

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

**NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA**

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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## Academic success engineered through pathways

A new course offered by the University of Tasmania and TasTAFE is setting students on the path to the successful study of engineering.

The Bachelor of General Studies (Engineering Pathway) is run by the UTAS Centre for University Pathways and Partnerships (CUPP) in partnership with the Australian Maritime College (AMC) and TasTAFE.

The course was crafted after considerable industry consultation over more than three years and incorporates specially designed units to give students a good understanding of engineering concepts, to allow them to transition into a Bachelor of Engineering.

The year-long pathway course is available at all Tasmanian UTAS campuses.

Professor Sue Kilpatrick, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Students), said “we found a lot of students wanting to go into the Bachelor of Engineering degree, but didn’t meet entrance requirements.

“We knew there needed to be a transition program to better prepare the students,” she said.

Professor Giles Thomas, AMC, said there were also tradespeople who were interested in professional development and up-skilling to a tertiary qualification.

“The new Bachelor of General Studies (Engineering Pathway) incorporates units which are integrated with the Diploma at TasTAFE,” he said.

“We looked at ways we could co-teach some units to help students with the transition. The design of the course allows students in the Bachelor of General Studies go to TasTAFE for some of their practical and theoretical units.”

TasTAFE CEO, Stephen Conway, said TasTAFE was proud to be involved in offering a course which increased the number of students in or working towards a tertiary qualification.

“A key aim of our partnership with the University of Tasmania is to create pathways that meet the needs of Tasmanians from all backgrounds to fulfil their aspirations and create opportunities to build successful futures.

“The course has been developed with input from our engineering teachers who are industry-trained and experienced in their field. This means our teachers are able to share their knowledge and skills with students in a really practical way,” Mr Conway said.

While initially it was expected there would be around 12 students state-wide, there are now around 45 enrolments.

“The best thing about this course is we are able to reach and support people who may not have otherwise considered themselves capable of tertiary-level engineering study.”

The course is one of several initiatives under the UTAS TasTAFE MOU.

**Information Released by:**

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