



**Australian Government**

**Department of Education,  
Science and Training**

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## **Charles Sturt University**

### **Voluntary Student Unionism Transition Fund for Sporting and Recreational Facilities**

### **Application for Grant**

#### *Privacy Notice*

The information provided in this application form is collected by the Department of Education, Science and Training and will be used only for the purpose of carrying out its functions in relation to The VSU Transition Fund, and for related purposes. These functions include assessing applications for grants payable from the Voluntary Student Unionism Transition Fund for Sporting and Recreational Facilities ('The VSU Transition Fund'). The Department will not disclose any personal information without consent, except where authorised or required by law. In assessing this application, the information may be shared with other Commonwealth, State and/or local government agencies, organisations and individuals, including those identified in the application, to substantiate any claims or statements made in the application, to verify the intended uses of Commonwealth funds and for general comments on the viability of the proposed project.

#### *Completing the form*

Before completing this application form, you should read *VSU Transition Fund - Guidelines and Information for Applicants and Grant Recipients* ([www.dest.gov.au/highered/programmes/VSUF.htm](http://www.dest.gov.au/highered/programmes/VSUF.htm)), paying particular attention to the criteria listed at Part 4, against which applications will be assessed..

Applications must not exceed more than 10 A4 pages (excluding Attachments) of general and supporting information. Up to a further five pages can be used to describe each individual project put forward for funding.

The application has **four** parts:

Part A: General information

Part B: Declaration

Part C: Funding Request

Part D: Attachments

One signed original and 2 copies should be sent to:

The Director

Collaboration Unit

Teaching, Equity and Collaboration Branch

Higher Education Group, Loc 133

Department of Education, Science and Training

GPO Box 9880

CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601

For further information, please refer to *VSU Transition Fund – Information for Applicants and Grant Recipients* or contact the Programme Co-ordinator on 02 6240 8469 or [vsu.transition@dest.gov.au](mailto:vsu.transition@dest.gov.au)

# Part A: General Information

## 1. INSTITUTION DETAILS

Name of Organisation	Charles Sturt University				
Address of Organisation	Panorama Avenue				
City	Bathurst	State	NSW	Postcode	2795

## 2. CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS

Name	Col Sharp			
Position held	Director, Office of Planning and Audit			
Phone	(02) 6338 4203	Email	csharp@csu.edu.au	

## 3. AMOUNT OF FUNDING SOUGHT (by calendar year) - NOTE: include GST where applicable

	2007	2008	2009	Total
<b>Project No 1</b> Development of an all-weather, synthetic athletic track, multi-purpose sporting in-field and associated amenities at Bathurst Campus of Charles Sturt University.	\$ 520,000	\$ 1,300,000	\$ 780,000	\$2,600,000
<b>Project No 2</b> Construction of a soccer field, associated change rooms and weight training facilities at Orange Campus of Charles Sturt University.	\$ 236,000	\$ 138,000	\$ -	\$ 374,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 756,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,438,000</b>	<b>\$ 780,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,974,000</b>

# **Executive Summary**

Charles Sturt University (CSU) welcomes the opportunity to bid for funding from the Voluntary Student Unionism Transition Fund for Sporting and Recreational Facilities.

CSU is a relatively young, regionally based, multi and non-dominant campus institution predominantly serving the inland communities of central western and southern New South Wales (NSW) and northern Victoria. In addition, the University has historically relied upon compulsory student union contributions to provide for the sporting and recreational needs of its student bodies. The unique combination of characteristics that typify CSU, which will be expanded upon in the body of this submission, severely limits the capacity of the University to provide for its students and its broader communities in the new voluntary student unionism (VSU) environment.

Charles Sturt therefore submits this proposal for funding to assist it in its transition to VSU. The University seeks Commonwealth contributions to the cost of constructing and upgrading sporting and recreational facilities on its campuses, in collaboration with community and local government and in a manner that provides for not only the University's student bodies, but also other education providers (eg TAFEs, primary and secondary schools), sporting groups and the broader communities.

## **CSU – The Historical and Financial Context**

Charles Sturt University was established in 1989 through the amalgamation of Mitchell College of Advanced Education and the Riverina Murray Institute of Higher Education. The University now has campuses in the NSW/Victorian border city of Albury Wodonga; in central western NSW at Bathurst and Orange; in northwest NSW at Dubbo; and in southern NSW at Wagga Wagga.

While Bathurst and Wagga Wagga Campuses are long established places of education, the University has had to continually upgrade infrastructure on these campuses, in line with the development of its course profile, the growth in on-campus student numbers and community expectations of a higher education provider.

The Thurgoona Campus at Albury Wodonga and the Dubbo Campus are “greenfield” developments that have required large capital expenditures, and in the case of Thurgoona, this expenditure will continue into the medium term future. While the Commonwealth has supported these developments through Capital Development Pool funds, the priority to date has been on facilities most closely related to academic activities. Funding for significant components of necessary sporting and recreational infrastructure has not been established to date.

The Orange Campus was acquired by CSU from the University of Sydney in 2005. The transfer of Orange Campus is seen as a sensible consolidation of higher education in central western NSW and offers the opportunity for CSU to better serve the higher education needs of these communities. In supporting the transfer, then Minister Nelson stated “that the provision of higher education in Orange would not be diminished, and consistent with this the Department of Education, Science and Training provided 350 commencing places to CSU”. These places will support a steady state load to the equivalent of over 900 full time students, many of whom will study on-campus. This is a significant increase on the 300 odd on-campus students at Orange in 2005 when the transfer was effected. CSU is working to meet this target by renewing the course profile and actively promoting the Campus. The academic aspects of these developments are the subject of Capital Development Pool bids, however sporting and recreational facilities commensurate with CSU’s other campuses remain to be funded and established.

CSU has a historical reliance on compulsory student fees for the provision of sporting, recreational and other services to its students. The introduction of VSU will impact heavily on these recurrent income streams. For example, income from compulsory fees was \$3.1 million in 2004, \$3.3 million in 2005 and with the implementation of VSU from July, \$1.65 million in 2006. As such, the introduction of VSU can be expected to result in a loss of income to CSU of over \$9 million over the period July 2006 to July 2009. As will be demonstrated throughout this submission, the circumstances of CSU’s on-campus students are such that the capacity to draw contributions on a voluntary basis is very limited. In addition, it is highly unlikely that significant numbers of CSU’s 17,000 - 18,000 domestic distance education students will contribute to on-campus sporting and recreational facilities.

In summary, with respect to the development of its campuses, CSU has had to service heavy capital commitments, and has to date not had the resources to establish a range of recreational and sporting facilities for students. Further, as a young institution CSU is not well placed to find funds to replace compulsory student union contributions to put these facilities and services in place. CSU simply does not have the reserves of longer established institutions that have had the benefit of the historically higher levels of Commonwealth funding nor the higher level of bequests etc., that accrue to long standing institutions with high profiles. In addition, unlike single or dominant campus institutions, CSU cannot consolidate its investments at a single site.

### **CSU – Its Regions**

CSU’s footprint coincides with the NSW based Statistical Divisions of Central West, North Western, Murrumbidgee, Murray and Far West and with Owens Murray in Victoria. As shown in Table I below, in addition to the obvious disadvantages posed by “lack of proximity” with major metropolitan centres, these areas have significant socio-economic disadvantage.

**Table I: Socio-economic indicators for inland NSW and northern Victoria**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Professions as a % of all occupations</b>	<b>Median weekly income</b>	<b>People with a bachelors degree or higher (% of area population)</b>
Central West (NSW)	13.6%	\$289	4.7%
North Western (NSW)	12.4%	\$274	4.1%
Murrumbidgee (NSW)	12.7%	\$309	4.8%
Murray (NSW)	12.3%	\$288	4.9%
Far West (NSW)	13.7%	\$226	3.6%
Ovens-Murray (VIC)	14.9%	\$320	6.5%
<b>Australia</b>	<b>17.1%</b>	<b>\$327</b>	<b>10.6%</b>

Source: Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs, Higher Education Division, March 2001,

*Atlas of Higher Education: A community focus.*

Analysis of the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) student information by CSU indicates that the participation in higher education across the above areas averages approximately 3% compared to the broader NSW/ACT rate of approximately 4.3%. By virtue of its position and its governing Act, CSU carries the major burden in lifting higher education participation within these regions, in doing so contributing to economic and social development. CSU plays a critical role in redressing this situation, by retaining students (and graduates) in regional areas. Research by the Western Region Institute (WRI) shows that approximately 75% of regional students who attend a CSU campus gain their first employment in regional areas. In addition, the research shows that almost 20% of students with a metropolitan home location who attend and graduate from a CSU campus take up their first employment in a regional location. Clearly, CSU is playing an important role in providing the skilled labour required in inland Australia, but can only continue to do this if it has facilities that are commensurate with other higher education providers, so as to be able to successfully attract and retain students.

As shown in Table II below, a large proportion of CSU's on-campus students have low socio-economic backgrounds or are from rural and remote areas. Many of these same students also often incur additional accommodation expenses, in having moved away from their family home. Considering the information in Tables I and II together, it can be readily seen that CSU's on-campus student cohorts have very limited financial capacity and as such the University will not be able to maintain previous funding streams for non academic student services in an environment of voluntary contributions.

**Table II: Socio-economic profile of CSU's on-campus students**

<b>Campus</b>	<b>On campus student population (2005)</b>	<b>Low socio-economic status (%)</b>	<b>Rural and remote home locations (%)</b>
Albury Wodonga	1801	24.3%	77.7%
Bathurst	2901	25.4%	61.3%
Dubbo*	424	28.8%	88.4%
Orange	294	28.9%	61.2%
Wagga Wagga	2965	44.6%	76.2%

Note: \* Approximately 10% indigenous.

Source: Charles Sturt University, Office of Planning and Audit, *Dynamic Equity Report (2005)*.

### **CSU – Its Campus Cities**

As stated, CSU has campuses in the cities of Albury Wodonga, Bathurst, Orange, Dubbo and Wagga Wagga. Population statistics for these centres are provided in Table III.

**Table III: Population of cities hosting CSU campuses**

<b>Campus location</b>	<b>Population of City (including surrounding areas)</b>
Albury Wodonga	81,500
Bathurst	37,000
Orange	38,000
Dubbo	40,000
Wagga Wagga	58,000

Source: Respective Local Government websites.

It should be understood that in these regional locations, CSU students do not have the benefit of access to the wide range of facilities that exist within the wider community in larger metropolitan centres. The onus therefore falls on the University to provide the range of quality recreation and sporting facilities so necessary for a vibrant and healthy student experience. This requirement is felt most heavily in financial terms when the institution has a multi and non-dominant campus structure such as Charles Sturt University.

The University is also a major contributor to the soft infrastructure of these communities, in the Arts but also in sporting and recreation activity. University sporting teams participate in local competitions, and in many cases their participation constitutes the critical mass of participants that make these competitions viable. Appropriate on-campus facilities need to be available to students for their physical and emotional wellbeing but also as the training facilities for teams in local competitions. Often these facilities form a significant portion of the infrastructure used in these local competitions.

Conversely, the facilities provided on CSU campuses bring many benefits to the wider communities, in a regional setting. In this regard, CSU works closely with its respective local governments to coordinate their activities. For example, the University and Bathurst Regional

Council have consulted closely in considering the proposal to construct a Sports Complex at Bathurst, with the Council putting forward \$500,000 toward construction under the understanding of community use of the facility and non-duplication of infrastructure. This is in recognition of the fact that the University caters to both “local” students and those it attracts from other regional areas and indeed metropolitan NSW and Victoria, thereby making valuable economic and social contributions to campus cities.

In summary, Charles Sturt University believes it has a strong case for substantial funding under the VSU Transition Fund in that:

- The University has multiple campuses on which sporting and recreational infrastructure still needs to be developed;
- Proposals (identified in Part B1) relate to the construction of sporting and recreational facilities which provide substantial benefits to local and regional communities;
- The University has a historical reliance on compulsory student fees and has very limited capacity to fund sporting and recreational infrastructure from reserves or continuing cash flow;
- The demographic and geographic characteristics of the University’s student body limit the capacity to raise funds through voluntary contributions;
- Proposals (outlined below) are feasible, offer value for money and can be sustained into the future;
- Funding has been committed from the University and other sources, reflecting the collaborative nature of proposals; and
- University project management processes ensure appropriate planning and conduct of projects.

## **Part B(1): Funding Request**

### **Priority 1: Funding towards development of an all-weather, synthetic athletic track, multi-purpose sporting in-field and associated amenities at Bathurst Campus of Charles Sturt University.**

***1. Summary Statement of no more than 5-6 lines describing the construction and maintenance proposal/s, using the three categories of funding (Capital Development, Maintenance and Loan Repayment). Please list by priority.***

#### **Capital Development**

The intention of this application is to fund construction of an all-weather, synthetic athletic facility with an accompanying multi-purpose sports in-field at Charles Sturt University, Bathurst, NSW. The Sports Complex will consist of an International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) certified synthetic athletic facility catering for all track and field events, while also providing a high quality grass in-field as a multi-purpose training and competition venue for a range of regional, state and national level team sports.

***2. Need for the funding – outline the rationale for the project. Provide evidence of need through empirical and/or qualitative data, using attachments where necessary. Include details of any consultations with relevant stakeholders.***

The proposed Sports Complex at Bathurst Campus aims firstly to benefit the University community, but also local and regional primary and secondary schools and TAFE students and local, regional, state and national sporting bodies. The complex will complement existing activities and infrastructure at CSU, Bathurst to form a training and competition venue for local, regional and elite athletes and sporting groups.

Currently in NSW there are no all-weather, synthetic athletic facilities west of the Great Dividing Range. While within the major metropolitan area of Sydney there is access to numerous synthetic tracks, and regional areas of the Hunter and Illawarra also have access to athletic facilities respectively, the nearest athletic facilities for the Central and Western regions are located in Sydney. As such, this places a wide geographical region at a significant disadvantage. The lack of available infrastructure often creates a regional climate of apathy towards sport and activity, while creating a financial and travel burden for those willing to pursue their chosen sport or gain access to quality training facilities. Bathurst is ideally placed geographically to host such a venue to service

the needs of the communities of central and western NSW and to host competition for athletics and team-based sports at a local, regional and state level.

Bathurst's long history of support for sport and sporting achievement is widely recognised. There are approximately 30,000 residents in the town of Bathurst and over 200,000 in the wider geographical region. Currently, there are over 3,000 students enrolled at CSU, Bathurst Campus, of which nearly 500 are enrolled in Human Movement and Exercise Science related courses. Further, the Bathurst Campus accommodates the Western Region Academy of Sport (WRAS) with over 120 elite athletes and sports people from central and western NSW. In addition, within the Bathurst and wider region there is also a healthy collection of track and field, running and triathlon groups. This combination of athlete, student and community groups provides a ready made support and user group base for the establishment of a synthetic athletic facility, especially considering the current lack of facilities in the Central West.

An athletics facility at CSU, Bathurst would provide a range of benefits for the University and greater community. Firstly, the facility will complement the Human Movement and Exercise Science programs and associated research at Bathurst Campus. Secondly, it will provide recreational and sporting facilities for on-campus students and community sporting groups where there are currently none. Thirdly, it will act as a focal point for all local competitive, school and recreational athletics carnivals and be the logical venue for regional meets and a strong candidate for State and National athletics competitions. Finally, in combination with the capacity and facilities of the School of Human Movement, it will form an ideal training facility to attract elite and sub-elite (junior) regional and state sporting teams as a potential venue for camps and/or high profile competitions.

***3. Detailed description of work to be undertaken within each funding component requested, specifying the activities to be undertaken – Business plans relating to the project should be attached, as appropriate.***

CSU has commissioned GHD Pty Ltd to conduct a "Preliminary Investigation Study" for the proposed Sporting Complex. The Study, which is provided in Part D, outlines the feasibility of the proposal, early stage cost estimates and cash flow requirements. Decisions relating to the final project will be made upon confirmation of a successful grant application.

### **Stage 1 - Planning and Finance**

This would include the final choice of site, the development of detailed architectural and engineering plans of the facility (in consultation with Athletics Australia and IAAF representatives to ensure correct accreditation), after Commonwealth and State funding has been confirmed. Note, the University has ruled out Option 2 of the "Preliminary Investigation Study", which involves the

destruction of the tennis facilities, because of the impact this will have on the provision of women on- campus.

## **Stage 2 - Construction**

**2.1** - Once planning is finalised, construction is anticipated to commence as soon as possible, subject to weather conditions. The initial phase of construction will involve bulk earthworks, shaping and establishment of the athletics site. Included in the later part of this phase would be the laying and placement of irrigation and electrical systems.

**2.2** - Following this phase, the laying of the respective components of the track surface would occur. This normally involves a bitumen or concrete base covered by a single or multiple layers of a synthetic matting (depending on type of track chosen – likely to be Mondo or Rekortan). During this phase ancillary components (lung jump, pole vault, high jump, throwing circles, steeple chase) will also be built.

**2.3** - Following the laying of the synthetic track, the in-field will be established with an imported quality roll-on grass surface with drainage and irrigation suitable for junior through to elite competition and training.

**2.4** - Once the track and in-field are established, storage facilities and amenities will be constructed. Finally, the construction of required grandstands and landscaping of the grassed embankment façade of the track will be completed.

***4. Objectives of each component – provide a concise statement of the project’s objectives and the outcomes sought, including the relevance of the project in relation to the objectives and key priorities as set out in Part 2 of the Voluntary Student Unionism Transition Fund for Sporting and Recreational Facilities Guidelines and information for applicants and grant recipients at <http://www.dest.gov.au/highered/programmes/VSUF.htm>.***

## **Capital Development**

The key and primary objective of this proposal is to obtain funding to aid in the construction of a synthetic athletic facility and multi-purpose sporting grass in-field at CSU, Bathurst. The construction of such a facility would allow:

- The provision of high quality sporting and recreational facilities for students and staff at Bathurst Campus of CSU;
- The development of a sporting facility currently unavailable to a wide geographical area of inland NSW;
- Further integration of CSU with the local and regional community via:
  - Use of facility for local and regional Little Athletics meets;
  - Use of facility for local and regional school athletic carnivals;
  - Use of facility by NSW Institute of Sport (NSWIS), Athletics NSW and Athletics Australia for training and competition purposes;

- Use of facility by local and regional sporting teams as a training venue;
- Use of facility for rehabilitation and exercise sessions organised by CSU and run by students of the School of Human Movement;
- Use of facility as a research and teaching tool by academics of CSU and form collaborative links with institutions and researchers nationally and internationally; and
- The establishment of a location for large community activities and events such as fun runs, sporting days and elite football training and games (Football Federation Australia (FFA), National Rugby League (NRL)).

**5. Describe the extent to which the project will promote collaboration and engagement and meet recognised needs with identified communities in your region, catchment, local area.**

As this would be the only athletic facility of its kind in inland NSW, it is envisaged this facility would be inclusive of community groups, cementing links with a range of potential local and regional user groups. Firstly, local and regional Little Athletics and Senior Athletics groups would use the facility for training and competition purposes. Secondly, local and regional primary and high schools would use the facility for school and regional athletic carnivals. Thirdly, local and regional running, triathlon and fitness groups would use the facility for training purposes. Fourthly, WRAS and other local and regional sports teams would use the facility for camps, talent ID sessions and training purposes. Finally, Bathurst City Council would use the facility for large community sporting, community activity and participation days (fun runs, carnivals etc). Hence, in addition to University use, this sporting facility would be well utilised by the local and regional community.

The proposed complex will complement existing community based facilities, particularly in relation to gender balance, in that high quality netball and hockey facilities are available off campus.

**6. Provide details of collaborating partners in the project using the following headings:**

**Type of organisation (A. Higher Education Institutions, B. Private Sector, C. Commonwealth Government Agencies, D. State Government Agencies, E. Community Organisations, F. Other**

**(A) Higher Education Institutions**

*Teaching and Research:*

- Allow researchers at the School of Human Movement, CSU to use the facility as a research tool and establish collaborative links to other State, National and International Exercise Science research institutions.

**(B) Private sector**

*Elite Sports Training Facility:*

- NRL, Australian Rugby Union (ARU), Australian Football League (AFL) clubs.
- FFA (A-League).
- Regional and state teams and sporting bodies.

CSU plans to establish an elite training venue in Bathurst, combining sports science facilities, strength facilities, lecture rooms, accommodation, media and promotional access to the Central and Western regions.

### **(C) Commonwealth Government Agencies**

- Australian Institute of Sport (AIS).

AIS Track and Field program supports the development of an athletics facility in this region to assist in the development of the sport (grass roots to talented elite juniors).

### **(D) State Government Agencies**

*Athletics and Training Facility:*

- Western Institute of TAFE, NSW, located across the road from CSU, would also use the facility for teaching and learning purposes for their students.
- Western Region Academy of Sport (WRAS)
- NSW Institute of Sport (NSWIS).
- Department of Education
- Catholic Education Office/Western Area School Sports.

Use as a venue for local and regional school athletics carnivals and as a training and competition venue for regional junior and elite athletes.

### **(E) Community Organisations**

*Athletics and Fitness Facility:*

- Athletics NSW
- Bathurst Little Athletics/LANSW.
- Community sporting and fitness groups.

Use as a venue for local, regional and state level athletics training and competition, recreational and community training, and health and fitness pursuits.

### **(F) Other**

- Bathurst City Council

Use as a venue for recreational and community training, health and fitness pursuits, and community activity days and major events.

**7. Project Plan. In the table below outline a clear process through which the project will be implemented.**

<b>Phase Number</b>	<b>Phase Name</b>	<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Milestones/Tasks to be achieved</b>	<b>Estimates of funds required</b>
1	Planning and Design	2007	Architectural and Engineering Plans	\$321,200
2.1	Construction	2007 - 08	Earthworks	\$381,700
2.2	Construction	2008 - 09	Synthetic Athletic Track	\$2,729,100
2.3	Construction	2008	Multi-purpose Sporting In-field	\$515,900
2.4	Construction	2008	Building, Grandstands and Amenities	\$774,400
1 - 2.4	-	2007 - 09	Construction Supervision and Project Management	\$431,200
1-2.4	-	2007 - 09	Contingency	\$470,000 (GST excl.)

## Part C: Funding and Budget

1. Please provide details of the proposed budget for each project by completing the table below. Specify how Commonwealth funds will be used and detail the budget items.

Item	VSU Transition Fund Grant (GST excl.) \$	Other Funding Sources		Total Project \$
		Cash	In-kind	
Earthworks		\$381,700		\$381,700
Synthetic Athletic Track	\$2,600,000	\$129,100		\$2,729,100
Multi-purpose Sporting In-field		\$515,900		\$515,900
Building, Grandstands and Amenities		\$774,400		\$774,400
Planning and Design		\$321,200		\$321,200
Construction Supervision and Project Management		\$431,200		\$431,200
Contingency		\$470,000		\$470,000 (GST excl.)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,600,000</b>	<b>\$3,023,500</b>		<b>\$5,623,500*</b>

\* Refer to Table III and the accompanying note on page 14 of the "Preliminary Investigation Study".

### 2. Provide details of assistance from other sources (confirmed and unconfirmed).

Identify all funding including existing or intended applications to other funding sources and resources committed to the project from your own or other organisations.

Name of funding source	Describe the nature of the assistance	Cash \$	Value of in-kind contributions* \$	Confirmed Yes/No (Date)
Charles Sturt University	Up-front financial support	\$500,000	-	Yes
Bathurst Regional Council	Up-front financial support	\$500,000	-	Yes
NSW State Government	Up-front financial support	\$2,000,000*	-	No
Charles Sturt University	Annual on-going maintenance support	\$150,000	-	Yes

\* Refer to Letters of Support from the State Government in Attachment B1.1.

### 3. If the proposal component is on-going, where will subsequent funding be obtained?

Detail what is required to sustain the project financially at the end of the transition funding period and where ongoing financial support will come from.

Charles Sturt University has committed to an on-going financial support of \$150,000 annually toward management, maintenance and refurbishment of the athletic facility. Additional operating funds will be available from athletics and sporting bodies for the use of the facilities for competitions and carnivals on a "user-pays" basis.

## **Part B(2): Funding Request**

### **Priority 2: Construction of a soccer field, associated change rooms and weight training facilities at Orange Campus of Charles Sturt University.**

**1. Summary Statement of no more than 5-6 lines describing the construction and maintenance proposal/s, using the three categories of funding (Capital Development, Maintenance and Loan Repayment). Please list by priority.**

The proposal for the construction of a soccer field and associated changing rooms and weight-training facilities fits the definition of a Capital Development. It is a two-year project with a sequence of stages.

**2. Need for the funding – outline the rationale for the project. Provide evidence of need through empirical and/or qualitative data, using attachments where necessary. Include details of any consultations with relevant stakeholders.**

The Orange Student Association is at a critical point in its development. As the Campus expands and includes students from a more diverse background there is a primary need to provide various sporting facilities. The proposal represents the first of these which would have been moving forward to the construction stage, and would have been dependent on compulsory student fees.

It represents great value for money, given that a number of both men's and women's soccer teams would be using the facility, together with individuals who would be drawn-in to use the weight-training gym.

As a project that is construction of sporting facilities it is relevant to the Key Priorities for funding. It is financially sustainable in that after the initial capital cost, the small maintenance costs from 2009 onwards will fall within the CSU budget.

The plan of work covers 2007 and 2008 and, given appropriate financing, it is considered a feasible plan within this timescale. The University soccer teams will participate in the local competitions and this presents another attractive feature of the project, because it enables further integration between CSU, Orange Campus and the Orange City community.

**3. Detailed description of work to be undertaken within each funding component requested, specifying the activities to be undertaken – Business plans relating to the project should be attached, as appropriate.**

The work involves the on-ground activities to construct a soccer field, and then construction in a single building of associated changing rooms and weight-training facilities. The site is currently poor quality land that needs the addition of 5 cm of topsoil, appropriate fertiliser and then grass seed and/or turf. This will produce, during autumn and winter 2007, a reasonable quality playing surface, ready for use in autumn 2008.

The target date for commencing construction of the building is 1 August 2007. With a five month horizon including possible over-runs, this should also be complete by the end of 2007, and ready for the 2008 season.

As soon as the funding is approved, tenders will be called for both establishing the playing surface and construction of the building. Some components of the work could easily be performed by local apprentices at the Western Institute of TAFE.

**4. Objectives of each component – provide a concise statement of the project's objectives and the outcomes sought, including the relevance of the project in relation to the objectives and key priorities as set out in Part 2 of the Voluntary Student Unionism Transition Fund for Sporting and Recreational Facilities Guidelines and information for applicants and grant recipients at <http://www.dest.gov.au/highered/programmes/VSUF.htm>.**

The project has two main components: the construction of the soccer field and the construction of the changing/weight training gym. In both instances, the construction phase offers the opportunity for further collaboration with local businesses and the Western Institute of TAFE.

In addition, once constructed, the facilities will foster greater collaboration between the University and sporting groups in the Orange community. Additional soccer fields are a useful addition to the meagre supply in the region.

The construction of such sporting facilities is one of the priority areas for the VSU Transition Fund. These facilities in Orange will offer much to achieving social cohesion to a campus where expanding student numbers are moving in advance of limited facilities.

**5. Describe the extent to which the project will promote collaboration and engagement and meet recognised needs with identified communities in your region, catchment, local area.**

This question has been addressed as apart of Question 4 above.

**6. Provide details of collaborating partners in the project using the following headings:**

**Type of organisation (A. Higher Education Institutions, B. Private sector, C. Commonwealth Government Agencies, D. State Government Agencies, E. Community Organisations, F. Other**

The main collaborating partners are:

- (A) TAFE NSW;
- (B) Private construction firms; and
- (E) Local sporting organisations.

**7. Project Plan. In the table below outline a clear process through which the project will be implemented.**

<b>Phase Number</b>	<b>Phase Name</b>	<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Milestones/Tasks to be achieved</b>	<b>Estimates of funds required</b>
1	Develop plans and tender information	Before 31 March, 2007	Request to tender to be published in local press	\$8,000.00
2	Determine successful tenderers	Before 30 April, 2007	Tenders received	-
3	Complete soccer field to turf stage	Before 30 September, 2007	Turf examined as satisfactory	\$48,000.00
4	Complete changing rooms	Before 30 November, 2007	Building inspection completed	\$180,000.00
5	Complete weight training gym	Before 31 January, 2008	Building inspection completed	\$110,000.00
6	Purchase gym equipment	Before 28 February, 2008	Equipment check satisfactory	\$28,000.00

## Part C: Funding and Budget

**1. Please provide details of the proposed budget for each project by completing the table below. Specify how Commonwealth funds will be used and detail the budget items.**

Item	VSU Transition Fund Grant (GST excl.) \$	Other Funding Sources		Total Project \$
		Cash	In-kind	
Soccer field, associated changing rooms and weight training facilities	\$374,000			\$374,000

**2. Provide details of assistance from other sources (confirmed and unconfirmed).**

*Identify all funding including existing or intended applications to other funding sources and resources committed to the project from your own or other organisations.*

**3. If the proposal component is on-going, where will subsequent funding be obtained?**

*Detail what is required to sustain the project financially at the end of the transition funding period and where ongoing financial support will come from.*

## **Part D: Attachments**

***The following documents, where applicable, must accompany this application form:***

- ***Letters of support from collaborating partners and the third parties referred to in section 6 [IA, AA] including details of financial and non-financial contributions; and***
- ***Business plans and feasibility studies.***

Attachment B1.1 - *Letters of support:*

- Bathurst Regional Council
- Gerard Martin, MP, Member for Bathurst
- The Cabinet Office, NSW (25/10/2006)
- The Cabinet Office, NSW (27/10/2006)
- Western Institute of TAFE NSW
- The Diocese of Bathurst, Catholic Education Office
- Little Athletics NSW
- Athletics Australia
- Australian Institute of Sport (AIS)
- NSW Institute of Sport (NSWIS)
- Western Region Academy of Sport (WRAS)
- Athletics NSW

Attachment B1.2 - GHD Pty Ltd Preliminary Investigation Study, November 2006

## Part E: Declaration

### 4. I declare that:

- I am authorised to sign this form on behalf of the applicant organisation.
- To the best of my knowledge, the information that I have provided in this application is true, correct and accurate in all material particulars.
- I understand that the information contained in, and attached to, this application may be disclosed to others as outlined in the privacy section of the Voluntary Student Unionism Transition Fund for Sporting and Recreational Facilities Guidelines and information for applicants and grant recipients.
- I will immediately inform the Commonwealth of any changes in the circumstances of the project.

### I understand that:

- The provision of false or misleading information or the making of false or misleading statements to the Commonwealth is an offence under the *Criminal Code*.
- Where applicable, any funding provided by the Commonwealth will be taxed under the *A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999*.
- If any actual or potential conflict of interest arises, I must notify the Commonwealth immediately in writing of the facts giving rise to the actual or potential conflict of interest and take such steps as the Commonwealth may require to resolve or otherwise deal with any conflict of interest that may arise.
- I understand that Voluntary Student Unionism Transition Fund for Sporting and Recreational Facilities Guidelines and information for applicants and grant recipients apply to this funding application and, if this funding application is successful, to the grant itself.

Name of Authorised Person	Professor Ian Goulter		
Position	Vice-Chancellor		
Phone	(02) 6338 4209	Email	igoulter@csu.edu.au
Signature			