



**2018 Mission Based Compact
Between the Commonwealth of Australia and Charles Darwin University**

PURPOSE

This compact is an agreement between the Commonwealth and the University. Entering into a compact is one of the quality and accountability requirements, which a higher education provider must meet under the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* (HESA) as a condition of receiving a grant. Specifically, subsection 19-110(1) of HESA requires that Table A and Table B providers must, in respect of each year for which a grant is paid to the provider under HESA, enter into a mission-based compact with the Commonwealth for a period that includes that year.

MISSION

CDU is unique, serving a large remote area of the continent with a small and diverse population. We are a multi-campus, dual sector University, the only one based in the Northern Territory. Our dual-sector status, course profile, delivery methods, and operations are necessitated by our commitment to the region in which we operate, which is characterised by a population that is/has:

- Small and below the size required to sustain a University in its own right;
- Geographically dispersed;
- A high proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders;
- A high proportion of residents where English is a second language; and
- A much lower school age tertiary preparedness.

CDU is an integral contributor to the Northern Territory economy, as one of the largest employers. It is also a key contributor to the national aspirations to Develop the North, specifically through our ongoing participation in the development of a Darwin City Deals application.

CDU's Strategic Plan can be found at: <https://www.cdu.edu.au/about/corporate-information>

TEACHING AND LEARNING

CDU recognises that the quality of its teaching and the overall student experience, whether on campus, online or in the workplace, are critical to our ability to impart transformative learning and enable student success. We want our students to emerge as professional and ethical members of society who are adaptable and creative, technically and culturally capable, and committed to the sustainability of our world.

In 2018 CDU will establish a new higher education academic structure, to create a structure that will enable the University to deliver on our strategic imperative to be a provider of transformative skills and learning. This includes the creation of two new Pro-Vice Chancellor portfolios, one in Education Strategy, and the other aligned to Student Engagement and Success. CDU will recruit into these positions in 2018, and in the latter half of the year formulate the strategic pillar roadmaps to move forward with a new teaching and learning strategy in 2019.

RESEARCH AND RESEARCH TRAINING AND INNOVATION

CDU has achieved impressive world class rankings due in large part to its research intensity, knowledge transfer and international outlook. CDU is recognised domestically and internationally as having research strengths in the areas of:

- Indigenous and tropical health,
- Environment and natural resource management, and

- Social and public policy, contemporary Indigenous affairs, knowledge and governance; demography and growth planning, and regional economic and workforce development; specifically, within the context our region.

CDU recognises that further enhancing our major areas of research strength is a high priority if we are to build on this existing base to continue to improve our research performance. In 2018 a new roadmap outlining how CDU will deliver on its strategic imperative to be a successful research-intensive university will be developed, for implementation in the latter half of 2018 and into 2019.

EQUITY

In meeting the challenge of becoming the University of Choice for Indigenous students and staff, CDIJ will build on its strong ties to Indigenous communities to lead national change in Indigenous tertiary education and achieve successful Indigenous outcomes by developing best practice in access, education and support, recruitment practices and professional development of staff. The embedding of Indigenous perspectives in learning and teaching practice is essential for parity to be achieved.

An important part of CDUs Indigenous education engagement is the partnership with the Bachelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education (BIITE) under the auspices of the Australian Centre for Indigenous Knowledges and Education (ACIKE).

In 2018 a strategic pillar plan will be developed to map out how CDU will be globally recognised for Indigenous leadership.

In addition to this, the Education, Student Engagement & Success strategies being developed in 2018 will also focus strongly on delivering improved student equity access and participation opportunities, along with improved outcomes for the target equity groups of our region.

SIGNED for and on behalf of

In the presence of:

THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

by

Dom English
Full name (please print)

Gate Hutchinson
Witness (please print)

Group Manager
Position

Policy Officer
Position or profession of witness (please print)

of the Department of Education and Training as
delegate of the Minister for Education.

Dom English
Signature

CG Hutchinson
Signature

9/12/18

Date *22nd November 2018*

SIGNED for and on behalf of

In the presence of:

UNIVERSITY

Full name (please print)

Professor Simon Maddocks
Vice-Chancellor

Position

S. Maddocks

Signature

REBECCA MARRONE

Witness (please print)

Vice-Chancellor's
Executive Assistant

Position or profession of witness (please print)

Rebecca Marrone

Signature