

After almost 30 years as a Lincoln University staff member, Ian Collins is a familiar face to many, and a knowledgeable and valued member of the broader Lincoln community. He has witnessed and documented the many and substantial changes that have taken place at the University in his time.

Ian was appointed Journalist in 1987 when the University was still known as Lincoln College. He arrived when change was in the air and a new era in marketing and media activity was opening. He was soon contributing to the work of the marketing committee and its role promoting the College and encouraging enrolments. In 1989, the student roll reached 2000 for the first time.

Ian was present when Lincoln College became Lincoln University. His skills as a journalist were in particular demand during this period of transformation.

Ian's role in communications and media work has had a number of iterations, but always with a focus on writing, for which he has both natural talent and much experience.

In 2011, he was given the honorary title Writer in Residence and since 2013, he has been the University's Heritage Writer with the Alumni and Development Office.

For almost 20 years, Ian voluntarily contributed teaching sessions to papers in communication, recreation management and other fields up to 300-level.

Ian has always welcomed opportunities and invitations to participate in the wider fabric of the University and has contributed valuably to events, displays, presentations, functions, VIP visits and gatherings of all sorts, enhancing the reputation of the University and advancing the interests of staff members, departments and faculties across the campus.

He has been an enthusiastic and valued member of numerous committees and special interest groups. He is currently on the Museum and Documentary Heritage Committee and is the University's representative on the Lincoln Community ANZAC Day Service Committee.

Ian's strong service ethic has extended to the wider community through support for various projects, such as heritage aspects of the nearby Te Whariki residential development, the local Historical Society's 150th anniversary celebration of Lincoln township's founding, and, in the past, assisting media studies classes at Lincoln High School.

He has told the stories of Lincoln University and its people with detail, dignity and creative flair and additionally has contributed research, sections and chapters on Lincoln University to over 15 books.

As a special member of the Lincoln University community who has given a great deal, Ian Collins is a worthy recipient of the Lincoln University Medal.