

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Nationally recognised academic Prof Lee Dow joins UTAS Council

One of the nation's most esteemed academics, Emeritus Professor Kwong Lee Dow AO, has been appointed to the Council of the University of Tasmania.

Professor Lee Dow - former Vice-Chancellor at the University of Melbourne in 2004 and VC pro tem at University of Ballarat in 2006 – will attend his first Council meeting in Launceston on March 28.

UTAS Chancellor Michael Field said Professor Lee Dow's appointment would enhance the University Council's understanding of the national and international issues impacting higher education.

Professor Lee Dow is recognised as a national leader in the fields of education, teaching, academic administration and curriculum, most recently co-authoring the Review of Higher Education Regulation Report, the recommendations of which have been fully accepted by the Federal Government.

University of Tasmania Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Rathjen welcomed Professor Lee Dow's appointment to Council.

"Within Australian academe, there are very few who have had such a profound, lasting and ongoing impact within our sector," Professor Rathjen said.

"We are determined to provide a world-class university in Tasmania. That requires research which is of global standing, curriculum which is both relevant and compelling, and excellence in teaching.

"The appointment of Professor Lee Dow to our Council very much aligns with these aspirations."

For 25 years, Professor Lee Dow has been called on by both Commonwealth and Victorian Governments to lead various organisations and efforts to review curriculum development and assessment. In 1997 he chaired a review of the Victorian Certificate of Education.

“I'm delighted to be renewing my contact with Tasmania and the University,” Professor Lee Dow said yesterday.

“My father was born in Launceston, and I've been coming to Tasmania and the University since my youth.

“In 1993 I led a review of the University's education faculty, at the invitation of then Vice-Chancellor Alan Gilbert.

“It has been great to watch both the strengthening of the University's research, and equally, its effective response to the needs of less advantaged students.”

Professor Lee Dow, the son of a school teacher, graduated from the University of Melbourne with an honours Science degree in chemistry, obtaining his Diploma in Education in 1960 and a Bachelor of Education in 1963.

He was appointed Professor of Education in 1973 and Dean of Education in 1978. During his career at the University of Melbourne Professor Lee Dow served as a member of Council, Vice-Chairman and Chairman of the Academic Board.

Professor Lee Dow was a recipient of the Sir James Darling Medal from the Australian College of Education in 1994 and of the Gold Medal Australian Council for Educational Leaders in 2005.

The highly regarded University of Melbourne young scholars program carries Professor Lee Dow's name.

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