

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



University offers classroom teachers pay rise to supervise pre-service teachers

The University of Tasmania yesterday offered a 10 percent increase in payments made to classroom teachers for their supervision of student teacher practicums.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) and Provost, Professor David Rich said offer was made to the Australian Education Union and the Independent Education Union, effective from July 1.

“We made the offer to teachers in government and non-government schools in return for the lifting of bans placed on practicums by the AEU that are due to take full effect from May 1,” he said.

“A large number of pre-service teachers’ learning will be severely disrupted by these union bans.

“Even though we are already paying the federal award rate for this work, the support of experienced teachers in the training of our students is vital.”

UTAS currently pays teachers almost \$1 million a year – more than the University receives from the Federal Government for this purpose.

“The increased pay offer is therefore unfunded but we believed it was necessary to make it in the interests of our students,” Prof. Rich said.

“We have also advised the unions that we want to work with them to achieve a viable longer-term solution to this problem.”

Neither union has responded formally to the UTAS offer. The bans are therefore currently in place.

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