

IHD – VC pre-recorded video

Hello – my name is Professor Simon Maddocks.
I'm Vice-Chancellor and President of Charles Darwin University.

Welcome to everyone who is joining International House Darwin for the first time this year – and welcome back to those of you who are returning to our residential college on Casuarina campus, which will be your home as you continue your studies.

I hope you had a restful holiday and are ready to continue your education with great enthusiasm.

To those who are joining us for the first time, congratulations on your choice of university and for being accepted into Charles Darwin University.

You will find that we deliver a fresh approach to research, education and knowledge application.

You have chosen an excellent university to develop the knowledge and skills you will need for the career that you're aspiring to.

CDU has achieved a great deal in a relatively short period of time.

Times Higher Education – an international organisation that independently ranks universities – places CDU in the top 300 universities in the world.

Times Higher Education also ranks CDU 31st in the world for universities that are aged less than 50 years old.

So you should feel very proud that you are studying at one of the best universities Australia has to offer.

Our staff are here to help you to achieve your full academic potential – that's our highest priority.

You'll be pleased to know the Australian Government has reported that our graduates achieve some of the best salaries and employment outcomes in Australia.

As long as you commit to your studies, you too will enjoy the benefits of being a CDU graduate.

Studying delivers so many rewards.

I expect you can imagine some of those rewards now, but – as someone who has been involved in education for quite a while – I can guarantee that studying will deliver many more benefits than you can envisage right now.

You might find studying tough at times, but it will always be worthwhile.

Always remember why you are here.

There is no better investment you can make for your future than to commit to your education now.

The value of a residential college experience is that it gives you opportunities to get to know a group of fellow students really well, and to participate in other rewarding aspects of University life – not just study support!

So, ask questions, get involved, work hard and – of course – have fun.

I wish you well in your studies and with your life at IHD, and I look forward to meeting you in person very soon.