

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Graduands cap off their degrees this week

More than 600 proud students will don their caps and gowns and graduate at the University mid-year graduations in Hobart.

There are six graduation ceremonies taking place in Hobart over 12 -13 August and one ceremony in Launceston on 20 August 2011.

There are 1001 graduands graduating through the Hobart ceremonies and 378 through Launceston ceremonies.

Of these graduands, 647 will be attending their graduation in Hobart and 198 attending in Launceston.

UTAS Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peter Rathjen, said he was looking forward to attending his first graduation Hobart ceremonies as Vice-Chancellor.

“Graduation is a very special event, for the university, for the graduands and for the academics who have taught them during their degrees and diplomas.

“These ceremonies are a celebration of students’ hard work and achievements, but they are also a celebration of the support and encouragement university students receive from their friends and families throughout their studies.

“I extend my congratulations to all graduands.”

Two Honorary Degrees will also be awarded at the Hobart ceremonies.

Dr Peter Smith will receive a Doctor of Science at the 1pm ceremony on Saturday 13 August 2011.

A UTAS graduate, Dr Smith started his career as a laboratory assistant and industrial chemist. He introduced the teaching of modern inorganic chemistry into the university’s department of Chemistry and in conjunction with two other colleagues set up the Central Science Laboratory.

This central laboratory enabled the university to provide a state-of-the-art facility to its researchers that has been the envy of other Australian universities.

He was a tireless researcher in his discipline, the author or co-author of many papers in refereed academic journals, and the supervisor of a large cohort of honours, masters and doctoral candidates.

Dr Smith sought to engage with the wider chemical community and convinced many local Tasmanian industries to employ graduates, seeking scholarships from business in the process.

Together with a colleague, he established the Chemistry Teachers' Discussion Group, to provide a forum for teachers of chemistry at all levels. As an alumnus of the university he was an inaugural member of the Alumni Committee, and served as President of the UTAS Staff Association.

Dr Smith is also a long time supporter and Governor of the University Foundation.

Senator Tunku Abdul Aziz will receive a Doctor of Laws at the 7pm ceremony on Friday 12 August 2011.

Tunku Aziz came to the University of Tasmania in 1962, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts with majors in History and Political Science in 1965.

Tunku Aziz has campaigned fearlessly and relentlessly for good governance and ethical conduct in his fight against corruption.

He founded, in 1998, the Malaysian Chapter of Transparency International, the global coalition against corruption – known locally in Malaysia as the Malaysian Society for Transparency and Integrity. He was President of the organisation in Malaysia until December 2004.

In October 1997, Tunku Aziz was elected to the international board of Transparency International and in March of the following year became Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors. He was re-elected Vice-Chairman in October 1999 and served in this office until he relinquished the position in 2002.

He has written and spoken widely on corruption and integrity issues both in Malaysia and internationally. He has three books on the subject to his credit – *Fighting Corruption: My Mission*, released in 2004, *Straight Talk*, released in August 2009, and *Someone Had to Say It*, released in 2011.

He was appointed in February 2006 by the then United Nations Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, as a Special Advisor to provide advice on the set-up of the United Nations Ethics Office, and its operating procedures.

Information Released by:

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Hobart Graduation Ceremonies August 2011

Date and Time	Faculty	Speaker	Location
Friday 12 August 4pm	Faculty of Business Board of Graduate Research	Professor Morgan Miles, Professor of Management, University of Tasmania	University Centre, Sandy Bay
Friday 12 August 7pm	Faculty of Business Faculty of Law Board of Graduate Research	Tunku Abdul Aziz <i>Honorary Degree – Doctor of Laws</i>	University Centre, Sandy Bay
Saturday 13 August 10am	Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology Board of Graduate Research	Professor Paddy Nixon, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), University of Tasmania	University Centre, Sandy Bay
Saturday 13 August 1pm	Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology Board of Graduate Research	Dr Peter Smith <i>Honorary Degree – Doctor of Science</i>	University Centre, Sandy Bay
Saturday 13 August 4pm	Faculty of Education Faculty of Health Science Board of Graduate Research	Professor Marnie Hughes- Warrington, Pro Vice- Chancellor (Learning and Teaching), Monash University	University Centre, Sandy Bay
Saturday 13 August 7pm	Faculty of Arts Board of Graduate Research	Professor David Sadler, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students and Education), University of Tasmania	University Centre, Sandy Bay

