



Centre for Law & Genetics

[www.lawgenecentre.org](http://www.lawgenecentre.org)

in collaboration with *Menzies Research Institute*

# **Human Genetic Biobanks: Achieving world's best practice in Tasmania**

*December 13, 2007*

*Law Building, University of Tasmania, Sandy Bay Campus*

## **Background**

The Menzies Research Institute (MRI), in conjunction with the Centre for Law and Genetics (CLG) and several other junior partners, has secured a major NHMRC Program Grant over the next five years. A key component of the proposed program is the establishment of a human genetic biobank that will provide the genetic material and data vital for the research. The role of the Centre for Law and Genetics is to work with the MRI in the development and governance of the biobank to ensure that world's best practice is achieved by addressing the ethical, legal and social implications of the project. A fundamental step in this process is to engage with the public. This colloquium is the first important step along the path of public engagement and consultation.

## **Aim**

Invited guests from across the relevant disciplines (including genetics, law, bioethics and sociology) will take part in an open discussion about how existing research, knowledge and experience can be applied in order to help achieve world's best practice in the development and governance of the proposed Tasmanian biobank.

## **Colloquium**

The meeting will be open to the general public and all interested parties. The idea of this colloquium is to facilitate open dialogue, and it is intended that at least half the time allocated to each topic will involve open discussion between the audience and invited guests. To this end, each of the thematic sessions (see below) will start with a speaker whose task it is to briefly outline the key issues as they relate to the Tasmanian context. Following this, two invited commentators will provide brief comment on the presentation, leading to open discussion with the audience. The total time allocated for each speaker and their commentators will not exceed 30 minutes, leaving at least 30 minutes for open discussion.

# Colloquium Program

## Introduction

9:15 – 9:25 *Welcome* – Professor Daryl Le Grew (VC)

9:25 – 9:35 *Introduction* – Professor Don Chalmers (Director, CLG)

9:35 – 9:55 *Proposed Tasmanian Biobank* – Professor Simon Foote (Director, MRI)

**9:55 – 10:15** *Morning Tea*

## Thematic Sessions

*Chair* – Professor David Weisbrot

10:15 – 11:15 *Public engagement and trust* – Professor Alan Petersen

11:15 – 12:15 *Privacy* – Professor Margaret Otlowski

**12:15 – 1:15** *Lunch*

1:15 – 2:15 *Access to data* – Professor Loane Skene

2:15 – 3:15 *Consent* – Professor Alastair V Campbell

**3:15 – 3:30** *Afternoon Tea*

3:30 – 4:30 *Benefit Sharing* – Associate Professor Dianne Nicol

4:30 – 5:00 *Summing up from the Chair*