

# MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

DATE: THURSDAY 1 JULY 2010

ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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## Improved university-community relationships focus for national conference

A national conference to be held at the University of Tasmania in Launceston next week will tackle the issue of universities engaging better with their communities to improve social inclusion and health.

More than 100 national and international delegates will attend the Australian University Community Engagement Alliance (AUCEA) annual conference.

DAY ONE, Monday 5 July: Keynote speaker CQU's Vice-Chancellor **Professor Scott Bowman** has given his university 10 years to achieve the goal of being the most community-engaged university in Australia and will speak about how and why he aims to do this.

DAY TWO, Tuesday 6 July: Tasmania's Social Inclusion Commissioner **Professor David Adams** from the University of Tasmania will discuss how universities can contribute to breaking the cycle of disadvantage through increased inclusion, while the Parliamentary Secretary for Social Inclusion **Senator Ursula Stephens** will outline government expectations in this area.

DAY THREE, Wednesday 7 July: Founding director of Community-Campus Partnerships for Health, **Dr Sarena Seifer** from the University of Guelph in Canada will discuss how 1800 communities and campuses collaborate to promote health in the US and Canada. **Susan Gust**, board member of the Community Campus Partnerships for Health Advisory Committee in Minneapolis USA will speak about her experience with community-university healthy housing partnerships.

- **Media are invited to interview conference speakers at 12.30pm each day at the Raymond Ferrall Centre, Newnham campus of the University of Tasmania. UTAS Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor David Rich will be available for interview about UTAS community engagement projects on Monday.**

*For more information contact Sharon Webb, University of Tasmania,  
ph. 0438 510 616 OR see [www.aucea.com.au/events](http://www.aucea.com.au/events) for conference programme.*

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