

Palawa/Pakana Cultural Fellow

College/Division	Academic Division
School/Section	Aboriginal Leadership
Location	Burnie
Classification	HEO6
Reporting line	Pro Vice-Chancellor Cradle Coast
Date	January 2023

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.

The Aboriginal Cultural Fellow is responsible for enhancing cultural understanding for staff, students, alumni and friends of the University. It also contributes to further incorporating cultural understanding in both academic practice and in the life of the University in the Cradle Coast region. In doing so, the position contributes directly to the implementation of relevant parts of the *Strategic Plan for Aboriginal Engagement 2021-2024 (SPAЕ)*.

The Cultural Fellow position has a specific focus on enhancing cultural understanding and competency. This involves activities such as working with local academics and professional staff to enhance cultural understanding and linking with existing student engagement activities to give opportunities to students to better understand and appreciate Aboriginal culture. Examples of day to day activities include conducting cultural pop-ups on campus, assisting with On-Country experiences and incorporating Aboriginal perspectives with Children's University.

The position works closely with an existing Aboriginal Engagement Officer role and complements the Engagement Officer functions which include engaging with the Aboriginal community, Aboriginal organisations and other service providers.

The position coordinates with an integrated series of activities to enhance Aboriginal understanding within the University and by the University in the broader community in the Cradle Coast region. The Cradle Coast Aboriginal Staff Group provides oversight of a program of events including an Aboriginal seminar series, On-Country experiences, and engagement events with the local Aboriginal community. The Riawunna Centre for Aboriginal Education also provides a wide range of educational supports, opportunities and assistance to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students to support them to become independent, resilient, and confident learners.



This is an Identified position. The appointee is an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Person. The University of Tasmania [Identified Position Guidelines](#) provide the requirements for confirmation of identity.

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

- Work closely with the Aboriginal Community Engagement Officer to plan and deliver cultural learning activities for staff (professional and academic), students and stakeholders of the University.
- Liaise closely with the Cradle Coast Aboriginal Staff Group to collaboratively plan activities and monitor progress in the development of cultural understanding. Provide reports and updates for the group and the Pro Vice-Chancellor.
- Plan and conduct activities on and off campus to create an obvious presence for Aboriginal culture and opportunities for people to connect with Aboriginal culture such as cultural pop-ups and displays.
- Liaise with the Cradle Coast Academic Community of Practice (CCACOP) to plan and implement activities to enhance cultural learning opportunities in courses and University learning activities.
- Work with the Peter Underwood Centre and relevant regional staff to incorporate cultural activities and learning into Children’s University in the region.
- Link with Student Life and Enrichment and the Tasmanian University Student Association to coordinate with existing student engagement activities to give opportunities to students to better understand and appreciate Aboriginal culture.
- Conduct protocols at the university such as Welcome to Country at University-related events.
- Undertake other duties as assigned by the Pro Vice-Chancellor.

What We’re Looking For (success criteria)

- This is an Identified position. The appointee will be an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person. The University of Tasmania [Identified Position Guidelines](#) provide the requirements for confirmation of identity.
- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively and in a culturally sensitive manner with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people.
- Demonstrated knowledge of Aboriginal culture particularly as it relates to North-West Tasmania.
- Familiarity with the higher education sector and the function of universities. Knowledge and/or experience with UTAS particularly at the Cradle Coast would be an advantage.
- Good communication and presentation skills and capacity to engage with a variety of people to effectively convey cultural concepts and information.

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.



- Demonstrated high level interpersonal and networking skills to build rapport with academic and professional staff, students and University stakeholders.
- Demonstrated ability to work cooperatively in a team environment and the ability to use discretion, initiative, judgment and confidentiality.

Other position requirements

- Current Working with Vulnerable People registration (or to be obtained)
- A current drivers license

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 Tasmania. Our [Strategic Direction](#) 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.

Check out more here:

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

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

