

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Uni year in full swing

The University of Tasmania's academic year is officially in full swing, with hundreds of new and continuing students heading to the three UTAS campuses this week.

After attending welcome talks from Faculties last week, students are now attending their first lectures and seminars for Semester one.

University Vice-Chancellor Professor Daryl Le Grew said it was a very positive start to the year at UTAS, with all three Tasmanian campuses experiencing an increase in student numbers.

"The UTAS postgraduate coursework programs continue to attract increasing numbers, with a growth of 26 per cent on the start of the 2009 academic year," Prof Le Grew said.

"We have seen large numbers of new applicants coming in to the three campuses over the past couple of weeks."

Nursing and Education enrolments continue to be areas of strong interest and growth, at both undergraduate and postgraduate level.

"We have seen a considerable increase already in the number of people undertaking UTAS enabling programs this year – most of these programs are offered at no cost to eligible domestic students and many are available by distance," Prof Le Grew said.

"These programs help prepare students for university study, particularly if they have been away from the education system for a while, so this growth is very pleasing."

Other areas that are showing enrolment increases over 2009 include Maritime Engineering, Architecture and Design, Human Life Sciences and Law.

To help students travel safely and economically, the Hobart to Launceston Redline Bus Charter is operating again this year, complete with an online booking and payment system. The service also includes a shuttle bus to take students to their UTAS campus on request.

The bright red Metro Unibuses are also running again, approximately every eight minutes, until the end of semester.

This week is also O Week, organised by the Tasmanian University Union, which includes a week-long program of activities for students, including concerts, free food, a second-hand book sale and the Clubs and Societies Day.

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