

ILF scholars have big plans in place

VALERINA CHANGARATHIL



ILF 2020 scholar Lisa Bosworth, chief financial officer at Samaras Structural Engineers.

SOUTH Australian business leaders are showing “unprecedented confidence to dominate the world stage” and 22 of them will share \$257,000 towards professional education scholarships to achieve their goals.

The winners were announced last night by the Industry Leaders Fund, which has supported executives since 2010, awarding 199 grants totalling more than \$2m.

Among the scholars this year is Lisa Bosworth, chief financial officer at Samaras Structural Engineers, who will receive \$7000 for a transformative leadership program

at the University of Adelaide, which will also involve study in Texas, US.

ILF considered her to "be a quiet, high-achieving commercial and finance leader" who has the potential to take greater responsibility within the Gillman-based industrial business.

She was one of two women to successfully apply for the scholarships.

The other was Spring Gully Foods sales and marketing manager Keetah Murphy, who will receive \$8000 for a graduate certificate in business administration from the University of South Australia.

The ILF expects "significant personal growth and business expansion" will follow her study.

Well known SA building industry businessman Michael Hickinbotham is also among this year's recipients. He will receive \$20,000 towards the Harvard Business School's president management program.

Joining him at Harvard Business school for its \$20,000 advanced management program is Dion Draper, chief financial officer and company secretary of Sage Group.

"At least three new scholars articulated an intention to make their business or product recognised as the best in the world," ILF chief executive Geoff Vogt said. "South Australians have traditionally been the first and best in the world, but for many years shy to say so.

"This new willingness to be bold seems to signal a change in the confidence of South Australian business leaders," Mr Vogt said.

The ceremony also recognised Redarc managing director Anthony Kittel as an outstanding contributor to the state's economy, awarding him ILF's first Colin J Peters AM Memorial Award, instigated by the family of ILF architect and former chief executive of Castalloy.

The scholars come from a diverse range of industries and will attend global and local programs. The ILF is a nongovernment organisation and is private-sector funded.

Scholars articulated an intention to make their business or product recognised as the best in the world

G E O F F V O G T