UTR6.15 – THE WRIGHT PRIZES

Recitals –

A. Robert Alexander Wright (‘donor’) by his last will and testament dated 2 September 1889, bequeathed to the University the sum of £1,000 ‘to pay or apply to or for the benefit of any members of the University of Melbourne the income of two-thirds parts thereof annually as a reward for proficiency in Mechanical Engineering and Carpentering and for the purpose of applying one-third part thereof as a reward for proficiency in Instrumental Music or of applying the whole of the income for proficiency in such other branches of learning and in such proportions as the governing body of the University from time to time determines having regard to the direction aforesaid’.

B. After the donor died on 6 November 1900, the University accepted the bequest in 1904 upon the trusts specified by the donor, and the bequest then became the capital subject to those trusts (‘capital sum’).

C. 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 trust property, including the capital sum; and

   (2) the administrative arrangements for the implementation and ongoing performance 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 Wright Prizes’ (‘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-

   (1) to apply two-thirds of the income for award annually for proficiency in Mechanical Engineering and Carpentering and one-third of the income for award annually for proficiency in Instrumental Music; or

   (2) to apply the whole of the income for proficiency in such other branches of learning and in such proportions as the governing body of the University might determine.

Administrative arrangements
4. Until its further determination, and in order to implement and continue performance of the trust terms, the University has determined that there will be four annual prizes called the ‘Wright Prizes’ in Mechanical Engineering, Engineering Design, Instrumental Music, and Family Law as follows:

(1) the Wright Prize in Mechanical Engineering awarded to the top student in a final year subject in the field of thermodynamics and fluid mechanics, such subject as determined by the dean of Melbourne School of Engineering (‘MSE’) from time to time;

(2) the Wright Prize in Engineering Design awarded to the student who completes the most outstanding contribution to the best Engineering Design focussed project in a final-year subject, such subject as determined by the dean of MSE from time to time;

(3) the Wright Prize in Instrumental Music awarded for proficiency in a musical instrument approved by the dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts and Music (FFAM), on the advice of the Director of the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, at the assessment of the second year for the degree of bachelor of Music; and

(4) the Wright Prize in Family Law awarded to the top student in a Family Law related subject, such subject as determined by the dean of Melbourne Law School (‘MLS’) from time to time.

5. Each prize is to have the value of one quarter of the net annual income of the fund.

6. The prizes are to be awarded by the deans of MSE, the faculty of FFAM and MLS respectively.

7. The deans of MSE, the FFAM and MLS are authorised to award the Wright Prize applicable to their faculty on behalf of the University.

[Title am., ss. 2 and 3 subst., and s. 4 made 8/3/04; revoked as a Regulation and certified as a University trust record 26/5/10; revoked and remade 29/04/13; ss 4(3), 6, and 7 amended 14/02/2020.]