



# Dili Institute of Technology

## Sponsor a Student for a Semester

### WHAT IS DIT?

Dili Institute of Technology (DIT) is a non-government, community-based, non-profit education provider created to deliver vocational training and higher education in East Timor targeting the training needs of youth, veterans of the resistance and the children of veterans as well as specific community needs. It is committed to delivering high quality, post-secondary vocational training and higher education that will assist the nation in developing a workforce capable of meeting the growing demands of the business, public service and community sectors.

### HOW DIT BEGAN

DIT was inaugurated on 10 May 2002 by His Excellency Kay Rala Xanana Gusmao, now President of Timor Leste, in his capacity then as President of the Association of the Veterans of the Resistance (AVR), a major stakeholder in DIT. His Excellency delivered the opening address to welcome the first students on 22 October 2002.

*"I tell the young people (if) they are not skilled, when investors come we will only be the cleaners and the security guards."*

His Excellency Kay Rala Xanana Gusmao, President of the Democratic Republic of Timor Leste. Interview with Business Week 12 November 2003

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East Timor is confronting enormous challenges. Despite the urgent need for skills-based training to help rebuild the country, the new Government in East Timor does not have the resources to fund technical education.

In terms of GDP per capita, East Timor is among the poorest countries in the world. Consequently DIT is a fee-paying institution. Students are asked to pay around US\$100 per semester (approx AU\$150) to attend their courses. Most of the students at DIT are extremely poor and cannot pay any fees.

In his speech marking 100 days of Independence, President Xanana said that the country must *"begin thinking of the need for vocational training directed at the major needs of the country in the coming 5 to 15 years"*

### YOU CAN HELP

Participate NOW in the **Sponsor a Student for a Semester** program which is supported by the Rotary Club of Southbank in Melbourne Australia. Your donation will enable DIT to more quickly deliver on its commitment to help rebuild East Timor through the empowerment of its people with knowledge and skill. Sponsor one or more students for one or more semesters. We invite you to consider making that sponsorship an ongoing one. Of course you can make a one-off donation if you prefer, for all or just part of a sponsorship. Donations and sponsorships are collected by the Rotary Club of Southbank for forwarding to the Dili Institute of Technology. All monies go directly to DIT.

As a long-term supporter of independence for Timor Leste, I strongly support this program. I have worked closely with the Dili Institute of Technology since 2002 and back its efforts fully. Richard Curtain

Name: .....  
Address: .....(Town)..... (State).....  
(Postcode)..... (Country).....(Email: ).....

I would like to sponsor ..... students for ..... semesters @AUD\$150 per semester. Please make this a **once only/continuing** (delete one) contribution. I understand that continuing contributions will be collected now and thereafter at six monthly intervals and will be automatically charged to my credit card as detailed below. I understand that I can cancel this arrangement at any time by contacting the Rotary Club of Southbank as detailed below.

I would like to make a one off donation of AUD\$.....

Enclosed is my cheque for AUD\$..... OR charge to my Visa or Mastercard

I authorise you to charge my credit card with the amount of AUD\$.....

Card No: .....Expiry Date: .....

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Send to: Rotary Club of Southbank, PO Box 20, South Melbourne Vic 3205, Australia. Email contact: chris.trueman@rotary.to

