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CDU’s First Pharmacy Graduates Reach Top Scores

The Territory’s first Charles Darwin University Pharmacy Graduates have received top grades in the peak pharmacy accreditation body’s national exams.

Health Minister Kon Vatskalis today congratulated the six students who are the first to complete the Batchelor of Pharmacy degree since being introduced at CDU in 2006. This includes the Territory’s first Indigenous Batchelor of Pharmacy graduate.

“What a fabulous milestone to have our very own home-grown pharmacists – all of whom are now employed both locally and interstate,” Mr Vatskalis said.

“By keeping our young students studying here at CDU we are more likely to have them stay and work in the Territory once they have graduated.

“This is why I am also pleased that as of next year students studying medicine will no longer need to leave the NT for their medical training years with the establishment of an NT medical program.

“This is a $27 million Federal Government commitment which will aim to increase the number of graduates who choose to practise in the NT after finishing their medical degree.”

Mr Vatskalis said the six students had each received 100% in the Australian Pharmacy Council’s external national exam, which audits their individual skills professional skills.

“All six students received 100% in their exam – above national benchmarks with the average score for 2009 students being 90%,” Mr Vatskalis said.

“This is testament to the high standard of CDU’s Bachelor of Pharmacy course, and to the work of the staff out there who set the standards for excellence in professional practice for our students.”

The graduates are: Illinka Bacev, Rebecca Clarke, Lelekis Skevos, Marwa Osman, Maria Tran and Simone Liddy.

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