A 19 year old former Dripstone High School / Casuarina Secondary College student is the first successful recipient of the Minister for Mines and Energy Earth Sciences / Geology Cadetship.

Mines and Energy Minister, Kon Vatskalis, congratulated Ms Susan Farquhar at a ceremony at Parliament House this morning.

“This cadetship is another exciting initiative by this Government, funded through the $15 million Building the Territory’s Resource Base program,” he said.

“Keeping the Territory moving ahead is our top priority, and to do that we must encourage young Territorians to study here and put their skills and knowledge to use in the Territory.

“The three year cadetship will provide Ms Farquhar with $12,000 a year to assist with living and other expenses; support in the form of a mentor geologist from the Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development; and vacation employment with either a mining company or the department.”

Mr Vatskalis said the initiative – announced last November – was also made possible through the assistance of the Charles Darwin University and the Darwin branch of the Geological Society of Australia.

“This cadetship will be offered again for 2006 and we will be seeking applications from students wishing to undertake studies in earth sciences and geology later this year,” he said.

“We have long-term plans that put the Territory first, and initiatives such as this will encourage young Territorians to be apart of that bright future.”

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