

NTU's new Dean an old friend of Darwin

The old Darwin Hospital's first Aboriginal graduate is coming home to teach at the Northern Territory University.

Dr Mary Ann Bin-Sallik has replaced Associate Professor Isaac Brown as Dean of the Faculty of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, and Aboriginal Studies Ranger Chair.

Dr Bin-Sallik, 60, said it felt great to be home after working in Adelaide for the past 27 years.

She said: "I used to come home quite often and Isaac is a close personal friend. We grew up together and I always maintained my contact with the Territory.

Aims

"I'll be in charge of the faculty ... making sure the courses are up to date and promoting research.

"One of our major aims is to get research degree students, particularly PhD.

"The field is still relatively new and at the exciting stage."

Dr Bin-Sallik received her Masters in Education and Doctorate in Education from Harvard University in the US, and was the first Aborigine to be employed in Australia's higher education sector.

She was the Dean of the College of Indigenous Education and Research at the University of South Australia, and was awarded the Flinders University Chancellor's Medal in 1994.



Dr Bin-Sallik ... 'the field is still relatively new and at the exciting stage'. Picture: PATRINA MALONE