



# PhD Scholarship Opportunity



## Keeping Indigenous Languages Strong in Northern Australia

**Supervisors:** Steven Bird, Bhanu Bhatia, Michaela Spencer, Michael Christie, James Bednall.

**Stipend:** \$40,000 yearly for three years (\$120,000) + RTP Fee offset

**Location:** CDU Casuarina Campus + 3-month internship at a Language Centre and remote research in NT Aboriginal communities

### About the Opportunity

This project is associated with an ARC Discovery Project, 'Investing in Aboriginal Languages,' which explores Aboriginal Language Centers as sites of cultural investment and exchange where Aboriginal language owners and users, researchers, and members of government and non-government agencies are participants. Diverse language and culture practices are at work in and around the business of Language Centers: work to fulfil obligations to kin and country that are at least partially invisible to outsiders, recognition of who are experts and the nature of different expertise, language documentation and preservation, work under contract, and more. There are diverse forms of accountability to differently situated participants, various forms of investment, and different values, agendas, aspirations, priorities, and timelines. How do we understand, make visible and support healthy investments and generative exchanges? The PhD student will undertake field research in one or more Top End Language Centers as negotiated by supervisors, Indigenous Language workers and owners, and Language Centre management staff. Depending on the disciplinary background of the student, the project could involve ethnographic and/ or linguistic work with images and words in quantitative-qualitative multi- and transdisciplinary research.

### Scholarship Details

The successful applicant will receive a CDU Domestic Excellence Scholarship (CDUDES) (tax-exempt and indexed annually), an RTP Fee Offset for the tuition fees and generous relocation allowances. Find out more about the CDU High impact scholarship opportunities [here](#).

### Eligibility

The PhD candidate must:

- be an Australian Citizen, an Australian Permanent Resident, or a New Zealand Citizen
- able to commence before January 2024
- meet the Excellent Scholar eligibility outlined [here](#).



### How to Apply

If you have any application or eligibility enquiries, please contact Professor Steven Bird at [steven.bird@cdu.edu.au](mailto:steven.bird@cdu.edu.au) or call 8946 6153.

To submit an expression of interest, please email the following to [steven.bird@cdu.edu.au](mailto:steven.bird@cdu.edu.au):

- Cover letter (max 2 pages) outlining your suitability (max two pages).
- **A curriculum vitae**, including a list of any peer-reviewed publications, conference presentations and relevant work and/or research experience.
- **A brief statement** that explains why you are interested in this research project/area (max 500 words).