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.