural St George Hospital Woman Scientist of the Year award. Presenting the award, Theresa said Kate was one of the most inspirational women in the hospital.

“Twenty five years ago, she and two other doctors had started the Pelvic Floor Clinic in a recycled operating theatre, and from those humble beginnings has built a service that is internationally renowned,” Theresa said.