

Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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Leading housing experts head for Hobart

Some of the world's leading housing experts will come together in Hobart next month, when Tasmania for the first time hosts the Australasian Housing Researchers Conference.

The conference is open to all researchers concerned with housing affordability and homelessness, housing policy and planning, housing economics, housing sustainability and regional, national and international housing markets.

Keynote speakers include Professor Geoffrey Meen from the University of Reading in the UK, who was awarded an OBE for his research on housing issues. A current research preoccupation is the home-ownership issues of the younger generation and also issues of long-term urban change.

Other keynote speakers include the University of Melbourne's Professor Gleeson, a regular media commentator whose recent work has focussed on the suburbs; Professor of Property at the University of Auckland Laurence Murphy, and the University of Tasmania's Dr Heather Lovell, an ARC Future Fellow who is researching smart grids and more generally, climate change as a catalyst for innovation.

"This is an important international conference with more than 120 academics and service providers coming from many countries, including the UK, Hong Kong and Chile, to share their research on issues such as how to create inclusive, sustainable communities and more affordable housing, trends in international housing markets and improving planning in our cities," explains Associate Professor Daphne Habibis, Director of the Housing and Community Research Unit in the University of Tasmania's Institute for the Study of Social Change.

"Housing affects and concerns everyone, with the choices made by people and politicians critical to the kind of home we live in, and the urban environment more generally.

“The conference is a fabulous forum for exploring the debates and policies that arise from this understanding.”

The conference will be staged at the University of Tasmania’s Sandy Bay campus from February 18-20.

Further details: <http://ahrc2015.com.au/>

Information released by:

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