UTR 6.256 – THE TRINA PARKER SCHOLARSHIP

Recitals –

A. In November 2005, the Victorian College of the Arts (‘College’) established a fund to support an annual scholarship (‘scholarship’) in memory of the late Trina Parker, a senior lecturer in theatre design, and founder of the postgraduate Design program in the discipline of Production at the College, who died in September 2005. Donations to the fund included a grant of $79,341 made by the Theatre Board of the Australia Council for the Arts and the proceeds of the sale of 200 tickets to the final performance of ‘The Lion King’ taking place in Melbourne on 4 June 2006 which were donated to the College by Disney Theatrical Productions for the fund.

B. The purpose of the scholarship was to provide fee relief to a student undertaking a postgraduate award course in Design, within the discipline of Production, at the College.

C. The terms and conditions governing the scholarship were developed by the College in consultation with the partner of the late Trina Parker, a prominent Australian singer, John O’May. These included the requirement that applicants be Australian citizens or permanent residents of Australia.

D. As at 31 December 2006, the amount of the fund was $149,156.25.

E. Pursuant to the Melbourne University (Victorian College of the Arts) Act 2006 (Vic) (‘Act’), from 1 January 2007 the College ceased to exist and became a faculty of the University called the faculty of the Victorian College of the Arts.

F. Pursuant to section 5 of the Act, on and from 1 January 2007 –

(a) the University became the successor in law of the College;

(b) the assets and rights of the College were vested in the University;

(c) the liabilities and obligations of the College became liabilities and obligations of the University; and

(d) the scholarship shall be administered by the University, but otherwise in accordance with the terms and conditions to which it was subject immediately before that date.

G. Pursuant to section 6 of the Act, the fund may be applied on or after 1 January 2007 as if created in favour of the University for a purpose of the University that corresponds with, or is similar to, those purposes of the College for which the fund was created.

H. The Faculty of the Victorian College of the Arts and the Faculty of Music were amalgamated with effect from 6 April 2009 to form one faculty, now called the Faculty of Victorian College of the Arts and Melbourne Conservatorium of
Music, (known as the faculty of VCA and MCM). From 1 January 2019, it is known as the Faculty of Fine Arts and Music (‘Faculty’).

I. The Faculty comprises two discrete parts known as the Victorian College of the Arts (‘VCA’), and Melbourne Conservatorium of Music (‘MCM’). The VCA teaches a number of visual and performing arts disciplines, including music, and the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music teaches classical music.

J. Separate schools have been established within VCA for each discipline it offers, being the school of Contemporary Music, school of Art, school of Performing Arts, school of Film and Television and the Centre for Ideas.

It is provided as follows-

1. The sum of $149,156.25, and any accumulations and additions to the sum, forms a fund called ‘The Trina Parker Scholarship’ (‘fund’) and the fund must be paid into one or more investment common funds and remain there until Council directs otherwise.

2. The Dean of the Faculty (‘Dean’) on the recommendation of a selection committee established under section 4 is authorised to award the scholarship annually on behalf of the University to a student who is undertaking a postgraduate award course in Design within the discipline of Production at the Faculty. The purpose of the scholarship is to assist with the payment of the course fees of the awardee.

3. Applicants for the scholarship must be Australian citizens or permanent residents of Australia. They will be judged on artistic merit, demonstrated commitment to a career in theatre design and financial need.

4. The selection committee comprises the head of the school of Performing Arts at the faculty or equivalent position (‘head of school’), the coordinator of postgraduate studies at the Faculty and a lecturer in theatre design at the Faculty appointed by the head of school. The recommendation of the selection panel is to be approved by the head of school and a representative of Trina Parker’s family, provided such representative has notified the head of school prior to the selection process commencing in any year of their wish to be so involved.

5. The value of the scholarship is to be determined by the dean on the recommendation of the head of school, provided the value is no more than the sum of the net annual income and any other unexpended income in the fund (‘available income’).

6. If so recommended by the selection committee, the dean may in any year –

   (1) decline to award the scholarship; or

   (2) make one or more minor awards, as well as or in place of the scholarship, to eligible candidates in accordance with this University
trust record provided that the total value of any awards does not exceed the available income.

7. Any unexpended income in the fund is to be retained as income and be available to supplement payments of the scholarship or any minor awards in any subsequent year in any manner that the Dean, on the recommendation of the selection committee, may determine.

[Recital E am, Recital H added, ss 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 & 7 am 16/11/09; revoked as a Regulation and certified as a University trust record 26/5/10; Recital A, B am Recital H replaced; and Recital I J added, ss 1, 2, 6 and 7 am, 30/04/12; Recital H am 07/04/2020]