



2020 Lincoln University Medal

Sue Bowie

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) Scholarships Advisor, Sue Bowie, has been at Lincoln University for 26 years, and together with Jayne Borrill, administers the New Zealand Scholarships portfolio.

The scholarships allow students to come to New Zealand universities to enhance their skills and knowledge, contribute to the economic and social development of their home countries, and to grow their potential as leaders.

Scholars studying away from home may face homesickness, bereavements and isolation from their children, so Sue often takes them under her wing and they tend to refer to her as “Mum Sue”.

Her office door is always open for the students who have different, often challenging needs due to their circumstances, but Sue looks after each one as she would her own children. She is also available to students in the case of emergencies, reassuring them that she is always there for them.

In her first year of her role as New Zealand Scholarships Administrator, Sue took it upon herself to enhance the student experience for the scholars by organising Orientation for their arrival,

and a Completion Ceremony for a memorable finale to their studies.

Orientation introduces them to Lincoln and Christchurch from a local and personal perspective and prepares them for life here. The Completion Ceremony provides them with a poignant and often emotional occasion to celebrate their success, as most are not able to return for a formal graduation.

Sue, and her husband Mike Bowie, have accompanied students on occasional weekends away to the mountains, and introduced them to local conservation and cultural events, giving the scholars a taste of Kiwi hospitality and an introduction to the countryside.

Having someone like Sue that the New Zealand Scholars can come to at any time, and who strives to ensure that they have a truly positive experience, means the scholars are usually very well settled and can give their utmost to their studies at Lincoln, which is vital as MFAT expects high achievement from their scholarship recipients.

Sue gives her heart and soul to her role and is a deserving recipient of the LU Medal.

Professor Bruce McKenzie
Vice-Chancellor

Bruce Gemmell
Chancellor