USTR2.3 - THE ELDER OVERSEAS SCHOLARSHIP

Background –

A. The Elder Overseas Scholarship was first established in 1883, when Sir Thomas Elder made a gift of £3,000 to the Royal College of London on the proviso that the College establish a scholarship tenable by music scholars from South Australia.

B. Gulielma Magarey died on 2 August 1951 and under the terms of her Will dated 2 December 1947 and codicil thereto dated 15 September 1948 bequeathed £500 to the University of Adelaide (‘bequest’) to be administered in the following manner:

‘6. I give to the University of Adelaide the sum of Five hundred pounds (£500) to be held in the said University UPON TRUST to invest the same and to pay the income arising from the investments thereof in each year to the holder for the time being of the South Australian Scholarship tenable at the Royal College of Music London which was founded by the late Sir Thomas Elder.

C. On 28 June 1966, Mrs C M Macgregor generously donated $20,000 as a gift to the University:-

“...I wish this amount to be invested by the University and the income applied at the discretion of the University Council for the benefit of the person who for the time being holds the Elder Scholarship awarded by the Royal College of Music London. I have in mind that the moneys becoming available should subject to the approval in all things of the University be applied:-

(1) In providing fares and expenses to and from London;
(2) In providing fares and expenses for the Elder Scholar in travelling to various centres in Europe for the purpose of advancing the scholar’s general musical education including the study of European languages musical literature and history and improving his or her general education;
(3) In providing maintenance or additional maintenance and general expenses of the Elder Scholar....”

D. Various other donors have also generously donated towards the fund over the years, such donations are added to the capital sum in the University’s Endowment Fund.

E. The University accepted the donations and bequests upon the trusts specified by the donors and the donations and bequests therefore became the capital subject to those trusts (‘capital sum’).

F. The purpose of this postgraduate scholarship is to support advanced musical training overseas, by a South Australian who will be a recent alumnus or alumna of the Elder Conservatorium of Music.

G. Thomas Elder was born at Kirkcaldy, Scotland in 1818 and migrated to Adelaide in 1854. He was very fortunate in his mining ventures and in the early 1860’s he had large interests in the Moonta and Wallaroo copper-mines which brought him in a huge fortune.

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H. Thomas Elder was a generous supporter of the University of Adelaide. The Elder Conservatorium of Music perpetuates his name.

I. Sir Thomas Elder never married and died on 6 March 1897. During his time in South Australia, he was a prominent pastoralist, investor, politician and philanthropist.

**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 ‘The Elder Overseas Scholarship’ (‘fund’).

**Investment of the fund**

2. The fund is to be amalgamated for the purposes of investment, and held in a common fund, and the net income earned by the common fund shall be credited, rateably, to the funds so amalgamated and thereafter distributed according to the trusts specified by the donors.

**Obligations**

3. 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 donors; and

   (b) to establish a scholarship in the manner described in the following Rules.

**Rules**

4. The Elder Overseas Scholarship is administered according to the following Rules:-

   (1) The purpose of the scholarship is to support advanced musical training overseas, by a suitably talented South Australian who will be a recent alumnus or alumna of the Elder Conservatorium of Music.

   (2) A candidate for the Elder Overseas Scholarship

   a) will be, or will have been, a full-time degree-level student, at the Elder Conservatorium of Music

   b) will have graduated by the time of taking up the award

   c) will be specialising in musical performance (as instrumentalist or singer) in the classical tradition

   d) will normally be between the ages of 18 and 30 and be an alumnus or alumna of the Elder Conservatorium within the previous 5 years.

   (3) The award is made by nomination rather than application. Teaching staff of the Elder Conservatorium will periodically be invited to nominate suitable candidates for the award. Such nomination must be seconded and will be considered by a panel chaired by the Director of the Elder Conservatorium of Music.

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The award will be made periodically by the Elder Conservatorium of Music as accumulation of interest from the endowment funds permits. If possible, the award will be made every three or four years.

The value of the scholarship will be determined by the Director of the Elder Conservatorium of Music taking into account the advice of the panel convened to consider nominations.

The scholarship may be awarded for a period of one, two, or three years, depending on the nature and merits of the proposed overseas training, and subject to the availability of funds.

The scholarship will be awarded to support a clearly defined proposal for advanced musical training without restriction of country or host institution. Candidates who have been nominated and seconded will be invited to submit such a proposal.

The scholarship may be used to support advanced training through an overseas host institution (such as a major conservatoire, academy, college or school of music) or through a programme of private study with an eminent teacher. This provision for private study is in recognition of the fact that some of the world’s most distinguished teachers do not have an institutional affiliation.

The scholarship will be paid in instalments, to be defined and determined by the Elder Conservatorium in relation to the approved project.

At the end of each year of tenure of the scholarship the recipient is required to submit a written report addressed to the Director of the Conservatorium.