



2022

# Donor Impact Report



**CHARLES  
DARWIN  
UNIVERSITY**  
AUSTRALIA

# Acknowledgement of Country and recognition of Australian First Nations traditional owners and cultures

Charles Darwin University acknowledges and respects the many Australian First Nations traditional custodians of the lands upon which our campuses and centres are located.

We acknowledge and pay our respect to the Larrakia who are the traditional custodians of the lands upon which our Darwin Casuarina, Waterfront and Palmerston campuses are located.

We acknowledge and pay our respect to the Arrernte who are the traditional custodians of the lands upon which our Alice Springs campus is located.

We acknowledge and pay our respect to the Jawoyn, Wardaman and Dagomon who are the traditional custodians of the lands upon which our Katherine campuses are located.

Front cover image: A Yolngu child at Garma, Australia's largest Indigenous cultural gathering, in Arnhem Land. Photo taken by Melanie Faith Dove.



We acknowledge and pay our respect to the Gadigal who are the traditional custodians of the lands upon which our Sydney campus is located.

We acknowledge and pay our respect to the Turrbal and Yuggera who are the traditional custodians of the lands upon which our Brisbane centre is located.

We acknowledge and pay our respect to the Woiworung who are the traditional custodians of the lands upon which our Melbourne centre is located.

We acknowledge and pay our respect to the Kaurna who are the traditional custodians of the lands upon which our Adelaide centre is located.

We acknowledge and pay our respect to the Whadjuk who are the traditional custodians of the lands upon which our Perth centre is located.

We acknowledge and pay our respect to the Kundjey'mi who are the traditional custodians of the lands upon which our Jabiru centre is located.

We acknowledge and pay our respect to the Warumungu who are the traditional custodians of the lands upon which our Tennant Creek centre is located.

We also acknowledge and pay our respect to the Kungarakana (Batchelor and Adelaide River), the Yolngu (northeast Arnhem Land) and the Tiwi (Tiwi Islands).

We acknowledge Australian First Nations peoples' long tradition of sustaining their communities and environments over thousands of years. They are the first educators and first innovators.

They are the holders of knowledge that makes an important contribution to the improvement of our local, national and global communities.

We extend our respect to Elders - past, present, and emerging - and to all First Nations people.







Image source: Shutterstock

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## From the Vice-Chancellor

Charles Darwin University (CDU) is deeply connected to the community surrounding it: working in partnership and collaboration with First Nations peoples, our communities and industries, government, and alumni, as we are the only University for and of the Northern Territory. I knew from my very first day, over 18 months ago, that I am fortunate to be working for a unique university with truly amazing supporters.

We are genuine in our commitment to connect to make a difference which is deeply linked to our vision of becoming Australia's most connected university by being courageous and making a difference in the Northern Territory, Australia and beyond. Our core university values as outlined in our Strategic Plan 2021-2026 of courage, kindness, openness, innovation, and leadership are reflected in the way we establish connections within and outside the university.

Our connections will help us realise the mutual benefits of learning, undertaking research and working together to ensure our communities continue to grow and prosper. Connections are the most important tool we have and will allow

the university to meet the evolving tertiary education and research needs of the communities we serve.

As the year ends, I am pleased to present the 2022 Donor Impact Report highlighting the valuable and enduring contribution our donors have made to this University. It is a reminder that there is no group of people more connected and more committed to the university than those who financially support it.

CDU has faced many challenges in the past, but none quite so wide-ranging or unforeseen as the global COVID-19 pandemic. We may feel the effect of the pandemic for years to come yet knowing that we have a community that deeply cares for and supports our students when they are most vulnerable is inspiring.

The current uncertainty of the global political and economic landscape, and climate change related severe weather events highlight that new research to counter these impacts is needed now more than ever. I encourage you to continue supporting CDU as it navigates its way through the ever-changing landscape of tertiary education provision in these challenging times.

You have donated generously to give our students the opportunity to improve their lives and careers through education. You have supported CDU research and innovation that will make lasting generational change. You have given back to our community when they were in need, and you have made our society stronger and our culture richer by doing so.



*I am truly inspired by your generosity.*

In these pages, we recognise those whose contributions are creating the CDU of tomorrow, and we share some unique stories of giving that have significantly helped CDU reach its goals.

On behalf of everyone at Charles Darwin University, thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Scott Bowman'.

**Professor Scott Bowman AO**  
Vice-Chancellor and President

# Donor-funded scholarships

- › Akron Group NT Scholarship
- › Alicia Johnson Memorial Scholarship
- › ASPL Group First Nations Female Scholarship
- › Atomic 212° First Nations Media Services Scholarship
- › Atomic 212° First Nations Nursing Scholarship
- › Barbara Singer Environmental Studies Scholarship
- › Carbine Club Sports Scholarship
- › Charles See Kee Leadership Scholarship
- › Clarita Solutions Scholarship
- › Connellan Airways Trust Outback Scholarship
- › CSIRO Indigenous Scholarship
- › Cycas Scholarship
- › Darwin International Airport First Nations Scholarship
- › Darwin International Airport Scholarship
- › Darwin Skills Development Scheme Community and Health Services Scholarship
- › DDR Australia First Nations Scholarship
- › Department of Attorney-General & Justice Work Integrated Learning Scholarship
- › Department of Corporate and Digital Development Scholarship
- › Department of Education - Early Childhood Education Scholarship
- › Department of Education Early Years Rewarding Careers: Alice Springs VET Scholarship Program
- › Department of Education Work Integrated Learning Scholarship
- › Department of Infrastructure Planning and Logistics Engineering WIL Scholarships
- › Department of Territory Families Housing and Communities Work Integrated Learning Scholarship
- › Edgar Dunis Arts Scholarship - Higher Education
- › Edgar Dunis Arts Scholarship – VET
- › Flynn Family Fund Scholarship
- › Garth and Lorna Robertson Scholarship
- › George Brown Memorial Scholarship
- › GHD Indigenous Scholarship
- › HWL Ebsworth Scholarship
- › INPEX Scholarship
- › International House Darwin Academic Scholarship
- › International House Darwin Community Scholarship



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- › Joel Bradley Shaw Memorial Scholarship
  - › Luma Luma Holiday Apartments Scholarship
  - › Majarlin Kimberly Centre for Remote Health Scholarship
  - › Maxwell Carment Scholarship in Humanities and Social Sciences
  - › Mediserve Nursing Scholarship
  - › Minister for Women's Scholarships - Higher Education
  - › Minister for Women's Scholarships - Non-traditional Trades
  - › Minister for Women's Scholarships – SITE
  - › Minister for Women's Scholarships - VET
  - › Morningstar Scholarship
  - › National Association for Women in Construction NT VET Scholarship
  - › National Tertiary Education Union Scholarship
  - › NBC Consultants Yolngu Scholarship
  - › NEC and Cisco Networking Scholarship
  - › NEC Information Technology Scholarship
  - › NEC Regional Information Technology Scholarship
  - › Newmont Australia ASP Community Scholarship
  - › Newmont Australia ASP Pathways Scholarship
  - › Newmont Australia First Nations Scholarship
  - › Newmont Australia Scholarship
  - › Nhulunbuy Corporation Scholarship
  - › NT IT Scholarship for New Learning
  - › Power and Water Corporation Scholarship (in memory of Trevor Horman)
  - › Radical Systems IT Scholarship
  - › Sabaratnam Prathapan Scholarship
  - › Sabrina J Di Lembo Memorial Scholarship
  - › Sandy Nairn Memorial Scholarship
  - › Santos Scholarship
  - › Top End Freemasons Scholarship (in memory of Tom Usher)
  - › Top End Native Plant Society Scholarship
  - › Vocus Communication Scholarship

# Scholarships established in 2022

In 2022, with the help of our generous donors, CDU was able to establish 11 new scholarships, which have committed to supporting an additional 65+ students - a significant achievement for a smaller regional Australian university like ours. The new opportunities available to our students for the first time this year were:

**ASPL Group First Nations  
Female Scholarship**

**Atomic 212° First Nations  
Media Services Scholarship**

**Atomic 212° First Nations  
Nursing Scholarship**

**Cycas Scholarship**

**Darwin International Airport  
First Nations Scholarship**

**DDR Australia First Nations  
Scholarship**

**Joel Bradley Shaw Memorial  
Scholarship**

**Morning Star Scholarship**

**National Association for  
Women in Construction NT  
VET Scholarship**

**Sabaratnam Prathapan  
Scholarship**

**Santos Scholarship**







### **MORNING STAR SCHOLARSHIP - \$2500 PER RECIPIENT**

**This scholarship was established by a donor who remains very close to CDU.**

Our own Janie Mason AM was an advocate for the establishment of the Northern Territory University that preceded CDU and continues to be the curator of CDU's iconic Nursing Museum that showcases the Northern Territory's rich nursing history. The scholarship supports First Nations Students in Vocational Education Training courses at CDU to achieve their education and career goals. The scholarship was named the *Morning Star* because this star (Venus) is considered significant for many indigenous people including First Nations Australians. The morning star is also at the top of the CDU logo, above the desert rose symbol.

### **ASPL GROUP FIRST NATIONS FEMALE SCHOLARSHIP - \$5000 PER RECIPIENT**

**ASPL Group is a management consultancy, training and recruitment firm focused on aligning people, processes, and systems.**

It has operated across the private and public sectors in Australia and Asia Pacific for the past 15 years and has recently announced the ASPL #WeLead campaign which aims to amplify women and celebrate their achievements. This scholarship supports First Nations Women who aspire to reach exceptional heights enrolled in both Higher Education and Vocational Educational Training courses. The scholarship also includes mentorship opportunities and paid ASPL work placements during semester breaks.



### **CYCAS SCHOLARSHIP - \$15000 PER RECIPIENT**

**This scholarship was established by two of CDU's own Alumni and confirmed Bequestors, who wish to maintain their anonymity.**

The scholarship supports two Ph.D. and Masters by Research students each year, indefinitely. The scholarship recipients are researchers working in topics relating to the natural environment with a special focus on plants.



# Nurturing a promising career in Paramedicine

Connellan Airways Trust (CAT) is a Territorian organisation supporting people in isolated, rural, and remote locations enabling the advancement of Outback Australian people for over 40 years. The CAT Scholarship reduces workforce skills gaps by providing financial support to remote Northern Territory residents enrolled at Charles Darwin University.

Jamie Robson has the distinction of being the winner of the CAT scholarship for two years in 2021 and 2022 and is enrolled in a Bachelor of Paramedicine at CDU. Financial assistance provided by this scholarship has afforded him the ability to better focus on his studies and obtain excellent grades. He completed his first year of study with high distinction awards despite the added pressure of 2021 Covid-19 lockdowns that affected travel to Darwin from regional Australia for attending face-to-face learning sessions.

*“As with last year, the scholarship from Connellan Airways Trust will be used to help pay the exorbitant airfare costs of flying the 600kms from Groote Eylandt to Darwin for my arranged month-long clinical placements with St John Ambulance NT and help towards the cost of accommodation,”* he explained.

Image source: Shutterstock



In 2022, Jamie moved to Alyangula in the Gulf of Carpentaria on Groote Eylandt – a small island off mainland Northern Territory. His partner, a remote area nurse, was permanently redeployed here to fill vacancies within the NT Government's Department of Health. Since relocating, Jamie has worked as a Covid-19 rapid antigen tester as part of the pandemic response in the Angurugu and Bickerton Island communities. It has been a stressful time made extra challenging by having to wear full personal protective equipment in the Top End humidity! But he loves the opportunity to help remote nurses with evolving tasks that COVID-19 has added to already heavy workloads.

*"It's taught me a lot about sustainability with both mental and physical stresses that comes from healthcare not only within a remote context but compounded with the additional tasks, tensions and anxieties amplified by the pandemic," he said.*

These experiences will be hugely beneficial to his CDU studies in Paramedicine and his long-term aspiration of becoming a paramedic. Balancing fulltime study with this intense job role is challenging but Jamie is passionate about his intended career path and completing his degree. The combined experience of working and studying has empowered him and given him valuable insights that he hopes to carry into a rewarding career in paramedicine. Doing all this without the financial security provided by the CAT scholarship would have been extremely difficult especially as he is still obtaining his Australian citizenship. So, he pays his university tuition fees upfront before each semester without the benefit of the domestic students' Higher Education Contribution Scheme. He is very grateful for the support provided by this scholarship for two years in a row.



*"I will endeavour to absorb all I possibly can over the next year in both the back of an emergency ambulance in Darwin and in a remote primary health clinic in Angurugu to better shape my future paramedic knowledge and experiences."*

Jamie and partner are currently moving back to Darwin as their remote contracts are finished. Being closer to the university for placements and practical course components, especially for a degree like paramedicine where practical skills are vital, prompted them to take this step for his final year of study in 2023. He encourages other students to apply for this scholarship so they too can study towards a degree while still managing to work and live in remote NT locations.



# Realising a dream to study in Australia

Lorna and Garth Robertson married in 1943 and relocated from Sydney to Darwin in 1992 for the climate. They were community-minded, volunteered regularly and advocated for social justice and equality regardless of age, religion, race, or culture.

Lorna left Sydney Girls High School at 15 but was passionate about equal access to education. She returned to study more than 60 years later at CDU, earning impressive marks towards a bachelor's degree in Social Sciences. Both felt strongly about leaving a legacy to help others, especially international students at CDU—"The University of the Northern Territory".

Garth died in 1997 and Lorna in 2010. The Garth and Lorna Robertson Scholarship in Social Sciences benefits students who are challenged by disadvantage but wish to give back to their community by studying Social Sciences. It was Lorna's wish to leave a bequest to CDU, but her last Will and Testament was ruled invalid. Her estate was left to her grandsons Tom and David who donated the funds for this memorial scholarship to honour their grandmother's wishes. In 2016, Tom and David's father Roger donated an additional \$25,000 because they were so impressed by the calibre of students taking up this scholarship and, their educational and career aspirations matched the concept on which the family had established the scholarship.

*"She had a strong interest in helping international students, especially females, achieve their educational needs in Australia as she did not complete her secondary education. She took foreign students in for a nominal rent while living in Sydney. When she came to Darwin, she noticed international students facing the same problems there and she wanted to establish this scholarship to help them," explained Lorna's son Rodger Robertson.*



Vaishali Rathore holds this scholarship and is enrolled in a CDU Master of Social Work degree. She arrived in Darwin in January 2022 and previously resided in New Delhi, India where she completed a Bachelor's in Political Science and worked for seven years as a psychotherapist between Mumbai and Delhi.

*"I thank you immensely for sponsoring my tuition this year. It is not only a huge support but also a great honour to be associated with the legacy of Mrs. and Mr. Robertson. I am so inspired by the wonderful community development work they have dedicated their lives to, and with this scholarship I feel like their blessings and guidance are already with me as I embark on the journey of becoming a social worker. In India, education and the teacher are two people we are forever indebted to, and in this case, your family is in a Guru's role for me, guiding me in my journey of learning," she said.*

Vaishali lost her father two years ago. She is the first generation in her family to study abroad. For many years, her mother's schoolteacher income supported four family members, two of whom were not established and one with severe medical needs. There were many times when she thought that she should settle for something lesser to support her family.

*"I always dreamt of an international career in social sciences but upon seeing that the fee was more than the total amount my family could use to afford a house, I gave up on that dream. Through a lot of sweat and toil, after becoming financially independent and believing in my dream to be of social service, I finally reached CDU."*

Studying social work allows her to expand her knowledge beyond clinical practice to community work. While working in India, she observed that many clients were survivors of abuse and intergenerational trauma that cuts across systems and affected their life experience. CDU's social work curriculum has been eye-opening and helped her to unlearn previously unchallenged assumptions about herself and others. She is keen to take up a career in family support work, especially with women, men and children who come from marginalised and Indigenous groups. Vaishali was also selected as a 2022 Northern Territory Student Ambassador enabling her to network with local leaders and promote NT as a study destination to other international students. To her scholarship donors she says:

*"Namaste (The divine in me bows to the divine in you)."*







# Empowering the Territory's future women leaders

The Minister for Women's Scholarship in Higher Education (HE) funded by the Northern Territory Government's Office of Gender Equity and Diversity enables promising female students to achieve their higher education goals. It is one of four provided by this office to CDU – the others being for higher education and vocational education training courses.

Jillian Wong is the 2022 recipient of the Minister for Women's Scholarship in HE and Territory born and bred. She is enrolled in a Bachelor of Clinical Sciences at CDU and plans to enrol in a Doctor of Medicine after completing her first degree. She graduated from Darwin High School at 16 with the impressive accolade of being one of the youngest Top 20 Northern Territory Certificate of Education and Training graduates in 2021. In her last year of high school, she was diagnosed with a medical condition that impaired her physically and mentally. Displaying remarkable resilience, she studied hard during her final school year despite every day being “a daily struggle with a balance of school, work and health”. She is still recovering from and learning to cope with her condition. Her mother's wise words are her inspiration:

*“You were given this life because you are strong enough to live it. Life is a learning journey. Never stop learning because life never stops teaching!”*

Since middle school, she has also worked as a dental assistant at Darwin Orthodontics and volunteered for St Vincent de Paul Society, Jingili Primary School Science Expo, the Cancer Council, the Chung Wah Society and participated in sporting teams like Darwin Sapphires Cheerleading and That's Dancing Darwin.

These experiences shaped the person she is today and were a catalyst for helping her develop a love for spreading kindness and positivity in other people's lives.

Studying for a clinical sciences degree is expensive. She is deeply grateful for the financial support this scholarship provides so she can start working six years from now without an excessive burden of student loan debt to repay. The Northern Territory Medical Program that Jillian has begun is known to have a full-time demanding study load that makes it difficult to both study and work. This scholarship gives her the freedom to fully concentrate on her studies without worrying about financial constraints.

*“Being born and bred in an Asian culture here in Darwin, I appreciate the saying of the following Chinese Proverb, ‘Yin-shui-si-yuan,’ which means ‘when you drink water, remember its source.’ I was taught since I was young to be grateful for my blessings and to remember the hand that had fed me. Therefore, I was brought up to believe that I cannot ethically forget those who have helped me throughout my life,”* she explained.

This gratitude extends back to her closest female relatives – her mother, sister, grandmother who Jillian calls “PoPo” and great grandmother. Her grandmother did not have the opportunity to complete her



education. Jillian feels very lucky to live in Australia where gender equality is considered important and is proud to have been chosen by the Office of Gender Equity and Diversity as a scholarship recipient.

*"This scholarship means the world to me as it acts as a key motivator and reminder that someone in this world believes that I am worth it and believes that I can do it even when no one, including myself, believes in me. I feel incredibly privileged to be awarded this scholarship that will make a significant difference not just in my academic life as it would also signify a woman's progressive achievement."*

Jillian chose a medical education and career pathway for several reasons, but one main reason was because she wanted to "add a little sunshine to every day" for others, promote positivity and inspire others. Her ultimate aim is to complete surgical training to be able to contribute to the NT's health system. Eventually she would like to qualify as a cardiothoracic surgeon, a stimulating and challenging medical field in high demand for surgeons. Surgery is often a male-dominated medical specialisation, but this further motivates her to "go against the odds and rise to the challenge to change the workforce balance, even if it is a small change".









# A desire to advocate for the Northern Territory's most vulnerable

The NBC Consultants Yolngu scholarship provides financial support to Indigenous students who have shown determination towards their study, as well as improving their career prospects. It gives recipients an incentive to strive and achieve excellence in their studies.

NBC Consultants is a Darwin-based building design, project management and community planning consultancy. The company believes it's important to give to CDU in this way because it recognises that one of the most important areas for helping indigenous people is for them to get a good education and they also recognise that while CDU is a young university, it is the highest place of learning in the Northern Territory. "So, we are supporting indigenous people and CDU. We also believe that the university has a significant role in our community and wish to support that," said NBC Consultants' CEO Samir Raut.

Priscilla Smith is a proud Aboriginal woman living in Darwin and the current recipient of this scholarship. She is undertaking a Bachelor of Social Work degree at CDU. She feels very honoured to have been selected as the recipient of this scholarship. Embarking on this study programme is a huge accomplishment for her as the first person in her family to pursue higher education.

*"It will allow me to continue my Bachelor of Social work degree as a fourth-year student at Charles Darwin University. This also means I will be able to begin my student placement in July and maintain my family obligations, as I am the primary carer of my four children, ages ranging from 1 to 11 years."*

She chose to study social work because she is keen to work with Aboriginal communities to restore equality, advocate for society's most vulnerable populations and promote self-advocacy. After completing her degree Priscilla plans to work for Territory Families or an organisation with similar aims and aspirations.

*"I want to focus my work on social issues such as youth in detention, family violence, and child safety and protection. I feel strongly about this because I grew up with difficulties myself and can understand from my own experience how individuals can be impacted by unsafe environments, often exposed to alcohol, violence, and addiction."*

A Yolngu child looking up to fellow dancers at Garma, Australia's largest Indigenous cultural gathering, in Arnhem Land. Photo taken by Melanie Faith Dove.





## Enabling a legal eagle to soar high

The Top End Freemasons' Scholarship was first established to provide financial assistance to students from the Nhulunbuy or Katherine regions when undertaking study through Charles Darwin University. Freemasons support both self-development and the betterment of society, and this scholarship gives recipients the opportunity to realise their potential through study at the university.





It was established by the Top End Freemasons' Society in memory of one of their members - Tom Usher. Tom was a distinguished Freemason who as both a citizen and a member of the NT Police Force served the communities of the NT across its length and breadth. He had a passion for life, his humour was renowned, and he was a warm-hearted, generous, and trustworthy man. Having initially trained as a teacher, he maintained his interest in education and was a keen supporter of the Police, Youth and Citizens' Association.

*"Charity is at the heart of Freemasonry, and the Freemasons Foundation and Masonic Charities support numerous projects in the Northern Territory and South Australia to the tune of several million dollars per year. Education is particularly valued as Freemasons consider it to cultivate our minds and render us better members of society,"* explained Top End Freemasons' representative Colin Hallenstein.

Zarah Ramoso was the recipient of this scholarship in 2021. She comes from the small town of Taal in the Philippines and moved to Australia in 2013 with her family. Zara is married and has two young children. She started her CDU law degree in 2017 when her eldest was only one and graduated at the end of 2021 with a Bachelor of Laws (Honours).

She now works at the Office of the Ombudsman NT in the privacy and freedom of information space. "It's not a law practitioner role but it's still a heavily legislated space with a lot of legal interpretation involved," she explained. Previously, Zarah worked at the Menzies School of Health Research, Darwin as a paralegal while completing her law degree. This role included assisting the school's academics in the establishment of the Freemasons Centre for Male Health and Wellbeing in the NT. In 2019 and 2020,

she also undertook internships with the HWLE Lawyers Darwin where she assisted the litigation team on several complex matters. She also assisted in the reestablishment of the CDU Law Students' Society as its Treasurer and Vice-President from 2018-2020. Zarah has also won other highly prestigious scholarships such as the New Colombo Plan Scholarship.

*"I definitely encourage other CDU students to apply for the Top End Freemasons' scholarship. In addition to the financial assistance, it's really good for your resume. Employers view you as a high achieving student and winning scholarships like this one is highly regarded in a very competitive recruitment process as employers see your leadership potential."*

The Top End Freemasons' Scholarship is supported by the Masonic Foundation, which is the charitable arm of the Freemasons of South Australia & the Northern Territory and has a proud history of actively working in the community. As well as providing much needed charitable assistance, the Foundation underwrites medical research and scholarships for education and personal development. In addition to the Top End Freemasons' Scholarship in memory of Tom Usher, Darwin Freemasons, with support of Masonic Charities, recently donated a people moving vehicle to Total Recreation NT, an organisation which provides activities in the Territory for young disabled persons.





CDU has more than  
**80,000 Alumni**  
living and working  
in Australia and  
internationally.



Our alumni span  
over **140 countries**  
worldwide.



CDU engages with  
nearly **30,000 alumni**  
each month.

## Alumni giving back to CDU and the Territory through their company

NEC is the largest Information and Communications Technology (ICT) employer in the Northern Territory. A global company, NEC has delivered world-class technology solutions and services to customers across the globe for more than a century and operated for over 50 years in Australia.





It has a century-long history of innovation. With its cornerstone ideal - "Orchestrating a brighter world" - NEC integrates technologies, expertise, and ideas from around the world including the Northern Territory.

*"We are the largest commercial ICT employer in the NT, and we see part of our role to give back to the community. As CDU Alumni we understand the importance of skills and capacity building as these are key competitive factors for both individuals and the ICT industry both for the NT and beyond and our work with CDU focuses on giving students a chance to build skills and experience,"* explained NEC Regional Manager and CDU alumni Damien Charles.

NEC supports CDU ICT students via several scholarships and awards namely, the NEC Information Technology Scholarship, NEC & CSIRO Networking Scholarship, the NEC Regional IT Scholarships, the Dean Caddie Quiet Achiever in ICT Award, the Highest Achieving Female Student in IT Award and student work placement and skills development opportunities. The current value of these awards and opportunities is over \$200,000 and is in addition to the 13 VET trainees each year that NEC employs and pays for all their studies.

The Dean Caddie Award is particularly meaningful to the NEC as it was established in memory of their late colleague and close friend Dean Caddie as Damien explained: "Many of us have worked with Dean over a very long time, some of us have known Dean even longer. For me, I have known Dean as part of our work team, but we were also old teammates playing Gridiron for the University Tigers together 30 years ago. Dean always looked to help others and this award is another way of honouring his memory."

Damien strongly believes that establishing scholarships and awards is a key way to build these

capacities, and an ideal way to connect with CDU and potentially recruit CDU graduates into exciting roles at the NEC. Along with NEC colleague – Jay Jukes – who is a CDU alumnus in VET, Damien regularly attends CDU scholarship ceremonies, regularly speaks with, and presents to students and is involved in the scholarship recipients' selection process. Sponsoring the annual CDU Alumni Awards since 2021 is another way that the NEC contributes to the university and engages with prospective alumni who may be interested in working with them.

Damien graduated from CDU Casuarina campus in 2003 when it was still called the Northern Territory University (NTU) with a Bachelor of Computer Systems Management. This qualification had excellent transferrable skills that later helped him to secure his current role as the Regional Manager for NEC NT. Previously, Damien commenced a Bachelor of Arts in the mid-1990s at the NTU's Myilly Point campus. So, he has a long association with CDU and has seen it transition from NTU to CDU. He worked throughout his studies and the university and the companies he worked for provided him with the flexibility to manage his studies and work simultaneously. He is now an innovative and respected leader in the local and regional ICT community as the Australian Computer Society NT Chair and the CDU Liaison for the ICT Industry Association of the NT and is heavily involved with CDU's IT Code Fair each year.

Jay Jukes, Service Director IT Solutions for the NEC did a Certificate IV in Information Technology at CDU as part of a traineeship with the Northern Territory Government in 1998. "The studies set the foundation for my ongoing personal development that has helped me build a career spanning nearly 25 years in the local NT ICT industry," he said.

# Supporting innovative research on Darwin Harbour

The Ian Potter Foundation awards grants nationally to support charitable organisations working to benefit the community across a wide range of sectors and endeavours.

Professor Karen Gibb from CDU's Research Institute for the Environment and Livelihoods was awarded \$125,000 from the Foundation to support and manage the long-term sustainability of Darwin Harbour in 2019. The grant for the project "Towards Integrated Reporting for Darwin Harbour" was announced as the Northern Territory Government released the draft Darwin Harbour Strategy 2019-2024 for comment. \$200,000 was also invested by the Northern Territory Government to support the research team led by Professor Gibb.

In a previous statement, The Ian Potter Foundation Chairman Charles Goode said, "the Foundation is pleased to have contributed funding towards this

collaborative project led by Charles Darwin University that aims to ensure the future sustainability of Darwin Harbour. The co-designed process brought together community groups, business, researchers, and government to jointly identify key indicators to measure the health of the harbour. The report card will be a practical tool to better manage this important natural asset for the benefit of the entire community".

The Darwin Harbour Integrated Report Card was released in 2021 and reveals the ecological, social, indigenous cultural, and economic health of the harbour. The report card provides 12 recommendations for the management of the harbour and aims to reflect the harbour's health on a regular basis. This work was undertaken in partnership and with support from The Ian Potter Foundation, Charles Darwin University, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, NT Government, Griffith University, City of Darwin, Inpex, Santos, Larrakia Development Corporation and Darwinian Consulting.





“We couldn’t have done it without the support of The Ian Potter Foundation,” Professor Gibb explained. “We had a zero-sum base and each time I spoke to the other partners about funding, they predicated that we had to get The Ian Potter funding first.” The competitive application process for The Ian Potter grant was considered an indicator of the high project standard and gave other funders confidence to support this project. Funds provided by The Ian Potter Foundation enabled employing a range of specialists including a senior Larrakia woman, Lorraine Williams, for obtaining traditional knowledge about Darwin Harbour and designers for developing the accompanying website - Darwin Harbour Integrated Report Card ([dhir.org.au](http://dhir.org.au)).

*“The Report Card is all about the community having better insights into the health and sustainability of the harbour so that they can help influence government and key decision-making. Darwin’s a small place. There’s not a lot of ongoing annual data. There are*

*one-off data sets but for something like this you’ve got to have annual data so that you can see change,”* said Professor Gibb.

Ongoing annual report cards that ideally include information on fish biodiversity, traditional Larrakia knowledge on indigenous values and climate change need further funding. Professor Gibb anticipates that the Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee, that she previously chaired, with assistance from the NT Government will be able to secure this support.

*“It’s about more than just water quality. It’s about the community in the harbour and how we feel about this jewel in the crown of where we live.”*

Receiving funding from high-profile philanthropic organisations like The Ian Potter Foundation has a flow on effect. It encourages other funders to also support important and unique Northern Territory research projects and puts the Territory on the radar of key philanthropic organisations.





Since commencement,  
CDyou has raised  
over **\$198,000**



The CDyou program was  
relaunched mid-2022 and  
over the last 12 months,  
we have raised nearly  
**\$44,000**. Most of these  
funds were allocated to  
supporting students through  
scholarships, prizes and  
other programs.



Some of these staff  
donations have also  
supported external charities  
like the **Black Dog Institute**,  
**Foodbank NT** and the  
**No More Campaign**.





# CDyou staff giving in memory of a beloved son

CDyou, the giving program for CDU employees is a simple and effective way for staff to regularly donate pre-tax dollars through automated payroll deductions to support CDU programs or our charity partners. 100% of staff contribution is directed to a cause of your choice and the university matches dollar-for-dollar any staff donation towards internal activities. So, the impact of staff giving in support of internal activities is doubled.

In 2022, via this program, Professor Greg Shaw established the Joel Bradley Shaw Memorial Scholarship to provide financial assistance to support an international student enrolled in Postgraduate studies in the field of Education. This scholarship was established in honour of the memory and accomplishments of his youngest son, Joel Shaw who died seven years ago. Joel was an active, hardworking, and well-known member of local Darwin community.

*“Joel reflected attributes of determination, initiative, hard work, commitment, love, self-sacrifice and caring for others. This scholarship is an opportunity to support an international student undertaking a postgraduate Education qualification who reflects these attributes and demonstrates a commitment to caring for others and their wellbeing,”* Professor Shaw said.

Professor Shaw has had a long and rewarding career at CDU spanning from his appointment as Deputy Vice Chancellor of the Batchelor Institute of Education to his position at retirement as Dean of the College of Education. During his tenure as Dean, the College of Education increased their international student numbers from 20 to over 300 in just three years. He has always been interested in the wellbeing of international students having taught and interacted with these types of students over his long academic career and during stints of overseas work too. When the COVID-19 pandemic began, he was concerned about the impact it had on the wellbeing of CDU’s international students. This prompted him to establish this scholarship before his retirement from CDU: “I was in a leadership role at the university, and I wanted to make a lasting contribution in memory of my son”.

Initially unsure of how he could make a valuable contribution back to the university, the CDyou workplace giving program caught his attention and he felt it was an ideal way to provide an impactful donation. Regarding naming the scholarship, conversations that he had with CDU’s Advancement team made him realise that naming this scholarship after his late son Joel would keep the memory of his son alive in a meaningful way. He hopes that his donation will inspire other CDU staff, especially academics, who have had long and rewarding careers at the university to “contribute a lasting gift too”.



## Keeping Greek language and culture alive in the Territory

Established in 2012, CDU's Guardians of Greek Language and Culture, commonly known as The Greek Guardians, have worked very closely with the Northern Territory's Greek community to secure the university's Greek Language and Culture Program.

Since its inception, the group has raised over \$1.5 million for the development of Australia's best Hellenic and Greek Studies program. The program incorporates opportunities for postgraduate research, exchange programs and, advancing the understanding and appreciation of over 5,000 years of Greek influence on world history and culture.

Since 2021, The Greek Guardians have pledged an additional \$1000 per annum to enable CDU students interested in pursuing studies on Greek language and culture to follow their aspirations. Associate Professor George Frazis leads CDU's Greek Studies program.

Apart from focussing on delivering the best program of this nature in the country, the CDU program also seeks to strengthen community engagement through a range of initiatives that teach not only language but also the essence of the culture and history behind it. Darwin and the wider Northern Territory have a thriving Greek community many of whom are leaders in NT business, politics, and other professions. This makes this community outreach and engagement feasible and a valuable addition to the CDU study program.

As prominent Darwin business leader and Greek Guardian John Halikos explained in a previous CDU





publication, “I was born in Greece, and Australia is my home. Our children can be proud of being both Australian and Greek, and I want to pass on my passion for Greek culture, language and music to everyone”.

**Testimonials by students who participated in the 2018 CDU Greek in-country program:**

*“The 2018 Charles Darwin University in-country language program in Greece was an extremely eye opening and overall amazing experience. During this program we learned an incredible amount about many different aspects including the Greek language, culture and how modern western civilisations have been influenced by the ancient Greeks and including modern architecture and city designs.”*

*“I loved this experience and recommend it to anyone who wants a better understanding of Greece and Hellenism.”*

*“Thank you for the amazing experience, as I have learnt a lot from this trip and met wonderful people. This journey has been perfect and has benefited, improved and opened my eyes to what Greek culture really is, as I would have never done this type of learning.”*

**To get involved in this unique program, please visit:**  
[www.cdu.edu.au/greek-guardians](http://www.cdu.edu.au/greek-guardians)





## Shaping a better CDU with a bequest

For many people adding a charitable gift to their Will is one of the most powerful and enjoyable decisions they make. It allows them to create a legacy that will have a lasting societal impact. Here we share the story of one of our CDU bequestors giving insight into his rich life experience and contribution to the university. Harry Baess, a CDU Alumni, has confirmed his wishes to provide a significant contribution to CDU in his Will in order to establish student scholarships.

*"I want to be remembered by CDU and found CDU to be a very student-friendly university,"* he explained.

Harry has the unique position of being both a CDU Bequestor and a CDU Alumni. After his retirement, he first studied a Bachelor of Social Sciences degree majoring in psychology via Swinburne University and then a Bachelor of Laws remotely via CDU.

"My wife told me I would be wasting my time doing clinical psychology as I was useless in human relations," he said in explanation of his switch from psychology to law studies. He even drove to CDU Casuarina campus in Darwin from Gippsland, Victoria in South Eastern Australia where he resides to do a three week on campus intensive during his law studies. After graduating from CDU, he did one year of legal practice with two law firms in Melbourne





but found the commute from his home in regional Victoria too difficult. “I decided instead to work pro bono for a local community law group as a research and reform lawyer and I hold a volunteer practice certificate,” he said. He has also assisted many acquaintances with various legal matters ranging from the Australian Federal Circuit court to the Magistrates court.

Harry’s farm in Gippsland, that he purchased in a run-down state at the age of 30, is his pride and joy: “I have never worked so hard for so long for so little”. Over the years, he built up this farm with his wife’s help and planted over 12,000 trees on the property. These trees include exotic and native trees like mountain ash, pine, and walnut.

Harry’s father bought him an adjoining four hectares of planted pines as well. After completing a saw-milling course, he bought an unfinished sawmill project and started milling palings and then built a kiln and produced furniture timber which he then sold to furniture producers. So, from the beginnings of a humble rural acreage, Harry managed to establish a lucrative business venture that he ran until his retirement in his 60s.

*“We did very very well financially. I was awarded tree farmer of the year twice, last time in 2010.”*

After his retirement, an unexpected bout of depression prompted Harry to begin the intensive study program mentioned above to challenge and occupy himself. These studies were very rewarding, and he completed most of his coursework sitting on his farm’s dam jetty. The serenity of the landscape with no phone or other interruptions were ideal for focussed studying. After graduating from CDU and completing a law internship in Manila, Philippines, Harry appraised his finances and decided that a bequest to CDU was an ideal way to provide a lasting contribution to the university.

These days, Harry is converting the boat featured here to solar power to travel along the Murray River and indulging in painting when the mood takes him too. He is also building a wind turbine and wants to take his eldest daughter to visit her relations in Germany.

An active lifestyle on his beloved farm is very important to Harry. He hopes that his generous gift to CDU inspires other high-achieving individuals to consider a bequest.





**Certificate of Participation**

Awarded to:

**Christel Van Den Boogaard**

"Improving maternal and child health outcomes and well-being in remote communities through sustained nurse home-visiting"

In recognition of your participation as a PRESENTER in the 2022 CDU Higher Degree by Research Conference "From Research to Real Life Impact"

Office of Research and Innovation  
Charles Darwin University

**Certificate of Participation**

Awarded to:

**Rebecca Smith**

"Exploring the use of observational methods to evaluate cognitive abilities with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Northern Territory"

In recognition of your participation as a PRESENTER in the 2022 CDU Higher Degree by Research Conference "From Research to Real Life Impact"

Office of Research and Innovation  
Charles Darwin University

**Certificate of Participation**

Awarded to:

**Kobi Schutz**

"Improving bronchiectasis education for First Nations populations through a multi-lingual culturally appropriate mobile application (APPY)"

In recognition of your participation as a PRESENTER in the 2022 CDU Higher Degree by Research Conference "From Research to Real Life Impact"

Office of Research and Innovation  
Charles Darwin University

**HDR Presenter**





# Thank You

To all our donors, supporters, mentors, ambassadors, volunteers, champions, influencers, and friends - thank you for supporting Charles Darwin University.

Your generosity and contribution are transforming lives and making an impact across our university, local communities, and broader society.

**There is no CDU, without YOU.**



# Our Donors

In 2022, CDU launched the 'Friends of CDU' program to better steward and acknowledge generous donors who have made cumulative gifts of \$1,000 or more to the University.

The program recognises five levels of giving:

- **Vice Chancellor’s Circle:** \$100,000+ and those leaving CDU a Bequest
- **Patrons:** \$50,000+
- **Companions:** \$25,000+
- **Fellows:** \$10,000+
- **Friends:** \$1,000+

*CDU thanks the generous ‘Friends’ who have supported our University this year.*

## VC’S CIRCLE

### Individuals

- Anonymous x 1
- Harry Baess
- Helmy Bakermans
- Heather Bouden & Jeremy Hemphill
- Sean Buck
- Lee Campbell
- The Carment Family
- Edgar Dunis
- The Flynn Family
- Chris Garden
- Jim Goulding
- Monica Hamilton-Bruce
- Nancy Kingsland & Alison Jackson\*
- David & Robyn Liddle
- Malcolm Nairn
- Janie Mason
- John Rotman
- Charles & Ann Webb

### Organisations

- Australian Computer Society
- City of Darwin
- Department of Corporate and Digital Development
- Department of Education, Skills and Employment
- Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics
- Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities
- Halikos Group
- INPEX Ichthys Pty Ltd
- NEC Australia Pty Ltd
- Newmont Australia
- Northern Territory Department of Education
- Office of Gender Equity and Diversity, Territory Families
- Power and Water Corporation



## PATRONS

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### Individuals

Anonymous x 1  
Austin Asche  
The Carment Family  
Rodger, Tom & David  
Robertson  
Marshall Perron

### Organisations

Airport Development Group  
Department of the  
Attorney-General & Justice  
International House Darwin  
Trawalla Foundation

## COMPANIONS

---

### Individuals

Sabaratnam Prathapan

### Organisations

ATOMIC 212°  
Carbine Club of NT  
Connellan Airways Trust  
Darwin Skills Development  
Scheme Inc.  
Google.Org  
HWL Ebsworth Lawyers  
Kennelly Constructions  
Pty Ltd  
Minter Ellison Lawyers  
National Tertiary Education  
Union, NT  
NBC Consultants  
Radical Systems Pty Ltd  
SAGE Publications Asia-Pacific  
Pte Ltd  
The National Association of  
Women in Construction  
Vocus Group Ltd  
The Yap Family Trust  
(SCS Pty Ltd ATF)

## FELLOWS

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### Individuals

Anonymous x 1  
Sean Bellairs  
Bill Clasquin  
Tanya Davies  
Simon Matthias  
Simon Moss

Stratos & Angelica Poulos  
Gregory Shaw  
Grant Wilson  
George & Annita Frazis

### Organisations

AKRON Group NT  
ASPL Group  
CareFlight NT Operations  
Centro Italiano Assistenza  
Scolastica & Sociale  
Clarita Solutions Pty Ltd  
Darwin Innovation Hub  
Demand Film Ltd  
Department of Environment,  
Parks and Water Security  
Freemasons of the Top End  
GHD Pty Ltd  
Mediserve Nursing Agency  
Nhulunbuy Corporation  
NT-IT Pty Ltd Voice Print IT  
Sabrina's Reach 4 Life  
Santos Ltd  
Top End Native Plant Society  
Wallbridge Gilbert Aztec RFP

## FRIENDS

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### Individuals

Anonymous x 6  
Wendy Asche  
Scott Bowman  
Katie Chapman  
Roger Collins Woolcock

Marina Coorey  
Friso De Boer  
Paolo Fabris  
John Flynn  
Helen Garnett  
Karen Glazbrook  
Luke Gosling  
Patrick Gould  
Nichole Higgins  
Janice Hills  
Shannon Holborn  
Anthony Hornby  
Martin Jarvis  
Tiff Lohs  
Sarah Rose Marris  
Bonita Moss  
Oswald Petrucco  
Angelica Poulos  
David Price  
Brian Reid  
Dominic Upton  
Konstantine Vatskalis  
Lisa Wilkinson

### Organisations

Area9 IT Solutions  
Australian Linguistic Society  
Charles Darwin University  
(Matched Giving)  
Darwin Olympic Sporting Club  
Inc  
Darwin Private Hospital  
Pty Ltd  
DDR Australia  
Dialog Information  
Technology  
Environment Institute of  
Australia and New Zealand  
Humpty Doo Barramundi  
Jackadder International  
Jennifer Lorance Consulting  
Pty Ltd

Kinetic IT  
Moore Moroney Consulting  
Pty Ltd  
Northern Territory Farmers  
Association  
Outback Stores  
Royal Australian Chemical  
Institute NT Branch  
SCP Consulting Pty Ltd  
Solak Pty Ltd  
Steel Reinforcement Institute  
of Australia  
WSP Australia Pty Ltd

*We also thank  
everyone who has  
supported CDU,  
our staff, and our  
wonderful students  
in 2022.*

### Individuals

Anonymous x 21  
Elaine Amboy  
Jane Anderson  
Denyse Bainbridge  
Brogen Barrington  
Andrew Bell  
Lorraine Boehm  
Cassandra Brodie-Wall  
Crystal Brunyee  
Gina Bundle  
Holly Burgoyne  
Carolyn Bursa  
Margaret Carew  
Karen Carroll  
Carol Carroll  
George Chabvonga  
Laura Chiappara-Estevez  
Alison Chin  
Keith Christian

Michael Christie  
Maylin Chuah  
C Coleman  
Kerry Collins  
Angela Corkeron  
Anne Cusick  
Mita Das  
Jenny Davis  
Hudson Delves  
Alice Doyle  
Glory Ebin  
Edwin Edlund  
Mario Faggion  
Laura Fairbrother  
Leah Filley  
Talitha Francis  
Ingrid Freshwater  
Cheryl Galpin  
Murray Garde  
Hayley Germaine  
Sarah Gibson  
Emily Goddard  
Dipesh Gopal  
Catherin Gorman  
Melanie Grant  
Sandra Green  
SaraJo Gylany  
Mohammad Hasan  
Blake Hawke  
Mel Hazard  
Storm Henry  
Megan Hensler  
Chloe Hill  
Anita Hoare  
Robyn Hodge  
Robyn Hopkins  
Cathryn Hoyne

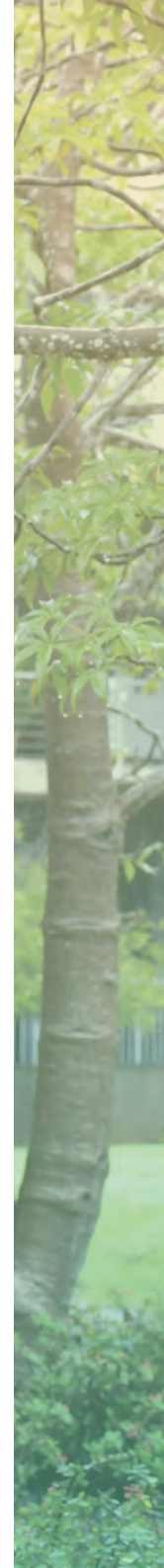
Lorraine Huddle  
Susan Hudson  
Warren Hunt  
Lindsay Hutley  
Erica Izett  
Sam Jacob  
Tanya Jacobs  
Tahlia Johnson  
Jacqueline Kent  
Louise King  
Michael Kitsos  
Don Kollura  
Maria Kraatz  
Sue Kruske  
Sandra Kuo  
Ton Lang  
Mary Laughren  
Eva Lawler  
Gail Lawrence  
Ellin Lede  
Trisha Lee  
Fiona Lee  
Tiff Lohs  
Rebecca Ludgate  
David MacBain  
Susy Macqueen  
Brynn Malon  
Mel Marke  
Rebecca Marrone  
Amanda Martin  
Deepika Mathur  
Olivia May  
Ruttiya McElroy  
Kylie McMartin  
Leonie McNally  
Fiona Mensah  
Peter Millard

Anna Mitchell  
Stephen Morey  
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Julie Neu  
Iris Nguyen  
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Lisa Patamisi  
Tessa Pauling  
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Peta Preo  
Ruth Quinn  
Kathryn Rae  
Zisos Rakkas  
Maria Randazzo  
Giovanna Randazzo  
Patty Ring  
Susannah Ritchie  
Varunika Ruwanpura  
Annette Sackett  
Jan Salmon  
Maria Santich  
Anthony Schuman  
Claudia Sepulveda  
Alastair Shields  
Mary Slaterry  
Megan Smale  
Sue Smith  
Lillian Smith  
Lorraine St Clair  
Dianne Stephens  
Tammy Stephens  
Manon Stoate

Max Stretton  
Katharine Taylor  
Andrew Taylor  
Suresh Thennadil  
Nick Tompson  
Rima Truchanas  
Kaggi Valentine  
Janet Watson  
Brady Watt  
Amy White  
Coral Wilkinson  
Melanie Wilkinson  
Lisa Wilkinson  
Robyn Williams  
Hilary Winchester  
Robyn Woodward-Kron  
Chrystalla Yiannitsaros  
Yvonne Zeegers

### **Organisations**

Australian Association of  
Animal Science  
Inspired NT  
Institute of Engineering and  
Technology (IET)  
SRA Information Technology  
Karen Sheldon Catering  
Institute of Electrical and  
Electronics Engineers









# Staying connected

At Charles Darwin University, we believe a new world university is one built on social justice, sustainability, creativity and collective effort.

A place where everyone can follow their passion to make things better however big or small. We strive for excellence, integrity, accountability, and equal opportunity for all. We value and respect the place, history, and culture of First Nations Australians.

Your support assists the university in bringing people together to use knowledge to help shape a brighter future.

**Your support matters immensely and we thank you.**

## **GIVING ONLINE:**

Support a range of College and University-wide priorities by giving online:

[www.cdu.edu.au/giving](http://www.cdu.edu.au/giving)

## **BEQUESTS:**

Including the university in your Will is a way to provide lasting support for our work and our students beyond your lifetime. If you have included CDU in your Will or are considering if a bequest is appropriate for you, please contact us at:

Email: [giving@cdu.edu.au](mailto:giving@cdu.edu.au)

Phone: +61 8 8946 7501

## **DONATING TO THE UNIVERSITY THROUGH PROGRAMS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

If you are thinking about a more tailored gift that could make an important difference, please contact:

Email: [giving@cdu.edu.au](mailto:giving@cdu.edu.au)

Phone: +61 8 8946 6537





Advancement Office, Charles Darwin University, Northern Territory

Postal address:

Advancement Office, CDU Casuarina Campus, Ellengowan Drive  
Northern Territory, Australia 0810

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