Conference set to challenge tourism limits

The challenges related to the planning, management and recovery of tourism related crises and disasters will headline discussion today ahead of an international tourism and hospitality conference in Hobart next week.

The future of Antarctic tourism and sustainable management of sightseeing in the far south will also be a focus of the 2010 Council for Australian Universities Tourism and Hospitality Education (CAUTHE) Conference.

The School of Management at the University of Tasmania will host the CAUTHE conference at the Grand Chancellor Hotel in Hobart from 8-11 February.

Conference convenor Dirk Reiser said as a prelude to the conference, Dr Brent W. Ritchie from the University of Queensland will this afternoon present a research seminar on crisis and disaster management for tourism.

“The seminar will identify issues and challenges related to the planning, management and recovery of tourism related crises and disasters,” Dr Reiser said. “Dr Ritchie will also look at future research directions and provide examples of potential research projects from a range of disciplines needed to address these issues and challenges.”

More than 230 delegates from across Tasmania, interstate and overseas will attend next week’s conference to discuss tourism growth, heritage, ethics and sustainability.

“This year’s theme is Tourism and Hospitality – Challenge the Limits”, Dr Reiser said.

“The conference will provide a forum for discussion of new ideas and allow delegates to discuss the theoretical and conceptual ideas that inform their research and teaching.”

The 2010 conference will include a series of thought-provoking addresses including:

- Dr Phillip Tracey of the Australian Antarctic Division “The future of Antarctic tourism”
- Professor Pauline J Sheldon of the University of Hawaii; “Future issues in Education: The Way forward for Tourism, Hospitality and Events”
- Professor Don Getz of the University of Queensland and University of Calgary: “The Right Traveller: Travel Careers of the Highly Involved”
• Dr Claire Ellis of Tourism Tasmania and Professor Margaret Deery of Victoria University: “Tourism and communities: Understanding and managing limits to tourism growth”

• Dr Mark Wickham and Stuart Crispin from the University of Tasmania: “Ecotourism and strategic management”

The Council for Australian University Tourism and Hospitality Education (CAUTHE) aims to promote the development of tourism and hospitality education and research in Australia.

Delegates and speakers are coming to Tasmania from as far afield as Hong Kong, Canada, Hawaii, New Zealand, Malaysia, China, Austria, Norway and the United Kingdom.

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