

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

**NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA**

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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## **UTAS debate asks what it means to be an Independent**

Last Saturday's Federal election has put Independents well and truly in the spotlight – nationally, and in Tasmania.

But what does it really mean to be an Independent? Is independence truly welcome anywhere in Australia? What forms does it take? What difference does it make?

These questions and others on the topic of 'independence' will be explored in the second Denison Debate - to be held on Wednesday 25 August, from 6pm in the Dechaineaux Lecture Theatre, Tasmanian School of Art, Hunter Street .

"We hear a lot today about the importance of being a 'team player', but less attention is paid to the contributions of individuals who question orthodoxies," said Dr Natasha Cica, the Director of the Centre for Applied Philosophy and Ethics.

"Independence of that kind may be an underrated virtue – it's certainly one that's about to get more attention."

The Denison Debate will feature Natasha in conversation with three guest speakers – **Andrew Wilkie**, small business owner, former intelligence officer and Independent candidate for Denison; **Adriana Taylor**, Independent Member for Elwick and Mayor of Glenorchy; and **Lucy Tatman**, Head of the School of Philosophy at UTAS.

The Denison Debate is a new series of events presented by the Centre for Applied Philosophy and Ethics at UTAS. The series aims to provide a forum for more open and vibrant Tasmanian conversations about ideas and values in our society.

Entry is free and all are welcome to attend.

**For more information and media interviews, please contact: Natasha Cica, Director of the Centre for Applied Philosophy and Ethics on Mobile: 0416 005 820**

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