

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



UTAS supports international students

University of Tasmania Vice-Chancellor Professor Daryl Le Grew said today that UTAS has zero tolerance to any behaviour that impacts on the safety of international students both on and off campus.

Prof Le Grew called on the Tasmanian community to join with UTAS to ensure the safety of the international students while they are studying, working and participating in community life in the State.

UTAS has strongly endorsed Universities Australia's 10-point action plan to promote student safety in Australia, he said.

"There are tremendous benefits to Tasmania and Tasmanians being able to connect with international students," Prof Le Grew said.

"We know that the Tasmanian community is proud to have UTAS as an international university working out of Tasmania, attracting students locally, nationally and internationally.

"Overall, UTAS contributes very positively to the Tasmanian community, socially, culturally and in terms of economic development – and international students contribute highly to those benefits."

Prof Le Grew said UTAS approaches student welfare and student safety for its students very seriously and as a consequence UTAS has a good track record for campus safety.

"We recognise that there may be potential problems for some students beyond campus boundaries and as a university, we need to ensure we have appropriate measures in place to protect students as they travel to and from the campus and go about activities that support their student experience, including working and participating in the broader community."

Prof Le Grew said UTAS continues to work with the State Government, the Tasmanian Anti-Discrimination Commissioner as well as law enforcement agencies, local government and other education providers to promote international student safety.

International students contribute at least \$76 million per annum to the Tasmanian economy, based on approximately 2400 students' living costs and tuition fees.

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