

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Whole new chapter for UTAS library

Studying is now more comfortable, more convenient and more accessible than ever for UTAS students, with the completion of a multi-million dollar upgrade to the Morris Miller Library.

Senator Carol Brown officially launched the refurbished library today.

UTAS Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Rathjen said the redevelopment recognised the importance of the library in the growth and success of the university.

“As many of us might remember, studying at university requires a great deal of time spent in the library, therefore having the essential resources available for our students is crucial.

“This refurbishment, achieved with the \$1.2m from the Australian Government’s Teaching and Learning Capital funding and \$2 m from the Capital Development Pool funds, ensures our students and staff have increased access to a library that is state of the art,” Prof Rathjen said.

“As well as improving the aesthetics of the library, a key part of the upgrade is that we have improved studying conditions for students by providing more silent study areas and increased access to the library after hours, to allow students to study at times convenient to them.”

The Morris Miller Library was designed as the major research and undergraduate library for the University by Melbourne modernist architect, John F.D. Scarborough, in the late 1950s, as part of the move from the Domain to Sandy Bay.

Originally the library was planned for a student population of 2,000. Today it serves a student population of around 10,500 students.

Features of the refurbishment include:

- Secure 24/7 access to level 2 plus access to the “Learning Hub” on level 3 of the library

- The entry to the library has been improved with window panels that wrap around the entrance and much of the client service area on level 2, to integrate the space with the outdoor courtyard and introduce more natural light into the library
- More than 50 new quiet study spaces in the expanded and redesigned Reserve/Reference area
- Expanded display and exhibition space to showcase artwork and artefacts

Photos of the launch are available, contact details below.

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