22 February 2012

Growing our own skilled workforce

Chief Minister Paul Henderson today welcomed the record number of new student enrolments to Charles Darwin University.

Chief Minister Henderson congratulated CDU and said early student enrolment figures show a 17 per cent increase in new students.

“The future is bright for the Territory and we are about to enter an oil and gas boom that will bring high pay high skill job opportunities to the Territory,” Mr Henderson said.

“Charles Darwin University has well and truly established itself as a world class university and is playing an integral role in building the Territory’s skilled workforce of tomorrow.

“We’re committed to growing our local workforce to ensure Territorians can make the most of world class jobs opportunities here in the Territory on major projects like the Ichthys project.

“Territorians have better job and education options than ever before and now Territory kids can train to be doctors without ever leaving the Territory.

“The new $6 million North Australia Centre for Oil and Gas at CDU will play a pivotal role in helping to create world class jobs for our kids into the future.

“Importantly this year enrolments have increased in areas where we want to grow more local skilled workers including in engineering where there has been a 34 per cent increase.

“Kids that are enrolling at CDU today will graduate with the opportunities for world class jobs right here at their doorstep on major oil and gas projects and our new world class Marine Supply Base.

“Overall the success of our jobs plans have resulted in the highest workforce and VET training participation rates in the nation, with more than 24 000 Territorians skilled up to help businesses grow and gear up for opportunities.”

Initial CDU student enrolment figures:

- New enrolments up 17%
- Enrolments into a Bachelor of Engineering up 34%.
- Engineering programs at all levels (pre-bachelor, bachelors and masters levels) up 19%
- Bachelor of Environmental Science up 100%
- Bachelor of Teaching and Learning Early Childhood up 80%
- IT enrolments up 20%
- Law enrolments up 16%

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