UTR 6.434 – Vera Mert-Ilijin Scholarship

Background

A. The University received $69,984.81 (Bequest) from the Estate of late Vera Mert-Ilijin (Donor) pursuant to her Will dated 25 December 2016 for the purpose of funding “underprivileged Aboriginal and third world girls to fund their school fees and books” (Purpose).

B. Vera Mert-Ilijin (1952–2017) was born in Subotica, Vojvodina (formerly Yugoslavia) into a family that was half Hungarian, half Jewish, and with a bit of Serbian. She completed her primary and secondary education in local schools, before graduating from Zagreb University with a degree in psychiatry and English language. After working for several years as an occupational psychiatrist in Subotica, Vera and her husband, Laslo, moved to Australia in 1986, settling in Melbourne. Here, Vera worked for many years with the Transport Accident Commission (TAC), initially as a manager in the rehabilitation of people with serious injuries, then heading up the unit responsible for renovating the homes of injured clients to suit their needs. She also worked for WorkSafe before taking up her last role with the City of Greater Dandenong where she co-ordinated the provision of home help for the elderly. She also worked as a volunteer, helping immigrants from Eastern Europe and elsewhere to settle into their new lives in Australia.

C. Vera is remembered for her kindness and compassion, as reflected in her gift to provide the opportunity of a tertiary education for young Indigenous women, and women from developing countries.

D. This University Trust Record is the means by which the University records –
   (1) the trusts upon which the University holds trust property, including the capital sum; and
   (2) the administrative arrangements for the implementation and ongoing performance of those trusts from time to time.

The trust terms and administrative arrangements governing the Gift are as follows

Trust terms

1. A perpetual trust was established for the Purpose on receipt by the University of the Gift and the University is the trustee of that trust.

2. The University must invest and preserve the Gift and any accumulations and additions to the Gift and apply only the net income arising from the Fund to support the Purpose.

Administrative arrangements

In order to implement the trust terms, the University has determined that:
1. The Gift and any further donations received by the University are to be transferred to the University’s long-term investment common fund at the end of the quarter following receipt by the University, and remain there until Council otherwise directs.

2. The Selection Procedures Committee or its successor is authorised to award the scholarship on behalf of the University.

[ New UTR certified by General Counsel 29/01/2020]