



# Teacher wins top award

KATHERINE'S Brian Heim has been named National Trades and Skills Teacher of the Year, with Deputy Prime Minister Julia Gillard presenting the prize at last week's Australian Training Awards.

Dr Heim works as the NT manager of Primary Industries and Community Services with Charles Darwin University (CDU).

He had previously received Agriculture Trades and Skills Teacher of the Year Award after being interviewed alongside three other candidates in October.

He then went on to compete against 14 winners from eight industry categories to take out the top award, National Trades and Skills Teacher of the Year.

Doctor Heim said it was a "huge honour" to receive the recognition, and thanked the Institute for Trade Skills Excellence for their assistance to VET trainers.

"Winning the overall 2008 Australian Trades and Skills Teacher of the Year award on top of the Trade Teacher Award for Agriculture is a huge honour for me," he said.

"I believe there are many VET teachers out there who are also deserving of the recognition and thank the institute for identifying and providing a pathway for teachers in a wide variety of trades and skills areas to demonstrate just how good they really are."

CDU Director of Vocation Education Training Aaron Devine, said Dr Heim has all the attributes of a good teacher.

"Brian fulfils all the qualities we look for a CDU in our trainers and leaders: hard working, industry respected and resilient. This award is a credit to his commitment to his industry and the Indigenous communities in which he works."



The man with the beard is Dr. Brian Heim and the other is Dr. John Keniry-Chairman of The Institute for Trade Skills Excellence.