

## Media Release

### Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

Tuesday, 6 February 2018

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## Overcoming barriers to climate justice

The critical issue of climate change will be the focus of a conference which opens in Hobart on Thursday (8-10 February).

The Imagining A Different Future: Overcoming Barriers to Climate Justice conference and community event will bring together academics, artists and members of the community to explore climate change.

An initiative led by Dr Peter Lawrence and Jan Linehan from the University of Tasmania's Faculty of Law, the conference will feature nearly 90 leading thinkers from different disciplines working on climate change in Australia and internationally, including scientists, philosophers, lawyers, political scientists, artists and activists.

The conference will also have a strong focus on community engagement, with a free public talk on Thursday night (8 February) by Professor Steve Vanderheiden, University of Colorado, which will explore 'What ethical responsibilities citizens have now to promote climate justice, in light of what their national governments are and are not doing?' The talk will be held at the Hobart Town Hall at 7.30pm.

The public will have the opportunity to discuss issues such as food, energy, crafting a just and regenerative future, and learning from the holders of indigenous knowledge, on Saturday (10 February) afternoon.

The conference also features the world premiere of a song cycle, *Global Warning*, by Tasmanian composer Owen Davies, with local musicians.

Keynote topics and speakers include:

- *Human Dignity, Imagination and the Framings of Climate Justice*, Marcus Düwall, University of Utrecht;
- *Climate Change: Against Despair*, Catriona McKinnon, University of Reading;
- *Historical Justice and the Climate Transition*, Jeremy Moss, University of New South Wales;
- *Democracy and Climate Justice: Never the Twain Shall Meet?* Robyn Eckersley, University of Melbourne;

- *Climate Justice: Beyond Burden Sharing*, Steve Vanderheiden, University of Colorado at Boulder;
- *Changing Oceans and Cryosphere: Assessments by the IPCC*, Nathan Bindoff, Antarctic Climate & Ecosystems Cooperative Research Centre, Hobart;
- *Equity and Differentiation in the 2015 Paris Agreement: Evolution, Maturity, Prospects*, Lavanya Rajamani, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi;
- *Fair Shares: A Civil Society Approach to Climate Equity*, Sivan Kartha, Stockholm Environment Institute;
- *Fairness in Climate Adaptation Law*, Jan McDonald, University of Tasmania;
- *Divesting From Fossil Fuels: A Useful Strategy for Climate Justice?* Ben Richardson, University of Tasmania;
- *Climate Refugees: Pathways for Justice*, Guy Goodwin-Gill, University of New South Wales;
- *The Case for Not Valuing Climate Change Monetarily and Setting Physical Targets Instead*, Jack Pezzey, Australian National University.

**What:** Imagining A Different Future: Overcoming Barriers to Climate Justice conference and community event.

**When:** 8 - 10 February, 2018.

**Where:** Medical Science Precinct, corner of Liverpool and Campbell Streets, Hobart.

For media interviews, contact the University media office on 6226 2124.

To register or for more information go to <https://www.climatejustice.network>

**Information released by:**

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