

How to make a submission to the Legislative Council Inquiry

SAVE UTAS CAMPUS INC. URGES ALL UNIVERSITY STUDENTS TO MAKE A SUBMISSION



What is the purpose of this inquiry?

The inquiry is looking to see whether the University of Tasmania Act 1992 is fit for purpose and will focus on:

- powers and functions of UTAS
- the UTAS governing Council and the university Academic Senate
- management and financial management of UTAS
- treatment of academic staff

What are the Terms of Reference?

The Legislative Council Inquiry has five terms of reference. The most relevant to you as students are probably numbers 1 and 5. The content of your submission **MUST** relate to what is described in the ToR:

1. The constitution, functions and powers of the University
2. The constitution, role, powers and obligations of the Council and Academic Senate
3. The appropriateness of the Act to ensure accountable executive, fiscal and academic decision making
4. The appropriateness of the Act to protect and promote academic freedom, independence and autonomy and
5. Any other matters incidental there to

How do I connect my submission to the University of Tasmania Act 1992?

The functions (**that most apply to you as students**) of the university as stated in the Act of 1992 are:

1. To advance, transmit and preserve knowledge and learning
2. To promote and sustain teaching and research to international standards of excellence
3. To encourage and provide opportunities for students and staff to develop and apply their knowledge and skills
4. To provide educational and research facilities appropriate to its other functions
5. To engage in activities which promote the social, cultural and economic welfare of the community and to make available for those purposes the resources of the University.

What can I/we include in a submission?

“Your submission may contain factual information, opinion or both. You may wish to draw the attention of the committee to something relevant to the inquiry. You may choose to emphasise solutions to the matter or issue before the committee. If a submission does not address any of the terms of reference, it generally cannot be accepted by the committee” (see Inquiry fact sheet, see link below)

- You may include factual information, opinion or both. You can emphasise solutions to the matters you raise.
- The form your submission takes is up to you. You could write it as a letter, a short summary paper or a longer research document.
- Electronic submissions are preferred.
- It needs to be signed. (If you want it to be anonymous, then go to the parliament website for instructions on how to do this.)

What are some examples that could be included?

- What is working for you/what is not working for you?
- Online learning versus face-to-face learning and teaching practices
- Student administration and support systems
- Processes for complaints
- Availability of staff
- Issues that influence your learning and your learning environment
- Student experience
- The university’s physical structure and possible changes
- The effects of gaining your education at UTAS on your physical and mental wellbeing
- Social opportunities

How do I/we submit?

Your submission can be forwarded by email to utas@parliament.tas.gov.au or posted to Parliament House, 1 Salamanca Pl, Hobart TAS 7000, attention **Inquiry Secretary**, Ms Jenny Mannering.

Useful links

Inquiry web page www.parliament.tas.gov.au/ctee/council/LC%20Select%20-%20University%20of%20Tasmania.html

Submissions Fact sheet www.parliament.tas.gov.au/ctee/council/ACO.2020.MakingaWrittenSubmission.sw.001.pdf

The University Act 1992 www.legislation.tas.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/act-1992-051

Closing date, Monday, 29 August 2022