

STRATEGIC GOALS

The Tasmanian School of Business and Economics will pursue its vision and mission through an overarching theme of Resilience, Adaptation and Sustainable Growth. This theme is reflected in our evolving strengths in three areas: Person in Context; Collaborative Entrepreneurship and Innovation; and Sustainability in Business and Community. We will use a variety of research, teaching and engagement approaches as we pursue these goals including large-scale data analysis and integration (“big data”) to support better decision-making by business, government and community organisations, work-integrated learning and experiential learning methods, and an emphasis on inter-disciplinary collaborations. TSBE with its close ties to research agencies, government, business and community is in a strong position to play a leading role in incubating and accelerating understanding and using knowledge for local national and global benefit.

Person in Context captures our emphasis on viewing individuals, organisations and communities as a complex multilevel system. Career-family balance, healthy lifestyle and psychological adjustment both inside and outside of an organisation are key challenges in modern working life. People seek career opportunities that provide not only job-related challenges and resources, but also support personal and family development and foster the greater good for their communities. Tasmania, through its distinctive natural environment and associated advantages, provides a ready base for lifestyle enhancement. The TSBE’s joint programs with health sciences and medicine, as illustrated by our Institute for Health Service Management, provide an additional link to this theme.

Collaborative Entrepreneurship and Innovation reflect the goal of many organisations – adaptation and advancement through new ideas, processes and impact. This applies to business as well as community and public sector organisations as well as hybrids including social enterprises. The University of Tasmania has a number of strengths in areas including science, engineering and agriculture/aquaculture to name a few. An emphasis on entrepreneurship and innovation provides the TSBE with an opportunity to explore how these technological innovations might be framed with a business (enterprise) context for potential commercialisation and public value creation. This strategic focus has strong linkages to work-integrated learning and facilitating the university’s mission concerning impact in that we seek to facilitate the advancement of basic discovery to field application. Our partnerships with other faculties and research bodies are critical for this strategic focus as well as our Institute for Innovation Research.

Our third focus is Sustainability in Business and Community – organisational, resource and environmental. Sustainable businesses refer to enterprises that have minimal negative impact on the global or local environment, community, society, or economy. Sustainability provides for a better future for everyone and we will facilitate cross-disciplinary work with our colleagues in agriculture/aquaculture, renewable energy, community engagement and education, corporate social responsibility and sustainable consumption among others. At both individual and organisational levels, sustainability captures an emphasis on utilizing scarce resources more efficiently and effectively. It also captures such practices as “green” technologies and businesses seeking to create products that minimise waste and negative environmental impact. It also provides a link to a strong competence that we have in resource economics and the emerging field of sustainable finance and cloud funding. A focus on sustainability provides a social impact that is critical to Tasmania’s diverse workforce with an increasing number of adult learners in need of trade and professional retooling, reaching out to younger learners who might otherwise not participate in tertiary education and providing work opportunities for underrepresented groups. With the decline of the traditional manufacturing, forestry and mining economic base of the Tasmanian economy, sustainability reflects a social good needed to revitalise Tasmanian development.