



MEDIA RELEASE

DILLON SCHOLARSHIP WINNER ANNOUNCED

A fourth generation farmer from Lochiel in the State's Mid-North has been announced as the inaugural recipient of the prestigious "*Trevor Dillon Agronomic Roseworthy Study Scholarship*".

The Dillon Scholarship will provide eighteen year old Brendan Wallis with full residential support to live and interact with peers within the supportive collegiate environment of Adelaide University's Roseworthy Campus.

Mr Wallis is undertaking his first year of study in the Bachelor of Agriculture degree at Roseworthy Campus.

According to Co-patron Chairman of the Roseworthy Campus and Student Fund, Hon Dr Bruce Eastick AM the Dillon Scholarship has particular significance because it focuses on providing assistance to agricultural students during their crucial initial period of tertiary study at Roseworthy.

"This first year away from home thrust into a different study environment is a make-or-break time that can set the foundations for an entire lifetime career in agriculture."

"Our aim is to enable a young person to take the first step in the long personal journey to become a professional contributor to the future of our agricultural sector."

The Scholarship was named in memory of Trevor Dillon, one of this state's most respected and high profile advocates for excellence in farming practice over a period of five decades.

Through his work as an Agronomist with the South Australian Department of Agriculture and during his later retirement period as a part-time private consultant, Trevor Dillon focused on encouraging future up-and-coming grass-roots farmers, young agronomists and students looking to embark on a long career path within agriculture.

According to President of the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association, Locky McLaren with the passing of Trevor Dillon last year, the State's rural sector was overwhelming in its support for the creation of a Scholarship that would assist young people to become leaders in practical agriculture.

"This is particularly relevant as an honour to Trevor Dillon, as it was the financial assistance provided by Legacy following the death of his father in the El Alamein campaign during the Second World War that permitted Trevor to study agriculture at Roseworthy Agricultural College during the 1950's."

Mr McLaren feels the rural nature of Roseworthy Campus coupled with the peer support and collegiate environment provided by the residential facilities are factors

that help to make agriculture attractive as a long term career option for students in this state.

“It is particularly pleasing that the primary focus of this year’s Dillon Scholarship recipient, Brendan Wallis is to further refine his knowledge and skills within the agricultural sector with the long term desire of making a genuine contribution back to industry in a farm advisory role.”

The 2007 “*Trevor Dillon Agronomic Roseworthy Study Scholarship*” was presented to Brendan Wallis by Dr Eastick and Locky McLaren at a recent luncheon convened by Rural Media South Australia.

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From left: Fund Patron Chairman Bruce Eastick, Inaugural Dillon Scholarship winner Brendan Wallis, ROCA President Locky McLaren