

Charles Darwin University

Graduation
Thursday 26 November 2026

You make CDU

CHARLES DARWIN UNIVERSITY AUSTRALIA

Charles Darwin University acknowledges the traditional custodians across the lands on which we live and work, and we pay our respects to Elders both past and present.

Welcome

Congratulations to the Graduates of 2026



A Message from the Chancellor

It is my great honour to welcome you to your Charles Darwin University (CDU) graduation. This is a truly special occasion where we come together to celebrate your remarkable

achievements and to recognise the hard work, resilience, and dedication that have brought you here today.

You should feel enormously proud of all you have accomplished. The rigorous study and commitment that has led you to this moment will serve you well, not only in your own life and career, but also in the communities you will go on to strengthen and inspire.

Graduation is not an end, but the beginning of new opportunities.
I encourage you to be bold in seizing them. You may not always know exactly where they will lead, but with the skills, knowledge, and determination you have gained at CDU, you can move forward with confidence and optimism.

Today, you join our global alumni community. A vibrant, diverse network of individuals making a positive difference across professions, industries, and communities. I know that you, too, will leave your mark in meaningful ways.

It is a privilege to share this milestone with you. On behalf of the University, I offer my warmest congratulations and my very best wishes as you step into the next chapter of your journey.

The Honourable Trevor Riley AO KC
Chancellor



A Message from the Vice-Chancellor and President

Graduation is more than the completion of a qualification. It is a moment to pause, reflect, and recognise the commitment, resilience and determination that have brought you here today. Each of you has travelled a unique path, and today we celebrate not only your achievement, but the courage and perseverance behind it.

You graduate from one of Australia's most distinctive and forward-looking universities. At Charles Darwin University (CDU), we are shaped by the strength, kindness and ambition of our students, staff and alumni. Our community is enriched by the diverse stories, cultures and perspectives you bring, and it is this diversity that makes CDU such a vibrant and connected place to learn and grow.

On behalf of your lecturers, tutors and the many staff who have supported you along the way, I extend my heartfelt congratulations. Your dedication to your studies and training reflects not only personal ambition, but a commitment to building a better future for your communities and for those who will follow in your footsteps.

Today is also a celebration of those who have walked beside you. Your family, friends and supporters who have encouraged and sustained you throughout your journey. We share this proud moment with them, and with you.

As you step into the next chapter of your lives, I encourage you to remain curious, compassionate and open to learning. The knowledge and skills you carry forward have the power to create positive change through your work, your leadership and the way you care for others.

You now join CDU's global alumni community, a lifelong connection that we value deeply. We look forward to witnessing your achievements and the contributions you will make to your professions and to society.

Today, we celebrate you. Your achievements strengthen our university and embody what it means to be the connected university.

My sincere congratulations to you all.

Professor Fiona Coulson
Vice-Chancellor and President

University Council

- **The Honourable Trevor Riley AO KC**, Chancellor, Charles Darwin University
- **Ken Davies PSM, Deputy Chancellor**, Charles Darwin University
- **Professor Fiona Coulson**, Vice-Chancellor and President, Charles Darwin University
- **Professor Stefanija Klaric**, Chair Academic Board, Charles Darwin University
- **Craig Graham**, Member, appointed by the Administrator of the Northern Territory
- **Dick Guit OAM**, Member, appointed by the Administrator of the Northern Territory
- **Mark Munnich**, Member, appointed by the Administrator of the Northern Territory
- **Dr Ruth Schubert**, Member, appointed by the Administrator of the Northern Territory
- **Professor Charles Webb**, Member, appointed by the Administrator of the Northern Territory
- **Susan Bowden**, Member, appointed by the Administrator of the Northern Territory
- **Associate Professor Jon Mason**, Member, Elected by Higher Education Academic Staff
- **Raymond Simpson**, Member, Elected by Vocational Education and Training Academic Staff
- **Yue Yang**, Student Representative Postgraduate
- **Eva Susanto**, Student Representative Undergraduate

Senior Executive Team

- **Professor Fiona Coulson**, Vice-Chancellor and President
- **Professor Louise King**, Interim Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic
- **Professor Steve Rogers**, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research and Community Connection
- **Professor Ruth Wallace**, Deputy Vice-Chancellor First Nations Leadership
- **Professor Dominic Upton**, Provost
- **Brendon Douglas**, Vice-President Governance and University Secretary
- **Shannon Holborn**, Vice-President Global and External Relations
- **Penny Szybiak**, Vice-President Corporate
- **Bryce Dorrian**, Chief Financial Officer

The University Mace

The Mace of Charles Darwin University represents the authority of the University Council and its head, the Chancellor, and was first used in May graduation ceremonies in 2013.

For thousands of years the mace has been used as a symbol of government. Originally a weapon in the shape of a club, often spiked, it has evolved to become a decorative and ceremonial object of great value and beauty.

Oxford University in the UK began using a mace for ceremonial occasions in the late 16th Century and Cambridge University adopted a mace in 1626.

The mace is traditionally a gift, and the CDU Mace was gifted from Flinders University Council in 2010. Well-known silversmith Glenice Lesley Matthews was commissioned to design and make the University Mace in 2010, however she passed away before it was completed. Completion of the project was entrusted to Samuel Farmer, a silversmith who worked with Glenice for more than 20 years.



The CDU Mace incorporates images of Charles Darwin's telescope; the pandanus tree and a 'flame of knowledge' which echoes the use of firesticks as a way of passing on knowledge. The CDU crest features strongly on a tropical timber shaft with bands of sterling silver and yellow gold.

Welcome to Country

Welcoming visitors to Country is an ancient ritual that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have done for thousands of years. By asking a Traditional Owner to conduct a Welcome to Country ceremony, you are showing respect for the First Nations Peoples of this land. By participating in a Welcome to Country you are introduced to the ancestral spirits and kept safe while living, studying/working and travelling across the lands. This mutual respect enables cultural safety, better cross cultural communication and will lead to better community relationships and understanding.



The Chancellor's Chair

The Chancellor's chair was a gift to CDU from the Australian National University, Canberra, in 2009. It was made by Mr Timothy Foster, a professional furniture maker and teacher with over 30 years' experience in the industry, and who divides his time between creating commissioned works and teaching.

The chair is made from Delinia timber, which is native to New Guinea, where it was sustainably sourced and certified by the Forest Stewardship Council. It was chosen for its rich colour, fine grain, stability and strength, and also for its relevance in proximity to Darwin.



Doctor of Philosophy

Beverley Sian Babbage

Harnessing the Multimodal Affordances of iPads to Enhance and Support Yolŋu Matha (Language) and Traditional Ways of Learning

Principal Supervisor: Associate Professor Jon Mason
Associate Supervisor: Dr Cat Kutay, Professor Ruth Wallace, Professor Yalmay Yunupingu and Dr Leonard Freeman

Previous Qualifications:
Graduate Diploma in Education, University of New England, 2009
Bachelor of Arts (Music), University of New England, 2006

Despite being considered an oral culture, Yolŋu traditional transmission methods were multimodal including sign language, gestures, dance, art, music, and ceremony. This interdisciplinary study investigated how iPads as a multimodal tool with generic apps and out-of-thebox features can support Yolŋu learners, aligned with their multimodal traditional ways of learning and bilingual context. Adopting a bricolage methodology grounded in Indigenous research paradigms, a new methodology was developed, symbolised by a Yolŋu weaving metaphor – Gungawuy Dhäwu ga Mayali Nhanŋu roughly translates as a story about traditional weaving practices as a metaphor, where dhäwu-dhäwu (relaxed conversations) are woven together with other methods for an interconnected and relational both-ways approach. Results show that the iPad's multimodal capabilities can support and enhance Yolŋu traditional ways, resulting in the identification of cultural affordances of the iPad.

Megan Narelle Bayliss

Moving psychoeducation and bibliotherapy from self-help to SHELF-care: A consideration of Brené Brown's books through the lenses of Gramsci's intellectualisms and Byrne's lived experience framework

Principal Supervisor: Professor Kim Caudwell
Associate Supervisor: Dr Nathan Franklin and Dr Andrew Richardson

Previous Qualifications:
Graduate Diploma of Sustainability, Tropical TAFE Queensland, 2012
Bachelor of Social Work, James Cook University, 1994

This research challenges the dismissal of self-help books by exploring whether popular books can support mental health and wellbeing. Eighteen adults who had experienced life-changing wellbeing challenges joined online book clubs to read, discuss and share their experiences of Brené Brown's books. Book club was used as both the research method and methodology, recognising conversation between readers as a valuable way of creating knowledge. The findings showed that readers gained insight not only from books themselves, but through discussing them with others. Memorable sayings, audiobooks, personal values, the author's voice and who recommends a book all influenced the reading experience. These findings led to the development of SHELF-Care: Share, Hope, Express, Learn and Friends. The research demonstrates how Brown's books can function as psychoeducation and bibliotherapy and contributes a new way of thinking about book clubs as research and reading as a resource for mental health practice.

CDU TAFE
All Faculties
Thursday 26 November – 5 pm

Certificate I in Automotive Vocational Preparation
Tikena Cummings
Desley Dhamarrandji
Sayalenla Jamir
Lester Numamurdirdi
Butjatdalawuy Wunungmurra

Certificate I in Workplace Skills
Isiah Dhurrkay
Shyane Dhurrkay
Chelsea Angel Dungog
Frank Wunungmurra
Sherita Wurramarrba
Bronwyn Yunupingu

Certificate II in Construction Pathways
Noah Matthew Billot
Angus Leonard Gordon
Ava Laverty
Tara Rose Mcloughlin
Hudson Robert Moresi
Levi William Provis
Cody Jackson Ramm
Liam Maximus Ranford
Oliver Schmidt
Miylan Toby Raab Stockton
Chayce Lester Salvatore Tabone

Certificate II in Government
Matthew Ashley
Guymilili Bidingal
Wayne Bidingal
Ganawa Waturr Darren Burarrwanga
Benjamin Campion
Rebecca Condon
Mudinymudiny Dhamarrandji
Rexy Djarrkadama
Dick Fisher
Terry Andrew Gilliland
Steven Gurruwiwi
Margaret Guwankil
Peter Guyula
Sammy Guyula
Eric Malibirr
Mark Malibirr
Gurrundul Sarah Marawili
Cameron Rrutjurrutju Maymuru
Banduwa Ricardo Mununggurr
Makamunu Kaylene Mununggurr
David Banul Munyarryun
Ross Munyarryun
Trina Munyarryun
Solomon O'Ryan
Charlie Ramandjarri
Victoria Louise Richardson
Trevor Wagilak
Derek Wanapuyngu
Chris Wangaypuma
Florence Wanybarrnga
Bandarr Michael Wirrpanda
Bilingurra Vernon Wunungmurra
Brendan Wunungmurra
Gamanarra Wunungmurra
Mamidal Wunungmurra
Ringo Wunungmurra
Sylvia Yipininy

Certificate II in Maritime Operations (Coxswain Grade 1 Near Coastal)
Sabohan Luca Jerkic

Certificate III in Air Conditioning and Refrigeration
Bradley Stuart Allgood

Certificate III in Community Services
Mate-Wai Waimaria Jean Campbell

Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care
Amma Barrett
Louise Brooke
Hanshi Chen
Chloe Crombie
Breanna Meg Johnston
Emily Johnstone
Skyla Lee Mcshane
Tamryn Pridgeon
Rhiannon Marie Rogers
Evannah Louise Stark

Certificate III in Engineering - Fabrication Trade (Boilermaking/Welding)
Mate-Wai Waimaria Jean Campbell

Certificate III in Heavy Commercial Vehicle Mechanical Technology
Kaleb Lobenwein

Certificate III in Plumbing (General Plumbing)
Liam James Bailey
Bradley William Kingston

Certificate IV in Community Services
Stacey Lee Crowther

Certificate IV in Project Management Practice
'Atelea Edwyne Lawrence Afeaki
Simione Alexander Afeaki
Taylah Ahmat
Melissa Brown
Marie Coles
Dane Mitchell
Jessica Parfitt
Lee-Anne Pridgeon
Deirdre Quigley-Clarke

Diploma of Counselling
Desleigh Karen Hepburn

Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care
Sirinapha Holdsworth

Diploma of Laws
Jadyn Maree Pollard

Diploma of Project Management
Shanna-Lee Glover

Associate Degree of Engineering
Lena-Sophie Landahl
Patrick Allan Robinson

Bachelor of Education Secondary
Lars Gunnar Fredrik Almegard

Bachelor of Engineering Science
William Patrick Burke
Ivan Gnanarasa Rajasingam

Bachelor of Exercise and Sport Science
Flynn Patrick Luders

Bachelor of Health Science
Ashlea Claire Stiller

Bachelor of Laws
Courtney Eva Tripp

Bachelor of Nursing
Shanai Dale
Niru Neupane
Lauren Elizabeth Newby
Sohrabkha Pathan
Erin Thorne
Paige Kathleen Wade

Bachelor of Paramedicine
Sarah Margaret Ellis
Zoe Eve Lockwood

Bachelor of Psychological Science
Naomi Kuun Du Toit

Graduate Certificate of Aeromedical Retrieval
Dennis Jaculli
Rosie Ellen Mcintyre
Craig Michael Richards

Graduate Certificate of Clinical Education
Gayle Alison Webber

Graduate Certificate of Infectious Disease Prevention and Control
Amy Catherine Westacott

Graduate Certificate of Perioperative Nursing
Karin Ailleen Haardt
Kayley Louise Price
Rachel Caroline Whale

Graduate Certificate of Primary Health Care Nursing
Nicola Bayliss
Pauline Byrne
Alisha Maree Fontana

Master of Engineering
Joseph Chinenye Emengini

Master of Information Technology (Cyber Security)
Subodh Gajurel

Master of Information Technology (Information Systems)
Yixiang Wang

Master of Nursing
Sarah Anne Elliott

Master of Professional Accounting
Thien Son Le
Siobhan Catherine Thomas

Master of Public Health
Megan Louise Duck

Master of Public Policy
Allana Leigh Brown

Master of Social Work (Qualifying)
Erin Brooke Lewis
Georgie Memphis Mcintyre

Master of Teaching Birth to Five Years
Hong Chen

Master of Teaching Early Childhood
Thi Chuc Anh Doan
Lu Xu

Master of Teaching Secondary
Shea Michael Turner

CDU Alumni Awards

Congratulations on your graduation from Charles Darwin University.

Welcome to your alumni network

Distinguished Alumni Award 2025
Recipient: Professor Yalmay Yunupiŋu
Class of 2016 - Bachelor of Teaching and Learning

Gentle, generous and deeply respected, Professor Yalmay Yunupiŋu has dedicated her life to education, language and community across north-east Arnhem Land. Affectionately known as the mother of Yirrkala School, she has spent more than four decades championing bilingual education and preserving Yolŋu language and culture.

Her journey began in the Yirrkala community library, translating Dr Seuss books into Yolŋu Matha to support children learning in both their first language and English. She later became a qualified teacher and, alongside her late husband Dr M. Yunupiŋu of Yothu Yindi, helped establish the bilingual teaching model still used today.

A passionate advocate for language and identity, she has been recognised as a Teacher of Excellence and named an Honorary University Fellow at Charles Darwin University.

Even in retirement, she continues to serve as Chair of the Yirrkala School Council and a board member of local organisations, guiding future leaders. Her lifelong contribution was recognised nationally when she was named Senior Australian of the Year in 2024.

“I just want to teach the world about our language… We want to keep it strong and alive.”



Welcome to your Alumni Network



Congratulations! Now that you've graduated, you have joined the vibrant community of Charles Darwin University Alumni.

You're in great company, joining more than 80,000 other graduates from over 140 countries around the world who gained their qualification through Charles Darwin University.

Your connection with CDU doesn't end at the completion of your study. As a graduate, we are here to support you throughout your career journey. Your knowledge, expertise and success can also be shared to help develop others.

Alumni are a huge part of the life and future of Charles Darwin University - on the following pages, you will find some helpful tips to help you stay connected with us.

Congratulations again and welcome to the CDU Alumni Community.

CDU Alumni Team

Your next steps as a CDU Alumni

TIP #1 - Access your benefits

We offer some special benefits for alumni. Here are five of the most popular.

> **Career Development** – Access to the virtual Career Centre 24/7 on the CDU Portal - It is jam packed with resources to help you navigate the next steps of your career.

> **Library Access** – Though you may have finished your formal study at CDU, with an alumni account you will have access to a range of CDU Library's online resources including a growing number of databases, e-journals and e-books. You are also able to borrow physical materials from any of our campus libraries.

> **LinkedIn Learning** – Access over 15,000 courses delivered in 7 languages. With free access to LinkedIn Learning, you can learn a wide range of new skills, anywhere and at any time. Learn a new language, how to build a website or app, become an expert user of Microsoft Office, learn how to play a musical instrument, or improve your leadership skills - The choices are endless.

> **Chinese Language** – Master the most widely spoken language in the world with a 40% discount on courses offered by the CDU Confucius Institute.

> **CDU Alumni Postgraduate Discount** – A CDU alumni can receive a 10% discount on tuition fees for eligible full-fee postgraduate courses. Continue your lifelong learning with CDU to progress your career or follow a new passion.

Find out more at: cdu.edu.au/alumni



Tip #2 - Details matter

Keep your details up to date so we can keep you informed – There are so many valuable opportunities to be accessed through your university, you don't want to miss out!

The Alumni Portal is a convenient way to update us when you move, get a promotion, or want to adjust your communication preferences.

Update your details at: cdu.edu.au/alumni



TIP #3 - Share your story

Inspire current and future students by creating a short profile about yourself and where your qualification has taken you. Our alumni come from different backgrounds and choose many pathways to success and fulfilment – your story might be the one that inspires someone to come to university, finish their studies successfully, or find their perfect career.

Submit your story at: cdu.edu.au/alumni



TIP #4 - Volunteer or work here

Everyone has something to contribute – our alumni bring a unique and valuable perspective to our teaching, learning and operational activities.

Here are some ways you can help:

> By mentoring a student or fellow alumni
> By participating in surveys and sitting on review panels
> By volunteering your knowledge as an academic guest speaker or lab supervisor
> By sharing your experience at a domestic or international recruitment event
> By considering sessional staff opportunities or a career with CDU



TIP #5 - Giving back or paying it forward

Are you passionate about education, research and innovation, or did you benefit from the generosity of others during your studies? Consider a gift to reward outstanding scholars, support a student scholarship or research project, or contribute to the development of resources at the university.

Find out more at: cdu.edu.au/alumni-giving

TIP #6 - Nominate for the Alumni Awards

The Charles Darwin University Alumni Awards program has been designed to showcase the best and brightest graduates who have become trailblazers and leaders, demonstrating excellence throughout their careers, and building on the foundation provided by CDU.

The CDU Alumni Awards celebrate the successes of our graduates and provide an opportunity to recognise their contributions to society. Award winners are individuals who have demonstrated exceptional leadership, innovation, and service in their respective fields.

Keep your eye on our LinkedIn page for nominations, key dates, and other announcements about the Alumni Awards!

TIP #7 - Use your power

Could current CDU students help contribute to your workplace success? Consider the staffing needs of your workplace and industry and develop capacity or address short-term peak workloads by offering internships, work experience, or by employing a fellow graduate.

TIP #8 - Be proud and stay social

CDU is identified by Times Higher Education as one of an elite global group of 'rising stars' – a new generation of challenger universities quickly rising in world rankings, something that we are very proud of. Show your pride by adding your qualification and where you studied to your LinkedIn profile and help promote CDU to the next generation of students.

Stay connected by following us on LinkedIn and Facebook for updates on alumni news and University happenings. You can also join our CDU Alumni LinkedIn group to engage with peers and encourage fellow alumni to do the same!

linkedin.com/company/cdualumni
linkedin.com/groups/6614367

Make the most of your alumni community

Maintaining your connection to CDU brings so many opportunities – You have so much to contribute for the betterment of the University and our students.

In return, you will benefit from:

> Exclusive access to opportunities which make an impact to teaching and learning in your industry
> The development of rewarding professional and personal connections
> The ability to contribute to leading research and knowledge development
> Having a positive impact on future generations through the power of education

How you choose to be involved is up to you, and there are too many opportunities to list. If you would like to explore more options, or would like to suggest your own ideas of how you would like to be involved, we would love to hear from you.

Alumni and Giving
Community Connections
Tel: +61 8 8946 6917
Email: alumni@cdu.edu.au
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/cdualumni

Autographs



Congratulations Graduates

Charles Darwin University Bookshop congratulates you on your achievement!

To remember your time
with Charles Darwin University,
all graduands are eligible for 10% off
Graduation merchandise purchased online.
Apply the code GRADS26 at checkout
to redeem your discount.*



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