



UNIVERSITY *of*
TASMANIA

Friday, 11 May 2018

University of Tasmania responding to impacts of severe weather

The University of Tasmania's Hobart campuses, in Sandy Bay and the central business district, have been closed until further notice.

Due to an extreme weather event over Hobart last night, three buildings were inundated with floodwaters and the Sandy Bay campus has been without power.

Our immediate focus is on the safety of our students and staff, and the broader community.

We have been in direct contact with University staff and students to advise them of the closure of all Hobart and Sandy Bay buildings. We cannot yet indicate when our campuses will reopen.

The worst affected buildings are Law, Engineering and the Corporate Services Building, all on the Sandy Bay campus. We do not yet have estimates of total damage costs.

Staff have been working closely with students who live in University accommodation. As of this morning, we have arranged for alternative accommodation for 36 students who cannot use their rooms due to damage.

Generators have been arranged to ensure we can provide catering for our student residences, and some power for basic lighting.

Our Colleges and Schools are working to provide alternative teaching and learning arrangements as quickly as possible to minimise the impact on our students' studies. Steps have also been taken to protect research.

We have been communicating directly with students to reassure them that any impact on assignments, tests or exams will be taken into account, and have provided them with details on how they can make contact with relevant staff to discuss any issues.

Like all Tasmanians affected by these sorts of events, the University is grateful for the heroic efforts of our emergency services, volunteers and utilities workers.

We are thankful for the way our community has pulled together in the face of difficult circumstances, and for our staff who have worked tirelessly to convey us through this challenging and complex event.

The University will continue to update staff and students directly and via www.utas.edu.au/flooding.

Students who need support or have concerns should email: U.Connect@utas.edu.au.

We urge staff and students to monitor and heed advice from emergency services.

Media contact: Jason Purdie – 0455 838 945

Information released by:

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