COUNCIL

The University Council met in the Council Room, Sandy Bay Campus, Hobart on Friday 18 May 2012, starting at 9am. On the evening before, Council members attended a function at the University Club to celebrate the Vice-Chancellor’s first year in office.

Agenda items included-

Institute Ordinances

Council made these ordinances-
- Menzies Research Institute Tasmania (Ordinance 12)
- Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (Ordinance 17)
replacing the existing ordinances (12 & 17) and resolved that they are to be sealed.

Investment Committee Terms of Reference

Council amended the Investment Committee Terms of Reference to clarify that Investment Committee recommends to Finance Committee and Council for approval the rules for withdrawing funds from the investment portfolio for operational purposes, and that the portfolio includes the entirety of funds managed, including Treasury funds and Foundation funds.

Vice-Chancellor Portfolio Report

Open to Talent

Following approval by University Council of UTAS’s new strategic plan Open to Talent at its meeting of 21 April 2012, the plan is being prepared for distribution to staff and will be officially launched publicly by the Vice-Chancellor in June. The development of Open to Talent has been highly consultative and commenced in July 2011 with the release, by the Vice-Chancellor of a discussion paper. Over 1200 students, staff and members of the public responded to this discussion paper and another 200 staff provided input through workshops at each of our Tasmanian campuses and also Sydney. The Open to Talent Green Paper was guided by the feedback received and was released for consultation in December 2011 and was central to discussions at the Academic Senate meeting of December 2011 and the UTAS Leaders Retreat of 16 and 17 February 2012. Updates have also been included in the Vice-Chancellor’s reports to all University management and governance forums. Academic Senate received the Council-approved version of Open To Talent at its meeting on 4 May.

Opening UTAS to Talent: The UTAS Academic

Opening UTAS to Talent: The UTAS Academic, a draft of which was considered by SMT at its meeting of 19 April, has been released to UTAS staff for comment, with feedback due by 31 May. The discussion paper will also be discussed at Academic Senate on 4 May. The paper is available at https://secure.utas.edu.au/staff-intranet/utas-academic and feedback can be provided through this site.
**Foundation dinners**
The annual UTAS Foundation dinner was held in Hobart on 22 March 2012. Over 490 people attended this premier event which celebrated the success of scholarship recipients and highlighted the success of our alumni through the presentation of the Foundation Graduate Award to Simon Hollingsworth and Brodie Neill. A second dinner was held in Launceston on 19 April 2012 at which the Distinguished Alumni Award was presented to Professor Rupert Maclean. Around 220 guests attended. Both dinners provided staff with the opportunity to meet with key stakeholders, showcased the talent of UTAS students and provided the opportunity to thank UTAS supporters and donors for their contributions. Both the Chancellor, Damian Bugg and the Vice-Chancellor addressed the guests during the dinners. A third dinner will be held in Burnie on 28 June 2012.

**VC Roadshow**
A series of ‘Vice-Chancellor’s Road Shows’ were held in the last week of March. These forums, held in Sydney, Launceston, Burnie and Hobart, spoke to the University’s current budget situation and provided the basis for a conversation about how the organisation copes with unexpected difficulties. The forums were well attended and positively received.

**IGA rollout**
On 11 April 2012, the Australian Government Minister for Regional Development Simon Crean, Premier Lara Giddings and Tasmanian Minister for Economic Development, David O’Byrne, announced $400,000 from the Tasmanian Forests Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) and an additional $120,000 from the Tasmanian Government to the wine industry for a study to identify the best frost-free sites for cool-climate wine production, and marketing and development services for the next two years. This will be managed through the University’s Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture (TIA) and will ensure delivery into the SenseT data/sending infrastructure. A further $150,000 from the Australian Government, matched by $150,000 from the University, was announced on 12 April 2012 for a feasibility study into the development of the food industry in the north of Tasmania. The study will consider how such a project could be progressed to maximise benefit to the project partners and the Dorset and broader Tasmanian communities including through linkages with the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO) Scottsdale facility. It will also consider the development of a food innovation hub at Newnham in Launceston.

**$3 million Wicking Trust grant**
The Vice-Chancellor announced a philanthropic grant of $3 million from the JO and JR Wicking Trust at an event in Hobart on 29 March 2012. The grant will further grow and develop the UTAS Wicking Dementia Research and Education Centre in the Faculty of Health Science over the next five years. The grant builds on the original $1.5million given by the Trust in 2007 for the establishment of the Centre and will support continued dementia-focussed translational research investigating the biological basis of the diseases that cause dementia and the development of health services provided for people with dementia and their carers.

**$2.5 million Newcrest Mining Limited grant**
The University of Tasmania has secured $2.5 million from Newcrest Mining Limited, one of the world’s top gold producers and a foundation client of the University’s new mineral research facility based at the ARC Centre of Excellence in Ore Deposits (CODES). Newcrest Mining Limited and the University signed an agreement on 23 April 2012 which will see the miner contribute $1m to the development of the facility, and a further $1.5 million in ongoing support over five years.
**Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA)**
The ERA is a national exercise assessing research quality against world benchmarks. This current round assesses research activity by discipline for the period 2005-2010, with the submission period closing on 27 April 2012. UTAS submitted 8710 research outputs for consideration, in 52 discipline areas. Explanatory Statements were provided in 21 discipline clusters. The UTAS submission was the culmination of six months of intensive effort by over 80 academic staff and professional staff.

**Denison Debate**
The first Denison Debate for 2012 was held on 28 March 2012. ‘Frank, Fearless or Forgotten? The Role of the Public Service Today’ was debated by Professor Sir Ian Kennedy, Chair, Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, UK, Mr Rhys Edwards, Secretary, Department of Premier and Cabinet and Professor David Adams, Social Inclusion Commissioner for an audience of over 180. Sir Ian also participated in a number of public events and private briefing sessions with senior public servants, health care professionals, educators, State parliamentarians and their staff during his visit.

**MyUniversity website**
The MyUniversity website was launched by the Minister for Tertiary Education, Senator Chris Evans, on 3 April 2012 after being demonstrated to universities including UTAS via webinar on 2 April 2012. While considerable progress has been made in response to the key concerns raised by Universities, primarily through Universities Australia, more work is required in relation to improving functionality, information accuracy and ensuring information is fit for purpose. The Australian Government has acknowledged that the website is a ‘work in progress’ and is working with Universities Australia to resolve key problems.

**Sydney graduations**
Graduations were held in Sydney on 27 March 2012 for over 100 graduands from the Faculty of Business and Faculty of Health Science. Chancellor Damian Bugg presided at the ceremony and the Vice-Chancellor was in attendance. It was the fifth ceremony to be held by the University in Sydney and is the outcome of the University’s work with its partners in New South Wales to provide high-quality health education in a relevant professional environment. The graduations included the first Sydney cohort to be admitted to the degree of Master of Clinical Supervision and Clinical Leadership.

**Fulbright scholarships**
Two University of Tasmania academics were awarded prestigious Fulbright Scholarships at a ceremony in Sydney on 15 March 2012 and were further honoured at a reception at Parliament House in Hobart on 20 March 2012. Dr Jessica Walker (Engineering), was awarded the Fulbright Tasmania Scholar – co-sponsored by the University and the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and the Arts. Dr Sue Baker (Plant Science) was awarded the Fulbright Postdoctoral Scholar. Dr Baker will spend three and a half months in the United States to evaluate the benefits of retention forestry practices for biodiversity conservation. Dr Watson will spend one year in the United States working on renewable energy using ocean tides.
**Murina Preparation Pathway success**
UTAS’s first Murina Preparation Pathway student to complete a PhD, Terry Cox has successfully completed a PhD in Sociology. The Murina Preparation Pathway is for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students thinking of doing university studies. Terry commenced the pathway at UTAS’s Cradle Coast Campus.

**2011 UTAS TEQSA Audit**
The revised TEQSA audit report was received on the 25 March 2012. The revised report included the majority of the corrections and requests for changes in tone and emphasis provided to TEQSA by UTAS. The report was made public on the UTAS Quality Management and TEQSA websites on 25 April 2012.

**Universities Australia Standing Group appointment**
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students and Education), David Sadler was invited to participate in the Universities Australia (UA) Standing Group on TEQSA and Quality. The standing group, comprising eight members, provides advice to the UA Board on TEQSA and quality matters and interacts directly with government departments and TEQSA over such issues as the Threshold Standards, the Fee Structure and the Risk Assessment Framework. This year there will be a focus on working with the Higher Education Standards Panel.

**Faculty of Arts Structure Review**
A proposal for to restructure the Faculty of Arts, reducing the number of schools from ten to three and enhance the senior portfolio roles of Deputy Dean and Associate Deans was considered by Academic Senate on 4 May 2012. Following endorsement by Senate, the proposal will be considered by Council at its 18 May meeting with the aim of implementation by 1 January 2013.

**Recognition**
- In May, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research, Professor Paddy Nixon was appointed to the review panel of National ICT Australia Ltd (NICTA), Australia’s Information and communications technology research centre of excellence and the largest organisation in Australia dedicated to ICT research.
- The Federal Minister for Industry and Innovation, Greg Combet, appointed Professor Susan Dodds, Dean, Faculty of Arts to the Chair of the National Enabling Technology Stakeholder Advisory Council. Professor Dodds has been a member of the Council since its establishment in 2010.
- Professor Margaret Otlowski, Dean, Faculty of Law, participated on an expert panel on voluntary assisted dying advising the Premier, Lara Giddings MP and leader of the Greens, Nick McKim MP, at Parliament House on 27 March 2012.
- Professor Alison Venn (Epidemiology and Population Health), Menzies Research Institute Tasmania, was appointed to the Tasmanian Government Health Minister’s Healthy Tasmania Advisory Council.
• Dr Megan Alessandrini, (Government) has been appointed to the Australian Government’s Australian Animal Welfare Advisory Committee Working Party. The group is responsible for the development of a national framework of animal welfare, and will involve state and territory governments and other stakeholders.

• Prof Timothy Skinner (Rural Clinical School) has accepted an invitation to be Associate Editor of the *Diabetic Medicine Journal*, commencing 1 June 2012.

• Dr Martin Harris from the Department of Rural Health in the Faculty of Health Science received a life membership award from Suicide Prevention Australia (SPA) for his contribution to suicide prevention.

• The iPhone/iPad app *Profs’ Phonics* developed by Professor Ian Hay and Associate Professor Ruth Fielding-Barnsley through their Australian Research Council funded research into how children learn to read, was officially launched on 28 March 2012 at the Goodwood School in Hobart, with Mr Colin Pettit, Secretary, Department of Education.

• Three of the four finalists for the Science and Technology Award in the Southern Cross Young Achiever Awards in April 2012 were from Menzies Research Institute Tasmania. Ms Catherine Blizzard, who is undertaking research in the areas of Traumatic Brain Injury and Motor Neurone Disease, won the award which aims to encourage and reward the achievements of young Tasmanians who excel in their area of expertise. IMAS PhD Student Ms Emma Flukes was awarded the Hydro Tasmania Environment Award.

• The contribution of Distinguished Professor Chalmers to the development of the ‘Standard and Operational Guidance for Ethics Review of Health-Related Research with Human Participants’ has been acknowledged by the World Health Organisation (WHO) in the final published document (available at http://www.who.int/ethics/publications/en/)

• Mr Nick Haywood (Senior Lecturer in Contemporary Music) was awarded the Tasmania State Award for Excellence in Jazz at the Australasian Performing Right Association (APRA) and the Australian Music Centre (AMC) 2012 Art Music Awards for the album *1234*. The awards were hosted by James Morrison at the Playhouse theatre, Sydney Opera House on 3 April 2012.

• Dr Rob Gasperini (Dementia), Menzies Research Institute Tasmania, has been appointed to the NHMRC Postdoctoral Reference Group for a period of three years.

Public outreach

• His Excellency, the Honourable Peter Underwood, Governor of Tasmania announced three Governor’s Environment Scholarships on 24 April 2012. These scholarships are the result of a collaboration between UTAS and industry and are designed to encourage students to undertake practical environment management training and research at honours and masters levels at UTAS.

• Associate Professor Natasha Cica, Director of the University’s Inglis-Clark Centre for Civil Society appeared on ABC’s *Q and A* on 2 April 2012. The episode was broadcast live from
Hobart and covered a range of issues key to Tasmanians today including MONA and its place in Tasmanian society, the ongoing forestry debate, poker machines, and politics.

- Tasmanian Minister for Human Services and Community Development, Cassy O’Connor, launched Part B of the *Community Health and Well-being Mapping* project and the first *Positive Ageing Strategy* for the West Tamar Council. Both reports were produced by a partnership between the West Tamar Council and the Department of Rural Health in the Faculty of Health Science.

- On 20-21 March IMAS hosted a high-level delegation from Darden, the world’s largest full-service restaurant company and major IMAS research sponsor. The delegation was joined at a Darden-hosted dinner by, Deputy Premier Bryan Green and Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment Secretary Kim Evans.

- AMC’s National Centre for Marine Conservation and Resource Sustainability has launched this year’s community photographic competition for students in years 9-12. The *Catchment to Coast student photographic competition* is a partnership between AMC/UTAS, Natural Resource Management North, the Northern Tasmania Camera Club and the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery (QVMAG).

- AMC’s National Centre for Ports and Shipping completed its first interstate delivery of training to Integrated ratings in collaboration with Victoria University. The 12 students are currently completing their training at Bell Bay and Newnham where they will access AMC’s specialist seafarer training facilities.

- The *Vox on the Rox* concert was held in Hobart on 27 April 2012. Conservatorium of Music students and staff performed music derived from complex datasets collected from tagged marine species around sub-Antarctic islands, including southern elephant seals. It was the result of collaboration between Dr Mary-Anne Lea from IMAS and Sydney-based sound artist and sculptor Dr Nigel Helyer.

- The Conservatorium of Music presented a concert by Deborah Conway (Do Re Mi, Ultrasound) as part of its Visiting Artists Series on 14 April 2012. Deborah Conway and performer Willy Zygier conducted a series of forums, workshops and classes for the Conservatorium of Music Singer-Songwriter course, culminating in the concert. The concert featured Conservatorium Singer-Songwriter Students and visiting artists.

**Publications**

- *Symposium Overview: Conceptualising New Governance Arrangement* by Dr Fred Gale (School of Government) with C Tollefson and A Zito, *Public Administration* vol 90, 1 (2012), pp. 3-18. This theoretical article which sets out a new method for mapping new governance arrangements is published in the top-ranked, high-impact, international journal *Public Administration*.

- *Governing Information: A Three Dimensional Analysis of Environmental Assessment* by Dr Fred Gale (School of Government), with N Craik and M Doelle, (2012), *Public Administration* vol 90, 1, pp. 19-36. This article which applies a new theoretical framework to map differences
in environmental assessment arrangements in Australian, Canada and Europe is also published in the international journal *Public Administration*.

- **1234 Nick Haywood Quartet** debut album by Mr Nick Haywood (Conservatorium of Music). This album was commissioned by the ABC for its ‘Jazztrack’ program. *1234* was named CD of the Week on ABC Jazz.

- Dr Jeremy Prichard has published a paper ‘Euthanasia: A Reply to Bartels and Otlowski’ *Journal of Law and Medicine* (2012). This article, published in an ERA ‘A’ journal, makes an original contribution to the euthanasia debate by explaining the relevance of criminological research on elder abuse.

- ‘The aftermath of megafaunal extinction: ecosystem transformation in Pleistocene Australia’ has been published in *Science* 335: 1483-1486, with authors including Prof Chris Johnson from the School of Zoology as well as others. Prof Johnson and his colleagues’ research used a 130,000 year environmental record to help resolve the cause and reconstruct the ecological consequence of extinction of Australia’s megafauna. The results suggest that human arrival, rather than climate, caused megafaunal extinction.

- A scientific paper by Prof David Bowman from the School of Plant Science and his Japanese collaborators [http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2012.0103](http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2012.0103) (2012) has been picked up as a news item by *Nature* Research Highlights (www.nature.com/nature/journal/v483/n7389/full/483248a.html), *Science News* (news.sciencemag.org/sciencenow/2012/03/ancient-palm-not-so-ancient-afte.html?ref=hp) and other media internationally and nationally (www.abc.net.au/science/articles/2012/03/07/3447620.htm). This study showed that *Livistona* palms of arid central Australia, which were previously believed to be “living fossils”, were much more likely to have been introduced by indigenous Australians.

- An article by Dr Kim Felmingham from the School of Psychology and Bryant, R. (2012) *Gender differences in the maintenance of response to cognitive behaviour therapy for post-traumatic stress disorder*” was published in *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, 80*(2), 196-200. This article, which was published in the most highly cited psychology journal, reports the first evidence that men relapse significantly six months following cognitive behavioural therapy for post-traumatic stress disorder if they do not receive cognitive therapy.

- Paul J. Durack (CSIRO-UTAS PhD Program in Quantitative Marine Science, now a post-doctoral fellow at Lawrence Livermore Laboratory in California) paper “Ocean Salinities Reveal Strong Global Water Cycle Intensification During 1950 to 2000” was published in *Science*. Global sea surface salinity changes show that the global water cycles have changed.

- Associate Professor Kate Crowley has published *Environmental Policy Failure: The Australian Story* Tilde University Press, Melbourne, 2012, with collaborator Ken Walker. This edited collection reviews some of Australia’s most critically challenging environmental issues of our time and assesses the capacity of contemporary policies to solve them.
• Professor Ted Lefroy co-edited *Landscape Logic* which was published in April 2012. It describes how a collaboration of researchers from four Australian universities and CSIRO joined forces with environmental managers from three state agencies and six regional catchment management authorities to answer the question *'Can we detect the influence of public environmental programs on the condition of our natural resources?'* after a series of audits could find no evidence of considerable public investment actually improving the condition of waterways, soils and native vegetation.

• Dr Kerry Howells of the School of Education launched *Gratitude in Education: a Radical View* on 19 April 2012. This is the first comprehensive text to explore the relevance of gratitude in both the teaching and learning processes.

• Assoc Prof Alhossain Khalafallah (School of Human Life Sciences) was the lead author on ‘Early implementation of antifungal therapy in the management of febrile neutropenia is associated with favourable outcome during induction chemotherapy for acute leukaemias’, published in the *Internal Medicine Journal*. This analysis showed that early treatment for fungal infection is associated with improved outcomes for induction therapy for acute leukaemias.

**Senior appointments**

• An international recruitment process has begun for the new position of Professor of Food Science for the proposed Centre for Food Innovation (CFI). The CFI is a collaboration between UTAS, CSIRO, and Defence Science and Technology Organisation. The official launch of the CFI will happen in the second half of 2012.

• Dr Jens Froelich has been appointed Clinical Professor in the Faculty of Health Science. Dr Froelich commenced an appointment of Staff Specialist in the Department of Medical Imaging at the Royal Hobart Hospital in 2010 following an appointment as Professor of Radiology at Philipps University Marburg, Germany. His research focuses on interventional radiology.

**Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Portfolio Report**

**ARC and NHMRC Submission Numbers**

The NHMRC project grant round closed on 14 March with a 69% increase in submissions on 2011 (Table 1), and the ARC's Discovery Projects round closed on 1 March, with an increase in submissions of 30% (Table 1).

The ARC’s Discovery Early Career Research Award (DECRA) round closed on 21 March, with a decrease in submissions of 19% over 2011 (Table 1). DECRA numbers were down substantially across the sector, following the large number of applications in DECRA's first year. In 2011, the Discovery Projects funding pool was divided into 2 parts, Discovery Projects and DECRAs, and effectively, the UTAS application rate to the combined Discovery pool has increased by 61% since 2010.

This is a pleasing result given the increased focus on publicity and workshops to support applications to ARC and NHMRC schemes. We are looking to build on this base for 2013.
Table 1: ARC and NHMRC Submission Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discovery Projects</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>77</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discovery Early Career Researcher Award</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NHMRC Project Grants</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: DECRA Projects:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FACULTY</th>
<th>2011 Applications Submitted</th>
<th>2012 Applications Submitted</th>
<th>% Change</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMC</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Menzies</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SET</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>-19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>-19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NHMRC Information Exchange Visit
Following the NHMRC Information Exchange Visit in February, the University has received a letter from the Quality Assurance Branch of the NHMRC listing observations and recommendations. This has been referred to the Australia Code Implementation Steering Committee for discussion and a fuller response provided in the next SMT report.

Implementation of the Australia Code for Responsible Conduct of Research
Steady progress is being made by the Australia Code Implementation Steering Committee, with new Responsible Conduct in Research and Research Ethics policies approved. A Gene Technology Policy, Authorship Policy and Collaborative Research Policy have been endorsed by Research College Board and will be submitted to the 4 May meeting of Academic Senate for approval. A Collaborative Research and Management of Research Data Policy are being finalised.

Higher Degree by Research (HDR) Commencements and Commitments
109 HDRs commenced prior to end of March compared with 88 at the same time in 2011, representing a 23% increase. Table 1 shows effective full-time (EFT) enrolments, where full-time is represented by 1.0 and part-time by 0.5.

The Faculty of Education will soon exceed their commencement target and AMC are also enrolling strongly. On a linear projection for the year, overall commencements are on track to meet target.
Table 1: HDR Commencements and Commitments to 31 March 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Commencements*</th>
<th>Commitments*</th>
<th>Target</th>
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<td>AMC</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
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</tr>
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<tr>
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<td>17</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>HLTH</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMAS</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRD</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAW</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MRI</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SET</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>290</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Commencements’ are candidates who have actually started their HDR
‘Commitments are those who have indicated that they will start but are yet to commence (normally 90% commence)
‘Target’ is the total number of commencements established for 2012.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students & Education) Portfolio Report

Divisional Director Executive Retreat
A Divisional Directors Executive Retreat was held on 23 and 24 April which focussed on the TESQA report and areas within the recommendations that the Division can lead, a full range of Divisional work including International fees and marketing options, draft Learning and Teaching expectations and how the Division supports them, options for enhanced partnerships within Tasmania including further development of the High Achiever Program, the immediate and longer term issues of the Knight review and Streamlined Visa Processing; and options for developing the library including rationalisation of library space.

HERDSA Conference
The international Higher Education Research and Development Society of Australasia (HERDSA) conference is to be held in Hobart in July. The paper reviewing process for HERDSA has been completed with 68 full papers and 133 showcase papers being received. Workshop presentations and Keynote speakers have been finalised and are on the website: http://conference.herdsa.org.au/2012/

Launceston Campus Library access
Approval was received and funding allocated to implement 24/7 access to the ground floor of the Launceston Campus Library. The aim is to have 24/7 access enabled by the commencement of 2nd semester 2012 however this timeframe is yet to be confirmed.
Streamlined Visa Process
The University Sector Visa Streamlining Process (SVP) has been introduced by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) as a direct result of the Knight Review recommendations. UTAS along with 40 other Universities have elected to opt-in to the new streamlined visa processing arrangements. SVP shifts responsibility and accountability for verifying international student financial capacity to individual Universities. The resource implications for managing this activity is yet to quantified, however it is clear that UTAS will not be able to absorb these activities without cost. A working group is being formed to continue to respond to the full implications of these legislative changes.

Student Services and Amenities Fees
The Student Centre is in the process of undertaking the appropriate steps to introduce the Student Services and Amenities Fees (SSAF) from Semester 2 2012. An agreed fee schedule for 2012 has been forwarded to DEEWR. Critical to the process, staff are currently engaging with the TUU and with the wider student cohort seeking input into the allocation of the SSAF as required by legislation. The TUU has had an opportunity to make a submission to the process and importantly, a survey has also been circulated to the wider student cohort. As at 5 April 2012, 1634 responses were received in addition to email correspondence. Results from the survey will assist the University to determine the most appropriate allocation of these funds with consideration given to different study locations and different study modes.

Provost Portfolio Report
Planning, Performance and Review Committee (PPRC)
The PPRC met with all Deans/Directors and Business Managers of faculties and institutes in the period 19 March to 3 April. Meetings introduced the upcoming budget and planning cycle and reviewed each area’s report against 2011 plans. Current load projections were also considered and, following up from the February round of PPRC meetings, the budget implications of these projections were given close attention. With most faculties and institutes now implementing strategies for short-term savings, longer term thinking – which anticipates impacts over the next few years and seeks strategies to address these – was encouraged.

Marine/Maritime Summit
The Provost, with the support of the DVC and PVC and assisted by an external facilitator, convened a ‘Marine and Maritime’ Summit at AMC on 21 March. The purpose was to identify ways in which the University as a whole can build its international reputation in the ‘marine and maritime’ space. Around 15 delegates from AMC, IMAS and FSET participated in strongly collegial and collaborative discussions. It was agreed to develop an internal vision statement, a set of operating principles and frameworks for joint planning in key areas, particularly learning and teaching, research and infrastructure/facilities. This work has progressed subsequently and it has been agreed to convene a follow-up teaching summit. Throughout the process, the Acting Principal of AMC, the Executive Director of IMAS and the Dean of FSET have displayed strong leadership and modelled the collaborative behaviour that is essential if UTAS is to achieve its potential in what will now be referred to as the ‘Marine, Maritime and Antarctic’ realm.
Academic Promotions Policy
SMT endorsed the revised *Academic Promotions Policy*, as recommended by the University Promotions Committee, at its meeting of 15 March 2012 and informed by the discussion with Academic Senate on 2 March 2012. Associated documentation, including the *Academic Promotions Procedure* and *Academic Promotions: Advice for Applicants and Heads*, has been updated by the Office of the Provost to align with amendments to the policy. The Academic Promotions Round for 2013 was launched on 20 April. Applications can be submitted in the period 11 June to 9 July. Information sessions for potential candidates have been held in Hobart (24 April) and Launceston (27 April) with additional sessions to be held on 30 May (Hobart) and 8 June (Launceston).

Visiting Fellows and Visiting Scholars Program
The Visiting Fellows and Visiting Scholars Program offers Visiting Fellowships and Scholarships to support short-term visits to UTAS by academics, scholars and other eminent individuals, normally from outside of Tasmania. The program is designed to benefit areas or activities of strategic priority for UTAS by, for example: strengthening academic networks to underpin ongoing scholarly activity; achieving scholarly outcomes (e.g. publications) in key areas, through research leadership and collaborative research; enhancing the professional development of UTAS staff through exposure to teaching and learning leaders; enhancing educational programs through collaborative teaching projects; and raising the scholarly and public profile of UTAS. More information is available at [http://www.utas.edu.au/provost/visiting-fellows-and-visiting-scholars-program](http://www.utas.edu.au/provost/visiting-fellows-and-visiting-scholars-program)

Post-Integration Management Committee
The Post-Integration Management Committee (PIMC), chaired by the Provost, meets monthly to identify and prioritise operational improvements required to enhance the effectiveness of UTAS-AMC integration. PIMC last met on 2 April 2012, and topics of discussion included plans for following up on the outcomes of the Marine and Maritime Summit held on 21 March, which focused on a UTAS-wide vision for marine and maritime teaching and research and models for closer collaboration between stakeholders. Other discussions were held around: 24 hour access to the Newnham library; capitalising on co-branding; improvements to student accommodation; timetabling; and the upcoming Ministerial Review of Integration.

Workshops, Industry Intelligence & Networking - (WIIN) Grant
Funding of $43,100 has been approved by the Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education for a WIIN Grant for UTAS to host Professor Goran Roos from the Warwick Business School, UK, a leading practitioner in business model innovation and innovation management. Prof Goos will work with local manufacturing small and medium enterprises in the north and north-west on innovative collaborative models through a one-day workshop and a one-day manufacturing summit.

Harmony Day
Harmony Day was celebrated on Newnham campus in March and attracted over 1500 participants including staff, students, neighbours and participants from new and traditional communities. Around 300 local primary school students experienced a range of cultural activities. A key feature of the day was the ‘human library’ where UTAS international students became ‘the books’ that could be ‘borrowed’ by small groups of children. The predominantly African Launi Allstars soccer team played against the equally multicultural AMC international student team in an exciting game which led into an evening event of multicultural food and performances.
Promoting Launceston as a City of Learning – Open to the World.
The City of Learning (COL) project has commenced working on 2012 activities. Cityprom, a significant new partner, has joined the COL working group. Cityprom is Launceston’s CBD business organisation that represents over 500 businesses and knows the benefits the education sector brings to the City. Cityprom joins existing COL partners UTAS, AMC, Launceston City Council, Launceston Chamber of Commerce, Scotch Oakburn College, Launceston Church Grammar School and The Examiner.

Visit by Professor Sir Ian Kennedy
The Inglis Clark Centre for Civil Society recently hosted a successful visit to Australia by Professor Sir Ian Kennedy, Chair of the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority in the UK and Emeritus Professor of Health Law, Ethics and Policy at University College London. Sir Ian visited Canberra, Hobart and Launceston, where he participated in a range of public events and private briefing sessions with senior public servants, health care professionals, educators, State parliamentarians and their staff. In Tasmania, the keynote event was the first Denison Debate for 2012 - 'Frank, Fearless or Forgotten? The Role of Public Service Today'. The event can now be viewed online at the UTAS website: http://www.utas.edu.au/channel-utas/.

Other Business

Tasmanian Law Reform Institute 2011 Annual Report
Council received the 2011 Annual Report for the Tasmanian Law Reform Institute.

Academic Senate Meeting 4 May 2012
Council received a report and the draft minutes of the Academic Senate meeting held on 4 May 2012.

Graduation in Absentia and Conferring of Awards
Council approved the applications for the conferring of awards on 38 people, and the Chancellor conferred degrees in absentia on them.