

Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

Tuesday, 15 December 2015

Graduation celebrations hit a high note

End of year celebrations will hit a high note as 3389 University of Tasmania students take part in this week's graduation ceremonies.

Students will be joined by family, friends, lecturers, tutors and the wider University community for ceremonies in both Hobart and Launceston.

Burnie hosted 100 graduands last week as part of the Cradle Coast region's graduation celebrations.

Hobart ceremonies begin **today** (Tuesday, 15 December), and continue tomorrow (Wednesday, 16 December) and Thursday, 17 December. Albert Hall in Launceston will host three ceremonies on Saturday, 19 December.

Celebrations will also take to the streets with Hobart hosting a **Town and Gown procession tomorrow** from 2.30pm (16 December). The procession will start at the IMAS building on Castray Esplanade before proceeding to the Federation Concert Hall.

Launceston's Town and Gown will usher in the day's celebrations on Saturday (19 December) from 10.30am at Civic Square.

University of Tasmania Acting Vice-Chancellor Professor Mike Calford congratulated this year's graduands on their academic success.

"Graduation is a very special time of year for the University. It's an enormous achievement for a student to reach the end of their tertiary study, and it's only fitting that they are celebrated across the university," Professor Calford said.

"It's also a very special occasion for family and friends to join in as they have undoubtedly provided invaluable support and encouragement along the way.

"The Town and Gown processions are always a highlight too and help to bring the celebrations to the wider community."

Media story opportunities:

- International students and brother and sister – Hina and Waqas Durrani – will be graduating on Wednesday (16 December) in Hobart. The siblings, from Pakistan, travelled to Tasmania to study at the University, where they will both graduate with a Masters of Professional Accounting (Specialisation). Their parents are travelling from Pakistan to attend the ceremony, along with their two brothers from the UK.
- Both Hobart and Launceston ceremonies will host the first cohort of graduands in the Bachelor of Education (Applied Learning) program. It is the first undergraduate degree in Australia that focusses on preparing teachers for the school and Vocational Education and Training (VET) sector. Students who are graduating are currently working as teachers at TasTAFE and have completed their placements in Tasmanian schools, helping to build connections between educational sectors.

Days and times for Hobart and Launceston graduations are attached.

****Best times for media interviews and photos is usually before the ceremonies begin, where students are outside the graduation venue with family and friends.****

Information released by:

University of Tasmania, Communications and Media Office

Phone: 0439 665 734

Email: Media.Office@utas.edu.au