

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

DATE: TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER, 2009

ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



New era of commercialisation at UTAS

The University of Tasmania today announced a significant commercialisation partnership that will achieve a greater conversion of its research onto the global market.

UTAS Vice-Chancellor Professor Daryl Le Grew said the partnership with technology transfer company, UniQuest, was a milestone for UTAS research and would expose the untapped potential of research innovation in Tasmania.

“UTAS is a research-driven university producing international-standard research. This partnership heralds a new era in commercialisation to ensure our results can be transferred into the global community,” Prof Le Grew said.

“The UniQuest collaboration is the first of its kind for UTAS and allows us to work together to identify, package and commercialise university technologies and expertise to the community, industry, business and governments.”

The University of Queensland-based UniQuest is one of Australia’s leading university technology transfer companies, and the organisation that paved the way for Australian intellectual property to have a world-wide impact with such innovations as the cervical cancer vaccine Gardasil and the Triple P Positive Parenting Program. In 2007 and 2008, UniQuest secured more than \$176 million in commercialisation revenue.

The company also has partnerships with the University of Wollongong, University of Technology Sydney, James Cook University and the Mater Medical Research institute.

UniQuest Managers of Innovation and Commercial Development will be located at the Sandy Bay campus, working with the UTAS Research Office Commercialisation Unit to develop commercial potential for research innovations, organise patent protection and deliver commercialisation results.

UniQuest Managing Director, David Henderson, said the partnership presents researchers with a unique opportunity to expand the global reach of their research.

“UniQuest also promotes entrepreneurial activity within university research communities through our commercialisation workshops and annual *Trailblazer* innovative ideas competition,” Mr Henderson said.

“These are valuable ways of helping researchers understand how their intellectual property can be transferred from the bench to the boardroom and out into the community where the research can have great impact.”

Information Released by:

University of Tasmania, Media Office
Phone: 6226 2691 Mobile: 0447 537 375
Email: Media.Office@utas.edu.au

For more information, contact:

UniQuest Media Office
Leanne Wyvill
Phone: 07 3365 4037