

Chancellor,

I have the pleasure of presenting Faye Parriman, who has been awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters.

Ms Parriman, a proud Yamatji and Noongar woman has over 50 years of experience in parenting research, community and education.

Ms Parriman has worked extensively with families and children in remote, urban, and very remote Aboriginal communities across the Northern Territory (NT) for more than three decades. Her expertise in intensive family support services, family violence support services, and her collaboration with legal and government services, as well as non-government organisations, have been instrumental in the development and implementation of government early intervention and prevention programs focused on a First Nations strength-based approach.

Ms Parriman pivotal role in leading the Safe Places initiative for the Northern Territory Government, made a remarkable contribution to the advancement of the Northern Territory and Northern Australia. By challenging Government perceptions she was able to demonstrate that Indigenous cultural

structures, kinship systems, and gender roles could serve as powerful sources of strength and healing if properly understood and supported.

Her work has been instrumental in transforming the Safe Places initiative—a program that established community-designed centers offering safety, support, and healing for women and children in numerous remote communities across the NT.

Ms Parriman is currently employed at Charles Darwin University as a Lecturer in the Indigenous Futures - First Nations Sovereignty & Diplomacy Centre. In this role, she is involved in the coordination and delivery of several units which exclusively focus on First Nations knowledges. Her work provides students with unique insight into Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and societies within the context of health, and the skills to think critically about the various issues impacting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people locally and nationally.

By combining her lived experience, cultural knowledge, skills, and wisdom, Ms Parriman has been able to reach a broad spectrum of professionals and students across the NT, enhancing their skills, confidence, and competence in their roles.

Her efforts have positively influenced and changed the lives of countless children and their families, bringing about improved social and emotional wellbeing, safety, and developmental outcomes.

Chancellor,

In recognition of her outstanding contributions to the improvement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, wellbeing and education by using her cultural knowledge and providing culturally relevant training and resources, Charles Darwin University Council awards Faye Parriman an Honorary Doctor of Letters, *Honoris Causa*.