

# Rowe the boat lover Bonded

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IF you're calling the new Bond University chancellor, don't be surprised if you're greeted by the dulcet tones of Bing Crosby and Louis Armstrong singing *Gone Fishing*.

That's where he's likely to be if he's not in the office. Boat lover and keen game fisherman Trevor Rowe, 55, began as the new chancellor yesterday.

The merchant banker is chairman of investment bank Saloman Smith Barney Australia, chairman of the Queensland Investment Corporation, chairman of the Queensland Bio Capital Fund Ltd, chairman of Telecom, and a director of the Australian Stock Exchange and of the United Group Ltd.

He also led the team

that advised the Federal Government in the sale of Sydney airport, a \$5.6 billion deal.

Add chancellor of Bond University to that and it seems unlikely Mr Rowe will be spending much time aboard his beloved 20m game fishing boat Mabuhay chasing marlin, or aboard his 32m mother ship Lady Janine. His boats are his love or, as he jokes, the reason he's still working.

"One is a 104ft cruiser called Lady Janine, after my wife, that sleeps six people and has four permanent staff," he said. "The other is a 65ft gamefishing boat that sleeps eight.

"Last November the council asked me if I'd take on the role and, after I thought about the enormous commitment and the honour, I had to accept. This came out of nowhere, but I usual-

ly follow my intuition.

"When I understood the magnitude and commitment of the job, I consulted my family and decided this was it.

"I love this part of the world, have had a long peripheral association with Bond and I know quite a few chancellors, so I knew what I was getting into, to a degree, and the gravity of it dawned on me."

He said his first job was to find the next vice-chancellor. After that he was keen to continue the university governance restructuring, and to form a close bond with alumni.

By developing alumni relationships, he intended to help build feelings of ownership and attachment to the university, 'to inspire them to support the university financially, through scholarships and the like, and become advo-

cates of the university in the community'.

He said he would use his financial knowledge to take the university to the next level.

"Vice-chancellor Professor Ken Moores and the whole team have taken Bond from a crisis situation to a profitable and quality institution," said Mr Rowe.

"They have handed the baton over from a crisis situation to a future that one can look forward to with confidence. Now we'll look for new horizons."

He said he supported Federal Education Minister Brendan Nelson's education reforms, saying a competitive education system would create more quality graduates and employees.

"Quality graduates are essential to the national economy; human capital is the most important ingredient."

Bond University's new chancellor, Trevor Rowe

