



UNIVERSITY of  
TASMANIA

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## Call for creative minds, problem-solvers and innovators: UHack 2018

The countdown is on to one of the University of Tasmania's most innovative competitions which offers participants a launching pad for pioneering projects.

UHack allows talented teams of designers, innovators and entrepreneurs from across the State to pitch ground-breaking ideas over one weekend in each region.

Entrants are tasked with developing a software application or digital device, before creating a business plan and pitch video to present to a panel of industry-leading judges.

As the registration period enters its final days, University Chief Information Officer Jeff Murray is urging anyone with creative ideas to come forward.

"UHack stretches the creative technology and business skills of teams while showcasing Tasmania's ability to answer real-world problems," Mr Murray said.

"Ideas and innovations need to be aligned with the University's five research themes: Environment, Resources and Sustainability; Creativity, Culture and Society; Better Health; Marine, Antarctic and Maritime; and Data, Knowledge and Decisions.

"Last year's winning team, The Control Freaks, comprising two North-West home-schooled families, is already close to finalising a working prototype for their idea – an app to assist dairy farmers which controls and monitors a travelling irrigator."

The Control Freaks representative Nathan Kelly encouraged students and community members to seize the UHack opportunity.

"The UHack experience was just the start of a very exciting journey," Mr Kelly said.

"While our irrigation app is still in the development stage, we have been working on another tech solution which is now in the medical marketplace.

"It's been a perfect storm of opportunity and UHack was the catalyst for us and the inspiration."

This year's UHack competitors will be vying for a prize pool totalling \$24,000 that will support entrants to start-up their innovations or creations.

The three-day hackathon event will be held simultaneously in Hobart, Launceston and Burnie between Friday, 13 July – Sunday, 17 July.

UHack is presented with the support of platinum sponsor Dell.

For more information and to register visit <http://www.utas.edu.au/uhack>

**University of Tasmania Chief Information Officer Jeff Murray and The Control Freaks team representative Nathan Kelly are available for photo/interview opportunities in the lead-up to the competition.**

**Media contact:** Shantelle Rodman 0428 197 878

**Information released by:**

Communications and Media Office

University of Tasmania

+61 3 6430 4966

[Media.Office@utas.edu.au](mailto:Media.Office@utas.edu.au)

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