

Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

Saturday 29 August 2015

State reception to mark University's milestone 125th year

Hundreds of past and present students, staff and friends of the University of Tasmania will attend the official opening of Welcome Home Week tonight.

An official State Reception is being hosted by alumnus, the Honourable Will Hodgman MP, Premier of Tasmania at Hobart City Hall from 6pm.

A special part to the function, Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Rathjen will be joined by three former Vice-Chancellors of the University, Professors Alec Lazenby AO, Don McNicol and Daryl Le Grew.

"As we celebrate our 125th Anniversary it is quite special to be joined by Professors Lazenby, McNicol and Le Grew, each of whom were central to the University's expansion, growth and development," Professor Rathjen said.

A feature to the University's 125th year, Welcome Home Week marks the centrepiece for celebrations with 150 events planned across the state.

Historical exhibits, public lectures, reunions, Open Day (Sunday, August 30), networking functions, sporting events and Research Week are among the attractions.

The historic milestone has already been recognised locally and across the world with key alumni functions and gala foundation dinners.

The University of Tasmania is home to more than 100,000 alumni living and working in more than 120 countries.

Since being founded in Hobart in 1890 the University's strength across the teaching and research arenas has prompted an increase in courses, campuses, institutes and centres.

Other Welcome Home Week events today include:

- The Faculty of Health and School of Medicine celebrates 50 years of teaching and research with a golden symposium and gala dinner. The symposium includes tours of the Medical Science Precinct and a presentation by alumnus and Principal of King's College London, Professor Ed Byrne (Symposium – MSP, 2pm-6pm & Gala Dinner - Hobart Convention Centre, 7pm.)
- Festivities take to the water with a day of white water rafting on the Derwent River.

- Alumni, past players and friends are invited to attend the Rainbows Seniors and Reserve teams as they take on arch rivals Hutchins Old Boys. (Queenborough Oval, 11.30am & 2pm.)
- The Faculty of Law will be holding a reunion with displays and a barbecue from 12-3pm. (Faculty of Law Building, 12-3pm.)

Welcome Home Week is supported by the Tasmanian Government through Events Tasmania.

For more information and event listings visit www.utas.edu.au/alumni/welcome-home-week

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