

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

**NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA**

DATE: FRIDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2013

ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

---



## **UTAS offers new level of support for local food industry**

A new Professor of Food Sciences and Technology based at the UTAS Newnham campus will promote new added-value processing of Tasmanian produce and by-products and develop sustainable and globally competitive strategies with the food and produce industry in Tasmania in support of the national food plan.

Professor Roger Stanley will work within the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology and conduct research, including collaboration with the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO) Scottsdale facility.

Overseeing the completion of a detailed business plan for innovative food research and training needs in the north of Tasmania and a feasibility study for a food processing, research and testing facility are on the top of his priority list.

“UTAS wants to support the local food industry by fostering innovative research and training around added-value foods, which will act as a catalyst for a range of food-based business initiatives, both supporting and capitalising on the region’s strong agriculture base,” he said.

“The ability and willingness of Tasmanians to go forward and explore new opportunities in the food area is one of the reasons why I’m so excited to be here.”

Professor Stanley, a food scientist specialising in nutraceuticals and functional foods, is originally from New Zealand but has spent the past six years working in Queensland teaching and conducting research with the Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation, a joint Queensland Government-University of Queensland research institute.

Functional foods are food-based products with added health benefits, and can be made by breeding and processing agricultural produce to improve the level of beneficial compounds.

An example is the Queen Garnet plums that Prof. Stanley helped evolve which have an extra hit of antioxidants.

Prof. Stanley is also a keen trout fisherman and bush walker, and along with his wife is keen to experience the State's outdoor activities.

***MEDIA OPPORTUNITY***

***Prof. Stanley is available for interview at the UTAS Newnham Campus TODAY, February 8, in the foyer of the AMC Science Building at 1.30pm.***

***Please contact media officer Lana Best on 6324 5019 or 0417 978 025 to arrange.***

**Information Released by:**

The UTAS Communications and Media Office

Phone: (03) 6324 5019 or 0417 978 025.

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