

# 10 FEBRUARY 2021

## A new era for Tasmanian University Students

Today the Tasmanian University Union (TUU) announced its new name and fresh look as it welcomes new and continuing students in 2021. Founded in 1899 the organisation has been renamed **Tasmania University Student Union (TUSA)**. TUSA Student President, Braydon Broad and David Bartlett, TUSA Board Chair and former State Premier said, “we have listened to students and stakeholder feedback that it is important that we have Students in our name to reflect the purpose of the organisation. The Tasmanian University Student Association is an independent, student-led collective that is dedicated to two core things: student leadership, and our student community”.

Mr Bartlett spoke fondly about his time as a UTAS student which shaped his leadership journey in becoming the Premier of Tasmania in 2008.

“For me University was more than just getting a qualification, it was about working out who you are as an adult and what you want to achieve in life. Student life and University life has no doubt change since then - but it is still vital that students get the opportunity to explore many experiences and opportunities while gaining a qualification. This will ensure new generations of leaders and innovators that Tasmania needs.”

Student Leader, Braydon Broad is returning for a second year as President of the Association and says “Whenever a decision is being made that is likely to effect UTAS students – we will always push to have a student leader sitting at that table. But all of that is underpinned by our ability to draw students into a genuine and dynamic student community. This change aims to build a more inclusive atmosphere for students from all walks of life”.

David Bartlett explained that the name change was also needed as the term ‘Union’ highlighted the strong student representation and advocacy offerings but did not reflect the full range of services to support student wellbeing and social connections through the Associations 130+ Clubs and Societies.

The Student Association provides students with access to dedicated staff, services, equipment, and facilities such as:

- Lobbying and representation on issues important to students.
- Independent support and advocacy.
- Financial support and counselling
- Social connection through Association Clubs and Societies, and Student led events.
- Great facilities like Clubs & Societies meeting rooms, kitchen, and lounge areas.
- Safe spaces and Women’s Spaces, Queer Spaces, and Parenting Rooms.

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