

## Graham and Yvonne Thiele Family Scholarship

### Background

Graham Thiele BAgSc (Horticulture), MHortSc (Hons) was a key academic staff member for over three decades (1960s – 1990s) in strong highly qualified departments of horticulture and management at Lincoln University.

Graham's formal association with horticulture began with a government Horticultural Cadetship in 1950.

Through this, he completed a Bachelor of Agricultural Science (Horticulture) degree and started his career as a Horticultural Advisory Officer with the Department of Agriculture in Christchurch. Later he was the sole-charge Horticultural Advisory Officer in Motueka.



Graham and future wife Yvonne (nee Oliver) met in Christchurch, where Yvonne was a secretary with the Department of Agriculture. They married in 1957.

Yvonne developed a close affinity with Graham's work, students and overseas visitors and provided a strong supporting role typing up his research and carrying out associated secretarial duties, to the point of being employed at universities in Sweden and Germany when Graham was there on sabbaticals.

Retiring from his Department of Agriculture advisory officer position, Graham joined the staff at Lincoln College in 1962 as a Lecturer in Horticulture. Initially he lectured in fruit and vegetable production, with his research concentrating on large scale mechanised production of berry fruit, particularly strawberries, black currants, raspberries and boysenberries. Later his teaching and research expanded into areas of horticultural economics and 'whole farm' planning, management and information systems.

Following promotion to Senior Lecturer, he was appointed Associate Professor in 1987, and subsequently served as Acting Head of Department when Professor Rowe was on sabbatical leave. Graham regards his own periods of sabbatical leave as hugely beneficial in his personal growth and development as a university academic and educator. They have included sabbaticals at the UK's Wye College, the University of California, Davis, Hanover University, Germany, and the Swedish University of Agricultural Science.

Through sabbaticals, overseas conferences, congresses, symposia, and consultancies, Graham and Yvonne visited over 80 countries. Graham retired from Lincoln University in 1995.

## Regulations

### 1. Purpose

The Graham and Yvonne Thiele Family Scholarship was established in 2025 to support a Lincoln University student who is completing their second or third year of an undergraduate qualification, or postgraduate study, with a focus on Horticulture.

### 2. Number/Value

One scholarship will be offered annually to a full-time student studying at Lincoln University. The annual value of the scholarship shall be \$2,000 towards tuition fees.

### 3. Eligibility

Applicants must be full-time students registered in their second or third year of an undergraduate qualification, or postgraduate study, with a focus on Horticulture.

Applicants must be New Zealand Citizens or Permanent Residents.

### 4. Selection Criteria

The criteria for selection will be:

- a. Academic Merit
- b. Evidence of and/or planned activity to work in and develop a career in horticulture and/or related disciplines.

### 5. Selection Committee

The scholarship shall be awarded based on a recommendation of a selection committee which shall comprise:

- a. A representative from the Lincoln University Alumni and Development Office or nominee;
- b. A representative of the Thiele Family or nominee.

The selection committee may request the applicant to attend an interview of no more than 20 minutes as part of the selection process.

The selection committee may refrain from making an award if it finds no candidate of sufficient merit.

### 6. Tenure

- a. The scholarship is tenable for one academic year.
- b. Previous recipients may apply for a continuing scholarship.
- c. The scholarship is tenable with any other scholarship, award or bursary.
- d. Successful scholars may be required to meet with a representative of the Thiele family, and/or to assist with the promotion of the scholarship including editorial content.

### 7. Application

Application forms are available from the Lincoln University website [www.lincoln.ac.nz/scholarships](http://www.lincoln.ac.nz/scholarships)

Completed applications should be emailed to the Scholarships Office by 31 October: [scholarships@lincoln.ac.nz](mailto:scholarships@lincoln.ac.nz)

## Terms and Conditions for Scholarship Applicants

Applications must be submitted by the due date advertised on the Application Form. Applications received after the closing date may not be considered.

Where you are asked to provide references or referees in support of your application, it is your responsibility to contact your referees and ask them to send their references to the Scholarships Office direct. References sent to the Scholarships Office should be clearly marked with your name and the name of the scholarship(s) for which you are applying. Referees should **not** be asked to send their references to you, as they must have the opportunity to be completely frank. Non-receipt of references or incomplete applications may prejudice your eligibility. The Scholarships Office may contact your referees to discuss references and your application(s).

If official documents are requested as part of your scholarship application, please do not send original documents. Send only copies that have been certified by a Justice of the Peace, a solicitor, or a staff member in the Lincoln University registry. **Unless specifically requested, please do not send a curriculum vitae.** Lincoln University accepts no responsibility to return any original documents submitted.

Information submitted with your application must be true and correct.

A breach of Lincoln University's policies or procedures, including a disciplinary or code of conduct finding against you, may result in a scholarship being rescinded.

Information provided by you as part of your application, together with information already held by Lincoln University (including your academic record), will be shared with, and considered by, the Scholarship's Selection Committee.

The scholarships advertised by Lincoln University are subject to availability and the advertised offerings may change without notice, prior to award.

If you have any queries regarding your eligibility or how to apply, please contact the Scholarships Office on 0800 10 60 10 or [scholarships@lincoln.ac.nz](mailto:scholarships@lincoln.ac.nz)



## Graham and Yvonne Thiele Family Scholarship

### APPLICATION FORM

| Student Information        |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Family Name:               |  |
| First Name/s:              |  |
| Date of Birth:             |  |
| Postal address:            |  |
|                            |  |
| Email address:             |  |
| Mobile number:             |  |
| Lincoln Student ID Number: |  |

| Academic Information  |   |
|---|---|
| Academic Distinctions:  |   |
| Course of Study at Lincoln:   |   |
| Please attach a written presentation outlining your evidence of and/or planned activity to work in and develop a career in horticulture and/or related disciplines. | Tick when attached <input type="checkbox"/> |

| Financial Information  |  |
|--|--|
| Please list all Scholarships, Bursaries or Awards you have received during your course of study at Lincoln University. |  |

| References   |
|--|
| Please request two confidential letters of reference to be emailed directly to the Scholarships Office. <a href="mailto:scholarships@lincoln.ac.nz">scholarships@lincoln.ac.nz</a> |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Please provide the name, title, address, phone number and email address for your two referees: |  |
| Referee 1:   | Referee 2:                               |
| <br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br>   | <br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br> |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Declaration:</b><br>I declare that the information contained in and provided in connection with this application is true and correct. <b>I acknowledge that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence.</b> |  |
| Signature:  | Date:                                    |
| <br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br>  | <br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br> |

**Please submit your application to the Lincoln University Scholarships Office no later than 31 October.**

Candidates shall email applications directly to the Scholarships Office.  
 Email: [scholarships@lincoln.ac.nz](mailto:scholarships@lincoln.ac.nz)

[www.lincoln.ac.nz/scholarships](http://www.lincoln.ac.nz/scholarships)