

\$2.3 million in scholarships boost elite engineering course

Scholarships valued at more than \$100,000 each are on offer to build the infrastructure of the Northern Territory.

CDU has developed a new Bachelor of Engineering Co-operative degree program to link with local and national industry, combining paid work with study.

The NT Government Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DPI) is providing \$2.3 million to fund up to 20 scholarship places on the new course.

The scholarships are valued at up to \$117,156 each, with recipients receiving a stipend of \$15,000 for each full year of the four and a half year degree course. The remainder of the scholarship award – almost \$50,000 for each student – is in the form of paid work placements with the DPI.

DPI Chief Executive Officer, Richard Hancock said students would gain practical knowledge and work experience on a range of infrastructure projects to build the NT.

“These work experience placements will provide students with on-the-job skills and experience, and opportunities to develop close working relationships with professional engineers,” Mr Hancock said.

CDU’s Head of the School of Engineering and Information Technology, Professor Friso De Boer said the quality and structure of the Co-op degree would provide benefits to the NT by supplying more job-ready engineers to the workforce, while the scholarship program would attract and retain the best and the brightest in the Territory.

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Award-winning Engineering students (from left): Luka Bisevac B.Eng/B.Applied Science (winner 2008 VC’s prize); Lachlan Prescott B.Eng-Co-op (winner 2009 VC’s prize); Professor Friso De Boer, Head of CDU’s School of Engineering and IT; Joanna Winslade B.Eng-Co-op (winner 2009 VC’s prize) and Ryan Prsecott (CDU B.Eng – 3rd year).



above

CDU baker David Barker (far right) celebrates his win in Italy.

Second place ‘belissimo’ for NT master baker

A talented Territory baker and his Australian team nearly cleaned out the hosts after winning second place at an international baking competition in Italy.

Charles Darwin University’s Palmerston-based Bakery Lecturer David Barker competed in the SIGEP Breadcup 2009, one of the world’s largest professional trade fairs dedicated to bakery, confectionary and gelato products.

He joined three other teammates in the seaside town of Rimini, taking on European and Mexican bakers in various competitions.

Thousands of people and a throng of media followed the team as they produced traditional and innovative breads, a cake, art work using dough and a showcase display all within strict time limits and with defined ingredients.

Mr Barker’s European adventure started at the 2007 Melbourne Food Expo where he wowed the judges with his Australian-themed rosella sour dough bread and was asked to represent the nation in Italy.

The team also spent a busy two weeks visiting Italian bakeries and major manufacturing facilities before travelling to France where they attended a world pastry competition, Coupe du Monde de la Pâtisserie, in Lyon.

Mr Barker said his favourite food on the trip was Italian pizza.

“They have half the toppings and 10 times the flavour of those here in Australia,” he said. “I couldn’t believe how good they were.”

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