27 February 2012

Trade Commitments Branch
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
R.G. Casey Building
John McEwen Crescent
Barton ACT 0221

Dear Sir/Madam

Support for Canada’s Participation in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Trade Agreement

I am writing on behalf of Charles Sturt University (CSU) to support Canada’s participation in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Trade Agreement.

CSU provides distinctive educational programs for the professions that prepare students, globally, for work and citizenship. The University promotes international understanding and fosters ethical practice through our industry partnerships, course content and practicum placements. We strive to maintain high levels of satisfaction among graduates, employers and the University’s communities. As a university, we are committed to creating a culture that is responsive to change.

CSU’s nine Australian campuses at Albury-Wodonga, Bathurst, Canberra, Dubbo, Goulburn, Orange, Parramatta, Manly and Wagga Wagga provide local access to higher education across New South Wales, the Australian Capital Territory and Victoria. We also offer a range of degrees from our campus in Burlington, Ontario.

Our capacity for flexible delivery and our international reputation for online learning continues to expand. In 2010, CSU’s total enrolment was 38,000 students – with around 28,000 of these studying by distance and blended learning (including 5,000 international students).

CSU considers our national and international roles to be integrally linked and mutually reinforcing. We believe that the University’s success in attracting national and international students strengthens the programs it is able to offer. Our Burlington campus is part of that strategy.

Prime Minister Harper announced Canada’s intention to join the TPP negotiations during the November 2011 APEC Summit. Canada is an important like-minded partner for Australia on a broad range of issues including security and defence.
regional cooperation, UN reform, human rights, indigenous issues, social development, multi-lateral trade, education and culture.

CSU believes that Canada's participation in the TPP will enhance educational opportunities for students of both countries.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like any further information.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

Professor Andrew Vann
Vice-Chancellor

cc:
His Excellency, Michael D. Small
High Commissioner of Canada