

Save UTAS Campus Inc

SAVE

UTAS

CAMPUS

It's not about access to university, It's about making money from property development find out the TRUTH at www.savedtascampus.com

Newsletter - Volume 3 - April 2022

We are opposed to the UTAS plan to abandon the campus it was gifted at Sandy Bay, and we want proper consultation for the people of Hobart *before* UTAS ploughs ahead with its wasteful plan.

Committee Members and positions

Chairperson; Pam Sharpe, Deputy Chairperson; Mike Foster, Secretary; Ben Lohberger, Treasurer; Julie Bird, Angela Bird and John Livermore

Social Media

Save UTAS campus | Groups | Facebook

The Facebook Group has grown to over 1900 members. Recently a decision was made to close the group so that group and committee members felt more comfortable sharing information.

Thanks for your continued support through the FB page, for your posts and comments. We have continued to highlight Talking Points and letters to The Mercury. Thanks to Toni Gray for uploading stories in readable format.

Save UTAS Campus - Public Page | Facebook

Our Facebook Public Page is a place where members of the public can find out about the group and is also where many interesting articles and links are shared. Posts on this page can be shared more widely.

We've also encouraged FB group members to visit <u>University of Tasmania | Facebook</u> and read posts there and express your concerns. Overwhelmingly the comments on their posts have shown the public is NOT in favour of the move.

Instagram Our page continues to grow. It has attracted a younger audience and we are pleased to see their participation. If you have Instagram please like our page.

Media and publicity

The leaked UTAS documents revealed priceless information and our website has seen a huge surge in visits as people have wanted to read for themselves the truth about the proposed UTAS move. <u>Home | Save UTAS Campus</u>

The Mercury has continued to publish letters and Talking Points from people such as Dr Bruce Scott and we've also now had four published advertisements in the Mercury.



Our signs are popping up everywhere



We had to put in another order for corflute signs as our 50 had already been installed all over Hobart, more have gone up recently and these are visible all over Hobart and surrounding areas. If you have a suitable site to display a sign, that has good visibility and high volume traffic please email us and we can discuss this as a possible site. <u>saveutascampus@gmail.com</u>

Visit our Website Home | Save UTAS Campus

We now have over 4,000 subscribers – thanks for your support. Supporters can subscribe via the website. Subscribing means you will get emails from us. Please encourage others to do so. You can also purchase merchandise and make a donation. The webpage also has other information including articles and links. We will continue to add to the page.

Donations

Thanks so much for donating! We have been so grateful to be able to fund our advertising campaign in recent weeks, due to an influx of funds. We also made the decision to **give away stickers** to anyone who wants to collect from Shall Design in Sandy Bay Rd, Battery Point, or from Sandy Bay Newsagency. As we progress our action in the coming months, more funds will be needed for planning advice and representation, so any further donations will be very warmly accepted via our website.





Open committee meeting

Thanks to everyone who attended the open committee meeting in March – we had so much support that many of you had to stand outside. Committee members Pam Sharpe and Mike Foster clearly outlined the campaign so far and our future strategies and also took questions from the audience. A particular focus was the upcoming DA for the Forestry Building. We really appreciate the strong support from people from so many different walks of life.

It's not about education, it's all about money



Find out the TRUTH at www.saveutascampus.com

Forestry Building DA

Thanks to group members who willingly provided proforma letters. We emailed our supporter base and provided detailed assistance about how to lodge a representation. We know many of you have never done anything like this before, but this issue has certainly provided an impetus for people to become activists. We remain concerned about the traffic and parking implications of this proposal and we know that people are outraged that UTAS thinks it can move the campus from Sandy Bay and change the face of our CBD forever. Putting in a representation is just the start, and that is why we need people to donate to the cause – the battle in tribunnals is likely to be long and costly.

Meetings with councillors and politicians

The committee has met with representatives from all 3 levels of government.

Meetings with Hobart City Councillors

- In support: Will Coats, Marti Zucco, Jeff Briscoe, Simon Behrakis, Peter Sexton, and Jax Fox
- Not in support: Bill Harvey, Helen Burnet, Damon Thomas,
- Unknown: Mike Dutta, Lord Mayor Anna Reynolds,
- Zelinda Sherlock contacted but has not agreed to meet, most likely due to a conflict of interest

Meetings with State and Federal politicians

Committee members have met with:

- Supportive: Senators Eric Abetz, Carol Brown and Jacqui Lambie, Andrew Wilkie MHR, MLCs Meg Webb, Rob Valentine, and Jo Seijka
- Unclear: MHAs Kristie Johnson, Rebecca White, Josh Willie, Cassy O'Connor, Roger Jaensch, Ella Haddad and Senator Johnno Duniam and Claire Chandler

The committee sent a formal letter to all members of council and parliament seeking their position on the UTAS relocation. Responses will be posted on our website. When candidates are announced for the federal election and for the HCC elections later in the year, letters will be re-sent to candidates.

Pam Sharpe will be attending community meetings of South Hobart Progress Association, Sandy Bay Rotary, Sandy Bay Historical and Salamanca Rotary.



Public Meeting

Our petition was presented to Council ahead of their regular meeting on Monday 28 February. Finally, we have a date.

This meeting will take place in the City Hall, and will focus on the proposed UTAS relocation to the CBD. We encourage you to make a submission to HCC prior to the meeting. Book free tickets and make submissions here: <u>Public meeting in</u> response to Save UTas Campus petition - City of Hobart, Tasmania Australia (hobartcity.com.au)

Public Meeting – City Hall Wednesday 11 May, at 7.00 pm

What are the real costs of the planned UTAS move to the CBD?

- Parking in the CBD will be an enormous issue. Students will be bused from Sandy Bay to the CBD.
- The move is opposed by UTAS staff. Many faculties have little to no idea what their new facilities will look like. It has caused great stress and anxiety to staff.
- Some UTAS faculties would lose precious features and buildings at the Sandy Bay site, e.g. Plant Science, geology collections. There are many pieces of equipment that will be hard if not impossible to move.
- The UTAS campus is possibly the best example of modernist university architecture in Australia.
- The campus experience and the multi-faceted nature of university life at the Sandy Bay site will be lost
- The occupants of an additional 2700 homes will choke Sandy Bay and Mount Nelson with additional traffic especially on Regent Street and Sandy Bay Road.
- Sports fields and the gym will be commercialised with parking fees and hire costs.
- Soccer and rugby will have to share one natural grass field. Currently they have four grass fields in total. The proposed synthetic field can't be used by rugby.
- Swift Parrot habitat will be lost.

What can you do to support the campaign?

- I. Write letters to politicians, often, not just once. This strategy is highly effective. If politicians receive hundreds of emails about the same issue, they must do something about it. An email list is on the files section of the Facebook page and on the webpage. There's also an example letter.
- 2. **Donate** to SaveUTASCampus via the website or direct deposit to our bank account. Your donations will enable this campaign to continue advertising and, down the track, employ a team to fight the rezoning application if necessary. This will cost in the region of 100k. Please keep the donations coming. We will appeal to you when we have particular needs.
- 3.Purchase merchandise. Go to the webpage shop. A small amount from each sale goes towards the campaign. Wear a T-shirt. Put a **car sticker** on your car. They are free.