COUNCIL

The University Council met in the Council Room, Sandy Bay Campus, Hobart on Friday 2 September 2011, starting at 9am.

Meeting Dates for 2012

Council noted the proposed 2012 Council meeting dates.
- 10 February 2012 (Launceston)
- 23 March 2012 (Hobart)
- 20 April 2012 (Launceston)
- 18 May 2012 (Hobart)
- 29 June 2012 (Burnie)
- 17 August 2012 (Hobart)
- 28 September 2012 (Launceston)
- 26 October 2012 (Hobart)
- 23 November 2012 (Launceston)
- 14 December 2012 (Hobart)

Voluntary Code of Best Practice for Governance of Australian Universities

Council received a report on the development of a Voluntary Code of Best Practice for Governance of Australian Universities. The Code was developed by a joint working party consisting of representatives from the University Chancellors’ Committee, Universities Australia and the Joint Committee on Higher Education.

The Working Party developed the Code by re-drafting the existing National Governance Protocols for Higher Education to take account of recent developments, including relevant recommendations contained in the report of the NSW Legislative Council’s inquiry into the Governance of NSW Universities and a set of governance principles developed by the NSW Government in response to this report.

The Code has been endorsed by the Ministerial Council for Tertiary Education and Employment and UTAS will in future include in its annual report a statement of its compliance with the Code. UTAS is currently compliant with the Code apart from clause 4 (Chancellor and Deputy Chancellor holding office subject to retaining the confidence of the Council) and the Chancellor has requested appropriate amendment in his discussions with the Minister over changes to the University of Tasmania Act 1992.

VICE-CHANCELLOR PORTFOLIO REPORT

Senior appointment - Pro Vice-Chancellor (Regional Development)
Professor Janelle Allison has been appointed to the newly-created position of Pro Vice-Chancellor (Regional Development). Professor Allison is currently director of both the Cradle
Coast Campus and the Institute for Regional Development in Burnie. With a background in geography and regional planning, she has worked extensively with regional communities within Australia, as well as in Africa and Indonesia. As Pro Vice-Chancellor (Regional Development), with a specific focus on the Launceston and Cradle Coast campuses, Professor Allison will be responsible for campus development, strengthening academic programs, fostering partnerships and community engagement. Professor Allison will be a member of the senior executive of the University and will sit on the Senior Management Team. She will maintain her responsibilities as director of the Cradle Coast campus in her new role. Professor Allison starts her new position on 1 September.

**Senior appointment- Director Rural Clinical School**

Professor Timothy Skinner commenced as Director of the Rural Clinical School on 1 August. Professor Skinner leaves his roles as Director of Research at Flinders University Rural Clinical School and Deputy Director of the Combined Universities Centre for Rural Health to move to the NW of Tasmania. He is also the Australasian Co-Editor of *Rural and Remote Health Journal* and an active researcher with over 100 published academic papers. His research interests include: Diabetes; Cystic Fibrosis; Parkinson’s disease; Obstructive Sleep Apnoea; Self Management Education; Mindfulness; Patient/Professional communication; and Aboriginal ear health and gestational diabetes. Until the arrival of Professor Skinner, Associate Professor Peter Arvier and Dr Lizzi Shires will continue in the roles of Acting Co-Directors.

**A New UTAS Strategic Plan**

A discussion paper to promote thinking around developing the Strategic Plan has now been prepared and released internally to UTAS staff. The Strategic Plan Working Party, chaired by the Provost, has been meeting fortnightly since early July. Staff workshops were held at each of the Tasmanian campuses and in Sydney in the final weeks of August. A workshop with Council is scheduled for 1 September. Feedback from these sessions will inform a Green Paper, to be released for comment mid September.

**Death of former Vice-Chancellor, Emeritus Professor David Caro, AO, OBE**

The University has sadly noted the passing of a former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Tasmania, Emeritus Professor David Caro, AO, OBE, last month. Professor Caro was Vice-Chancellor from 1978 to 1982, during a period of change at UTAS, with the merger between the University and the Tasmanian College of Advanced Education. He was born in 1922 and educated at the Universities of Melbourne and Birmingham. Professor Caro was not only a leader in higher education but also a world-renowned physicist. Following his term at UTAS, Professor Caro became Vice-Chancellor at the University of Melbourne and then interim Vice-Chancellor at the Northern Territory University. He also served as Chancellor at the University of Ballarat. Professor Caro remained a strong supporter of UTAS and will be remembered fondly by former colleagues here as well as in the national higher education sector for his excellent lifelong contribution. The University has extended its heartfelt condolences to Professor Caro's wife, Fiona, and family. An event to honour Professor Caro’s contribution to UTAS and education is being planned.

**2011 Shanghai Jiao Tong rankings and Good Universities Guide**

The University has been ranked in the 10-13 bracket in the latest Shanghai Jiao Tong rankings. UTAS improved in *Nature* and *Science* in both publications and per capita performance. Overall UTAS has jumped 26 places in the world rankings to be in the 301-400 bracket – this is our highest position ever, although we did reach 382 in 2008. Six of the top 17 Australian universities last year have a reduced score with Wollongong dropping by 10.8%. In the group of
universities that improved, UTAS is around the middle with an increase of 5.3%. The Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) is conducted by researchers at the Center for World-Class Universities of Shanghai Jiao Tong University (CWCU).

The University has gained two five-star and two-four star ratings in the 2012 edition of the Good Universities Guide. UTAS scored five stars for staff-student ratio and access by equity groups and four stars for teaching quality and student demand. The guide also notes that UTAS is one of a select few universities to have combined successful pathways for equity students with above-average research income per capita. UTAS improved its research intensity from three to four stars. UTAS dropped one star in indigenous participation, from five to four, but improved its star rating from three to four for cultural diversity. Graduates generic skills also dropped from four stars to three, but graduate outcomes increased from two to three stars.

**August graduations**
Almost 1400 students graduated during the graduation ceremonies last month – 1001 in Hobart and 378 in Launceston. Two Honorary Degrees were also awarded at the Hobart ceremonies to former special adviser to the UN, Malaysian Senator Tunku Abdul Aziz, who received a Doctor of Laws and Dr Peter Smith, who received a Doctor of Science. Senator Abdul Aziz, who came to the University of Tasmania in 1962, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts with majors in History and Political Science in 1965, also attended the International Alumni function where he encouraged international students to embrace the local community they have chosen to come and study in. Tunku Aziz is known for campaigning fearlessly and relentlessly for good governance and ethical conduct in his fight against corruption. Dr Smith started his career as a laboratory assistant and industrial chemist. He introduced the teaching of modern inorganic chemistry into the university’s department of Chemistry and in conjunction with two other colleagues set up the Central Science Laboratory. Dr Smith sought to engage with the wider chemical community and convinced many local Tasmanian industries to employ graduates, seeking scholarships from business in the process. Speakers for the ceremonies included Professor Morgan Miles (UTAS); Tunku Abdul Aziz (alumnus); Professor Paddy Nixon (UTAS); Dr Peter Smith (alumnus); Professor Marnie Hughes-Warrington (Monash University); Professor David Sadler (UTAS); Fiona Reynolds (ABC).

**Open Days**
Open Days have been held at all three Tasmanian campuses during August. Open Day offers prospective students, parents and members of the community comprehensive course information about courses at UTAS and the opportunity to talk to academic and professional staff. This year, presentations were given by each faculty on undergraduate and postgraduate courses, as well as general information sessions. Special guest speakers included Stephen Mayne – award winning journalist and founder of www.crikey.com.au. Tours of the campus facilities were available on all campuses.

**Community engagement**
Several recent events in Launceston presented an opportunity to represent the University in broad forums for engagement. UTAS partnered with CEDA to present a forum on Agribusiness – Could this be Tasmania’s Future, including hosting a panel discussion how industry uses innovation to increase production and reach a higher GDP for Tasmania. Attendees included a broad range of interests from government, industry and the agricultural sector. Former Chancellor Dr Mike Vertigan also invited the Vice-Chancellor to speak at the MyState Limited community dinner at Inveresk for more than 100 guests, including the Mayors of the three largest local government areas in the north. A Research Week collaborative event with the Launceston Chamber of
Commerce was also very successful in terms of broad industry, business, community and University participation. Lastly, a UTAS Foundation dinner was held involving approximately 50 guests, including alumni, donors and friends.

**Design thinking**  
Internationally renowned design-thinker Associate Professor Cameron Tonkin-Wise was invited to present a workshop with the Senior Management Team as well as a public lecture in Launceston. Both sessions were video-linked to Hobart. Design is looked to as a new way of generating value, enabling cultural change, and responding to complex societal problems. Associate Professor Tonkin-Wise’s research and professional activities integrate the philosophy of design with a concern for sustainability. Associate Professor Tonkin-Wise is the Associate Dean, Sustainability at Parsons The New School for Design, New York. There is strong potential for the integration of design thinking in areas of the UTAS curriculum and for strong linkages between UTAS and Parsons.

**Benchmarking**  
UTAS was invited to participate with Memorial University Newfoundland (MUN), Canada, in a benchmarking project looking specifically at international recruiting, international relationships and research linkages. Senior members of UTAS met recently with Daniel J. Guhr, Managing Director of Illuminate Consulting Group, who is undertaking the benchmarking project on behalf of MUN. UTAS was selected with two other international and three Canadian universities. The discussion included a number of comparisons, such as partnerships and regional strategies.

**Kate McPherson Scholarship**  
A new scholarship has been launched to remember the excellent contribution made to teaching English as a second language by Dr Kate McPherson, whose life was sadly cut short by motor-neurone disease in 2007. Dr McPherson was highly regarded for her academic leadership in this area and for her compassionate approach to her students. She left her estate to fund a postgraduate scholarship in Education specifically for women from Fiji. Before her death, Dr McPherson had expressed a desire through her estate to support the study in Australia of women from Fiji who are graduates of the University of the South Pacific where she had worked. Her career had taken her from her native England to many parts of the world, teaching and working in adult migrant education and English as a second language programs, before her final role lecturing in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages at the University of Tasmania.

**RECOGNITION**  
- Four UTAS scientists are among the finalists for the 2011 Eureka Prizes, which are annual awards presented by the Australian Museum to celebrate Australia’s brightest minds in science research and innovation, journalism and communication, and leadership. A team of scientists working to save the Tasmanian devil from extinction, led by Dr Menna Jones from the UTAS School of Zoology, and including Associate Professor Greg Woods from the Menzies Research Institute Tasmania have been shortlisted for the Sherman Eureka Prize for Environmental Research. Associate Professor Michael Breadmore, from the Australian Centre for Research on Separation Science (ACROSS), has been named as a finalist for the Eureka Prize for Outstanding Young Researcher. This award recognised outstanding scientific research conducted by an individual or group of early career researchers who are 35 years old or younger. Also from ACROSS, Professor Paul Haddad is a finalist in the category of Outstanding Mentor of Young Researchers. The winners will be announced on 6 September in Sydney.
• Menzies’ Senior Research Fellow Dr Kristy Sanderson’s 2008-2009 NHMRC Project Grant has been selected to appear in NHMRC’s *Ten of the Best Research Projects 2011* book. Selection was by review of the final report. The project is titled *Depression and anxiety in working adults: the costs and outcomes of working while ill*.

• IMAS Senior Research Fellow Dr Graham Edgar has been awarded the Australian Marine Sciences Association’s prestigious and long-term award for excellence in marine science, the Silver Jubilee Award for Excellence.

• Professor Tim McCormack, Professor of the University of Melbourne Law School and Adjunct Professor at the University of Tasmania Law School has been appointed by the Government of Israel as one of two international observers for Phase 2 of the Turkel Commission of Enquiry. He joins Lord David Trimble, former First Minister of Northern Ireland and Nobel Peace Prize Winner, and replaces Brigadier Ken Watkin, former Judge Advocate General of the Canadian Armed Forces. One aspect of the enquiry involves a comparative study with the military justice systems of the US, UK, Australia, Canada, The Netherlands and Germany.

• IMAS Climatology and Climate Change Associate Professor Neil Holbrook has been elected President of the International Commission on Climate (ICCL) of International Association for Meteorology and Atmospheric Science, International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics, for the four-year period (2011-2015).

• Distinguished Professor Don Chalmers, of the Law School, has received acknowledgement from the World Health Organisation (WHO) for his contribution to the second edition of WHO Standards and Operational Guidance for Ethics Review of Health-Related Research with Human Participants.

• IMAS has been elected as the first member of Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP) Management International from the Southern Hemisphere, which complements and strengthens UTAS’s involvement in both the Australia-New Zealand IODP Consortium (ANZIC) and the IODP. IODP-MI has 32 member institutions, which comprise most of the leading marine research and education organizations in the 24 member countries of the IODP: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, People’s Republic of China, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom and the United States.

• A “larger than life” bronze bust of Professor Sam W. Carey, foundation Professor of the Geology Department, was acquired with by the School of Earth Sciences from the generous donations of alumni, the Faculty of SET and UTAS. The bust was sculpted by renowned Tasmanian artist Stephen Walker. 2011 would have been Prof Carey’s 100th birthday and also marks the 65th anniversary of the Geology Department/School of Earth Sciences.
PUBLICATIONS

• *The Paper War: Morality, Print Culture, and Power in Colonial New South Wales* by Associate Professor Anna Johnston in the Arts Faculty has been published by UWA Publishing. *The Paper War* plots the formation of NSW as a modern colonial state and re-examines its morality, politics, Aboriginal relations, language, law and the media.

• *Considering Animals: Contemporary Case Studies in Human-Animal Relations* edited by Honorary Research Associate in the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology, Dr Carol Freeman, Senior Arts Faculty Lecturer Dr Elizabeth Leane and Associate Arts Faculty Lecturer Dr Yvette Watt published by Ashgate. *Considering Animals* draws on scholars in the biological sciences, humanities, and social sciences to investigate the complex and contradictory relationships humans have with nonhuman animals.

• *Mediatized Disasters in the Global Age: On the Ritualization of Catastrophe*’ by Arts Faculty Honorary Research Professor Simon Cottle has been published in the *Oxford Handbook of Cultural Sociology* (2011), Oxford University Press.

• Menzies’ Professor Mark Nelson had a letter published in *The Lancet* relating to his work on Aspirin and primary prevention: balance of risks and benefits.

• ‘Effectiveness of marine protected areas in conserving reef biota across the Eastern Tropical Pacific seascape’, by IMAS Senior Research Fellow Edgar and others has been published in *Global Ecology and Biogeography*.

• ‘In situ measures of foraging success and prey encounter reveal marine habitat-dependent search strategies’, by IMAS Professor Mark Hindell and others has been published in *Ecology*.

• Post graduate student Mr Adam James, in the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology, has published his first article in *Nature* entitled *Too many tasks*, about the heavy administrative burden that keeps top academics from doing science. James was one of five selected out of 300 postgraduate and PhD entrants in the *Nature Career Columnist* competition. He was the only one from the Southern Hemisphere. He will have at least two columns published in the world renowned science journal.

• A paper, *Sex at sea: alternative mating system in an extremely polygynous mammal*, co-authored by Professor Elissa Cameron (Faculty of SET), has been published in *Animal Behaviour*. The paper, about elephant seal mating strategies, has also been featured in *Science Now*.

• An innovative global experiment that predicts the impacts of climate change on freshwater systems, involving Associate Professor Leon Barmuta and his Honours student Lavinia Ratnarajah (Faculty of SET) has been featured in *Ecology Letters*.

• A paper on *The Origin of the supergiant Olympic Dam Cu-U-Au-Ag deposit, South Australia: Was a sedimentary basin involved?* by Professor Jocelyn McPhie, Professor Vadim S Kamenetsky, Dr Isabelle Chambefort (all Faculty of SET) and others has been published in *Geology*. 
PUBLIC OUTREACH

- Education Minister Nick McKim was invited by UTAS and the Vice-Chancellor to open an exhibition of selected works from year 11 and 12 visual art students from around the state, curated by the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery from the 2010 year 12 examinations. *ArtRage 2010* includes artwork from 58 secondary art students statewide. The exhibition, currently on display at the Art School in Hunter St, includes digital and traditional black and white photographs, sculpture, painting, drawing and graphic design work.

- Professor Mardi Dungey from the Faculty of Business has recently given two keynote addresses. The first - Observing the Crisis: Characterising the spectrum of financial markets with high frequency data, 2004-2008 – was presented at the Marie-Curie Training Workshop on High Frequency Financial Econometrics, Berlin. The second - Detecting and Deterring Contagion in Financial Crises – was given at the Institute of Public Accountants Tasmanian Congress and Small Business Symposium, at Cradle Mountain.

- The Conservatorium of Music (Faculty of Arts) has attracted capacity audiences for recent events including the Southern Gospel Choir’s ‘Brighter Day’ during the Festival of Voices, *The Magic Flute* featuring Associate Lecturer Mr Ben Davidson and an orchestra led by Lecturer Mr Jeremy Williams, the Tasmania Discovery Orchestra performance led by Professor Jun Yi Ma and the Elanée Ensemble comprising Lecturer Ms Jo St Leon (Lecturer), Mr Stuart Thomson and Karen Smithies (Associate Lecturer) performed works by Rival, Bottesini and Rachmaninov.

- The School of Visual & Performing Art (Faculty of Arts) has hosted The Esk Collection 2001-2011: Collecting Australian Contemporary Art at the Academy Gallery, and ‘Emerging City Campus Artists (ECCA)’ which is an exhibition showcasing the partnership between the Academy Gallery and City Campus.

- A new work by Dr Danielle Wood (Lecturer, Faculty of Arts) was featured at the Festival of Voices event “Ghost Story”. Michael Caton (The Castle) read Danielle’s specially commissioned ghost story at the event. “Ghost Story” was presented by the Festival of Voices, in association with the Tasmanian Theatre Company and MONA.

- Mr Jeremy Williams (Lecturer Conservatorium of Music) and Ms Yum Williams (Principal Music Educator, Young Conservatorium) were guest tutors at the Tutti World Youth Music Festival in Beijing.

- IMAS executive director Professor Mike Coffin was an invited presenter at the American Geophysical Union Chapman Conference *The Galápagos as a Laboratory for the Earth Sciences*, Puerto Ayora, Galápagos, Ecuador.

- The Law Faculty hosted a visit from Professor Edward Larson. Professor Larson holds the Hugh and Hazel Darling Chair in Law and is University Professor of History at Pepperdine University and recipient of the 1998 Pulitzer Prize in History. He served as Associate Counsel for the U.S. Congress Committee on Education and Labour (1983-87) and an attorney with a major Seattle law firm (1979-83) and retains an appointment at the University of Georgia, where he has taught since 1987. He presented a public lecture drawing on his new book (*Empire of Ice: Scott, Shackleton and the Heroic Age of Antarctic Science*): ‘Aussies on Ice: The Australian Contribution to the Antarctic Expeditions of Scott and Shackleton’. This public lecture was co-hosted by the Faculty of Law, IMAS ACE CRC and the Antarctic Division.
• Education Dean Professor Ian Hay, presented the keynote address in Taipei, Taiwan on ‘Effective reading instruction: Acquisition, fluency and comprehension’, How Empirical Research can inform reading instruction.

• Professor of Architecture, Professor Stephen Loo presented "C'est la Voix: Architectural Voices", at the Bartlett School of Architecture, University College, London.

GRANTS AND FUNDING

• Cradle Coast Connected Care (4C) Project has received $3.2 million funding for a 12 month pilot, commencing 1 July 2011. The project will provide an electronic shared care record for clients in nursing homes. This is a collaborative project with DHHS, GPNW and Cradle Coast Authority (CCA). The project, staffing, administration and research initiatives will be managed at the Rural Clinical School (RCS) at Burnie. The DHHS is the fund holder.

• Associate Professor Greg Dicinoski and Associate Professor Michael Breadmore (Faculty of SET) have received a grant for the ‘Development of a Research Prototype Sequential Injection-Capillary Electrophoresis Pre-Blast Explosive Analyser for Inorganic and Peroxide-Based Homemade Explosive Screening’ (Department of the Prime Minister & Cabinet, Research Support for National Security) for $1.225 million.

• Professor Imelda Whelehan (Professor, Faculty of Arts), has been awarded $160,000 from the ALTC Innovation and Development grant scheme for 'Bridging the gap: teaching adaptations across the disciplines and sharing content for curriculum renewal' (UTAS team includes Professor Whelehan as lead investigator, Professor David Sadler, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students and Education) and Dr Lisa Fletcher).

• IMAS data manager Mr Peter Walsh and marine ecologist Dr Gretta Pecl have received $102,000 from the Australian National Data Service to fund development of a website and database to support Redmap Australia.

• IMAS program leader for sustainable fisheries Dr Stewart Frusher and Dr Gretta Pecl were successful in obtaining $80,000 funding from the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Australia-India Strategic Research Fund for a project “Preparing for climate change on marine systems in Australia and India”.

• Professor Stephen Loo has been successful in a joint grant application from the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute for $115,524 to develop ‘The Role of Informal Community Resources in Supporting Independent Housing for Young People Recovering from Mental Illness: A Guide for Housing Policy Makers and Practitioners’.

PROVOST PORTFOLIO REPORT

Changes in Division: Communications and Marketing
The ‘Communications and Media’ and ‘Student Recruitment and Marketing’ units have joined the Division of the Provost following the recent restructure of the Senior Executive. This provides opportunities for a more integrated and strategic approach to internal and external
communications and marketing, and are planning the appointment of an experienced senior manager to lead this.

*Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency*

The new Commonwealth higher education regulatory environment is being progressively implemented. The necessary legislation to create the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) received Royal Assent in July and TEQSA came into existence on 30 July. Its predecessor agency, the Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA) is rolled into TEQSA with effect from 29 August.

The five commissioners with responsibility for overseeing TEQSA and its activities have been announced:

- Dr Carol Nicoll PSM [Chief Commissioner] – currently Executive Director of the Australian Learning and Teaching Council, and previously on the staff of DEEWR
- Michael Beaton Wells [Full-time Commissioner] – a lawyer and currently Executive Director of Finance and Planning at the University of Melbourne; one of two individuals who negotiated the nature of the TEQSA legislation on behalf of Universities Australia
- Dorte Kristofferson [Full-time Commissioner] – formerly an AUQA Audit Director
- Ian Hawke [Part-time Commissioner] – an experienced education bureaucrat, currently interim director of TEQSA and long-time Deputy Chair of the AUQA Board

Their appointments have been generally welcomed across the sector as providing a very sound mix of skills and experienced. There is particular pleasure at the appointment of Carol Nicoll, who has done a fine job leading the ALTC

TEQSA will assume regulatory responsibilities for higher education (other than the authority to approve new providers that will remain with the states) in January 2012. A substantial amount of work is continuing on the development of the standards framework that will guide all higher education activity in Australia, with the major current focus being on the Learning and Teaching Standards.

The UTAS Audit in September-October will occur under TEQSA aegis, but using AUQA procedures.

*Quality and Planning*

- The Quality Management Framework (QMF) Working Party has commenced the development of an engagement plan for the embedding of the QMF across the University

**CRADLE COAST CAMPUS (CCC)**

*Regional Universities Campus Heads Conference*

A very successful conference was held 13-14 July 2011. The Federal Minister for Tertiary Education, Senator Evans, opened the conference and used this as an opportunity to launch the $500 million Education Investment Fund to transform regional universities, attracting significant media attention.
As a consequence of discussions at the conference, three key initiatives were agreed upon for participants to work on over the next twelve months:

- Evidence-based student support
- Teaching and delivery in the context of widening participation
- Building the case for the value add of the small campus in regions

**Research**

The CRC – Regional Innovation Bid for Round 14 was lodged on 1 July with the UTAS CCC being named as the lead researchers for one of the three Research Programs—Prosperity: Economic Development. The bid totalled $97 million. The outcome will be announced on December with a predicted start date being July 2012.

**Emerging issues**

CCC is currently preparing a proposal with a coalition of regional universities to deliver the final two years of a Bachelor of Engineering.

**Launceston Engagement and Development (LED)**

- Meetings have been held with NRM North, TasPorts & Launceston City Council regarding future projects with the HIT Lab
- A welcome event for Professor Morgan Miles was held on Thursday 21 July with Northern Tasmanian community leaders
- The UTAS ‘Jury’s Out’ Debating Series attracted over 300 people to the Newnham campus.
- A very successful event was held with the Launceston Chamber of Commerce, and attended by the Vice-Chancellor, during Research Week, on 27 July.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA**

**Internal Communications**

A Staff Intranet was launched in August. It is the first step in a process of putting staff resources into a staff-only web-space. The main benefits will be being able to deliver a staff news service via the web and being able to cut down on the number of bulk emails. The Weekly Bulletin will continue to be the pointer to the Staff Intranet, and will be emailed to staff every Thursday. This bulletin continues to attract a broader readership, based on feedback and entries to the competition.

**Publications**

The 2010 Annual Report has been presented to the Governor and the Minister for Education for tabling in Parliament. Hard copies have been distributed and it is available in full online.

*Research to Reality*, Issue 9 is due to be launched during Cradle Coast Research Week in mid-August. Video media releases will be prepared.
DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (RESEARCH) PORTFOLIO REPORT

Research Week - Launceston
Over 25 events were held in Launceston’s Research Week from 25 to 29 July 2011, highlighting UTAS research and research services. Launceston’s Research Week had a strong industry and community focus with 10 events focused specifically towards these stakeholder groups. Attendances during the week were excellent with an average of 15-20 people per event.

Cradle Coast Campus hosted Research Week from 15 - 19 August 2011 with a particular focus on postgraduates, and research partnerships with industry.

Sustainable Research Excellence Staff Hours Survey
UTAS is required by the Commonwealth to conduct a Staff Hours Survey to provide data to support their indirect costing exercise. Funding of up to $6 million per annum to UTAS is contingent upon this survey data, as well as financial data already completed and returned to the Commonwealth.

The SRE survey was conducted in July and achieved a raw response rate of 85%, well above the required rate of 67%. Data clean up prior to submission will result in the exclusion of some responses, bringing our final response rate down some percentage points.

2011 Strategic Roadmap for Australian Research Infrastructure
During 2011, a Strategic Roadmap for Australian Research Infrastructure is being developed by the Federal Government (Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research) to inform future decisions on where Australia should make strategic infrastructure investments to further develop its research capacity and improve innovation outcomes over the next five to 10 years. The 2011 Roadmap aims to consider new and emerging areas of research which may require different types of infrastructure in the future, and determine whether the current mix of capability areas continues to meet researchers' needs. Federal funding of $542 million was rolled out from 2005-2011 through the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure System (NCRIS) to provide researchers with major research facilities, supporting infrastructure and networks necessary for world-class research.

The UTAS response emphasised:
- the considerable benefits gained from the investment in previously funded NCRIS facilities, in particular IMOS and AuScope.
- UTAS support for the expansion of the current IMOS observing program to cover significant gaps in coastal oceans, deep oceans and sea-ice/Antarctic cryosphere.
- the development of leadership and facilitation capability in Hobart, as part of a world class hub of marine, Antarctic and climate science in Tasmania.

Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA)
Timeline:
Draft documents for the ERA 2012 released for comment August 2011
Journal and Conference Lists released September 2011
Submission to the 2012 ERA assessment exercise March 2012

The Research Division arranged for a visit (August) by Ms Leanne Harvey, Executive General Manager of the Australian Research Council. Ms Harvey gave a presentation on ERA to a well
attended meeting of UTAS staff (approximately 70 in attendance) and spent time with key personnel in the Research Division discussing ERA application processes.

**ARC Laureate Fellowships scheme**
The ARC’s Laureate Fellowship scheme commenced in 2009, replacing the Federation Fellowships Scheme. None of the four applications submitted by UTAS in 2011 were in the top 25% of unsuccessful applications. The biographies of the successful applicants suggest UTAS applicants are not currently competitive in this scheme. For example the University of Melbourne received three in 2011 - the highest number for an individual University. Two of these were Federation Fellows, indicating the calibre of applicant required to succeed.

The table below provides a snapshot of Laureate Fellowship activity for UTAS (2009-2011):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>UTAS Submitted</th>
<th>Successful</th>
<th>National Applications</th>
<th>UTAS % of National Successful</th>
<th>National Successful</th>
<th>Success Rate</th>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0 (withdrawn)</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0 (two resubmits)</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UTAS needs to identify one or two highly competitive internal and/or external applicants through an EOI process with rigorous academic review and linked to strategic research priorities. It also needs a long term strategy to support our strong cohort of Future Fellows develop into competitive Laureate level researchers.

**Linkage Projects Development Program**
The Linkage Projects Development Program was launched in Hobart and Launceston with a series of seminars delivered by the Office of Research Services and external consultant Merrilee Robb. Merrilee spoke to senior staff in Hobart on engaging with Linkage, and also presented to potential applicants in Hobart and Launceston on strategies for successful proposal writing. The workshop and mentoring program has attracted 19 expressions of interest with a further 30 enquiries regarding developing a Linkage Project application.

**Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research**
At their July meeting the Australia Code steering committee recommended the establishment of working parties to oversee the University’s response to the authorship and data management requirements of the Code. The draft Responsible Conduct of Research policy was distributed to the Policy Network for comment. Comments have been incorporated and the steering committee will be asked to endorse submission of the policy to Research College Board.

The Steering Committee is also aware that effective financial administration of grants is an important component of research integrity. A small working party has been established to examine current post award processes and recommend any changes ahead of possible ARC and NHMRC audits within the near future.

**Strategic Research Plan – Draft**
The draft of the UTAS Strategic Research Plan 2011-2016 was sent to Deans, Associate Deans: Research and Institute Directors for further circulation and comment. Responses were very
supportive of the directions and initiatives proposed. A further draft incorporating feedback will be sent to Research College Board and Senior Executive before making its way through the University committee structure.

**Trailblazer**

Thirteen finalists (10 staff and 3 students) were selected to compete in the UTAS annual Trailblazer competition, run in collaboration with UniQuest. The Trailblazer competition aims to stimulate entrepreneurial thinking and encourage students and academics to consider the commercial potential of their intellectual assets. Entries can relate to businesses, products, services, technologies or other innovations.

- Dr Ryan Wilkinson, Australian Maritime College won the open final for his Rapid Fish Welfare Assessment in Aquaculture diagnostic tool.
- Mr James Riggall, HIT Lab and Mr Damon Thomas, Faculty of Education won the student category for their Level Up! concept for teaching using a gamification (computer gaming) platform.
- The UTAS winners will compete against representatives from four other universities in a Grand Final at The University of Queensland on 15 August 2011 with the aim to win a share of $100,000 in cash prizes on offer.

**Control of Fraud Policy and Procedure**

Council approved the updated Control of Fraud Policy and the Fraud Reporting Investigation Procedure.

*Updating Policy*

The control of fraud continues to be a focus of attention. Integral to that is the updating of the Control of Fraud Policy and the establishment of the Fraud Reporting Investigation Procedure.

The updated Control of Fraud Policy and the Fraud Reporting Investigation Procedure further align UTAS with the Australian Standard – AS 8001 – 2008 Fraud and Corruption Control.

Other steps have included establishment of a Fraud Risk Register and a Fraud Control Plan, and consideration of the Fraud Controls in the Internal Audit Strategy.

*Progress against Fraud Report Recommendations*

The sign off and roll out of these recommendations will further address earlier Internal and External audit recommendations to better address Fraud.

After this Policy and Procedure are rolled out UTAS’s progress to those recommendations will be

- Internal Audit on Fraud Control (9 recommendations)-
  - effectively complete, or effectively achieved through other actions
  - in focus but subject to separate action

- External Audit on Fraud Control (10 recommendations applicable to UTAS)-
  - effectively complete, or effectively achieved through other actions
    - 1 ongoing
    - in focus but subject to separate action.
Academic Senate Review

Council received a progress report on the implementation of recommendations of the 2010 review of Academic Senate.

Council approved the proposed amendments to Ordinance 13 – Academic Senate.

Academic Senate 22 July 2011

Council received a report and draft minutes of the Academic Senate meeting of 22 July 2011.

Graduation in Absentia and Conferring of Awards

Council approved the applications for the conferring of awards on 47 people, and the Chancellor conferred degrees in absentia on them.