



MEDIA RELEASE



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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

Expert architect to offer insights on urban design

Internationally renowned architect and urban planner Lars Gemzøe is visiting Launceston this week to work in partnership with the Launceston City Council (LCC) and deliver a public lecture tomorrow offering his insights on urban design.

Mr Gemzøe, Associate Partner in Gehl Architects, has taught and practiced as an architect for more than 30 years and is an international authority on the quality of public space and public life.

During his time in Launceston, Mr Gemzøe and project architect Sia Kirknaes will be conducting a Public Space and Public Life study in Launceston's central area with the assistance of the LCC and UTAS Masters of Architecture students.

The study will map the city's current state, using on-site analysis and recording of public life, in order to develop a vision and various recommendations that can make the city more user- friendly.

The study findings will be used to develop a vision for strategic recommendations for city spaces and overall strategies for the future of the city.

Ms Helen Norrie, lecturer in the UTAS School of Architecture and Design at the Inveresk campus said Masters of Architecture students would be working closely with Mr Gemzøe on the study.

"Our Masters students will have an important role in the study, collecting data to determine the use of public space and public life here in Launceston.

"It is an amazing opportunity for our students to be collaborating with world-renowned urban planner Mr Gemzøe," Ms Norrie said.

"Gehl Architects will also be running workshops for the students and the Launceston City Council staff, which will be an invaluable learning experience."

Mr Gemzøe's visit follows on from his colleague Professor Jan Gehl's visit to the state last year. Prof Gehl recently returned to Tasmania to assist the Hobart City Council and deliver a public lecture.

Public lecture: *Cities for People and Urban Quality - Liveable Cities*

Who: Lars Gemzøe, Associate Partner, Gehl Architects. Chair: His Worship the Mayor Alderman Albert Van Zetten

When: 5:45 for 6pm - 8pm Thursday 11 March, 2010

Where: The Trashed Function Centre, Inveresk, Launceston

RSVP: By email to UTAS.Events@utas.edu.au

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