

Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

Tuesday 9 June 2015

Conference to showcase world-class research

The 2015 Geography and Spatial Science Conference being held in Hobart this week will highlight the diverse world-class research being undertaken at the University of Tasmania.

From drones and thermal sensing technology, environmental management and climate change predictions to cultural and political geography, city planning and sustainable transport, there is a topic that will interest everyone.

The event runs across two days on Wednesday 10 June – Thursday 11 June and boasts over 40 speakers who will be challenging attendees to consider some of the biggest environmental and social challenges.

Conference organiser and Professor of Polar Geodesy at the University of Tasmania, Professor Matt King says the annual conference is a celebration of the internationally-leading research within and across the fields of Geography and Spatial Sciences in the School of Land and Food.

“We are tackling some of the world's most significant problems, relating to environmental sustainability, understanding the effects of climate change, management of wilderness regions, food security and the social and cultural importance of space and place,” Professor King said.

“The conference is a focal point of our discipline for 2015, bringing together our PhD students, adjunct researchers, postdoctoral researchers and academic staff in the one place to share ideas over two days.”

“It is chance for our colleagues from industry, government, NGOs, the public and the wider University, to join with our research community to discuss recent findings and learn the impact our research is having globally, nationally and locally.”

The Geography and Spatial Science Conference is being held on Wednesday 10 and Thursday 11 June.

Speakers and Topics across the two days include:

- ‘Participating and partisanship: the challenges of public debate about wicked problems’ (Chloe Lucas, 10.40am Wednesday 10 June)

- 'Lasers, drones and tree climbers measure Tassie's World Heritage forests' (Arko Lucieer, 11.30am Wednesday 10 June)
- 'Everyday Spatial Information' (Professor Stephan Winter, University of Melbourne, 9.20am, Thursday 11 June)
- Expert Panel Discussion: Changing land-use planning in Tasmania (2.00pm, Thursday 11 June), featuring:
 - Greg Alomes, Executive Commissioner, Tasmanian Planning Commission
 - Emma Riley, Professional Planner
 - Tony McMullen, Manager City Strategy, Glenorchy City Council,

View the full program [online](#).

Information released by:

University of Tasmania, Communications and Media Office
Phone: 0418 229 864
Email: tia.comms@utas.edu.au