

Roseworthy Campus Association Inc - ROCA

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER



Dr Don Williams

Inducted as ROCA Honorary Life Member - 1983

Dr Don Williams was elected an Honorary Life Member of the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association at the Association's 1983 Annual General Meeting.

Whilst there was no published citation when Dr Williams' Honorary Life Membership was awarded, it can be assumed the award was made for:

- Support of the Association in his roles of Principal and Director during the transition of Roseworthy Agricultural College to Roseworthy College of Advanced Education.



Don Williams was born at Orange in New South Wales on 14th October 1920. However, nothing is known of Don Williams' life prior to his enlistment in the Australian Military Forces on 4th September 1941 whilst studying for a Bachelor of Science (Agriculture) at the University of Sydney. On 8th August 1942, Don Williams was discharged, being required for employment in an Essential Occupation.

For the remainder of WWII Don Williams worked in the Commonwealth Department of War Organisation of Industry (WOI), where the then College Principal, Dr Alan Callaghan was concurrently the assistant director for rural industry.

After completing his Bachelor of Science (Agriculture) and a Bachelor of Commerce at the University of Melbourne, Don Williams was employed at Roseworthy Agricultural College from 1946 to 1948 in the newly created position of Rural Economist. In 1949, Don Williams went to the United States as the Booth Fellow at the University of Illinois, receiving the degree of Master of Science in Agricultural Economics, followed in 1950 by a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).

From 1951 to 1957 Dr Williams worked in the Commonwealth Bureau of Agricultural Economics in Canberra, becoming Assistant Director before moving to the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) from 1957 to 1963 as Officer in Charge (OIC) of its agricultural research liaison section.

Between 1964 and 1970 Don Williams was Professor of Agricultural Economics and Director of Agricultural Extension at the University of Melbourne. In 1971 and 1972, he was the Principal Research Scientist with the CSIRO and prior to his appointment as Principal of Roseworthy Agricultural College in 1974, he was Assistant Secretary in the Department of Primary Industries.

Dr Williams became Principal and then Director of Roseworthy Agricultural College at the time the College commenced taking on the status and responsibilities of a College of Advanced Education (CAE). He resigned as Director of Roseworthy in 1981 and died in Adelaide on 17th September 1992.