UTR6.289 - THE NANCY MILLIS AGRICULTURAL STUDENTS SCHOLARSHIP

Background

A. A donor, who wished to remain anonymous, gave the sum of $500,000 to the University (‘gift’). The memorandum of gift dated 13 August 2010 provides that the gift is for the purpose of ‘funding one or more scholarships for students living in rural areas and in financial need studying agriculture at the University of Melbourne’.

B. The donor requested that the University nominate an academic icon after whom the scholarship would be named. The nomination of Professor Nancy Millis was made by the Dean of Melbourne School of Land and Environment (‘MSLE’), Professor Richard Roush. Prior to the receipt of the gift by the University, Professor Millis had consented to the scholarship being named after her.

C. The donation honours Professor Nancy Millis AC MBE, BAgSc 1945 (Melb) MAgrSc 1946 (Melb) PhD (Bristol) DSc (Honoris Causa) (Melb) Hon LLD (Melb) Hon DSc (LaTrobe). Professor Nancy Millis joined the University’s Department of Microbiology in 1952 and is recognised as a pioneer of the study of fermentation technology. She is credited with overseeing the introduction and surveillance of genetic engineering in Australia. She was appointed chair of the Commonwealth Government’s Recombinant DNA Monitoring Committee (subsequently known as Genetic Manipulation Advisory Committee) in 1981. In 1982, Nancy Millis was only the fourth woman to be appointed a Professor at the University. She later served as Chancellor of LaTrobe University from 1992-2006. She has the rare distinction of being featured on a stamp issued by Australia Post in 2002, which honoured the work of five eminent Australian scientists. Coinciding with her retirement, the April 2006 issue of the International Journal of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology reported a newly discovered bacterium named Millisa brevis in recognition of Professor Millis’ contribution to water microbiology.

D. The University accepted the donation upon the trusts specified by the donor, and the donation therefore became the capital subject to those trusts (‘capital sum’).

E. This University trust record is the means by which the University records –

   (1) the trusts specified by the donor upon which the University as trustee holds the capital sum; and

   (2) the administrative arrangements for the implementation of those trusts, as determined by the University from time to time. It is provided as follows

Name of the fund

1. The capital sum, all income arising from the capital sum, and any accumulations and additions thereto together form a fund called ‘The Nancy Millis Agricultural Students Scholarship Fund’ (‘fund’).
Investment of the fund

2. The fund is to be paid into one or more investment common funds and remain there until Council directs otherwise.

Trust terms

3. As trustee of the fund, the University is obliged by the trusts specified by the donor (‘trust terms’)‐
   (1) to establish a perpetual trust;
   (2) to award the scholarship to one or more students who are living in rural areas, are in financial need and are studying agriculture; and
   (3) to name each award ‘The Nancy Millis Agricultural Students Scholarship’.

Administrative arrangements

4. Until its further determination, and in order to implement the trust terms, the University has determined that‐
   (1) one or more scholarships will be open for award annually from the net annual income of the fund;
   (2) each scholarship is to be awarded to a student who has a permanent address in a rural area and who is in financial need;
   (3) each scholarship is to be awarded to a student who is enrolled or enrolling in a degree course which is primarily in the discipline of Agriculture at the University;
   (4) the Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences is to determine‐
      (a) the value of each scholarship;
      (b) the number of scholarships awarded each year; and
      (c) the term of each scholarship;
   (5) each scholarship is to be awarded by the Dean, who may consult with Student Financial Aid for advice or clarification on individual applications.

5. The Dean is authorised to award each scholarship on behalf of the University.”

[Certified as a new UTR 14 February 2011; ss 4(4), 4(5) and 5 am. 23/12/2015]