THANK YOU
CDU FOUNDATION 2012
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Thank you from the Vice-Chancellor
Many hands lighten our load

Welcome to CDU’s 2012 supporters’ Thank You.
We hope you will enjoy reading these stories. They are a small sample of achievements that are due to the commitment and generosity of our supporters – the individuals, friends and families, community groups and corporations, philanthropic trusts and in-kind and pro bono partners.

These tales are of powerful, positive change made possible by your contributions. The stories reflect our shared values and a long-term vision: an excitement about the opportunities that we at Charles Darwin University have successfully exploited with your help.

CDU recognises that education is the most effective tool for social change. There is no greater resource for the advancement of individual lives and societies. We are proud change agents, and proactive advocates of the transformational power of tertiary education. It is profound and everlasting, delivering benefits first for our students, and also for their families and the communities who follow their example.

The goal that drives us forward is our desire that this opportunity of education be extended to more people, especially Indigenous Australians and the citizens of our regional neighbours.

We pursue our goal with clarity and confidence, building upon our significant achievements as an education provider and leader. With your help, our future is strong. Our growing international reputation, our world standard research expertise and our strategic dual-sector offerings help to create a better world for Australia and our neighbours.

Thank you sincerely for your support in helping us to create bright futures. We could not have done it without you, and we look forward to your company on the journey through 2013.

Professor Barney Glover
Vice-Chancellor
Strategic directions

A successful future built on solid foundations

CDU’s story is one of quiet achievement. We’ve worked hard to build a world-class tertiary institution. We’ve grown our student numbers, won awards for our Vocational Education and Training programs, and our research activity is now rated among Australia’s top five universities.

We recognise that our position – in the Territory, with a resources boom, and with established links in the Asia-Pacific – delivers a unique opportunity for growth, and plentiful future potential.

Our core aims are:
- to create graduates ready to meet the challenges of a complex, changing world
- to support economic growth by delivering education responsive to market demands
- to contribute meaningfully to national and environmental and social problems of our times.

A known and respected leader in Indigenous education

The coming resources boom is expected to create up to 40,000 skilled and professional jobs – a unique opportunity to employ large numbers of Indigenous Territorians. But efforts to improve Aboriginal health and education are hampered by the dearth of Indigenous educators and health practitioners.

Priority initiatives include:
- scholarship and support programs for Indigenous students in early childhood development; engineering; medicine; midwifery; nursing; teaching and childcare; and trades such as fitting and turning
- an academic enrichment program to provide mentoring, personal support and extra tutelage that incorporates a student-centred approach to learning
- a major new Centre for Child Development and Education at Menzies School of Health Research that focuses on early intervention in the lives of Indigenous children
- an Indigenous leadership institute to fast track the careers of our most promising Aboriginal students.

Research with global reach: our environmental agenda

CDU’s location in bio-diverse Northern Australia and our nation-leading research programs from the Research Institute for the Environment and Livelihoods (RIEL), signal our potential and achievements.

Priority projects include:
- a ‘blue carbon’ initiative, rehabilitating mangrove swamps in coastal Indonesia; and restoring the livelihoods of the developing communities dependent on the ecosystem
- gauging the impact of global warming and rising water levels in the Arafura and Timor Seas
- helping the NT build its renewable energy sector and develop low emissions technologies for the region
- working with traditional owners, mining companies and government towards consensus in the management of Northern Australia’s vast savannas.

Influences on social policy formation for the Northern region

Oil and gas in the Timor Sea and resource exploration across Northern Australia offer both opportunity and threat to our communities, and our neighbours, such as Timor-Leste, Papua New Guinea and Indonesia, with climate change adding further complexity.

Similarly, tourism impacts on local populations and changes society.

Social policy formation must seek to improve health outcomes, education, employment and the economic wellbeing of remote Aboriginal Australians and of developing communities in our region.

CDU’s goal is to find evidence-based solutions to these challenges.

Priority projects include:
- sustainable housing systems for remote Indigenous communities
- supporting micro-enterprise and workforce development in remote communities, especially in the mining and construction industries
- discovering best practice in tourism management
- determining the impacts of climate change on Central Australian communities and ways to bolster their resilience
- supporting infant industries in marginal economies, such as barramundi aquaculture and camel processing
- formal evaluations of existing Australian Government programs for Indigenous literacy and numeracy projects and child safety strategies
- examining the impact of urbanisation and infrastructure development on coastal and marine environments.
The problems we've got ... we won't fix them easily, but we've got to try.

Brendan Heenan

Jim Goulding and Brendan Heenan forged their friendship on a shared thirst for knowledge. Jim is a long-term resident of Brendan's Alice Springs caravan park and, about a decade ago, the pair got talking. They haven’t really stopped.

Both are vitally interested in politics and history, society and culture, that perennial Australian favourite – sport – and they love to read. Both are advocates of the transformational power of education and are of a philanthropic persuasion.

They’ve led fascinating lives. Jim’s has taken him from Yorkshire to Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia during his time in the RAAF. Discharged in Townsville, his skills in communications and electronics led him to work with the Weather Bureau in the days immediately after Cyclone Tracy. In Darwin, he studied for a Bachelor of Arts at the then Darwin Community College and he’s still a scholar. He’s recently completed a manuscript on the history of tourism in Central Australia, from 1926 to 1976.

Brendan owns and operates an Alice Springs caravan park. When the southern road into Alice was being sealed back in the mid-1980s, Brendan’s entrepreneurial mind saw opportunity. He opened the caravan park in 1984 and waited for the hordes to arrive.

Brendan’s strong social conscience and progressive views permeate the way he runs his park. He employs Indigenous people whenever possible, and provides work opportunities to pre-release prisoners.

They both believe the tourist trade has opportunities for people of all backgrounds and their support of CDU is one of the ways they are helping it along.

The two of us
Jim Goulding and Brendan Heenan
Both my parents believed passionately in equality of opportunity for all people...
Rodger Robertson

A lasting legacy
The Robertson Scholarship

The Robertsons, Lorna and Garth, were married during World War Two in 1943 and settled in Sydney. In 1992, they moved to Darwin – for the climate and to be closer to the many friends they had made as frequent visitors over the years. They were a community-minded couple, constantly billeting overseas students in their Sydney home (one of whom married their grandson) and helping young people.

They also shared a passion for education. Lorna had left school at 15, but was the driving force behind her son’s education, and she started a Bachelor of Arts at CDU 60 years after she first left school.

Garth passed away in 1997; and Lorna in 2010. Lorna’s will included a generous provision to support disadvantaged young people through scholarships at CDU.

While legal complications meant that her original intent didn’t come to fruition, Garth and Lorna’s son Rodger, and grandsons Tom and David, have honoured her wishes and established The Robertson Scholarship – donating $70,000 for an endowment fund for scholarships in CDU’s social sciences courses.

The first Robertson Scholarship presentation took place in October 2012.

Images: Clockwise from top left: Lorna and Garth on their wedding day; Lorna Robertson in the 1940s; Rodger, Lorna and Garth at Rodger’s graduation from the University of NSW, 1967.
If we’re serious about closing the gap between the life expectancy of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians, we need more Indigenous doctors in the frontlines, more Indigenous faces across the professions ...

Harold Mitchell AC

A fortunate life
Harold Mitchell AC

Harold Mitchell’s is an inspirational Australian story. Born in 1942 into a working class family in country Victoria, Harold had left school and was labouring at the local sawmill by his mid-teens. At 17, and with just two pounds in his pocket, Harold made his way to Melbourne, where he found work as an office boy in an advertising agency. By 33, he was running the media-buying operations of Australia’s third-biggest ad agency. He opened his own firm in 1976, and in 2010 sold the Mitchell Communication Group for $363 million.

Harold’s humble beginnings sparked a staunch belief in education as a tool to overcome disadvantage, and instilled in him a commitment to helping those less fortunate than himself. Today, Harold is a prominent national cultural commentator and exponent of ‘giving back’ to both the local and global community. In 2000, he and his family established the Harold Mitchell Foundation, which has distributed more than $6 million across 100 plus projects.

We are the proud recipient of one of these special gifts, to push recruitment of Indigenous students. Last year, the Harold Mitchell Foundation awarded $10,000 to CDU’s new medical program (in partnership with Flinders University).

Medicine is an area where Indigenous people remain greatly under-represented. There are currently only 160 Indigenous doctors working in Australia. Another 1200 are needed urgently. With the advantages of first-hand experience and cultural insight, Aboriginal doctors are well placed to lead efforts to ‘close the gap’. Already there are signs of success: In the 2011 intake, CDU and Flinders attracted more Indigenous students than every other Australian university combined, compared to the previous year.
As Angelica Poulos explains:

With the completion of our 10th year, we want to ensure that we can look forward to a Greek Language and Culture Program at CDU that belongs to us and can grow with us. The Greek Guardians program is the means by which we hope to achieve this.

So far, it has proved a resounding success. The Greek Glenti celebration and Saturday morning contributions by Greek clubs and businesses, the members of Darwin’s Greek community are philanthropists and fundraisers par excellence. Their efforts have kept CDU’s Greek program running for the past nine years, and six years ago created CDU’s own Greek In-Country Study Program.

In 2011, they set an ambitious new target – to secure the program in perpetuity. Plans include specialist lectureships, a visiting scholars’ program, student scholarships, and a new research focus on Greek communities across the New World.

The Greek Guardians program is a major campaign to create an ongoing endowment and enable the grand vision for Greek studies to be realised.

Protecting and preserving our heritage and celebrating the richness of our contribution ...

Angelica Poulos, Committee of the Friends of Greek Language and Culture
Assisting with tuition fees, living allowance, textbooks and equipment and providing a personal mentoring relationship with a mentor eminent in the awardee’s chosen field of study.

Professor Brian O’Keeffe AO, Order of Australia Foundation Secretary

CDU student Karynne Lake is the first Indigenous person to receive the prestigious Order of Australia Association Foundation Scholarship. The scholarship program is for students in their early years of tertiary study, with clear leadership potential and a commitment to using their qualifications for the betterment of others.

Karynne is studying for a Bachelor of Social Work, and intends to work in child protection after she graduates. She has chosen child fostering and adoption, an area where she has first-hand experience and, as a result, has a keen understanding of the need for better policy and practice, and better outcomes for children. Karynne will draw on this experience, as well as the knowledge gained in her studies, to excel in her field.

Karynne is the mother of two young children. Juggling kids and study is not easy. Potential lost earnings, child care and study costs can be a prohibitive combination, but not for Karynne. Her fine academic achievements, her dedication to her studies and her ability to surmount her own difficult circumstances greatly impressed the judges. Her commitment to using her qualifications to support other Aboriginal Australians and protect vulnerable children made her an ideal candidate for an Order of Australia scholarship.

The primary source of funding for Foundation scholarships is donations received from Association members and the community. Karynne’s scholarship (an amount of $40,000) was donated by Territory stalwart and philanthropist Mr Nicholas Paspaley AC. It is an investment we are confident will reap substantial dividends as Karynne’s brilliant career progresses.

CDU student Karynne Lake with Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO.

Photo: Christopher Knight, DigiFilm Australia.
Darwin and the Northern Territory sit on the edge of a resource-rich sea and on the verge of a major economic boom. An immense oil and gas industry is in development, with global resource giants establishing bases and building infrastructure to exploit the region’s reserves of oil, gas and condensate. This means significant growth in Territory jobs during both construction and operational phases and the consequent demand for locally based training, education and research services. Recognising this, as well as its responsibility to give back to local communities, INPEX together with Total, its major joint venture participant in the Ichthys Project, have taken a step in the right direction. They have partnered with CDU to establish the North Australian Centre for Oil and Gas (NACOG), contributing $3 million to construction costs.

NACOG will be a ‘one-stop shop’ for training and higher education programs, as well as cutting-edge specialist research services for the developing oil and gas industry in Northern Australia and South-East Asia. CDU is perfectly positioned to capitalise on the boom, connecting its graduates to jobs, and local communities to economic prosperity.

CDU will be utilising the expertise of its growing Engineering school to pioneer ways of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and NACOG will be an important part of Australia’s clean energy future.

NACOG is also supported by Dow Chemicals, Eni and the NT Government.

We see sponsorship as a great way to enhance the social and economic development of our host communities. Our alliance with CDU is a natural and perfect fit.

Sean Kildare, General Manager Darwin, INPEX

Liquid gold
Corporate partner INPEX

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The Territory Insurance Office (TIO) is an unsung hero in the lives of scores of CDU students. TIO has now helped 49 young Territorians in their studies at CDU, in both higher education and vocational education programs. The direct and tangible outcome is more young people gaining skills and qualifications that will change their lives – and those of generations to come.

Grants or scholarships lend a helping hand to ease the financial burden for students and signal a confidence in them that can boost success.

TIO support can come as a one-off grant to buy books (which at up to $800 each semester can be a deal breaker); or as scholarships for Aboriginal students from remote communities, humanitarian and refugee students, and young people forced to leave difficult home situations. They also provide merit scholarships for high-achieving students and scholarships for commerce students who may go on to a career with TIO.

Together, the recipients are a small army of things because TIO is a corporate citizen that cares about community.

It’s an investment that embodies our organisational values: helping to build confidence and resilience in the Northern Territory with education as a key strategy.

Amanda-Lea Smith, General Manager People and Culture, TIO
Contribute

About the CDU Foundation
The CDU Foundation raises much-needed funds for student support, programs and infrastructure at Charles Darwin University.

The Foundation has now raised more than $21 million, supplementing other sources of funding and enabling work that wouldn’t otherwise have been possible. CDU’s government funding, while significant, is tied to specific programs and student numbers.

To provide extra support to disadvantaged students, pursue our world-class research agenda and fulfill social justice aims, we must secure additional funds.

Can you help?
You can make a general donation or you can target specific projects, such as:
- scholarships and prizes
- teaching and learning purposes, including the University Library
- CDU’s indigenous art collection
- the University Theatre redevelopment fund
- Guardians of Creek Language and Culture at CDU.

We welcome cash and in-kind donations, and can quarantine gifts for specific purposes. All contributions to the CDU Foundation are tax deductible, and duly acknowledged.

Foundation membership
Individuals and organisations are encouraged to join the University Foundation. For a minimum annual gift of $200 for individuals and $800 for organisations, members receive all standard acknowledgments, as well as invitations to elite social events, with ‘sneak peeks’ of new University developments, and networking opportunities with prominent Territorians.

For more information
To make a donation or become a Foundation member, visit us at
W: cdu.edu.au/foundation
or contact the Manager, External Relations,
T: 08 8946 7770
E: CDU.Foundation@cdu.edu.au.

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For more information
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or contact the Manager, External Relations,
T: 08 8946 7770
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Postal address: Suburb/town:
State: Postcode:
Phone (H): Phone (W):
Email:

I would like to donate

$50 $100 $75 $250 $500 Other $_____

I would like my gift to support

☐ Scholarships and prizes
☐ CDU’s art collection
☐ Teaching and learning
☐ CDU Theatre redevelopment
☐ Guardians of Greek language and culture
☐ CDU’s art collection

As a

☐ one-off gift
☐ monthly gift
☐ quarterly gift
☐ annual gift

And ...

☐ Please ensure my donation remains anonymous

Please make payment via

☐ Cheque/money order enclosed (payable to CDU Foundation)

☐ VISA
☐ Mastercard

Name on card:
Card number: / / / / Expiry date: / / CRV number*:

Signature:

Additional:

☐ I’d like to hear more about CDU’s directed giving program for major gifts
☐ I’d like to find out more about leaving a bequest to CDU in my will.

Please post this form to:
CDU Foundation Office
Rigby Place 40146
Charles Darwin University
NT 0909

Donations to CDU Foundation are tax deductible. A tax receipt will be posted to you.

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