

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Economic development architect to drive SenseT project

The University of Tasmania has appointed Ms Ros Harvey to lead the SenseT project, one of the biggest coordinated investments in knowledge infrastructure in Tasmania's history.

SenseT is a \$42 million program which will use data from sensors to deliver real-time information to help industry and government make better decisions. It is expected to deliver significant productivity gains for the state's economy as well as supporting improved management of Tasmania's resources and the environment.

Initial practical projects will focus in agriculture and food production, emerging carbon markets, smart infrastructure and logistics, as well as catchment and flood management.

SenseT was launched by the Premier and the Minister for Regional Australia, Simon Crean, on 14th June.

"I am delighted that Ros Harvey has accepted this key SenseT position," the Vice-Chancellor of UTAS, Professor Peter Rathjen, said today.

"Through SenseT, Tasmania will be a world-leader in innovation and the digital economy. Ros combines deep local knowledge with international expertise in the delivery of multi stakeholder large scale programs."

Ms Harvey, the architect of the state's economic development plan, is currently Deputy Secretary of the Department of Economic Development Tourism and the Arts.

She returned to Tasmania in 2010 after 15 years abroad.

Ms Harvey was the founding Director of the Better Work program – a partnership between the World Bank group and the UN's International Labour Organisation based in Geneva. Better Work is globally recognised as a landmark program in the field of corporate social responsibility, global supply chains and pro-poor development.

The Minister for Innovation, Science and Technology and Economic Development, Mr David O'Byrne, welcomed the opportunity this appointment

makes to deepen the collaboration between the state government and the University in the delivery of the SenseT program.

“I want to thank Ros for her tremendous contribution to the State, and in particular her role in developing the Economic Development Plan,” Mr O’Byrne said.

“SenseT is a key plank of the state’s Digital Futures Strategy. It will deliver economic, social and environmental benefits to the state. Ros’ appointment will help us deliver on SenseT’s potential for Tasmania.”

Dr Ian Oppermann, National Director of the CSIRO ICT Centre, also welcomed the appointment. “I am delighted that Ros is taking on this important role. SenseT is an ambitious program which seeks to deliver real value in Tasmania and demonstrate what can be achieved with large-scale sensor networks. Ros has been deeply involved with the formation of SenseT and is a strong champion for the program.”

Ms Harvey will take up the position of on 16 July.

Information released by:

**The Media Office, University of Tasmania
Phone: (03) 6226 8518; 0429 336 328 (Peter Cochrane)
Email: Media.Office@utas.edu.au**

