

Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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International University of Tasmania students graduate in China

More than 300 international students will be celebrating their hard-earned degrees at a University of Tasmania graduation ceremony in Shanghai, China today.

The ceremony marks the eleventh year of graduations for students of joint degree programs run by the Shanghai Ocean University and the University of Tasmania through the ALEN Institute.

Hosted by the Chancellor of the University of Tasmania, the Honourable Michael Field AM, and the President of the Shanghai Ocean University, Professor Cheng Yudong, the ceremony will confer degrees on 314 students who completed a Bachelor of Information Systems and Bachelor of Management, or a Bachelor of Business and Bachelor of Management.

The Governor of Tasmania, Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AM, will attend the ceremony.

University of Tasmania Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Rathjen congratulated the students on achieving a goal for which they had worked long and hard.

“This ceremony honours and celebrates the students’ efforts and it illustrates the strong relationship that exists between our two institutions,” Professor Rathjen said.

“The relationship between China and Tasmania is a crucial one and the University plays an important role in helping to connect our communities, cultures and economies.”

China is Tasmania’s largest international trading partner and recent years have seen the University strengthen existing ties with partners and create new and lasting friendships and connections.

“One indication of the part education plays in our State’s relationship with China can be found among the people who are choosing to make Tasmania their new home,” Professor Rathjen said.

“During the 12 months to October last year, 80 per cent of Chinese nationals who were nominated for State-sponsored permanent or provisional skilled visas were graduates of the University of Tasmania.

“That speaks powerfully to the standing of our institution, the beauty and attraction of the State we call home, and the value of education in supporting the growth and strength of our community.”

The graduation ceremony will be held today at 10am local time (12pm AEST) at the Lingang campus of the Shanghai Ocean University in Pudong, Shanghai.

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