MAKING IT WORK:

THE CHARLES DARWIN UNIVERSITY/ NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Schedule 1.1

Issues

The parties agree the key issues to be addressed are:

- The need to embed the Partnership in the mainstream of each party's culture.
- The need to ensure that Partnership Schedules are effectively managed and produce robust outcomes that are relevant to the stated objectives of the Partnership Agreement.
- That individual schedule working parties have the delegation and authority to assign human, financial and infrastructure resources and enter into appropriate agreements to achieve schedule outcomes.
- That the Government and University work cooperatively on matters that do not form schedules to the Partnership Agreement, but opportunities to support each other, or opportunities for mutual benefit arise through cooperation and/or joint activities.
- The need to link Partnership activities with the shared strategic objectives of both CDU and NTG to ensure mutually beneficial outcomes.

Goals

To nurture a dynamic and sustainable Partnership that brings mutual benefit to both parties and the future development of the Territory.

Strategies

The parties agree the strategies they will employ are:

- The Peak Group will meet at least four times each year and provide leadership across the full range of Partnership activities. This includes:
  - developing a strategic framework for Partnership activities;
  - monitoring the progress of Schedules, projects and working parties;
  - maintaining open and effective channels of communication to Schedule teams and working parties;
  - implementing proficient administrative procedures; and
  - reporting to Cabinet and Council as required.
The Peak Group may, as required, establish special groups to work on matters of mutual strategic significance and to explore potential areas of new cooperation and the desired outcomes from this cooperation.

- The Peak Group will continually review for best practice the protocols that guide the development and assessment of schedules, including: mutual development and leverage potential; capacity to deal with one-off specific issues; capacity for mutual benefit; timeframes, principals and objectives, communication confidentiality, participants and responsibilities. This task will be ongoing.
- The Peak Group will continually improve operational processes under the Partnership Agreement, including procurement and reporting requirements, to facilitate engagement in Partnership activities across both organisations.
- Prioritise Partnership Schedules and delegate authority to joint working groups to achieve Schedule outcomes.
- The Peak Group will respond to demand and change and this activity will be ongoing.
- The Peak Group will undertake regular reviews of:
  (a) existing capacity/areas of University to work with Government,
  (b) the immediate needs of Government that the University can meet and deliver on, and
  (c) future areas of development for cooperation and collaboration.
- To ensure that Partnership activities are linked with CDU and NTG Agency specific objectives and strategic priorities.

**Performance Indicators**

The parties agree the indicators to be used are:

- 10% increase in student population during the life of the Agreement (June 2003 – May 2006).
- 50% increase in non-NT Government research funding received by the University during the life of the Agreement.
- Minimum of four Peak Group meetings per year.
- A Newsletter to be produced biannually and distributed to a wide range of target groups.
- Maintenance of a relevant and current website.
- List of approved Schedules to be published following annual evaluation of the Agreement by Cabinet and University Council.
- Responsible officer/s from NTG and CDU assigned to each Schedule appropriate to its topic and development with the aim of progressing the strategies outlined under the Schedule in a practical and achievable manner, which reflects the shared strategic priorities of both organisations.
- Assessment of each Schedule's progress at six monthly intervals against agreed performance indicators.
- Completed annual audit of capacity need and capability and gap analysis.
- An increase of 20% in the number of tenders accessing the General Certificate of Exemptions from the preceding financial year.
Schedule strategies reflect mutually beneficial priorities for both University and Government stakeholders. The development of such strategies will be facilitated by the Peak Group through existing channels such as meetings, annual reporting, workshops and communication strategies.