UTR 6.237 – The Keith and Elisabeth Murdoch Travelling Fellowship (Drama)

Recitals –

A. In December 1998, Dame Elisabeth Murdoch donated $250,000 to the Victorian College of the Arts (‘the College’) to establish a fund (‘the fund’) to support the biennial ‘Keith and Elisabeth Murdoch Travelling Fellowship (Drama)’ (‘the fellowship’) and a further sum of $25,000 to pay for the first fellowship in 1999.

B. The purpose of the fellowship was to enable practising theatre artists who have graduated from the School of Drama at the College to travel abroad and to enjoy a measure of financial support during the early years of their professional careers.

C. At 31 December 2006 the amount of the fund was $369,153.98.

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

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

F. 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.

It is provided as follows –

1. The sum of $369,153.98, and any accumulations and additions to the sum, forms a fund called ‘The Keith and Elisabeth Murdoch Travelling Fellowship (Drama)’ (‘the fund’) and the fund is to be paid into an investment pool and remain there until Council directs otherwise.

2. The income of the fund is to be applied by Council to provide the fellowship to enable graduates in Drama from the Faculty of the Victorian College of the Arts (‘the faculty’), known from 1 January 2019 as the Faculty of Fine Arts and Music (‘Faculty’), or its predecessor, the College, to travel abroad and enjoy a measure of financial support during the early years of their professional careers.
3. The fellowship is to be awarded by Council every second year on the recommendation of a selection committee comprising –

   a) the head of the discipline of Drama at the faculty ('head of Drama'); and
   
   b) two other members appointed by the director and Dean of the Faculty ('the Dean').

4. The value of the fellowship is to be determined by Council, on the recommendation of the Dean, provided the value is no more than the sum of the net annual income of the fund accruing since the fellowship was last awarded and any other unexpended income in the fund ('the available income').

5. Candidates for the award must-

   a) hold, or be eligible as a graduand to hold, a Bachelor of Dramatic Art (Acting), Postgraduate Diploma or Masters degree arising out of studies completed in the discipline of Drama at the Faculty or the College;
   
   b) have graduated, or be eligible to graduate, from the discipline of Drama at the Faculty or the College within the 10 years immediately preceding the date of submission of the application for the fellowship;
   
   c) be an Australian citizen or have resided in Australia for the four years immediately preceding the date of submission of the application for the fellowship; and
   
   d) make an application in the form and manner prescribed by the University.

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

   a) decline to award the fellowship; or
   
   b) make one or more minor awards as well as or in place of the fellowship, provided that the total value of the fellowship and any other awards does not exceed the available income.

7. Any unexpended income in any year is to be retained as income and be available in any subsequent year for the specified purpose.

8. The duration of the fellowship or any minor awards is to be 18 months from the date of payment of the first instalment of the sum awarded or such later date as Council determines.

[Made 7/5/07; revoked as a Regulation and certified as a University trust record 26/5/10; s 2 am 26/03/2020]