

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

DATE: MONDAY 27 MAY 2013

ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



New institute to train Australia's next generation of health managers

The University of Tasmania has partnered with one of Australia's major metropolitan healthcare organisations to establish a new training centre aimed at developing and educating Australia's next generation of health managers.

The Australian Institute of Health Service Management (AIHSM), a co-venture between UTAS and the Sydney Local Health District, launches nationally today (**Monday 27 May 2013**). It offers postgraduate training, executive development programs, executive succession planning support and research into health administration and policy, and will act as a think-tank for leaders in both the public and private health sectors.

"The location of the AIHSM in Sydney aligns with the healthcare programs that are on offer at our Rozelle and Darlinghurst campuses," the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peter Rathjen, said today. "It demonstrates the commitment of UTAS to fostering excellence in the health sector."

The AIHSM sits within UTAS' Faculty of Business.

"It is a growing network of alumni, with the majority of students drawn from health services around the country," said the Dean of the Faculty of Business, Professor Gary O'Donovan, who is the Chair of the AIHSM's Advisory Board.

"We also recognise outstanding individuals as Fellows of the Institute. This is an honour bestowed on few individuals who have significantly shaped health service organisation and administration. Above all else, the AIHSM is dedicated to improving the quality and efficiency of health care."

Many of Australia's health services are teaming up with the institute as a key plank in their leadership and executive development courses, and to put considerable substance to their succession planning processes.

"Studies have shown the association between management practices and organisational performance," Prof O'Donovan said. "In the health sector a large body of research has demonstrated that the quality of leadership affects employees, their satisfaction, trust in management, commitment, individual and team effectiveness, the culture and climate of organisations, and ultimately individual and collective performance."

The AIHSM, which offers both a Master and Doctor of Health Service Management, is open to those with and without clinical backgrounds. Courses are part-time, and the majority of students complete their degrees in two to three years.

Lecturers include Mike Wallace, Founding Director of the AIHSM and Chief Operating Officer of the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health; Associate Professor Jeff Patrick, Deputy Director of the AIHSM; Dr Teresa Anderson, Chief Executive of Sydney Local Health District; Karen Crawshaw, Deputy Director General (Governance, Workforce and Corporate) NSW Health; Heather Gray, Chief Executive of the Health Education & Training Institute; Amanda Larkin, Chief Executive of South-Western Sydney Local Health District and Vicki Taylor, Chief Executive of Northern Sydney Local Health District.

The Institute's website can be accessed at <http://aihsm.org.au>

Information released by:

Communications and Media Office, University of Tasmania

Phone: (03) 6226 8518; 0429 336 328 (Peter Cochrane)

Email: Peter.Cochrane@utas.edu.au