

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

DATE: THURSDAY 3 JANUARY 2013

ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Leaders discuss what they do best

Three of Tasmania's foremost leaders will share their expertise at a UTAS Faculty of Business free public leadership forum tomorrow.

The three speakers will discuss what it means to be a leader in the current economic climate and the challenges facing Australian organisations.

The presentations will be followed by a question and answer opportunity for the audience.

This event forms part of the Faculty of Business postgraduate unit "Leadership in the Australian Context".

The Speakers:

Michael Field (AC)

Michael is the In-coming UTAS Chancellor. He was Tasmanian Premier 1989-1992 (State Member of Parliament 1976-1997). Since leaving politics he has held positions as Chairman of the Tasmanian Innovations Advisory Board, Chairman of the AIRC Advisory Board and a Member of the Port Arthur Site Management Authority. He is a leadership and organisational change consultant. Michael holds qualifications in teaching, history and political science and a Doctorate of Laws - Honorary from UTAS in 2000. He was awarded a Companion of the Order of Australia (AC) in 2003.

Thea Fairbrother

Thea began her career as a nurse, before commencing a business career that has spanned 40 years. Thea retired as Fairbrother Corporate Services Director in 2007 and remains interested in the company. Thea was instrumental in the formation of the Fairbrother Foundation, which provides charitable assistance and support to the community. Thea's involvement with the mental health system has led her to become a vocal advocate for improvements for those Tasmanians experiencing mental illness and homelessness, by helping create an independent life-style environment where purpose and achievement, no matter how small, are possible. Thea has been Director of Common Ground Tasmania since 2009.

Steve Gunn

Steve has been the Chief Executive Officer of Blundstone Australia Pty Ltd since 2001 – following a career in human resource management and Government policy development. Blundstone is a Tasmanian family owned business in a highly competitive industry sourcing from the world and selling

to the world. It continues to manufacture its gumboot range at its newly-built Moonah factory and headquarters. As the CEO, Steve has transformed the business from one struggling to coping - with an emphasis on local manufacturing in an environment of tariff reduction - to a highly successful company that is increasingly driven by innovation and customer need.

Who: Speakers, guests, members of the public

What: UTAS Faculty of Business Leadership Forum

When: Friday 4 January 2013. 10.30am for 10.45am to 12.30pm (speakers will start at 10.45am sharp)

Where: Arts Lecture Theatre (A203), UTAS Sandy Bay campus, Churchill Avenue, Hobart

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