National role for UTAS Academic

The University of Tasmania’s Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peter Rathjen, has welcomed the appointment of Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Students and Education, Professor David Sadler, to the newly-announced national Strategic Advisory Committee of the Office for Learning and Teaching (OLT).

The OLT will replace the Australian Learning and Teaching Council, and will be based in the Federal Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations. It will retain many of the key functions of the ALTC, including work in supporting universities in innovation and excellence in many areas of learning and teaching, as well as the recognition of individual academics for their outstanding contributions to student learning. The OLT will facilitate the sharing of good practice across the sector.

The Strategic Advisory Committee is made up of highly respected senior academics and national student representatives to provide strategic guidance to the new OLT.

“This appointment recognises Professor Sadler’s expertise in teaching and learning, technology enhanced learning, social inclusion and international relations,” Prof Rathjen said.

Prof Sadler joined UTAS earlier this year from the UK where he was the Director of the Higher Education Academy (equivalent to the Australian Learning and Teaching Council). He has also been a Dean of Social Sciences and Director of the National Subject Centre for Politics, Anthropology and Politics. In 2005, Prof Sadler became a UK National Teaching Fellow and has also worked in the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Prof Sadler said he was delighted to be asked to be a member of the new Strategic Advisory Committee.

“The improvement of the student experience and the exploration of ways to enhance and recognise excellent teaching are issues that have international salience,” he said.

“New approaches to curriculum design and to exploration of new technological opportunities to student learning were exciting agendas in all universities and the OLT will be able to assist them.”

To arrange an interview with Prof Sadler, contact the media office on: 0429 336 328.

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The Communications and Media Office, UTAS
Phone: (03) 6226 2124
Email: Media.Office@utas.edu.au