

Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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University community saddened by loss of Governor Peter Underwood

The University of Tasmania community is saddened by the loss of His Excellency the Honourable Peter Underwood, AC, Governor of Tasmania.

University Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Rathjen acknowledged the Governor's strong connections to the University and his passionate advocacy for education in Tasmania.

"His Excellency was a learned and respected figure in the legal and political spheres but retained an admirable common touch," Professor Rathjen said.

"He conducted himself with great dignity and integrity, as befitted his role, but also with a wonderful warmth and humour. He will be greatly missed.

"Our thoughts are with the Governor's wife Mrs Frances Underwood, and their family and staff at this difficult time."

Professor Rathjen said His Excellency was much valued as the University's Official Visitor, a ceremonial role under the University's Act.

"The Governor was also one of the University's most distinguished alumni, whose career and achievements serve as continued inspiration to young Law students.

"He shared this extensive expertise by teaching at a postgraduate level in our Faculty of Law."

In 2001 the University recognised His Excellency's many career accomplishments with an Honorary Doctor of Laws.

His Excellency also Chaired the Rhodes Scholarship selection committee and presented the Tasmanian Rhodes Scholars, invariably University students, with their scholarships annually at Government House.

He was also patron of the annual Governor's Environment Scholarships, which supported high-achieving University students to study issues around environmental management.

Information released by:

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