

Douglas Bomford Trust

Working with The Royal Agricultural University

Back in 2012, The Trust agreed to jointly support a Chair at The Royal Agricultural University (then The Royal Agricultural College) in Farm Mechanisation and Management for a period of five years and Dr Toby Mottram was appointed as The Douglas Bomford Professor. Good progress was made with work associated with the Chair for the first three years of the project and this was monitored with annual review meetings. In 2015, Professor Mottram reported that he had been successful in a bid to BBSRC/Royal Society of Edinburgh for a Fellowship Award that would effectively cover his salary costs for a one-year period from 1st October 2015. He also indicated that, on completion of his Fellowship, he would wish to reduce the time commitment to work at The University. Following discussions between representatives of The Trust and The University, it was agreed that:

- Dr Mottram would continue to hold the title of Douglas Bomford Professor in Farm Mechanisation and Management until the end of the original project in August 2017 but with no financial support from The Trust after August 2015;
- A new agricultural engineering post be created at The University with shared funding from The Trust for an initial three-year period so as to further develop the awareness of engineering technologies at The University.

The new post was advertised and Dr Karen Rial-Lovera was appointed to start in the role at the beginning of June 2016.



Dr Karen Rial-Lovera (second from left) with Professor Toby Mottram (second from right) with Trust Chairman Malcolm Crabtree (right) and trustee Peter Redman (left) at the Convocation Day at The Royal Agricultural University.