

# **Director, Incubator and Accelerator Program**

College/Division Research Division

School/Section Innovation & Enterprise

**Location** Hobart

Classification TBD

**Reporting line** Reports to Executive Director, Innovation & Enterprise

## **Position Summary**

The University of Tasmania is building a vision of a place-based University with a mission to enhance the intellectual, economic, social and cultural future of Tasmania, and from Tasmania, contribute to the world in areas of distinctive advantage. The University recognises that achieving this vision is dependent on the people we employ as well as creating a people-centred University that is values-based, relational, diverse, and development-focused.

We are seeking to appoint a Director of the University Incubator and Accelerator program and facilities as a joint appointment across the Innovation and Enterprise Office in the Research Division, the College of Business and Economics (CoBE), and the College of Sciences and Engineering (CoSE).

Staff at the University create a diverse and exciting array of intellectual property, and the University seeks to ensure that this resource has maximum impact in the Tasmanian community and beyond, providing strong economic, social and environmental outcomes. The new incubator / accelerator facilities and program will play a critical role in achieving this goal by stimulating innovation in research, and in facilitating establishment of new start-ups, assisting existing start-ups to scale, and stimulating innovation in established firms and industries through the development and adoption of University IP. Establishing these facilities and developing an integrated fit-for-purpose cross-campus program of venture creation reflects the strong focus of the University on impact and value creation. There will be a strong focus on establishment of new enterprise across the full spectrum of not-for-profit through to fully commercial for-profit ventures, with many using a science, engineering and technology basis to deliver societal benefit.

The role will be responsible for developing and leading the University's incubator/accelerator facilities and programs, with a focus on creating and growing a broader connected and cooperative ecosystem of entrepreneurial activity across Tasmania. Key to success in this role will be the ability to effectively engage and motivate a wide range of internal and external stakeholders.

We are an inclusive workplace committed to 'working from the strength that diversity brings' reflected in our Statement of Values. We are dedicated to attracting, retaining and developing our people and are committed to inclusive principles. We celebrate the range of diverse assets that gender identity, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, age and life course bring. Applications are encouraged from all sectors of the community. Tell us how we can make this job work for you.

# What You'll Do

- Develop and lead a fit-for-purpose University-wide incubator-accelerator program across multiple campuses that integrates internal resources and offerings from external providers.
- Assist to identify potentially impactful IP early in the research process and to shepherd and develop that IP with a focus on impact.
- Engage with researchers to create investor and other external collaborations and partnerships that will help deliver programs and opportunities which facilitate new start-up companies in Tasmania (priority) and beyond (as appropriate), help existing start-ups to scale, and drive innovation to underpin the sustainability of well-established firms and industries.



- Develop and lead the communication strategy and branding of the incubator / accelerators, promulgating the interests of the incubators at the highest levels of industry, government, and the community.
- Develop and manage industry and government networks, training networks, and networks of investors to accelerate venture creation based on University IP.
- Run the Hobart-based incubator/accelerator
- Contribute to short courses, programs and focussed events run through the incubator program.
- Drive research innovation by facilitating focussed multidisciplinary problem solving through the incubators.
- Instigation of a diverse range of events through the incubators / accelerators.
- Seek external sponsorship to support activities.
- Deliver Master Classes in enterprise creation in the School of Business and Economics.
- Assist to develop and deliver entrepreneurship and industry-focussed curricula in particular schools.
- Establish metrics to quantify and report on the performance of the incubator/accelerators.
- Undertake other duties as assigned by the supervisor.

## What We're Looking For

#### **Essential Criteria**

- A proven track record of building a successful and sustainable multi-stakeholder innovation ecosystem.
- Demonstrated extensive experience in delivering programs to identify opportunities and establish successful start-up companies, including attracting appropriate investors and founding staff.
- Demonstrated high-level leadership skills.
- Action-oriented individual with deep expertise in managing relationships and influencing a broad and complex range of both internal and external stakeholders, collaborators and partners, fostering trust and collaboration.
- Proven ability to conceptualise, develop and execute new offerings for start-up and high growth companies in an incubator/accelerator environment.

### Desirable Criteria

- Broad network of relevant industry, research, and investor contacts
- Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors
- Experience in commercialising IP and IP management
- Basic working knowledge of Australian Intellectual Property law
- Experience with enterprise incubators and accelerators
- Relevant tertiary qualification

## Other position requirements

- Intrastate/ interstate/ international travel may be required.
- Travel may be required between campuses to deliver training and other services.

## **University of Tasmania**

The University of Tasmania is an institution with an enduring commitment to our state and community, and a strong global outlook. We are committed to enhancing the intellectual, economic, social and cultural future of

The intention of this position description is to highlight the most important aspects, rather than to limit the scope or accountabilities of this role. Duties above may be altered in accordance with the changing requirements of the position.



Tasmania. Our <u>Strategic Direction</u> strongly reflects the University community's voice that our University must be place based but globally connected as well as regionally networked and designed to deliver quality access to higher education for the whole State.

We believe that from our unique position here in Tasmania we can impact the world through the contributions of our staff, students and graduates. We recognise that achieving this vision is dependent on the people we employ, as well as creating a university that is values-based, relational, diverse, and development-focused.

More information:

https://www.utas.edu.au/jobs

https://www.utas.edu.au/careers/our-people-values-and-behaviours

