



Chancellor,

I have the honour of presenting to you Mr Franck Gohier, who Council has determined should be awarded the honorary title of Companion of the University.

Mr Gohier emigrated to Australia from France with his family in 1972, arriving in Darwin in 1975.

He graduated from the Northern Territory University (NTU) in 1992 with a Bachelor of Arts (Fine Arts). Mr Gohier is a multi-media artist specialising in printmaking, painting and sculpting, who has dedicated his art to the experiences of living within the rich and dynamic context of Northern Australia. He has developed a satirical, thought provoking style that is very distinctively his and reflective of his place in the tropics. His work is now held, and has been exhibited, locally, nationally and internationally.

Since graduating from this University, Mr Gohier has become one of the most influential, prolific and generous artists in the Northern Territory. He is one of the most significant donors of original art to the Charles Darwin University Art Collection and his work now forms a significant and distinctive cultural collection within the University's art holdings.

Mr Gohier has been a regular exhibitor and provider of workshops at Charles Darwin University over many years and helped to establish the Aboriginal printmaking workshop at this University, which later became the Northern Editions Printmaking Studio and Gallery. He has held formal teaching roles with the Northern Territory University, Batchelor Institute and Casuarina Senior College.

Equally if not more importantly than his own art, Mr Gohier has been tireless in his advocacy of the value of art in society. He was an original instigator of the establishment of art programs for prison inmates in the Northern Territory in the late 1990s, which continue today and are an important part of prisoner rehabilitation. He has provided free tuition and support to many Aboriginal communities to develop and produce limited edition prints that enabled artists to learn a skill and earn an income.

Today, in recognition of Mr Franck Gohier's role as an educational leader in the fine arts in the Northern Territory, and for his very long standing connection to, collaboration with and contribution to fine art education and development at this University, Mr Gohier is awarded the honorary title of Companion of the University.

Chancellor,

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