

# PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Dated 26 June 2012

**The Tasmanian Government  
(The Government)**

and

**The University of Tasmania  
(The University)**



**THE TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA**  
**PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

**PRELIMINARIES**

1. This Agreement continues the established partnership between the Parties and implements the framework through which the Parties will collaborate to achieve the Partnership Objectives.
2. In signing this Agreement, the Parties acknowledge that coordinated action is the best way to progress the educational, economic, social, cultural, intellectual and environmental development of Tasmania.
3. The Parties recognise the diversity of the tertiary sector mission and the different roles played by the University of Tasmania with respect to knowledge, research and innovation, and the public vocational education and training (VET) providers with respect to industry and social inclusion.
4. This Agreement supports collaboration within the Tasmanian tertiary sector leading to improved student outcomes for lifelong learning, social mobility, participation and vocation, and the University's leadership role in research and innovation that underpins regional development.

**PART 1 – FORMALITIES**

**Parties to this Agreement**

5. The Parties to this Agreement (the Parties) are:
  - a) the Government of Tasmania, represented by the Department of Premier and Cabinet (the Government); and
  - b) the University of Tasmania (the University).

**Term of the Agreement**

6. This Agreement will commence on 1 April 2012 and will expire on 31 March 2015 unless terminated earlier or extended as agreed in writing by the Parties.

**Enforceability of the Agreement**

7. The Parties do not intend any of the provisions of this Agreement to be legally enforceable. However, that does not lessen the Parties' commitment to this Agreement.

## **PART 2 – PRIORITY AREAS**

8. For the duration of this Agreement the Parties will focus and collaborate on the following Priority Areas:
  - a) Educational Attainment;
  - b) Research Collaboration; and
  - c) International Education
9. The Parties may amend the Priority Areas by agreement.
10. The Objectives, Outputs and Outcomes for each of the Priority Areas are described in Parts 3, 4 and 5 of this Agreement.

## **PART 3 – EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT**

### **Objectives**

11. The Objectives of this Priority Area are to increase Tasmania's productivity through improved educational outcomes for students, increased participation rates in education and further development of the skills of teachers for all sectors.

### **Outcomes**

12. The Outcomes of this Priority Area will be as follows:
  - a) pathways between secondary education, VET and higher education are strong, accessible, well articulated and facilitate re-entry at all levels of education;
  - b) the qualifications and skills of participants in VET and higher education meet the needs of students, employers and the Tasmanian economy;
  - c) an increase in the number of people from lower socio-economic status (SES) backgrounds that are enrolled in education at all levels;
  - d) an increase in the number of people completing Year 12 education or its equivalent; and

- e) teachers in all education sectors have opportunities to develop and enhance their skills.

### **Outputs**

- 13. The Outputs of this Priority Area will be developed by a working group established by the Partnership Management Group and will align with the Objectives of this Priority Area.

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

- 14. The Government is responsible for delivering public primary and secondary education (from Kindergarten through to Year 12) and managing VET in Tasmania.
- 15. The University is responsible for delivering higher education in Tasmania.
- 16. The Parties will collaborate to achieve the Outcomes of this Priority Area as outlined above.

## **PART 4 – RESEARCH COLLABORATION**

### **Objectives**

- 17. The Objectives of this Priority Area are to grow the science and research industry in Tasmania and deliver gains in economic productivity through a more effective and strategic approach to facilitating appropriate research opportunities.

### **Outcomes**

- 18. The Outcomes of this Priority Area will be as follows:
  - a) increased investment in and growth of science and research as an industry in Tasmania;
  - b) increased investment in research that promotes economic growth in Tasmania; and
  - c) improved communication, coordination and cooperation between the Parties, enabling a strategic approach to securing funding for research from the Australian Government and other sources.

### **Outputs**

- 19. The Outputs of this Priority Area will be developed by a working group established by the Partnership Management Group and will align with the Objectives of this Priority Area.

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

20. The Parties will collaborate to achieve the Outcomes of this Priority Area as outlined above.

## **PART 5 – INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION**

### **Objectives**

21. The Objectives of this Priority Area are to increase the number of international students choosing to study in Tasmania for a high quality educational experience and to increase the duration of their period of study in Tasmania and their level of satisfaction with Tasmania as a study destination.

### **Outcomes**

22. The Outcomes of this Priority Area will be as follows:

- a) increased interest in Tasmania as a study destination for international students;
- b) an increase in enrolments of international students in all sectors; and
- c) an increase in the number of international students supported to remain in Tasmania and progress from one sector to another.

### **Outputs**

23. The Outputs of this Priority Area will complement those of the International Education Roundtable and will be:

- a) a co-operative approach towards marketing Tasmania as a unique study destination for international students;
- b) stronger linkages between the activities of the Government and the University with regard to the attraction, retention and progression of international students;
- c) opportunities to work co-operatively to enhance the study and living experience of international students in Tasmania through development of community engagement strategies; and
- d) a clear understanding of the regulatory environment relating to international student visa rules.

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

24. The Government is responsible for the attraction, retention and support of international students in public primary and secondary education and VET.
25. The University is responsible for the attraction, retention and support of international students in higher education.
26. The Parties will collaborate to achieve the Outcomes of this Priority Area as outlined above.

## **PART 6 – GOVERNANCE**

### **Continuation of Partnership Management Group**

27. The existing Partnership Management Group will manage and oversee activities and actions undertaken in accordance with this Agreement.

### **Composition of Partnership Management Group**

28. The Partnership Management Group will consist of senior nominees of the Government and the University, normally at the level of Departmental Secretary and University Senior Executive respectively. It will include:
  - a) up to six members nominated by the Government, one of which will be the Secretary of the Department of Premier and Cabinet or his delegate;
  - b) up to six members nominated by the University, one of which will be the Vice-Chancellor of the University or his delegate; and
  - c) other members agreed between the Parties from time to time.

### **Operation of Partnership Management Group**

29. The Partnership Management Group will operate as follows:
  - a) the Chair will rotate between the Parties on an annual basis, commencing with the Government;
  - b) the provision of secretariat support will rotate between the parties together with the Chair, with the secretariat keeping records of each meeting;
  - c) the Partnership Management Group will meet at least three times each year;
  - d) meetings will only proceed if there is a quorum of at least two members from each of the Parties;

- e) an agenda, agreed between the members of the Partnership Management Group, will be circulated prior to each meeting;
- f) decisions will be made by the majority; and
- g) the Partnership Management Group may establish working groups to progress the Objectives of any Priority Area.

#### **Responsibilities of Partnership Management Group**

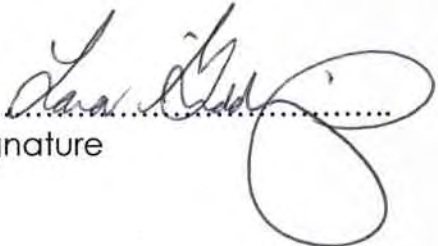
30. The Partnership Management Group will be responsible for:

- a) providing leadership and stewardship in achieving the Objectives of the Agreement and resolving issues that impede progress of the Priority Areas;
- b) monitoring the progress of Priority Areas against agreed performance indicators;
- c) reporting to Cabinet and the University Council on the progress of Priority Areas;
- d) developing and maintaining protocols for funding of Priority Areas;
- e) developing and maintaining protocols for the communication of information between the Parties;
- f) identifying further opportunities for collaboration in the agreed Priority Areas; and
- g) resolving disputes arising under the Agreement.


# Signing page

**Dated:** 26 June, 2012

**Signed** for and on behalf of The  
Tasmanian Government by the  
Honourable Lara Giddings MP  
Premier of Tasmania )  
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Signature

**Signed** for and on behalf of the  
University of Tasmania )  
By Professor Peter Rathjen )  
Vice-Chancellor )  
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Signature