

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## 29 MAY 2019

## **CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY TO JOIN REGIONAL UNIVERSITIES NETWORK**

Charles Sturt University will join the Regional Universities Network (RUN). It will be the seventh member of the group, and will work alongside the current members, CQUniversity, Federation University Australia, Southern Cross University, University of New England, University of Southern Queensland, and the University of the Sunshine Coast, in advocating for regional universities, their students and communities.

The Chair of RUN, Professor Helen Bartlett, said that she was delighted that Charles Sturt had decided to join the network.

"Another group member will add to our impact, and enrich our collaboration across teaching and learning, research and regional development," Professor Bartlett said.

"All our members are headquartered in regional Australia, and have a shared commitment to playing a transformative role in their regions.

"A third of Australians live outside capitals, and regional universities have a vital role to play in contributing to national social cohesion – we change the lives of our students and are anchor institutions in our communities.

"Since its inception in 2012, RUN has played a role in getting some positive, policy initiatives for regional higher education, but we must continue to work to close the gap in university outcomes for regional Australians," Professor Bartlett said.

Charles Sturt University's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Andrew Vann, said that the time is right to join the network.

"Regional Australia is more important than ever before to the future of our country," Professor Vann said.

## For media enquiries:

Dr Caroline Perkins, Executive Director, Regional Universities Network, 0408 482 736 Issued by: Diana Streak, RUN Media Adviser, 022 536 064

www.run.edu.au