

## Southern Future

### Determining the University's place in the south

Since the mid 1980s, significant parts of the University of Tasmania have moved into Hobart's inner city.

This has happened as strategically sensible opportunities for co-location have arisen and resulted in a set of facilities – such as the Medical Science Precinct and Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies – which are world class.

We also have reached a point in Sandy Bay where two thirds of our buildings need to be replaced. Built in the years after World War II, they are of a different time, erected using different standards of construction and under building codes not aligned with regulations today.

So as a University community we weighed up redesigning and rebuilding Sandy Bay on a much smaller, more sustainable footprint, against the idea of a city-centric University running in a spine from the Domain and back along Melville Street.

After a great deal of analysis and consultations with staff and students, our University Council made the difficult but important decision to embrace a future built around the city-centric model.

Importantly, it also has been decided that the University will act as a steward for the Sandy Bay land for many years to come, ensuring that its future develops in line with the University's deep community and environmental values.

### Professor Rufus Black - Hobart University Dinner - 03.05.19



[Hobart-Dinner-Speech.pdf](#) [PDF File - 180.0 KB]

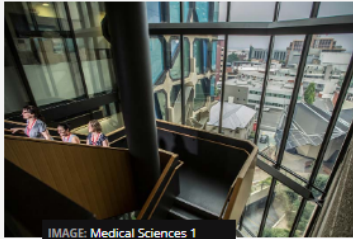
## What will the campus be like?

The campus will be anchored from the University's original home on the Domain. This returns a sandstone experience to our University – the fourth oldest in the country – and the beautiful green space of the associated gardens.

It will cross the highway via the new foot bridge, picking up the Medical Science Precinct and developing as a spine along Melville Street, in which the University already operates a significant student apartment block, with a second in development across the road.

At its heart will be a central library and public square on the old Webster building and car park and its other anchor point will be a third student accommodation block and other uses on the existing K&D site.

The detailed design of the campus will flow from community consultation. The intent is to produce a shared vision which is deeply respectful of our community's hopes for the future of the city, articulated very well in documents such as [A Community Vision for our Island Capital](#) and the RACT's [Greater Hobart Mobility Vision](#).



## Next steps

Each of the major transitions in our University's history has taken decades to realise. We expect this next phase to be 10 to 15 years or more in the making.

- › Our first commitment is to our Aboriginal community. There are tens of thousands of years of culture and wisdom on our island and we need to ensure this sits at the core of our new campus. Our Pro Vice-Chancellor of Aboriginal Research and Leadership, Professor Maggie Walter, has agreed to guide us in this process.
- › Secondly, we need to make sure that the rich historical legacy of our city is respected. There are many fine examples in Hobart of how you can both preserve the past and bring new life to historically important places. We need to make sure we can add to them. We have started this process, commissioning a heritage management plan for the Domain, a practice which will continue over the various stages of the project.
- › Thirdly, we need to build that shared vision of how a University for the City would make Hobart a better place. What better means needs to come from a conversation with the City of Hobart, future students, residents, traders, homeless people and of course today's staff and students. It should build on the rich work of the Community Vision and help give that expression in urban design and built form.
- › Fourthly, we need to devise a staged approach to master planning to deliver that vision – one which provides a level of comfort and confidence to our community as each stage is delivered. To support that work, in parallel we will begin by defining the requirements for each of the buildings to ensure that they are designed around the future of learning and research and to meet the highest standards of sustainability.
- › Finally, we need to advance the conversations about transport. We share a vision with City of Hobart, RACT and others of a more liveable city. We want to be an active participant in a conversation about how we contribute to easing traffic congestion, improving public transport and bettering infrastructure for pedestrians and cyclists.



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
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Southern Future Website – archived August 27 2021 (accessed via web.archive.org)

https://www.utas.edu.au/southern-future/find-out-more

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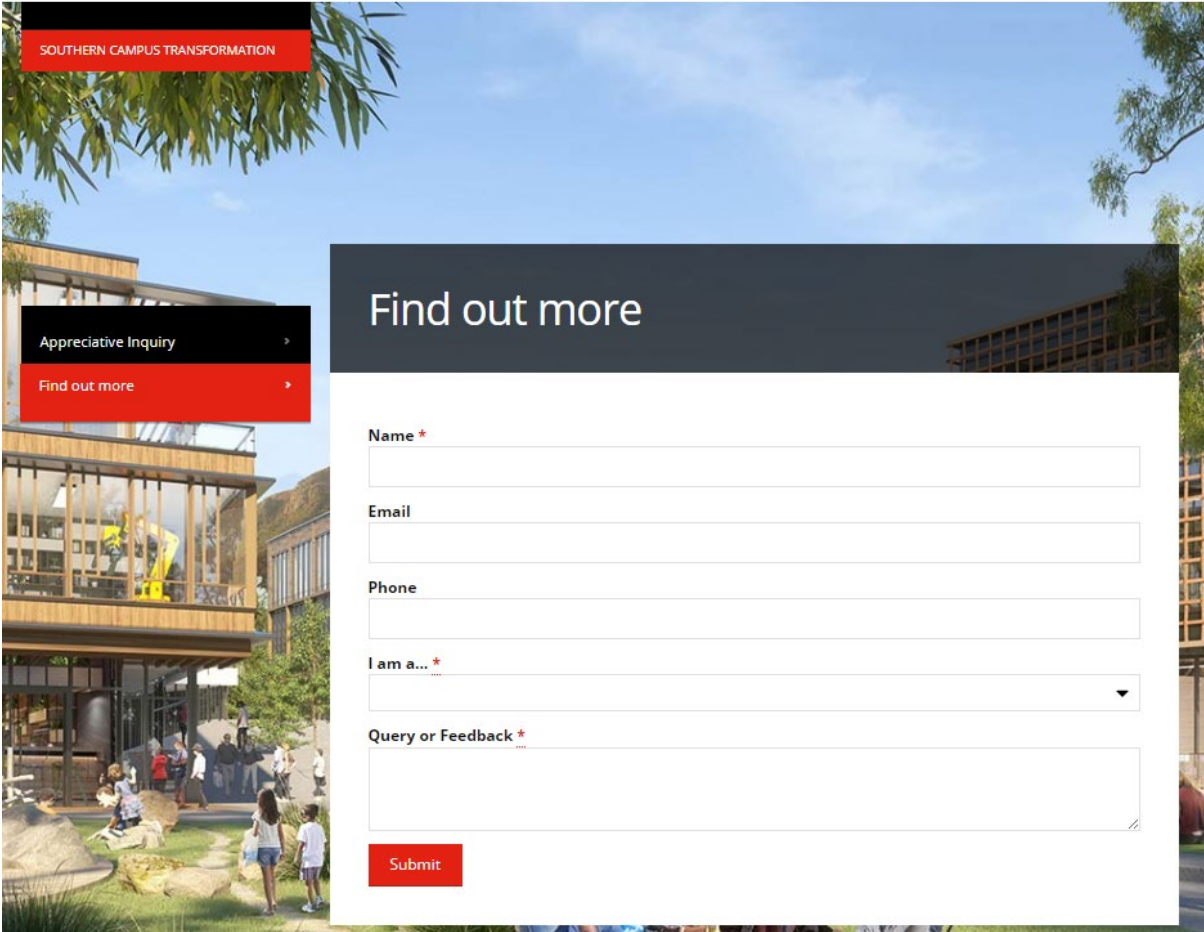
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The screenshot shows the University of Tasmania website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'STAFF', 'STUDENTS', 'MYLO', 'LIBRARY', and 'WEBMAIL'. Below this is the University of Tasmania logo and a secondary navigation menu with 'Study >', 'Research >', and 'Life >'. A search icon and a menu icon are also present. The main content area features a large banner with a colorful illustration of people and text including 'Day 1: DAWNING DISCOVERY'. A red box in the top left of the banner says 'SOUTHERN CAMPUS TRANSFORMATION'. A dark sidebar on the left contains a list of categories: 'Appreciative Inquiry', 'Domain', 'Transport', 'Wandering and movement', 'Natural environment', 'Inclusiveness', 'Civic centre', 'STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)', 'Prosperity and activation', and 'Find out more'. The main text area contains the title 'Appreciative Inquiry' and two paragraphs of text. The first paragraph describes a summit on 27-28 November 2019. The second paragraph explains the Appreciative Inquiry process. Below the text are several hyperlinks. At the bottom, there is a dark navigation bar with buttons for 'Days', 'Video & Principles', 'Gallery', 'Themes', and 'Feedback'.

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SOUTHERN CAMPUS TRANSFORMATION

## Appreciative Inquiry

Day 1: DAWNING DISCOVERY

The University hosted an Appreciative Inquiry summit on 27-28 November 2019 at Mac02 on the Hobart waterfront, bringing together 189 students, staff, business, community, industry and government representatives to help build a vision for the future of the southern campus in Hobart.

Appreciative Inquiry is a strengths-based method of inquiry, which is designed to bring people together around what they share. The process will help us create a shared vision for the city, and help the University define what it will look like when we get it right. The full responses to these issues will be addressed in the more detailed planning as the project develops.

Here, you can read about what happened on [Day 1](#) and [Day 2](#) of the summit; watch a [short video](#) about it; see the [six principles](#) which emerged; [browse the gallery of images](#); explore the [eight key themes](#) participants explored; and [provide feedback/register your interest](#) to inform our master planning process and keep up to date with project developments.

Days | Video & Principles | Gallery | Themes | Feedback

## Day 1

The first day of the summit was structured around discovering what participants love about the city of Hobart, and dreaming about how it could look in future, including the University. Participants were asked about the things that make it unique and what should be honoured and preserved, as well as to imagine how the University could look and feel.

## Day 2

On the second day, participants were asked to think creatively about how the new Southern campus should look and feel in its design. Using the eight key themes of transport, wandering and movement, natural environment, inclusiveness, civic centre, Domain, STEM and prosperity and activation, participants created bold propositions about how each should be represented and some guidelines for designers.

### Creating a shared vision for the city



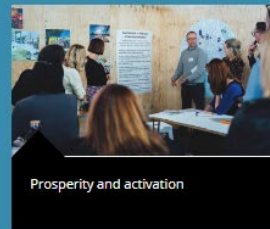
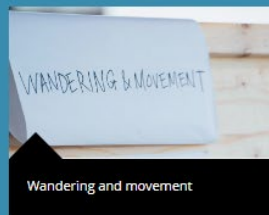
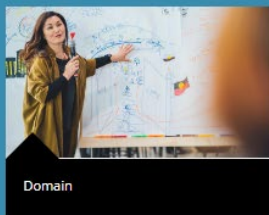
### Six principles of the community vision

- › A truly sustainable campus characterised by bringing nature and green spaces into the city
- › A campus that is welcoming to all and that builds community
- › A campus that enables us to work better together with our many partners
- › Reimagined traffic and transport options
- › A campus which preserves the Domain as a special space
- › Architecture that enhances the city

## Gallery



## Eight key themes which emerged



## Next steps

In 2020, we will commission a rich digital platform with which the community can engage; a program of community outreach; and the bringing together of a reference group, which will contain staff, students and our extended University community.

Provide feedback and register your interest

Please provide your feedback





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