University names top sportsperson

Popular wheelchair athlete, Liesl Tesch, has been named as the University's 1990 Sportsperson-of-the-Year.

Leisl was selected from seven other nominations for the prestigious award which was presented before an appreciative audience of about 240 people during the annual 'Blues Dinner' held in the Shortland Union late last month.

The 22-year-old Diploma in Education student won the coveted title following selection in the Australian Women's Wheelchair Basketball team which was recently placed sixth in the World Wheelchair Games in France.

Leisl was also a member of the New South Wales Wheelchair Basketball team and competed in the State Swimming Championships for the Disabled where she was placed first in the 50m freestyle, the 50m breaststroke, the 100m butterfly and the 200m backstroke. Her other placing was 2nd in the 50m backstroke.

Other titles to the young athlete's credit include being named as 'Outstanding Athlete for 1990' by the New South Wales Wheelchair Sports Association.

Leisl, who has her sights set on competing in the Barcelona Olympics, said she was surprised but delighted at being named as the Sports Union's top sportsperson.

"There were many outstanding athletes which were nominated for the award and I really am surprised that the judging panel selected me," said an excited Leisl on receiving her award.

"I would like to thank those involved in wheelchair sports and the Sports Union for helping me to get where I am - tonight has been extra special."

Other nominations for the award were Anthony Ekert (rugby union), Mark James (rugby union), Rachel Long (netball), Jane Nixon (hockey), Martin Plentinger (sailing), Peter Wright (sailing) and Nadine Watson (aquathlon, biathlon and cross-country).

The President of the Sports Union, Dr Bernie Curran, said the judging panel had to meet twice because of excellent calibre and achievement of the eight people nominated for the award.

He said some of the nominees had competed in world titles and that there were Australian and State honours shared amongst the eight candidates.

Guest speaker at the award night was former Olympian, Dawn Fraser, who said the importance of a sporting life could not be exaggerated in the context of life overall. There were many pressures on young people today and sport was an important "balancing" measure.

During her speech, Ms Fraser said the youth of today held the future in their hands. Success in anything took great personal sacrifice and if there was not enthusiasm and enjoyment in achieving, then little was gained. Enjoyment from sport was a most important aspect for young athletes.

The dinner also saw 'Blues' presented to Stephen Heanly, Mark James and James Lancaster for consistent and outstanding performances in rugby union and Sports Union Colours for achievement in sports administration to Jonothan Brien for baseball, Trevor Hughes for fencing, Scott Goninan for rugby union and Professor Michael Carter for University sports in general.

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Nominees for 1990 Sportsperson of the Year - Back row (left to right), Mark James, Nadine Watson, Jane Nixon, Rachel Long. Front row (left to right), Peter Wright, Anthony Ekert, Leisl Tesch and Martin Plentinger.
News From Academic Senate

Despite public assertions to the contrary, the University has not been conspiring to acquire Wallsend Hospital, the Vice-Chancellor told Academic Senate on July 31.

Professor Morgan said the University had not been involved in an active way in deliberations about the future of health services in the region, though it held a very active watching brief.

However, Professor Morgan told Senate he was not conspiring to acquire Wallsend Hospital, initiatives. expressed private views on July hold. However, Professor Morgan said, they were not the views of the AHEIA and certainly not his own.

He added that it might be some time before the detailed implications of the IRC report could be absorbed by the administration. The full report had not been received and was not expected for some weeks.

Professor Morgan repeated that the Senate had no plans to use the buildings.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Carter, asked Senate to approve in principle a new system for promotions to apply at the end of this year.

Professor Carter noted that two academic staff unions had proposed that the introduction of the system await a study of the implications of the IRC report, but said this would mean no promotions could be made before 1992.

Consideration of the new system had already delayed the process of applications for promotion, and there was the possibility that some decisions might not be made until the new year. In such cases, the promotion would be back-dated to January 1.

However, without Senate approval for the system, applications could not even be sought.

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Bachelor Degree Approved for Nursing

Academic Senate gave its strong support on July 31 to the introduction of a six-semester Bachelor degree in Nursing for 1992.

The Dean of Nursing, Ms Margaret McNabney, said the scheduling of clinical work outside the normal semester had made possible the compression of a more intensive course than the existing diploma into nominally the same six-semester period.

Because formal examinations were increasingly replaced in Nursing by continuing assessment, it was possible to schedule one of the two clinical weeks in first year for the examination period, four of the eight clinical weeks of second year and four weeks of the ten in third year for the same period.

This meant it was possible to provide an extra nine weeks of theoretical study across the course without extending the number of semesters beyond six.

These nine weeks would enable the Bachelor degree to offer a broader number of experience and a more intensive study of the theoretical underpinning of nursing practice than the existing diploma course.

Entry to the degree course is likely to be more challenging than entry to the diploma course, and this will have resource implications for the Faculty.

Nursing, unlike other professional subjects, is funded by the State Government. Because funding is based simply on the numbers enrolled, any reduction in the number of students, caused by more stringent entry requirements or any other reason, produces a corresponding reduction in funds.

Provisionally, the Bachelor degree requires a TER of 50 for entry.

The Director of the School of Education, Associate Professor Allan Taylor, queried the wisdom of using TERs as an absolute cut-off. Higher School Certificate scores were not good predictors of tertiary success, he said.

The Vice-Chancellor agreed, but said they were the least poor predictors available and he doubted the wisdom of allowing entry into a new and challenging professional degree course to students likely to find difficulty meeting its standards.

The question of entry requirements has been referred to the Admissions Committee.

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One-Day Workshop

TOPIC: Psychological Aspects of Fairytales
WHEN: Sunday, August 25 10 am. to 4 pm
WHERE: Mercy House, 69 Dickson Street, Lambton
FACILITATOR: Elizabeth Cain
COST: $20 (non-student) $15 (student)

Limited number of 20 participants.

Register by sending a deposit of $5 to Faith Jones, Chaplaincy Centre, University of Newcastle, Shortland. 2308.

Further details from Faith or Mary at the Chaplaincy Centre (telephone 215571) or after hours Faith (692521) Mary (571387)
Dr Leith D. Morton, a leading scholar of Japanese literature and a senior lecturer at the University of Sydney, has accepted the offer of the Foundation Chair of Japanese at this University.

Professor Morton expects to take up his duties on January 1, 1992.

The appointment was made mainly as a result of the University's success in obtaining a grant from the Staff Expansion Program of the Japan Foundation to develop teaching and research in Japanese language and culture.

Dr Morton graduated with the degree of B.A. (Honours, Class 1) from the University of Sydney in 1975. He was awarded the degree of Ph.D. by the same university in 1982.

As an undergraduate student he studied at Doshisha University (1972) and, as a post-graduate student, at Kwansei Gakuin University (1976-7) in Japan.

He taught Japanese for the WEA and the Australia-Japan Society in Sydney (1973-74) and English for the Japan-Australia Society in Kobe (1976) and at Risseikan Gakuin College in Nishinomiya.

In 1979 he was appointed as a Lecturer in Japanese in the University of Sydney and in 1987 promoted to Senior Lecturer.

He has been Visiting Professor in the Department of Japanese Literature, Kwansei Gakuin University for two periods (1983-84; 1988-89); and visiting Lecturer in Japanese Literature at this University in 1987.

Dr Morton has worked and published extensively in the area of modern Japanese literature. His particular interest lay originally in modern Japanese poetry. This has now broadened into study of the general cultural history of Japan in recent times.

His teaching reflects both his wide research interests and the breadth of his own studies. As an undergraduate he took a double honours degree in Japanese and History and followed a major three-year sequence in English literature. His teaching at the University of Sydney has included extensive courses in Modern Japanese literature, language, and history, art and architecture, civilization and politics.

Dr Morton has served at Sydney University on a wide range of University, Faculty and Departmental Committees, including Executive Committee of the Centre of Asian Studies and the council for the research Institute for Asia and the Pacific.

He has been Vice-President of the Sydney University Sports Union and a Director of the Sydney University Club. He has been an examiner in Japanese for the New South Wales HSC, a judge in the JET program to select teachers for Japan and a judge of the JAL haiku competition.

Guest speaker at the 'Blues Dinner', Dawn Fraser, had a surprise in store for her when she stepped into the Shortland Union.

Leaning against the wall was a portrait of the former Olympian which was painted in 1987 by Newcastle artist, Phyll Stone. Although Dawn remembered posing for the portrait, it was the first time she had seen the finished work.

The 86-year-old artist, who paints in a 'naive' style, said she asked Ms Fraser to pose for the portrait because she was the most famous person she could think of.

"The portrait was completed for the Moran Portraiture Prize (which attracts about 10,000 entries) and depicts Dawn in her tracksuit for the 1964 Tokyo Olympics," Mrs Stone said.

"Dawn sat for two hours a day for three weeks to enable me to complete the painting-you can tell it has been painted in 1987 because Allan Bond's airship is in the top left-hand corner."

The painting was brought to Newcastle from Sydney especially for the night after Mrs Stone heard that Ms Fraser would be guest speaker at the dinner. It had recently been exhibited at a Murwillumbah gallery on the Far North Coast before returning to Sydney.

Ms Fraser said she was surprised at seeing the portrait and congratulated the artist on her work and the style in which it was painted.

Mrs Stone already has links with the University, having painted the former Vice-Chancellor, Professor James Auchmuty.
Donation Apparatus Available to Graduates

Convocation is revita\-lising its official fund-raising arm, the Convocation Foundation.

According to the Warden of Convocation, Mr Vic Levi, involvement in the $250,000 appeal for funds to give International House a common room will play an important part in the revita\-lisation.

Mr Levi told Convocation's Annual General Meeting on July 18 that Convocation had joined with Rotary District 967 to conduct the appeal.

Donations made by graduates would flow through the excellent fund-raising apparatus set up by the Foundation.

The appeal offered mem\-bers of Convocation a unique opportunity to both help solve a student accommodation crisis and re-establish their links with their Alma Mater, Mr Levi said.

The donors of $100 or more would have their names inscribed on an honour board in International House.

In his annual report, the Warden referred to the following, among other matters.

Since the formation meeting last year, Convocation had had a gross turnover of nearly $70,000 from sales of mementos, contributory membership and variety of functions, including the annual dinner and the Graduation Balls. "We are looking closely at introducing a new range of mementos to boost receipts further and we are in the process of revita\-lising the Convocation Foundation as our official fund raising arm," he said.

Several important steps had been taken to stream-line Convocation's management structure. These included the creation of a position of Honorary Treasurer (currently held by Mr Ray Hodgins) and the establishment of Executive and Activities Sub-Committees to deal with specific organisational functions of Standing Committee.

A pleasing achievement over the year had been the extension of the Auchmuty Special Collection at the University Library by the purchase of the NSW Colonial Secretary's Papers, 1788-1825, on microfilm.

Last August, Convocation and the Careers and Student Employment Office had combined to stage the Second Career's Fair. More than 50 graduates had given their time to advise an estimated 700 students at the Fair.

Mr Levi said Convocation was looking for the same kind of support from members of Convocation and students for this year's Career's Fair to be held in the Great Hall on August 20 between 1 pm and 7 pm.

Mr Levi said another Convocation milestone this year had been the formation of a Convocation Branch in Hong Kong by a group of graduates led by Mr Joseph C.S. Fung (BCom), his wife Ms Loren S.L. Lee (BCom), Mr Simon Lo (BEng), and Ms Connie So (BCom).

Convocation's Newcastle Lecture would be delivered by Ms Janine Haines, the former Senator and Leader of the Democrats, in the Griffith Duncan Theatre on September 11 at 8.15 p.m.

Convocation was also arranging a number of Inaugural Lectures by new professorial staff.

Mr Levi reported that the two Graduation Balls staged by Convocation in the new Union had attracted more than 650 people and were a tremendous success.

They were the first Graduation Balls held at the University in more than 10 years and Convocation was delighted to have been able to re-establish a tradition which should continue for many years to come.

Mr Hodgins revealed that Convocation's credit balance at April 30 was $29,769 - more than $10,000 more than last year. He said the profit from memento sales was $4363.

The election of half of the members of Standing committee (to hold office until the annual general meeting in 1993) resulted in the following people being elected:

Dr Judith Cowley, Mr Lew Pennington, Mr Chris Tola, Mr Hodgins, Ms Jean McGarry, Ms Isabel Mitchell, Ms Jill Scott, Ms Barbara Watson and Ms Celina Zivzovic.

AARNet seminar

The two libraries at the University will present an AARNet promotional seminar on August 27 from 1 to 2 pm in Room CT202 in the Computer Information Sciences Building.

The topics to be considered are:

* what is AARNet?
* what can I do with AARNet?
* how do I access AARNet and
* what AARNet can do for you (electronic mail, electronic news, bulletin boards, on-line conferences and access to remote databases).

For further information please contact Mr Jim Cleary at Extension 5856.
University's courses bring warm responses

The University's Faculty of Art, Design and Communication received very favourable comment on its courses and teaching methods at the First Asia-Pacific Film and Television Conference held in Beijing, China, in June.

The video produced to showcase the work of students in the Communication and Visual Arts Degrees attracted wide attention and several national academics and universities requested copies to use as teaching material.

Base data for the inaugural meeting took the form of a 286-page research report which included a survey of the structure, content, resources and staffing of the film, television and video courses provided by the 50 schools and training institutes in the Asia-Pacific.

Mr Morgan, who had provided a submission for this University, said the conference had been told that although the majority of teachers came from the film and television profession few had prior teaching experience and as a result the development of professional film and television education was constrained.

Never, having a majority of staff members who had both academic qualifications and professional experience in media production gave this University an immediate advantage in the field, an opportunity to play a leading role in the development of improved programs throughout the region and a degree of responsibility for its professional neighbours.

(The Asia-Pacific region extends from Iraq in the west to the Cook Islands in the east and from Australia and New Zealand in the south to Japan in the north).

Mr Morgan was invited to present a paper on the assessment of students' creative work and a case study of the University's courses and teaching methods. To that end he and Lecturer in Sound, Mr. Trevor John, produced the video, On Video, Newcastle. The video and works directed by students, Paul Burke, Meryl Harding (BA in Visual Arts) and Richard Berrill, Shelley Bise, Graeme Kent and Karen Provost (BA in Communication Studies) were screened at the conference.

"The conference applauded the quality of both the course outlines and the students' work," Mr Morgan said. "The extent to which course plans integrated theory and practice and drew upon other artistic disciplines attracted very favourable comment."

Mr Morgan gave permission for his material to be translated into Chinese, Japanese, Bahasa Indonesian, Thai and Tagalog.

The Head of the Department of Communication and Media Arts was elected as a member of the International Meetings Committee of the Asia-Pacific Association of Film and Television Schools, which will be responsible for organising a student film and video festival in the Philippines in 1992, the next conference in 1993 and a festival and workshop in Japan in 1994.

Mr Morgan added that the University would probably be asked by universities and professional training and development institutions in the region to provide consultants and visiting lecturers to help improve the quality of their curricula, teaching programs and resources.

"We are also likely to be invited to participate in joint research, development and production activities and may attract both graduate students and requests for exchanges."

On the less official level, Mr Morgan said he had serious reservations about the way some Australians had idolised China over the past 10 to 15 years, but he was awestruck by the strength of Chinese culture and the ability of Chinese to produce beautiful things from scant resources in many areas.

"The curricula at the Beijing Film Academy and the Beijing Broadcasting Institute include Still Photography, Painting and Movement to ensure that their film- and television-makers have a comprehensive understanding of both their media and the audiences for whom they will produce their work.

Indonesia had also presented most impressive work at the conference, he said, particularly two films about the life of homeless children and immigrant peasants on the streets of Jakarta.

"Synchronous sound recording is beyond the reach of even the professional film industry in Indonesia. Professor Soetomo, Dean of the Jakarta Institute of the Arts, put it simply: We remind our students that film is precious and we ask them to do something valuable with it."

On the events of June 4, 1989 (in Tianamen Square), Mr Morgan said the memory of them had cast a shadow over the conference. However, the events were contradicted by the general attitude of the people whom the delegates met, including the university students who kept the delegates talking into the early hours of the morning so as to practise their English.

"For me the enigma remains as does a lasting memory of the professional dedication and vigour of our colleagues in China and the other countries of the region," he added.  

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"For me the enigma remains as does a lasting memory of the professional dedication and vigour of our colleagues in China and the other countries of the region," he added.
Crowding

The Staff Association has expressed its grave concern about overcrowding of lecture rooms and the safety risks caused by overcrowding.

Association members at a meeting on July 23 carried a motion "demanding that the administration address the overcrowding problems and report to the University community".

Professor Frank Bates claimed that if the University continued to take "more and more underfunded students" it would face "more and more space problems and have more and more failures."

He said that when he lectured a class recently more than 400 students turned up. Because the theatre was too small, he had had to transfer the class to the Great Hall - an unsatisfactory lecture room because it lacked proper teaching facilities.

The motion said overcrowding of lecture rooms created a potentially dangerous situation for staff and students and underscored the need for the University's forward planning (in terms of commencing and continuing students) to be more appropriately aligned with the University's triennial funding.

University Book Fair 1991

The Hunter community responded enthusiastically to the University's fifth Book Fair, which is a fund-raising activity put on by The Friends of the University. When the fair opened on July 27, thousands of bargain hunters flowed into the Great Hall where many thousands of books, records, magazines and other items had been arranged on long tables for people to buy. The Bulletin No. 14 will carry a full report on the Book Fair, including a tally of the number of books sold. Proceeds will be directed to the production of a book on the flora and fauna of the Shortland site.

Staff opposed to fee for parking

While the University is trying to solve its parking problems, news comes through of other universities experiencing the same difficulties. And the some solutions are apparently being proffered.

The latest issue of Monash University's newspaper, Montage, carries the following item:

"Staff and students are being urged to find new ways to cover their well-beaten tracks to and from Monash campuses."

"Monash Association of Students' Transport Officer, Mr Jim Black, believes that many more Monash people could find alternative means of transport."

"We want Monash people to take up the challenge and try cycling or catching public transport. If you must come by car, you should share," he said.

He said that 90 per cent of cars on the university's campus at Clayton still carried only a driver.

The students' car pool service was helping to change people's transport habits by matching those with transport to those wanting lifts. Monash University is looking at developing the service by offering some good parking spaces to car sharers.

"The potential for change is enormous. Parking problems could be eased significantly if more of these cars brought a passenger."

"More than a third of the university population sets off for campus every day from within three main districts in Melbourne."

"Many people live close enough to commute by bike. We have to do everything we can to give them the confidence to start riding."

Mr Black said the association was developing information on public transport services and cycling routes, some of which would be published in forthcoming editions of Montage.

"What people need most is to be provided with clear information on transport choices are available," he said. "This must be supported by an upgrading of bicycle and bus facilities - on campus and beyond."

Sexual Perversity in Chicago

The Drama Department will present David Mamet's Sexual Perversity in Chicago in the Great Hall in the Great Hall from August 14 until August 17.

Caroline Stacey's production follows the fantasies and exploits of Danny (Wayne Belt), Deb (Michaela Bolzan), Bernie (Mark Crowley) and Joan (Helen Fletcher) as they systematically lie about their jobs, sexual identities and experience in an effort to find satisfaction.

It captures the frenetic energy of life in a big city where everything centres on sex. It is a world of surfaces where people, terrified by real possibilities, relate to one another in terms of sexual cliches.

Performances will be at 8.30pm. For further information contact Caroline Stacey at the Department of Drama ph. 21 5501.
Busy Staff in English

The popular press hasn't bothered to report it, but the Department of English has recently achieved considerable success in academic publishing circles.

Dr Cliff Hanna has been awarded the McRae Russell Prize for a work of criticism in Australian Literature and recently launched a new book.

Dr Roslyn Jolly is the author of a book to be published by Oxford University Press.

Dr Peter Holbrook has learnt that his book will be published by the University of Delaware Press.

Moreover, Drs Dianne Osland, David Boyd, Wayne McKenna and Imre Salusinsky collaborated on the writing of a text for tertiary students released by Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich.

Dr Hanna wrote The Folly of Spring: A Study of John Shaw Neilson's Poetry which was published by the University of Queensland Press. The result? He was awarded the McRae Russell Prize by the Association for the Study of Australian Literature at its 1991 conference at Charles Sturt University - Riverina.

The conference also celebrated the launching of Dr Hanna's new book, an anthology of the writings of Shaw Neilson, which has just been released by the University of Queensland Press. He has put together a wide-ranging selection of Shaw Neilson's work, including poetry, autobiography, letters, and interviews.

The Folly of Spring has been widely recognised as an important study and has been very favourably reviewed in a number of the leading journals in the field of Australian literature.

Dr Hanna's work has been based upon many years of painstaking scholarship that has progressively established texts and dates for the poems that Neilson wrote. He has carefully studied what one reviewer described as the 'bibliographical nightmare' of Neilson's publishing history, and he has also made an exhaustive study of Neilson's manuscripts.

The book written by Dr Osland, Boyd, McKenna and Salusinsky is called Writing in Australia: A Composition Course for Tertiary Students.

It is the first book of its kind to be written for Australian tertiary students and emerges from the authors' shared experiences teaching the writing course at this University.

Writing in Australia aims at teaching the fundamentals of effective, rather than merely 'correct', writing and it accordingly emphasises problems of rhetoric, in the broadest sense, rather than those of grammar and usage. Most of the grammatical problems commonly encountered in writing by students are adequately covered.

Dr Jolly joined the English Department last year as a Lecturer. Her book will appear in the highly prestigious Oxford English Monographs Series.

Entitled History and Fiction: Modes of Narrative in the Works of Henry James, it is based on her D.Phil, which she completed last year.

Dr Jolly's focus in the book is on the idea of fiction as history, and on James's shifting definitions of both categories, together with an informed and judicious use of contemporary narrative theory.

Readers who have assessed the work for Oxford University Press suggest that it will make a "really substantial contribution to James criticism".

Throughout the work one

The tale's radical ambiguity is found in contemporary debates about children's exposure to corruption by servants as purveyors of popular fiction.

Dr Peter Holbrook, taught in the English Department as a tutor before recently returning from a year at the University of Tulsa in order to take up a lectureship.


The University of Delaware Press has a strong and respected list of publications in the area of Shakespeare and Renaissance studies. The book is based on the work that Dr Holbrook carries out whilst working on his doctorate at Yale University.

Dr Holbrook's aim in his book is to show the nuanced complexity of social interplay during the Renaissance period, which differs from Nashe to Shakespeare, and even within the Shakespeare oeuvre. Readers of Dr Holbrook's manuscript have stressed that in pursuit of his aim, he has engaged with the work of other published books in this area and has produced an original and challenging reconsideration of the central issues.
Well - trained to provide geology tours

A tour that teaches people about the geology of south-western America exemplifies Joe Whitehead's experience and interests.

"The introductory knowledge of geology will be assumed and course members should be prepared for full and active, but not strenuous, days in the field," the pamphlet for the tour states.

The American tour is one of several educational tours which Mr Whitehead is organising for the Department of Community Programmes.

Since taking up his appointment as the Department's first Lecturer in Earth Sciences, he has concentrated on courses in science, engineering and the environment mainly for people who possess no prior knowledge of the subject.

Mr Whitehead is currently conducting a five-week introduction to geology and planning field days and lectures on environmental geology. A one-day field excursion was held to investigate the cliffs and rock platforms of the Newcastle Coast and Lake Macquarie's environment was reappraised as a one-day seminar.

Joe Whitehead grew up in Liverpool and the road to Newcastle started on his graduation from Liverpool University with a degree in geology. "As mining was in a bit of a trough, I became a science teacher instead," he said.

Between 1978 and 1985 he occupied positions in three high schools in England and through associations with the Open University, Liverpool University and the Workers' Educational Association he developed an interest in adult education, organising summer schools, tours and excursions.

He was in charge of geology teaching at South Cheshire College, a TAFE-like institution, from 1985 to 1989.

Mr Whitehead and his wife, Bridget, who is also a geology graduate of Liverpool, have an avid interest in the outdoors and Australia, in particular. Last year they "went out on a limb" and gave up "secure jobs" so that they could come to Australia.

At the University of New South Wales Mr Whitehead worked as a tutor in geology and led field trips, working with student engineers. He and Bridget completed master's degrees in applied science. One of his projects was an environmental study of the route of the F3 freeway, which runs west of Lake Macquarie.

"My eyes were opened to the Hunter Valley and its attractions," he said.

With many professionals working in industry, research, consultancies and government departments and the valley looking hard at mining, sandmining, sewage disposal, the effects of the earthquake and other environmental issues, the valley seemed to Mr Whitehead to be a very suitable area in which people could study science, engineering and the environment.

Mr Whitehead has an empathy with many of his students. "I started off on my own volition with an interest in geology and was able to become a professional in the area. Many of my students are people with no traditional educational background and they lack self-confidence. However, they know a lot already and can obtain a lot of satisfaction from the new courses."

"I have been lucky to receive an open brief and good support by the Department Community Programmes," he said.

"I am getting help from some departments of the University and am also drawing on outside teachers.

"The educational study tours include tours to Hawaii, France, Norfolk Island and America - every one with a guide associated with the University.

"We are hoping to organise also educational tours to destinations closer to home - Fraser Island, Tasmania and other places. We are trying to offer the trips not only to Australians but also to people from overseas, including students," he said.

Imperialism & popular theatre conference

The Department of Drama recently hosted an international conference on the theme Imperialism and Popular Theatre, which attracted scholars from Canada, Britain, South Africa, New Zealand, as well as Australians from the Universities of New South Wales, Wollongong and Newcastle.

The subject of the conference covered the period 1870 to 1939 and papers examined the various manifestations of British imperialist policy on stage during this period.

The keynote address was given by Professor John MacKenzie, from Lancaster University, on the theatre's role in the culture of imperialism, but speakers ranged freely over topics which embraced Australian representations of the Boer War on stage, Irish theatre and imperialist expansion, Shakespeare in India and imperialism's last gasp as shown in the plays of Maugham, Coward and Rattigan.

The conference's convener, Professor Victor Emeljanow, said the success of the conference had done much to enhance the Drama Department's international scholarly profile.

"We look forward to perhaps convening a complementary conference in the future on post-colonial theatre," he said.
Science Minister for Open Day

The Federal Minister for Science, Mr Ross Free, will officially open the University's Open Day on September 7.

Mr Free, elected to the Ministry this year, is a scientist by training.

He holds an honours degree from the University of NSW, undertook research at that University for several years and, after earning a Diploma of Education at Sydney University, taught Science at Sydney Boys' High School.

The Chairman of the Open Day Committee at the University, Professor Tim Roberts, said he was delighted that Mr Free was able to come to the University.

"I think it is especially appropriate that we have a Minister who is an educator himself and who has a professional interest in research.

"More than that, Mr Free's career illustrates to potential students that study at University, in whatever field, helps equip a person to pursue many paths." 

Professor Roberts said Open Day at the University, being held on Saturday, September 7 and Sunday, September 8, would offer a very broad and informal window on the University for the community.

"Most academic Departments and support units will be presenting hands-on displays, so that people of all ages can really get a feeling for their work.

"There will also be a number of competitions based on areas of study, with some very attractive prizes.

"Maintain Axis Computers, the major sponsor of Open Day, has donated a personal computer as a prize. AppleCentre Newcastle is also offering a Mac Classic 2/40 as a prize within the Engineering area, as Newcastle is celebrating National Engineering Week in conjunction with Open Day.

"Other prizes arranged so far include air travel by courtesy of Aero Pelican; accommodation and dinner for two at the Newcastle Ambassador; and many smaller prizes, such as books."

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Regius Professor at the University

Professor Patrick Collinson, Regius Professor of Modern History at the University of Cambridge, visited the University on July 26 at the invitation of the Department of History.

Professor Collinson, a world authority on religion and society in Elizabethan and Early Stuart England, gave a lecture to students and staff entitled 'Continuity in Discontinuity: Towards a Consensus in English Reformation Studies'.

His talk was of great interest to students in the department who are studying British history with Dr. David Lemmings. It also struck a chord with those among the audience who are preoccupied with general issues relating to ideology, religion, and popular ritual.

The Department of History was able to take advantage of Professor Collinson's presence in Australia on a lecture tour funded by the British Council.

He is actually an old friend of the University, having visited the campus in 1973, when he was Professor of History at the University of Sydney.

On this occasion he is also visiting universities in Wellington, Sydney, Melbourne, and Perth.

It is hoped that his visit will be the first of a series by distinguished historians who are touring Australasia. Watch this space! 

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Keyboard Festival

The Faculty and Conservatorium of Music will hold the third annual Keyboard Festival from August 19 to 24.

Principal artists will include the Dean, Michael Dudman (organ), Robert Constable (piano), Emeritus Professor Noel Nickson, Roger Woodward (piano), Anthony Jennings (harpichord), Michael Brimer (piano), the Colorado College New Music Ensemble, Stephen Cleobury (organ), Keith Power (fortepiano) and Colleen Rae Gerrard (fortepiano).

The Festival this year gives substantial emphasis to the music of Mozart, on this the two hundredth anniversary of the composer's death.

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SEASON 3

Conductor
Roland Pediman

Saint-Saëns
Dance Macabre Op. 40

Hollier
Variations on a Tango for Saxophone & Orchestra
Soloist: Graeme Shilton

Orff
Carmina Burana
Soloists: Jennifer Barnes (Soprano)
David Russell (Counter-Tenor)
Neil Kirkby (Baritone)
with the Newcastle University Choir
and the Warrarrah Junior Boys Choir

Newcastle
Friday 30th August 1991 8PM
Newcastle University Great Hall
Tickets: $25 Adults;
$17.50 Concessions; $10 Children
Available from Civic Theatre Box Office
Chargemac Ph: 292 261 and
The Hunter Orchestra Ph: 292 523 & 294 305

The Hunter Orchestra is assisted by grants from the Australia Council and from the New South Wales Government through the Ministry of the Arts.
Recent proceedings in New Zealand relating to Maori claims to sea fisheries might have some influence on Aboriginal claims to traditional resources, according to Professor Alan Ward, Professor of History at this University.

Professor Ward, who is retained as Consultant Historian by the Waitangi Tribunal (a court of inquiry of New Zealand's Department of Justice), recently returned from presenting an overview report on historical and anthropological evidence submitted by Maori claimants, by the Crown and by the fishing industry, in respect to rights to fisheries on the New Zealand coasts.

Maori claimants argue that they, like other Polynesian peoples, used the coastal fisheries intensively: they fished for snapper, moki, kahawai, muttonbird, and pituru, among other things, often using nets, lines, and spears. They had marked territorial rights to the fisheries which, in mid-18th century, were the basis of a subsistence economy. They had rights to fish whenever and wherever they wished, for as long as they wished to retain them.

But the general Crown pre-emptive right over all land and water below high-water mark, applicable in English law, conflicted with the Treaty provisions, and Maori fishing rights were rapidly eroded by commercial and leisure fishing by the immigrant population. Maoris retained no more right than other members of the New Zealand community.

They are now claiming under the Treaty of Waitangi Act, 1985 for recognition of their Treaty rights and either the restoration of these or due compensation.

Professor Ward told the BULLETIN that there was no doubt that the Maori possession and use of the foreshore very closely before 1840, controlling access to it not only against incoming European fishing, but against many Maori, not just a random gathering of the resources.

What could not happen in New Zealand anyway, Professor Ward said, was that only the English tests of ownership or proprietorship could be applied, with the result that Indigenous people were found either to be 'owners' or they were accorded no property right at all recognition of the Crown's all-or-nothing approach.

"This all-or-nothing approach is giving way both in New Zealand and in Canada, where recent judgments of the superior courts have given way towards recognition of Indigenous hunting and gathering rights," he said.

"The modification or re-interpretation of the law in these countries will affect Australia."

"It was well-known soon after the beginning of European settlement in Australia that particular groups of Aborigines controlled particular shellfish beds or particular waters where Murray cod were caught or ducks were snared."

Yet these property rights (as Professor Ward believes them to be) were all brushed aside with colonisation.

"The Aboriginal claim to full ownership of the land might be difficult to establish in common law (it fell in the Gove Peninsula judgement in 1971). But that there were Aboriginal rights, short of ownership, in use and non-compensable rights nevertheless, is something which the judicial processes of Australia, like those of New Zealand and Canada, might yet have to consider."

Professor Ward, who teaches an honours course in this area in the Department of History, hopes to direct research which will once again comb the historical record to identify exactly what possession and usage of resources Aboriginal groups did exercise at the time of white settlement.

The question is being discussed with New South Wales and Hunter Aboriginal leaders and a symposium on the subject will be held later this year.

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Q Theatre Drops in

Sydney's Q Theatre will include this University in its travel itinerary for the Australian play, The Christian Brothers.

The play will be presented in the Drama Theatre on August 20 (at 6pm), August 22 (6pm), August 23 (6pm) and August 24 (6pm), and on August 21 and August 22 at 11am.

Arrangements have been jointly made by the Q Theatre and the Department of Drama.

The Christian Brothers will give the University an opportunity to see one of the best-known and loved contemporary Australian plays performed by one of Australia's foremost actors.

Neil Fitzpatrick, the solo actor, has performed in productions of the play at all the major Australian theatre companies. His film credits include Ground Zero, Rikki and Evil Angels. He worked at the National Theatre, London with Sir Laurence Olivier and was in the world premiere of Rosenkranz and Guildenstern Are Dead.

Ron Blair the author, was closely identified with the early development of Sydney's Nimrod Theatre, for which he wrote plays like President Wilson in Paris, Flash Jim, and Kabul. Since 1987 he has been executive producer of ABC radio drama and features.

Helmut Bakaits, the director, has been Artistic Director of the Q Theatre since 1986. He is a 1965 graduate of NIDA, has worked with Dorothy Heathcote at the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and is both a successful actor and playwright.

The price of admission will be $8 for students and $12 for the general public.

Bookings are open now and further information may be obtained from the Department of Drama (ph. 21-5001).
Art Advisory Group News

The University's Art Advisory Group has a busy couple of months coming up in August and September. Following the recent very successful Art Express Exhibition, the Group has acquired the "Hurley-Mawson View of Antarctica", an exhibition of photographs and re-photographic images of the Antarctic Expeditions of Sir Douglas Mawson. The exhibition, in the Great Hall Foyer will open on Thursday, August 8 and continue until Sunday, August 18.

Art Exhibitions Officer, Ms Virginia Birt

Open Day Events
The Art Advisory Group will host two exhibitions O during the Open Day Weekend. The Computer Room of the Audio-Visual Room in the Auchmuty Library will provide the venue for an exhibition of mediterranean artefacts from Re-entombed Galleries in Sydney.

The University has hosted a number of similar exhibitions over the last two years in which there has been enormous interest. The Art Advisory Group will also show an exhibition of works by Hunter Fibre Artists in the Great Hall Foyer. Further details of both these events will be published in the next issue of BULLETIN.

Art Exhibitions Officer, Ms Virginia Birt

Annual Dinner and Staff Exhibition
The Annual Art Advisory Group Dinner is to be held on Friday, September 20 in conjunction with an exhibition of recent works by staff of the University's Faculty of Art, Design and Communications. This exhibition will run from September 20 to October 2 in the Great Hall Foyer and Green Room. Again, further details will be provided in future BULLETIN issues.

Recent Purchase
The Art Advisory Group recently purchased two works by the Head of the University's Department of Design, Ms Christine Ross. The paintings, "Mullareena Creek" and "Mt Gee", are acrylic on stonehenge paper and measure 87 cm x 65 cm. They were part of a series of works resulting from a period of study leave granted and a research grant extended to Christine by the University in 1990.

Christine travelled to Northern New South Wales and Arkaroola in the Northern Flinders Ranges to pursue her chosen theme of Arid Zones, part of her ongoing interest in exploring specific aspects of the Australian landscape in relation to the human presence.

Donation to University Collection
A painting by Susan Davies, a graduate of Newcastle CAE Art School was generously donated to the University collection in June by Ms Anne von Bertouch of the von Bertouch Gallery in Newcastle. The painting is a fine addition to the University's Art Collection which aims to support and promote the work of regional artists.

Tae Kwon Do Alive and Well at the University

The University's Tae Kwon Do Team which finished third in a recent tournament is busy preparing to compete in the Intervarsity competition to be held in Melbourne during September.

The team which competed in full contact sparring, team pattern demonstrations and one-step sparring, won several trophies during the recent tournament.

The club's head instructor, Ben Capotosto, said the results were very satisfying. He said that the competition in Newcastle was lively and professional with all competitors exhibiting 'sportsman-like behaviour'.

"The Newcastle tournament proved to be excellent experience for the Intervarsity in September. We are looking forward to competing. It will give us an opportunity to display our skills and enjoy good competition," Ben said.

"The University club has been operating for about 10 years and if anyone is interested in joining I can be contacted on 69 5591," he said.
Library Management System

The University Library is presently investigating available library management or 'turnkey' automated systems with a view to replacing ALLEYCAT during 1992. A 'turnkey' system is an integrated set of computer software modules covering major library operations including acquisitions, cataloguing, circulation (loans), catalogue enquiry and serials control. The software package will be loaded onto a computer dedicated to library use.

ALLEYCAT was developed as an inhouse system during the 1980's and although the system has been able to meet the needs of a basic catalogue enquiry, it lacks the level of sophistication currently available from commercially developed library systems. For example, library users will be able to retrieve references to library materials using any words from the author, title and/or subject fields using a variety of combinations. Also, searches can be refined to only retrieve items published during a particular range of dates, e.g. 1988 to 1991 and/or to a specific format, e.g. videos.

The new library management system will also play a major role in the ongoing process of library amalgamation. The new online catalogue will retrieve items held in any of the University Libraries and users will no longer need to search each Library's catalogue separately. Furthermore, the circulation system has an interactive link with the catalogue and the current loan status of any item is automatically displayed. This information is immediately updated throughout the day as items are borrowed or returned.

Many of the advantages to be derived from the new system will be behind the scenes in the Library's Technical Services Department where labour intensive and time consuming record keeping routines will be completely automated. For example, when an item is approved for ordering, the computer will check to see if the item is held already, determine whether sufficient funds are available and if so, raise and print an order automatically. Once the item is received, the order record is upgraded to a catalogue record and the item will be immediately available for loan. The integration of acquisitions with cataloguing and circulation in a single system has several advantages as the current status of any item during the ordering and cataloguing process is available to users through the public catalogue.

Access to the new system will not be confined to the library buildings. The system will be available throughout the University's Local Area Network and there will be provision to provide online access to other University catalogues and information systems through AARNet. During the year, various library working parties have met to prepare the functional specifications of the new system for the tender document. Existing policies and procedures have also been examined during this process to ensure that the benefits of automation will be fully realised.

Greg Anderson, Acting Systems Librarian.
Students Feature in Exhibition

Two first-year students have just enjoyed a short burst of fame via the Art Express Exhibition at the Great Hall.

Bachelor of Arts (Visual Arts) student, Felicity Doyle, and Diploma of Applied Science (Medical Radiation Technology) student Craig Webb, both had their major works from last year's Higher School Certificate selected to tour New South Wales with the Exhibition.

Art Express is a collection of the best major works from HSC art students from throughout the State. The collection is exhibited throughout the State each year and the Great Hall was selected as the venue when it was Newcastle's turn to see the works.

Felicity, who attended St. Francis Xavier College, Hamilton, presented a mixed media work involving drawing, painting and collage and incorporating a strong design element.

Since leaving school and enrolling at University, Felicity said she had thrown herself into her course and was hoping to specialise in printmaking, especially etching.

Craig, who attended Kotara High School, described his self portrait as the way he felt about himself whilst studying for the HSC.

It certainly created a lot of interest during the exhibition.

Although he has opted to study Radiography, Craig is continuing with his artistic pursuits. He has been commissioned by Collins Books to create pen and ink illustrations for a book to be published by the Gould League entitled 'Beginners Guide to Birdwatching' and also a poster on native Australian animals.

Felicity and Craig agreed that the exhibition had a different flavour this year, displaying more of a cross section of art and a lot more variety.

Architectural issues

Many theoretical architectural issues were discussed during Theory Week in the Great Hall organised by the Department of Architecture.

Theory Week brings staff and students together for five days of lectures and debates. The sessions are usually quite informal and the students' work is not assessed.

The topics considered represent a wide range of contemporary theoretical issues, in particular those pertinent to architectural design and criticism.

Talks on the various media were included in the program to indicate to students that the origin of contemporary theory is generally outside architecture and close reading is required to interpret issues effectively.

American Play Made Local

The Next Thing was first presented in New York in 1966, part of Off-Off-Broadway, a movement brought into being as an alternative to the already established Off-Broadway theatre.

The play by Michael Smith contains little that is exclusively American, or particularly 60s style, so the decision has been made to localise and contemporise it.

The Next Thing examines the sometimes tortuous relationship between a boy and his mother, dimpling at dinner with a guest, a new girlfriend. But is she more (or less) than she seems? Who is the interloper? Is it, or is it not, all in the mind? His mind?

Your mind? Make sure the next thing in your life is The Next Thing.

The play will be presented, with Michael Lill, Jo Tunbridge, Dorothy White and James Allotey, in the Green Room in the Great Hall from August 26 to 30 at 1pm, with one performance on August 30 at 6pm.
I was bemused to read the recent Staff Office Vacancy Notice (Position No. G222/91) for "a mature experienced and highly-skilled" Word Processor Operator. Listed among the essential criteria for the position were:-

• the ability to prepare business reports to a high standard;
• the capacity to meet executive deadlines;
• proven written communication skills;
• good interpersonal skills.

The advertised salary range for this paragon of office administration was $12,069 per annum to $21,396 per annum.

Obviously, the argument that if you pay peanuts you get monkeys only applies when advanced in their own cause by senior officers, some of whom I suspect might well not themselves meet the stated criteria.

A very peculiar practice indeed.

Yours sincerely,
Lionel Farrell.

Dear Sir,

Between 1986 and the present, the Department of Biological Sciences had taken in 50 per cent more students than before. Yet the department's recurrent funds had gone up from only $62,000 to $72,000 - not even matching the inflation increase.

Professor Boettcher said Canberra academics had been asked by the Department of Employment, Education and Training (DEET) to make a donation to a fighting fund.

"Last year we went on strike not only to obtain salary increases but also to get a reversal of the trend in working conditions," he said. "A few years ago we gave a day's pay to FAUSA for this cause - the money spoke louder than our actions."

Academic Conditions

Academic staff were being asked to do 'more with less' and this was killing the enthusiasm of staff and young people, it was claimed at a meeting of the Staff Association.

All feasible means should be taken to call national attention to the deterioration of academic conditions in Australian universities and reverse the present tendencies, the association resolved.

The association's national body, the Federation of Australian University Staff Associations (FAUSA), will be urged to organise the campaign.

Professor Barry Boettcher told the meeting that most people had found that academic conditions at this University had deteriorated.

"We do not have sufficient resources to provide a standard of performance that we want to provide and deserve," he said.

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Research Grants for 1991

Information on the following grants is available from the Office for Research - Telephone 21 5305

Closing Date

+ The Asthma Foundation of NSW Research project grant support; travelling fellowships and higher degree research scholarships  
August 1, 1991
+ Retinitis Pigmentosa Research Grants 1991 For high quality research related to Retinitis Pigmentosa.  
August 5, 1991
+ The Australian Sports Commission Applied Sports Research Program High priorities for research funding in 1992 include, Medicine; injury surveillance and prevention; Disabled; Gender inequality.  
August 10, 1991
+ NHMRC Research Program Grants Provides support over five years for a research team that normally comprises several outstanding established investigators.  
August 21, 1991
+ NHMRC Research Program Grants To assist Australian participation in international science and technology networks and collaborative research and development programs.  
August 22, 1991

FELLOWSHIPS AND CONFERENCES

+ Australian Academy of Science Scientific exchanges with Japan - 1992/93  
August 23, 1991
+ The Sydney Lovibond Prize, National Drug & Alcohol Research Centre Entries from young Australian scientists in the form of a 5000 word essay. Award of $1,000  
September 19, 1991
+ DITAC Bilateral Science & Technology Program Support for international research collaboration on projects which contribute to Australia's industrial, scientific or technological capabilities.  
September 20, 1991
+ Fulbright - Australian-American Educational Foundation For study, research, lecturing in the USA. Postgraduate Student & Postdoctoral Fellow: Professional: October 5, 1991  
September 20, 1991
+ Fulbright - Australian-American Educational Foundation Scholarships Program - Greece.  
September 21, 1991
+ The Australian Sports Medicine Federation Research Awards Scheme Young Investigators Award, Medical Students Prize, Best Conference Paper Award & Best Journal Article.  
September 23, 1991
+ NSW Cancer Council Travel Grants-In-Aid  
September 23, 1991
+ NSW Cancer Council Awards for Postgraduate Education and Training in Oncology  
September 23, 1991
+ Australian Academy of Science Scientific exchanges with China - 1992/93  
November 22, 1991

+ The Benians Fellowship To undertake study and research at St John's College, Cambridge.  
August 15, 1991
+ The Berkley Fellowship  
August 21, 1991
+ The Berkley Fellowship For study and travel in the United States.  
August 21, 1991
+ Sir Maurice Bhers Fellowship Issues affecting Australian Police work.  
August 21, 1991
+ The Fenner Conferences on the Environment The Australian Academy of Science, call for Proposals for meetings in 1992 or 1993  
August 28, 1991
+ Nuffield Foundation Fellowship Awards The Australian Academy of Science - Curriculum development; teaching through Commonwealth themes, educational drama and performing arts.  
August 31, 1991
+ DEET Visiting Fellowships, CSFP, AEAP & AGAP Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan - Commonwealth countries. Australian-European Awards Program - European countries, except Greece  
September 19, 1991
+ Australian Academy of Science Postdoctoral Fellowships in the UK - Awards for Scientists - 1992  
September 23, 1991
+ Frederick White Prize  
September 26, 1991
+ Frederick White Prize Up to $5,000 for research in the Physical Sciences.  
September 26, 1991
+ 1992 Gottschalk Medal To recognise distinguished research in the medical or biological sciences by younger scientists.  
September 26, 1991
+ 1992 Pawsley Medal To recognise outstanding research in experimental physics by younger scientists  
October 25, 1991
+ Australian Academy of Science Postdoctoral Fellowships in Japan - Awards for Scientists 1992/93  
December 10, 1991
+ Robert S McNamara Fellowships Program To support postgraduate research in areas of economic development  
No Closing Date
+ National Campaign Against Drug Abuse + DITAC Access to Major Research Facilities Program, to facilitate travel to major research facilities overseas. Apply at least seven week before date of intended travel.  
No Closing Date
+ Education and Training Foundation.  
No Closing Date
+ BHP Community Trust.  
No Closing Date
+ RADAC Department of Community Services & Health. Medical research and targeted research areas  
No Closing Date
+ Research Management Committee Travel Grants.  
No Closing Date
+ Research Management Committee Research Visitors.  
No Closing Date
+ Child Accident Prevention Foundation of Australia.  
No Closing Date
+ Telecom Research Funding.  
No Closing Date
+ Wellcome-Ramaciotti Research Travel Grants.  
No Closing Date

Information on the above grants is contained in 'NEWS' on the VAXcluster. Further information and relevant application forms are available from the Office for Research - telephone 21 5305.
Chief Science Adviser Appointed

The Minister for Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories, Ms Ros Kelly, has welcomed the appointment of Professor David Green to the position of Chief Science Adviser in her Department.

The Chief Science Adviser will provide advice to the Minister and scientific input into a broad range of policy matters, including developing national strategies to deal with greenhouse gases, biodiversity and endangered species. Dr Green will also be involved in assessing scientific priorities for the proposed Commonwealth Environment Protection Agency.

Professor Green, 55, has been Professor of Geology at the University of Tasmania since 1977.

He is expected to take up his two-year appointment with the Department in Mid-August.