

Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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Major conference on campus sustainability held in Tasmania

Turning campuses into “living labs” to research, teach and test sustainability practices is one idea being explored at the 14th annual Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability Conference, which opened in Hobart today.

The University of Tasmania has joined with TasTAFE to host the Conference, which has attracted more than 120 academic and professional staff from tertiary education facilities in Australia, New Zealand and throughout Asia.

With the theme *Bridging divides: connections for holistic sustainability*, the Conference will look at the divides between educational levels and between the education sector and the broader community.

University of Tasmania Sustainability Manager Corey Peterson will present a workshop on how academic and professional staff at the University have collaborated to deliver sustainability outcomes.

“We will be looking at how you can create student learning projects that deliver real sustainability outcomes, using your campus as a living laboratory,” Mr Peterson said.

As part of the Conference, the Green Gown Australasia Awards will be announced on Thursday night, November 6. The Green Gown Awards is the first and only award scheme dedicated to recognising excellence in sustainability within the tertiary education sector.

The University of Tasmania is a finalist in four categories and is in the running for the International Green Gown Awards, which will also be announced in Hobart on Thursday night. This is the first time the international awards have been announced outside of the UK.

The Conference follows the Australian Association for Environmental Education’s biennial conference and precedes Tasmania’s Sustainable Living Festival.

For more information and the full program, please visit www.actsconference.com.au

What: 14th International Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability Conference.

When: From November 5 to 7. Activities commence at approximately 9am each day. See the program for further details.

Who: The Conference attracts more than 120 professional and academic staff from throughout Australasia. Keynote addresses will be delivered by:

- Christine Milne, Australian Greens,
- Professor Stephen Sterling, Plymouth University, UK,
- Kelly O'Shanassy, Australian Conservation Foundation,
- Anne-Maree Huxley, Models of Success and Sustainability and the Blue Economy Institute,
- Dr Nick Towle, University of Tasmania.

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