



# GUS MCGOWN MEMORIAL BURSARY

## THE BURSARY

In recognition of the significant contribution to the pastoral industry by Gus McGown, a memorial bursary has been created in his name. The bursary which is sponsored by the Maranoa Graziers Trust and administered by AgForce Queensland recognises Gus's commitment to the pastoral industry

## Details

Applications **open 20 January 2017**  
and

**close 24 February 2017.**

Application forms available from  
AgForce 07 3236 3100

[training@agforceqld.org.au](mailto:training@agforceqld.org.au) or

AgForce website [Gus McGown Bursary](#)

## The Gus McGown Bursary and AgForce

In recognition of the significant contribution to the agricultural industry by Gus McGown, a memorial bursary has been created in his name.

The Gus McGown Memorial Bursary will reward one successful candidate with a contribution of up to \$5,000 towards tuition fees for their chosen accredited qualification or study at undergraduate or post graduate levels within Australia. The Bursary will also involve an opportunity for a three-week AgForce placement within the AgForce Brisbane office to provide exposure to agri-political advocacy across the three AgForce commodities, media team, training and extension, projects teams and school-to-industry partnerships programs.

The Bursary which is sponsored by the Maranoa Graziers Trust and administered by AgForce Queensland recognises Gus's commitment to the pastoral industry.

AgForce has been the unifying voice for Queensland's beef, sheep and grain producers since 1999. Its strength continues through its membership and a strategic vision to secure the productivity, profitability and sustainability of the agribusiness sector.

AgForce provides direction and solutions for its members to overcome challenges and build on opportunities and links rural and regional Queensland with urban communities.

AgForce is in the business of "making a difference" in regional and rural Queensland and hope that through the Gus McGown Bursary we can help make a difference to a young person's future career.

## Gus McGown Profile

A prominent grazier and character, Gus spent the majority of his life tending to sheep on his beloved property Jhelum Plains, near Bollon in Queensland, whilst also representing the grazing sector with his enormous intellect and wisdom in the areas of vegetation, carbon and landscape management and land tenure. In his role as industry representative and advocate, Gus was a valued member of a range of AgForce, government and NGO boards and committees and developed an amazing network of contacts who constantly sought Gus's and opinion on pastoral land management and sector issues.

## Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for the Bursary, applicants must:

- Be, aged between 18 and 35 years of age as at 1 December 2016.
- In the 2017 study year, be enrolled in their 2nd year (or higher) at an Australian University in a degree course, preferably in the fields of agriculture, environment, sustainability, agribusiness, ag-economics or political science.
- Be able to show successful achievement in their 2017 studies
- Have parents who are current AgForce members in the Southern Inland Queensland (SIQ) region.
- Must demonstrate desire to give back to and/or be employed within the agriculture sector.

## Selection Criteria

A selection Committee, comprised of nominated representatives of AgForce, will judge bursary applications on the basis of relative merit with reference to the following criteria:

- Agriculture related enrolment- meet conditions above, greater weight given to agriculture related courses
- Academic and career - goals and ambitions, achievements and results to date;
- Personal achievements - goals and ambitions;
- Community activities and other contributions to society;
- Demonstrated evidence of degree of need;
- How the applicant expects the Bursary to impact their studies and facilitate career aspirations;
- An outline of the intended area of study;
- Recommendations and references;
- An interview; and
- Quality of presentation.

The Selection Committee may in its absolute discretion decide: not to grant the bursary or not to grant all the bursary or to split the bursary if it considers that the number and quality of applicants justifies it. The decision of the Selection Committee is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

## Application Process and Timelines

Applications open from 20 January 2017 and close 24 February 2017.

Applicants may be required to participate in an interview and must be enrolled to continue their studies in Semester 1, 2017.

If an applicant is aged under 18 years at the time of application, parental consent is required to validate the Bursary application.

Application Open	20th January 2017
Applications Close	24 <sup>th</sup> February 2017
Finalist Interviews	February- March 2017
Winner Announced	February- March 2017

## Work Experience Opportunities and Diversity

Three weeks of work experience with AgForce Queensland form part of this Bursary. This placement opportunity will be unpaid and the Bursary recipient will be covered by AgForce insurance during their work experience period with the company.

The three weeks work experience does not have to be consecutive however each placement period must be at least one week in duration. Work experience can be undertaken in a number of areas of AgForce such as policy and industry development, research, industry promotional events and activities and the School to Industry Partnership Program. The exact details and dates will be discussed and agreed with the Bursary winner.

## Obligations and Conditions

You are expected to:

- Apply yourself diligently and complete your course in the minimum time required by the university/registered training organisation.
- Advise AgForce promptly (21 days) and accurately should there be any change in your circumstances which would impact your ability to meet continuing requirements for the bursary
- Undertake a placement opportunity or Work Experience of 3 weeks.
- Achieve satisfactory course results at the end of each semester of study and provide these promptly to AgForce.
- Conduct yourself appropriately and in accordance with university/registered training organisation requirements and obligations including at AgForce.
- If you fail to complete the course or take up the placement opportunity, or do not satisfy the obligations of the contract in any way, a financial liability may be incurred.
- Note that the placement opportunity does not require you to provide personal services of any kind to AgForce. It is a mentoring and experience opportunity for the winner.
- Attend an AgForce 2017 Event and participate as agreed with AgForce (Complimentary registration will be given to the recipient however travel, accommodation and associated expenses will be at the recipients' own cost).
- Applicants must allow their names and photographs and any other information provided by them to be used in publicity associated with the Gus McGown Bursary.

## Administration of Bursary

Once the successful recipient signs the Bursary Contract they are legally bound by its terms and conditions. The recipient needs to ensure they meet all the contractual requirements. Failure to meet contractual requirements may result in a breach of the Bursary contract which may incur a financial penalty. Any queries regarding the Bursary contract should be discussed with AgForce.

## Bursary Payments Timing and Tax

- Payments are relevant to study undertaken from 1 January for the year the Bursary is awarded for and will continue until the 31 December in that year.
- The Bursary payments will be paid per semester upon receipt of satisfactory Semester 1 and 2 results.
- Bursary funds are to be used to offset the course HECS/tuition fees.

For any information on tax please contact the Australian Taxation Office 1300 360 221 or go to <http://www.ato.gov.au/individuals>

## Exams Results

All Bursary Holders must provide an academic transcript for the two relevant semesters of study which is stamped, signed, dated and have the name and number of the University/RTO contact person responsible for your exam results.

This transcript must be sent back to AgForce, and will instigate payment.

Two single per semester payments will be made of 50% of the bursary on receipt of semester 1 and semester 2 results as above.

## Contacts and Support

If you have questions about the Gus McGown Bursary, please contact AgForce for assistance.

Contact: Peter Smith

Phone: 07 3236 3100

Email: [training@agforceqld.org.au](mailto:training@agforceqld.org.au)