

## **Nuffield Australia Report**

### **By Andrew Fowler, 2000 Scholar and Nuffield Chair**

2017 was a great year for our organisation, awarding another 24 scholarships to 2018 Scholars from a diverse range of industries. Please [click here](#) to review the 2018 Australian Scholars.

We also increased the number of Global Focus Programs to six with three groups travelling in March-April (Africa, Brazil and Chile groups) and three groups travelling in May-June (China, India and Japan groups). These three later GFPs participated in the Nuffield Triennial Conference in the UK, which was an excellent event. The Global Focus Programs continue to go from strength-to-strength with 60 Nuffield Scholars participating from a number of countries this year. As an organisation we are striving to manage the increased numbers by streamlining administrative processes and providing relevant information in a timely manner for all involved. In addition to the Nuffield Australia management team, I would particularly like to thank all our GFP hosts involved in the GFPs. Their tireless work and dedication to produce rich and stimulating programs on a voluntary basis is a real credit to each and every host involved.

Our 2017 National Conference was held in the Northern Territory in September and I wish to thank those who worked hard to produce a great program. In particular my thanks to Han Shiong Siah, (2015 Scholar and Chair of Nuffield NT), 1986 Scholar and Life Member Ashley Severin and his partner Lyndee, Jonathan Shaw (2005 Sch) and Dan Richards (2016 Sch). Holding the conference in Darwin was a great opportunity to focus on the people who make Nuffield work in the North. I also want to thank those scholars to attended from overseas including the Netherlands and UK.

I wish to acknowledge the inaugural 2018 Nuffield Alumni funded Scholarship supported by the late Max Jelbart OAM, 1991 Scholar and Life Member. Sadly, Max passed away in 2016 but made an outstanding contribution to Nuffield and the Alumni over many years. With funds received from Scholar donations, a sizable donation from the Jelbart family in honour of Max, and support from Australian Processing Tomato Growers, we awarded this 2018 Alumni Scholarship to Andre Henry from Victoria. Andre will investigate alternative uses for crop residues, focusing particularly on engineering and potential practical on farm implementations.

The 2018 Contemporary Scholars Conference will be held in The Netherlands in March and I'm sure that all our Australian Scholars are looking forward to meeting all the 2018 Scholars from other Nuffield countries. I'm confident it will be another exciting and diverse program.

Finally, I would like to thank all Scholars and their families for participating in Nuffield activities and events in 2017. I would also like to thank the Board members and management team including Jodie, Nicola, Lauren and Annette for their efforts over the past year and I wish everyone a healthy and happy Christmas.

I hope to see many of you at our National Conference in Melbourne, Victoria, in mid-September 2018.