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New leader moves into rural health

HEALTH

Warrnambool

A FAMILIAR face has taken on the lead role at Deakin Rural Health.

Dr Vin Versace has been appointed Deakin Rural Health's new director.

Dr Versace is a former student at Deakin University in Warrnambool.

The Port Fairy-based doctor has also been named as an Associate Professor at Deakin's school of medicine.

Dr Versace said his appointment was an example of Deakin's commitment to

rural and regional health.

"It's exciting to me personally because it allows me to pursue a meaningful academic career in the part of the world where I enjoy living," Dr Versace said.

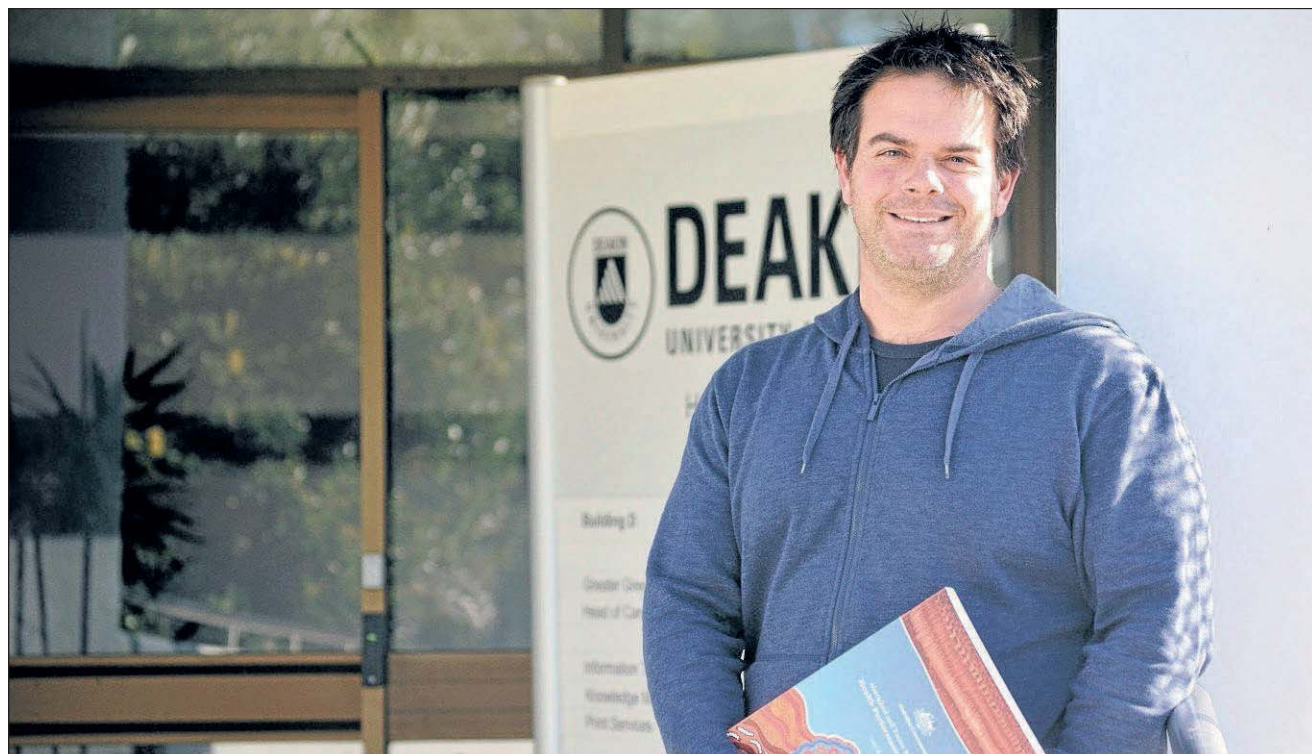
"It's also a good vote of confidence for the campus."

Deakin Rural Health is involved in health research and provides placements for nursing, allied health and medical students, an area Dr Versace hopes to expand.

"The rationale is if people in these professions have a rewarding and engaging

experience in a rural setting, they're far more likely to return to work in a rural setting, which will address workforce shortages," he said.

— ANTHONY BRADY



IN CHARGE: Dr Vin Versace is the new director of Deakin Rural Health. He hopes to continue to make Warrnambool an attractive place for health professionals to live and work.