UTR2.100 - SIR MARK LEDINGHAM MITCHELL BEQUEST

Background –

A. Sir Mark Ledingham Mitchell (‘donor’) died on 8 July 1977 and under the terms of his Will dated 5 August 1976 bequeathed a pecuniary legacy of $10,000 to the University of Adelaide (‘bequest’) to be administered in the following manner:

‘…To the UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE for the purposes of the Barr Smith Library the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars.’

B. Mark Ledingham Mitchell was born on 13 June 1902 at Fitzroy, Adelaide, son of Sir William Mitchell, a professor from Scotland, and his South Australian-born wife Marjorie Erlistoun, daughter of Robert Barr Smith. Sir William Mitchell was vice-chancellor of the University of Adelaide from 1916 to 1942. Mark attended the University of Adelaide (B. Sc., 1923) where he graduated with first class honours in physiology, before entering Christ’s College, University of Cambridge (M. Sc., 1929) and studied biochemistry. Mark returned to the University of Adelaide to lecture in the department of biochemistry and general physiology and was lecturer in charge (1933-37) of the department while the chair was vacant.

C. Mark was subsequently appointed to the chair in 1937 and held it until 1962. He was a member of the University Council (1949-65) and deputy vice-chancellor (1951-65). He was knighted in 1957. He accepted an invitation in 1966 to become the first chancellor of the Flinders University of South Australia and held that position for five years.

D. The University accepted the bequest upon the trusts specified by the donor and the bequest therefore became the capital subject to those trusts (‘capital sum’).

Investment of the fund

1. The capital sum is currently held in the composite fund.

Obligations

2. In administering the fund, the University must adhere to the terms specified and is obliged:-

(a) to invest the capital sum according to the directions of the donor; and

(b) to establish a fund to be administered according to the wishes of the donor.

Rules

In 2018, the Barr Smith Library of the University established the Library Endowment Fund for the purpose of improving the quality and depth of the Library’s digital collections and positioning the Library well for future planned development of these collections.

The Library Endowment Fund includes the generous bequests of Jeffrey Scott (UTR2.180), John Spencer Hannan (UTR2.313), Kerstin Lillemor Andersen (UTR2.222) and Sir Mark Ledingham Mitchell (UTR2.100).
This is an endowed fund with the capital held in the University’s Endowment Fund\(^1\) and the annual income distribution used as per the Rules below.

1. The fund shall be known as “The Library Endowment Fund” (“the Fund”).

2. The purpose of the Fund is to improve the quality and depth of the Library’s collections and position it for future, planned development of those collections.

3. The Library shall develop and update from time to time as necessary, a clearly articulated needs-led plan to grow the library’s collection (“the Plan”).

4. The annual income distribution from the Endowment Fund shall be used to make significant and special purchases, informed by the Plan.

5. The Library’s Collections Committee will make recommendations to the University Librarian for expenditure from the Fund. The University Librarian may approve none, some or all of the recommendations.

6. Unexpended income in any year may be added to the capital sum or used in the next or some following year, at the discretion of the University Librarian (or nominee).

7. The University may vary the rules from time to time in a manner consistent with the University’s legal obligations and policies. In particular, the terms and conditions of the individual bequests and donations which comprise the Fund must be complied with in any variation to the Rules.

Rules approved by Deputy Vice Chancellor & Vice President (Academic) 10 October 2018

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\(^1\) For further information on the University’s Endowment Fund and the distribution of interest available please see the Endowment Fund Investment Report