



Rosemary Richards

B AgEc 1986 MBA 1998

Director - Bowman Richards & Associates

Originally from a mixed grazing/cropping property in western NSW, Rosemary is a passionate industry advocate for the food and agribusiness sector. She has a strong background in strategy, technology and stakeholder management. While studying at UNE Rosemary lived in Robb where she met her husband Peter who is also a Robber and UNE graduate.

Rosemary has extensive experience across the food and agribusiness sector, with specific focus on the grains and oilseed sector. Rosemary also has extensive experience in the ag tech/biotech sector including regulatory frameworks, protocol development, market analysis and advocacy. Since establishing her consultancy business in 1997, Rosemary has worked with a range of food and agribusiness based industries and firms to develop market focused strategies to ensure future growth and profitability.

Rated as one of the top 100 Women of influence in Australian Agriculture, Rosemary has been an executive manager, Board member and/or Chair for a range of industry organisations including the Australian Oilseeds Federation, Australian Bulk Handlers Association, the Australian Grain Exporters Association, Grain Trade Australia, Grains Industry Market Access Forum and Medicinal Cannabis Industry Australia.

How has your experience in Robb has helped you with your life and career?

Robb was a great opportunity to meet people from a wide cross section of the rural, regional and urban communities. The friendships developed during my time at Robb are lifelong and enduring. Robb provided a caring, inclusive and enjoyable learning and social environment which enabled me to develop skills and have experiences that have been invaluable throughout my career and life. College life is a great environment to engage freely in a range of activities and connect with a diverse range of people.

Robb (and UNE) has created a network of contacts that throughout my career has always provided an instant connection. In my world of agribusiness, I rarely go anywhere without running into an old Armidale connection.

Why are Robb scholarships important? How do they help young adults? Why are they a valuable investment?

This year more than ever highlights the important role of scholarships, with the current environment across rural Australia being very challenging for many. Robb, in particular, is very attuned to this given its high number of rural and regional participants. Scholarships ensure that everyone has the opportunity to study and participate in college life regardless of their circumstances and the prevailing economic environment. My experience is that all those that have benefited from a scholarship really values this and more than repays it through their commitment and participation and willingness to give back.