

## **UTR 6.182 DAME MARGARET BLACKWOOD SOROPTIMIST SCHOLARSHIP**

### Recitals-

- A. In 1988, the University and Soroptimist International of the South West Pacific ('SISWP') conducted an appeal to raise money to establish a fund to endow the Dame Margaret Blackwood Soroptimist Scholarship to commemorate Dame Margaret's contribution to the international soroptimist community and to celebrate her academic achievements. Soroptimist International (SI) is a world-wide organisation for women in management and the professions working through service projects to advance human rights and the status of women.
- B. Dame Margaret Blackwood enjoyed a long and distinguished career at the University, both as an academic and in service to the wider University community. She was a scholar of high repute in the field of genetics and was the first woman to become a Deputy Chancellor of the University. Dame Margaret Blackwood died in 1986. She was one of the earliest members of the Soroptimist Club of Melbourne, which was founded in 1948, being its President from 1957 to 1959. She was well-known and widely respected throughout the international soroptimist world, being accorded honorary membership of all soroptimist clubs in the South Pacific in 1973, an honour which was confirmed in 1978 when the organisation became SISWP.
- C. The University and SISWP invited donations by letter dated 7 March 1988 ('appeal letter'), which stated-
- '... The Dame Margaret Blackwood Soroptimist Scholarship Fund will be administered by The University of Melbourne and will provide a grant for a post-graduate student for study in Genetics, either plant, animal or viral at the University of Melbourne....It is hoped to raise about \$50,000 from this appeal. Your signature on the attached form authorizes the University to use the income, and capital if necessary, of the fund as set out above. Your signature also authorizes the University to use the funds in any other way it sees fit to honour Dame Margaret if the amount raised significantly exceeds or falls below target.'
- D. The accompanying appeal form which donors were asked to complete stated-
- 'In the event that the fund fails to reach, or exceeds, its target of \$50,000, my signature to this form will indicate my permission for the University at its discretion to apply the fund to another appropriately related academic purpose.'
- E. The appeal raised the sum of \$45,415 for the purpose of establishing a scholarship to enable a postgraduate student to study plant, animal or viral Genetics at the University.
- F. Additional donations totalling over \$30,000 were made to the fund over the period 2007 to 2010.
- G. This University trust record is the means by which the University records -
- (1) the trusts specified in the appeal letter 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 'Dame Margaret Blackwood Soroptimist Scholarship' ('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 on which the donations were accepted ('trust terms')-
- (1) to establish a perpetual trust;
  - (2) to call the fund 'Dame Margaret Blackwood Soroptimist Scholarship Fund';
  - (3) to use the income from the fund, and the capital if necessary, to provide a scholarship for a postgraduate student to undertake study at the University in plant, animal or viral genetics; and
  - (4) to apply the fund to another appropriately related academic purpose as the University sees fit in honour of Dame Margaret, if, as is now the case, the amount raised significantly exceeds \$50,000.

#### **Administrative arrangements**

4. Until its further determination, and in order to implement the trust terms, the University has determined-
- (1) to award the scholarship to a female postgraduate student to undertake study at the University in plant, animal or viral genetics;
  - (2) to award each scholarship upon the recommendation of a selection committee ('committee') comprising-
    - (a) the dean of the faculty of Science ('dean') or nominee;
    - (b) a professor of Genetics nominated by the head of the school of BioSciences; and
    - (c) a representative of Soroptimist International of the South West Pacific approved by the dean.
  - (3) that the committee is to determine the value and term of each scholarship;
  - (4) that applications for the scholarship are to be invited by such means as the committee determines;
  - (5) that candidates for the award of the scholarship are required to submit to the committee a statement setting out the program of study they propose to undertake; and
  - (6) that the continued tenure of the scholarship depends upon the work and behaviour of the scholar being considered satisfactory by the dean, and the dean may suspend or terminate a scholarship at any time if the faculty advises that the scholar's work or behaviour is not considered satisfactory.
5. In keeping with the powers vested in the University in the appeal letter and accompanying appeal form, the dean on behalf of the University may direct that the income of the fund be added to the capital of the fund:
- (1) to promote the future viability of the fund as a means of supplementing existing University activities; and
  - (2) to enable a higher amount of income from an enhanced capital base to be available for the making of an award in a subsequent year.
6. The dean is authorised to award the scholarship on behalf of the University.