UTAS Volunteers
Programs and Opportunities
Proud of the past, part of the future.
Message from the Vice-Chancellor

In the true spirit of collegiality, volunteers at the University of Tasmania (UTAS) give their time and expertise for the betterment of this institution. We are indebted to them for their significant contributions that support research, teaching and the organisation’s governance.

Volunteering can be highly rewarding and beneficial for both the University and the volunteer. Through volunteering with us, you can develop skills or learn new ones, gain new experiences or extend your career, meet new people and travel to new places. As you browse the inspiring examples in this booklet, I hope you consider volunteering in some way at the University of Tasmania.

Professor Peter Rathjen

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Message from the Chair of University of Tasmania Alumni

On behalf of the UTAS Alumni Committee, I hope that this volunteering booklet will give you a glimpse of the many ways our alumni and community members can contribute to UTAS, if there’s a desire and time to do so.

Please peruse this booklet to review some of the volunteering opportunities available at UTAS or browse online at www.alumni.utas.edu.au/volunteering

Dr Ashley Townsend
ARE YOU PART OF THE UTAS ALUMNI FAMILY?

The University of Tasmania (UTAS) alumni family includes:

• Graduates and diplomates of UTAS
• Staff of more than three years at UTAS (current, former, academic and professional)
• Overseas exchange students who studied a semester at UTAS
• Student alumni – students who completed a year of study at UTAS.

All members of the Tasmanian community are welcome to volunteer at the University.
About the University of Tasmania

The University of Tasmania is the fourth oldest university in Australia, established in 1890. Ranked in the top three per cent of universities globally\(^1\) and in the top 10 Australian research universities\(^2\), the University has a long-standing reputation for excellence in learning, teaching and research. A statewide institution, it has three main campuses in Hobart, Launceston and on the Cradle Coast, with satellite campuses in Sydney.

In 2015, UTAS will celebrate 125 years of achievement and contribution to Tasmania, Australia and the global community. 2015 will bring a myriad of opportunities for UTAS graduates, staff, partners, friends and community members to connect or reconnect with UTAS, to celebrate a shared history and to learn more about the University’s contributions and future directions.

\(^1\) 2012 Times Higher Education World Reputation Ranking  
\(^2\) 2012 Academic Ranking of World Universities

General information

General information on volunteering can be found on the following websites:

Volunteering Australia | [www.volunteeringaustralia.org](http://www.volunteeringaustralia.org)

WorkSafe Tasmania  


University of Tasmania alumni volunteering | [www.alumni.utas.edu.au/volunteering](http://www.alumni.utas.edu.au/volunteering)

A University of Tasmania volunteer checklist for students  
UTAS History and 125th Anniversary Celebrations (worldwide)

Plans are underway to celebrate the 125th anniversary of UTAS in 2015. A major role of UTAS alumni will be in supplying and gathering useful historical data to help tell the UTAS story over this time – this might be memorabilia and photographs, or memories of individual alumni (including, of course, former staff members).

If you are interested in contributing in any way, please register at www.alumni.utas.edu.au/volunteering or email Alumni.Office@utas.edu.au and we will be in touch with you soon.
Community Friends and Networks Program (statewide)

www.utas.edu.au/cfnp

The Community Friends and Networks Program (CFNP) is aimed at providing UTAS students with assistance in accessing social, volunteer, work experience and community networks. CFNP supports new-to-town students to experience the real Tasmania during their stay or as they build a permanent life in the state.

Alumni who live in Tasmania and are interested in meeting new people, or who can assist new-to-town students adjust to new surroundings, are invited to join the CFNP.

For information call 03 6226 2548 (southern Tasmania)
or 03 6324 3566 (northern Tasmania)
or email Community.Friendship@utas.edu.au
Career Mentor Program (worldwide)

www.utas.edu.au/students/careers/students/career-mentor-program

The Career Mentor Program matches UTAS students with experienced professionals from the same degree background and from the same university. Regular contact may be established ‘face-to-face’, by email or Skype and all participants have an induction (in May) and debriefing session at the end of the year. A program manual is provided, which includes suggested topics for discussion, self-reflective exercises and a mentor agreement.

For students it’s a valuable way to gain useful career advice, through building an informal and supportive relationship with an experienced UTAS graduate.

For mentors there’s personal satisfaction in making a difference to the career development of a student and giving back to your university.

Recruitment of mentors occurs early in the year and matches with mentees finalised by April. For more information about the program email Jane.Emery@utas.edu.au

Student Ambassador Program (statewide)

www.ambassadors.utas.edu.au

If you are studying at UTAS and wish to improve your communication, public relations and leadership skills, you may be interested in developing networks beyond your faculty or school.

Student ambassadors volunteer their time to assist the UTAS Student Recruitment & Marketing team with activities throughout the year, including University Open Days, campus tours and activities with visiting school groups.

Find out more about the program at www.ambassadors.utas.edu.au
Menzies Research Institute Tasmania (south)

www.menzies.utas.edu.au/volunteer

Research grant funding often falls short of the full costs of conducting a project, and volunteer support assists Menzies Research Institute Tasmania researchers to carry out work that may not otherwise be achievable. Menzies is fortunate to be able to call on the skills, knowledge and goodwill of volunteers who take on many different roles to help conduct research.

Volunteers make significant contributions in a variety of areas:

- Assisting with data collection
- Interpreting pathology and MRI reports
- Information kit preparation
- Coordinating special projects
- Transporting research participants
- Database maintenance and data entry
- General clerical duties, mail-out preparation and collation
- Fundraising and events
- Tracing people through electoral roll/phone book

If you are interested in volunteering at the Menzies Research Institute Tasmania, please contact Kathy Thomson, Administration Manager, on 03 6226 7718.
Tasmanian College of the Arts (north)

www.utas.edu.au/visual-performing-arts/academy-gallery/volunteer-club

The Academy Gallery Volunteer Club, established in 2002, has a membership of more than 100 University and TAFE students and people from the wider community.

Gallery volunteers learn about the professional installation, dismantling, conservation, lighting and exhibition design required in a contemporary art gallery.

The Academy Gallery Volunteer Club attracts all sectors of the community, including visual arts students, business people, retirees and arts lovers with a yearning to discover more. The club has a friendly work environment where members enjoy the social side of life as much as they do the learning curve.

Contact Volunteer Club President Georgie Parker at gpa83042@bigpond.net.au for more information.

University Club Inc. (south)

www.campuses.utas.edu.au/university-club

The University Club is run by a committee elected annually from members who volunteer their time to manage the business of the club and its activities.

Membership is open to all staff of the University, alumni, visitors and others associated with the University, and honours and graduate students. Partners of members can also join. Many members continue their membership well after they are no longer working or studying at the University.

Please email Jane.Kovacs@utas.edu.au for more information.
School of Medicine Patient Partner Program (north and south)

www.utas.edu.au/medicine/PPP-Hobart

The Patient Partner Program forms part of the curriculum at the UTAS School of Medicine, bringing a patient-centred approach to medical education. This program works by enhancing existing hospital-based learning by medical students through engagement with volunteers.

The Patient Partners represent an amazing community group who are willing to give their time to share their stories and experiences in order to value-add to the medical students’ learning. The volunteers are generally referred to the program by their general practitioner or treating specialist with whom the Clinical School has built a relationship. Some come as self-referrals.

We believe that every person living with an illness has valuable experiences and special knowledge of their condition to share, providing significant learning benefits for doctors in training.

For further information about the Patient Partner Program please contact Julie Sansom on 03 6226 2752 or 0419 891 553 or email Julie.Sansom@utas.edu.au

Alumni Committee (worldwide)

www.alumni.utas.edu.au/contact-us/alumni-committee

The University of Tasmania Alumni Committee is managed by the Deputy Director Alumni Relations and oversees Alumni activities at UTAS. The committee fosters the basis for lifelong professional and personal relationships between the University and its alumni, recognising a continuing role for graduates and diplomates, staff and former staff, and student alumni in the development of the University, to engender goodwill, understanding and support in the wider community.

The Alumni Committee comprises a graduate representative from each faculty and institute of the University, with nominations received through the year for the November annual general meeting.

For further information, including detail on how to nominate for the committee, please contact Alumni.Office@utas.edu.au
Vice-Chancellor’s Leadership Awards (statewide)

www.utas.edu.au/leadership-award

The Vice-Chancellor’s Leadership Award was created to educate, challenge and inspire. The award is designed to strengthen students’ character, work ethic, community awareness, leadership and employability. It is given only to those students with the determination, dedication and perseverance to successfully complete the program.

An exciting component of this award is the opportunity to develop your leadership skills through volunteering – a fantastic way to realise your potential by developing your own skills while making a valuable contribution to society.

For more information email Sharon.Miller@utas.edu.au or Christian.Ellston@utas.edu.au

Source Wholefoods Shop (south)

www.sourcewholefoods.org.au

Source Community Wholefoods Cooperative is a not-for-profit grocery store located at 12 French St, Sandy Bay, just behind the University Union Building.

Source sells a wide range of local and organic produce and is open to everyone, Tuesday-Friday 12-4pm, Saturdays 10-1pm, and pizza night on some Wednesdays.

It’s a vibrant community-run space, welcoming volunteers and members.

For more information please call 03 6224 0055.
Sustainability @ UTAS (statewide)

www.utas.edu.au/sustainability

UTAS Commercial Services and Development Sustainability Office sometimes utilises the help of volunteers in projects such as data gathering in transport counts.

Further information on current projects and the volunteers register is available by emailing Sustainability.Utas@utas.edu.au

TUU Sports Clubs & Societies (statewide)

www.tuu.com.au

Sports clubs and societies at UTAS are always welcoming volunteers to participate on committees, working bees, fundraisers and other general activities.

For further information contact:

1 Churchill Avenue, Sandy Bay TAS 7005,
P: 03 6226 7103;

Queen Elizabeth Walk, Newnham TAS 7248,
P: 03 6324 3757;

16-18 Mooreville Road, Burnie TAS 7320,
P: 03 6430 4936.
Tassie Devil Project (statewide)

www.utas.edu.au/zoology/quicklinks/volunteers-needed

Devil facial tumour disease (DFTD) is a fatal condition that is currently affecting most populations of Tasmanian devils.

Dr Rodrigo Hamede Ross, Research Fellow, School of Zoology, is looking for volunteers interested in assisting on Tasmanian field trips, which are planned for West Pencil Pine in May, August and November 2013. The project provides accommodation, food, transport and Parks & Wildlife passes.

Volunteers are needed to help with:

- Live trapping
- Remote cameras
- Field data scribing

For more information please visit the website.
Tasmanian Healthy Brain Project (statewide)

www.utas.edu.au/wicking/healthy-brain

Are you aged between 50 and 79 and want to study at UTAS? If so, you could also volunteer to be part of the Tasmanian Healthy Brain Project. Choose a subject you are interested in, apply to UTAS and enrol, and, as a participant in this world-first study, you may qualify for a scholarship to cover the HECS costs for one unit (conditions apply).

As a participant on the THBP, you will also receive a free annual comprehensive assessment (and feedback) of your cognitive functions. This valuable data goes towards testing the theory of Professor James Vickers and his team at the UTAS Wicking Dementia Research and Education Centre on the potential for tertiary education later in life to boost brain plasticity and protect against ageing-related cognitive decline.

For more information please call 1800 982 600 or email Healthy.Brain@utas.edu.au
Menzies Research Institute Tasmania
Participant-Based Studies (statewide)

www.menzies.utas.edu.au

**ASPREE Study**

www.aspree.org

Can aspirin prolong a healthy life? The ASPREE study will, for the first time, determine whether the potential benefits of aspirin outweigh the risks for people aged over 70.

Contact Professor Mark Nelson | Mark.Nelson@utas.edu.au | 1800 728 745

**Business in Mind**

www.businessinmind.edu.au

Business in Mind is a unique research project focusing on mental health in the small to medium sized business setting. The study will look at different ways of helping managers and owners of small to medium sized businesses to manage workplace mental health.

Contact Angela Martin | Angela.Martin@utas.edu.au | 03 6226 2713

**Blood Pressure Study**

Researchers are conducting a study to determine the potential clinical relevance of new blood pressure measurements. Participants will undergo comprehensive cardiovascular testing at rest and during light exercise. Information on blood pressure control will be provided to all volunteers.

If you are healthy, aged 18-40 years and are interested in participating in this study please contact Dean Picone by email at Dean.Picone@utas.edu.au or phone 03 6226 4729.
Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology (statewide)


If you are a student at UTAS, you can get involved in a range of opportunities in the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology that provide avenues for skills development, career progression and fun.

For more information please phone 03 6226 2125.

Redmap (nationwide)

www.redmap.org.au

Redmap, a new and interactive website, invites the Australian community to spot, log and map marine species that are uncommon in Australia, or along particular parts of our coast. The Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS) is a partner in this research.

To find out more about this exciting project please visit the website.
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