

# MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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## Preparing for uni: UTAS to hold information session in Smithton for prospective students

A series of information sessions aimed at prospective university students in the North-West will kick off next week.

The first of the sessions is scheduled for the Smithton LINC from 10 am to 2pm on Thursday (**January 16 2014**).

Mike Harris, Associate Lecturer and Student Coordinator for Diploma of University Studies at the University of Tasmania's Cradle Coast Campus, will conduct the information sessions.

"The focus will be on entry via the University Preparation Program (UPP), which is explained on the day and how the latter works in conjunction with the LINC mentor program, which is designed to support distance students doing the same," he explained.

"The UPP makes its course available to as many people as possible, and its online provision is popular among those students who are unable to get to campus because of time, mobility or distance barriers.

"However while all UPP units come with well-developed online resources and access to a Distance Tutor, many students still struggle with the lack of face-to-face support," Mr Harris said.

"That is where a UPP/LINC Learning Support Mentor can help. LINC Tasmania recruits and supports mentors and students in rural and remote locations throughout Tasmania, and UTAS trains these mentors and provides academic guidance for the students."

For more information about the University Preparation Program go to:  
<http://www.utas.edu.au/centre-for-university-pathways-and-partnerships/upp>

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