

Online learning tool in language

An online learning tool is now available in the Djambarrpuyŋu language spoken in Arnhem Land. Blackboard Collaborate has been developed by Blackboard Inc in partnership with Charles Darwin University and a team of Djambarrpuyŋu speakers and translators.

The new language version aims at improving student engagement and retention by providing a more rewarding and inclusive virtual classroom experience.

Djambarrpuyŋu is one of several languages that make

up the Yolngu Matha group of languages spoken by the people of East Arnhem Land, in northern Australia.

According to the 2016 Australian Census, Djambarrpuyŋu has more than 4200 speakers.

Partnerships

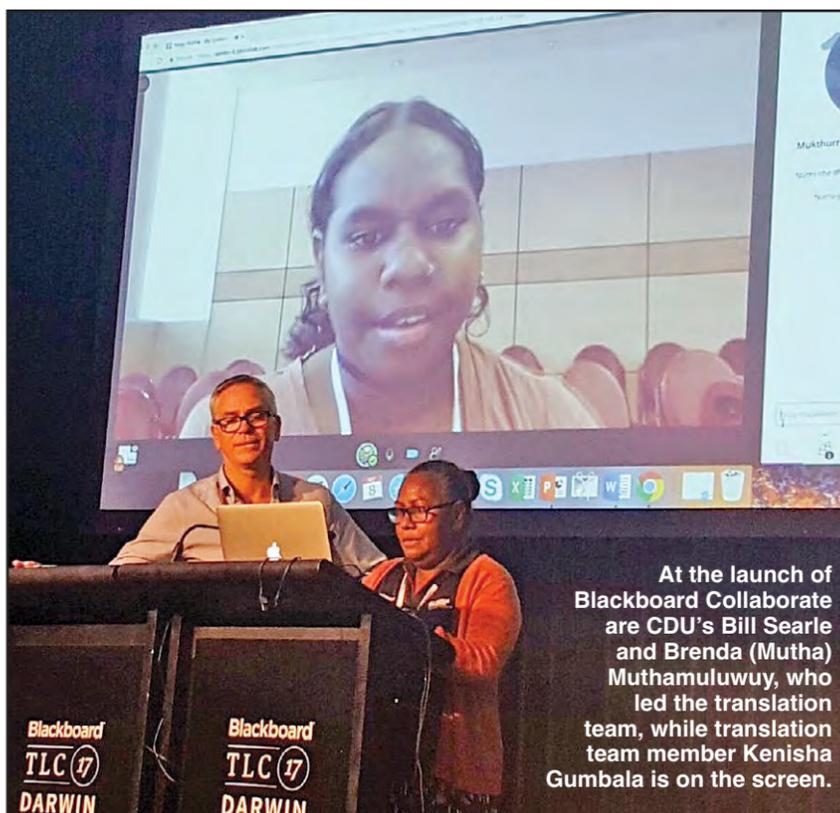
Charles Darwin University offers several study programs with a focus on Indigenous languages and has several key partnerships in place with the Yolngu community.

"The tailored Blackboard Collaborate experience will help make education more

accessible to people in a number of remote Indigenous communities," CDU vice-chancellor Professor Martin Carroll said.

"Imagine trying to use a new technology when the instructions aren't written in your first language. That barrier has now been removed for Djambarrpuyŋu-speaking learners.

"We are excited to enable stronger learner engagement and better student outcomes. The potential exists to reach new students in other remote areas through the addition of further languages over time."



At the launch of Blackboard Collaborate are CDU's Bill Searle and Brenda (Mutha) Muthamuluwuy, who led the translation team, while translation team member Kenisha Gumbala is on the screen.



THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND AUSTRALIA

Create change

Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement)

The University of Queensland (UQ) contributes positively to society by engaging in the creation, preservation, transfer and application of knowledge. UQ helps shape the future by bringing together and developing leaders in their fields to inspire the next generation and to advance ideas that benefit the world. UQ is committed to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander learning, discovery and engagement and seeks a Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement) to lead the University's strategies and objectives in this important area.

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement) is responsible for providing leadership for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit, and Indigenous Engagement across UQ and with communities. The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement) advises upon and takes an active leadership role in developing broad strategic direction, and leading the implementation and monitoring of the whole-of-University approach to Indigenous Learning, Discovery and Engagement.

The successful candidate should possess deep experience in higher education, a track record of leadership and management, and a detailed knowledge of Indigenous engagement and education. Personal attributes include the ability to work collaboratively at all levels within the University as part of an executive team, stakeholder management skills of the highest order, and the capacity to establish effective partnerships with government and community.

This is an identified position as it is an occupational requirement that the occupant must be of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent in accordance with Section 25 of the Queensland Anti-Discrimination Act 1991. As this role is an identified position, the occupant must be able to provide documentary evidence of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent as part of the application process.

For a confidential discussion about this role, please contact Kelly Tomlinson on phone +61-7-3443-1889.

To obtain an information pack, or apply for this position, please visit www.uq.edu.au/uqjobs quoting reference number **501138**.

Applications close 5pm, Monday 9 October 2017

Visit www.uq.edu.au/uqjobs for more career opportunities and to obtain a copy of the position description and application process. The University of Queensland values diversity and inclusion.



ACU students look to future

THEY say success is a decision, and for Geoff Fabila and Robert Caruso, the decision to change university degrees is working out just fine.

Both Brisbane-based young men are studying the Bachelor of Commerce course at Australian Catholic University (ACU) after starting studies in a different degree. For both the change was all about the future.

"I decided to change to a Business degree because I could clearly see my future career in business," Mr Caruso said.

He said knowing that he could access Weemala Indigenous Higher Education Unit for support made the choice easier.

"They helped by walking me through the whole process of transferring courses," Mr Caruso said.

"I was offered tutor support once I had chosen my subjects. Their support helped me to settle into study and allowed me to get the most out of it."

The same issues arose for Mr Fabila.

"I changed because after doing a year-and-a-half of study, I found my first choice of course wasn't for me," he said.

"Changing to a Bachelor of Commerce degree was a risk, though, as I didn't know too much about commerce. But my knowledge has improved a lot since starting this degree.

"I have been linked with a Career Trackers program which has provided me with an opportunity to work as an intern at Brisbane Airport Corporation.

"While studying I have been able to gain experience and learn from professionals. It has definitely improved my understanding of business and guided me to what I want to do after I graduate."



ACU student Geoff Fabila.

Staff from ACU's Weemala Indigenous Higher Education Unit were there to support both men.

"Exploring course options at university is not uncommon for students," support officer Leanne Long said.

"Sometimes it is hard to know what you want to do when you finish school.

"Support"

"Rather than just leaving uni, it's great to have a chat to staff in your Indigenous support centre. They can help you work out what suits you best."

ACU says it is committed to supporting Indigenous students through their educational journey and into employment.

Students can study at one of the university's campuses in Canberra, Ballarat, Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney or Adelaide, or they can use distance study. The Away from Base program offers access to specific multimodal study in Midwifery, Education and Business, especially for those students who live in rural and remote communities.

There is also a range of scholarships for new and continuing students across education and arts, health science, law, business, and theology and philosophy fields.

For more information call 1300 ASK ACU (1300 275 228), email futurestudents@acu.edu.au or visit www.acu.edu.au