

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



New Deputy Vice-Chancellor takes up Launceston appointment

The newly-appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) and Provost of the University of Tasmania, Professor David Rich, began work at the Newnham campus this week.

Professor Rich has moved from the University of New England, NSW, where he was Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic).

Professor Rich said he was delighted with the move to Launceston.

“Clearly UTAS is a forward-thinking institution and I want to play my part in its exciting future,” he said. “Already Launceston has given my wife Glenys, and I a warm welcome.”

As Provost, Professor Rich will manage operations of the University: he will assist in advancing the University’s ‘excellence’ and ‘distinctiveness’ agendas, especially in the areas of its academic profile, the student experience, post-graduate coursework and expanded approaches to the international student market.

“I am also extremely interested in the integration of the University and the Australian Maritime College and the exciting opportunities that will bring,” he said.

In the Tasmanian context of decentralised communities, Professor Rich will have a special influence because of his strong background in flexible learning and his earlier research interests in regional development.

He was Director of the Centre for Flexible Learning at Macquarie University for eight years and also chaired the Australasian Council on Open, Distance and E-learning.

Professor Rich is a geographer with a PhD from Cambridge University. His research interests have focussed on regional economic development, regional economic history and industrial restructuring.

He replaces Professor Rudi Lidl, currently on professional development leave and seconded to the Australian Universities Quality Agency from December this year.

Professor Rich is available for media interviews.

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