HSC Students come to Uni - New Govt Plan

Students in New South Wales will be able to study one or more University subjects while still completing their HSC, according to the Minister for School Education, Mrs Virginia Chadwick.

In a statement released to coincide with the Premier, Mr Greiner's, "Facing The World" speech on March 23, Mrs Chadwick said the content of the HSC would become more relevant to the future job market through "bold new moves" announced by the Premier.

The HSC would be offered part-time, and would have "closer links" to TAFE, universities and industry, Mrs Chadwick said.

"Students will be able to undertake TAFE certificate courses, work experience or one or more University subjects while still completing HSC requirements," she said. "We need to find every incentive to encourage young people to participate in relevant and productive education and training programs."

"Under the new initiatives," she said,

"There will be flexibility to allow students to complete the HSC on a part-time basis. This will allow students to complete the HSC while in the workforce or while undertaking other education and training programs. It will increase the potential for people who left school early to gain a HSC."

"There will be increased credit transfer between schools, TAFE and the university sector, allowing credit towards the HSC for courses completed at TAFE and university credit for high-level HSC courses."

"Students who are gifted in one or more subject areas will be able to complete courses in these subjects while still completing the balance of their HSC."

Mrs Chadwick made this last commitment in 1991 as part of a plan to improve the treatment of gifted children in NSW schools, but the other two commitments are new announcements.

There were no further details given, either by Mrs Chadwick or in the Premier's document, of how the proposed credit transfer between universities and TAFES and schools would work.

In other steps announced as part of the "Facing the World" speech, the Government promised to give 11 hectares of land to a joint venture of the University of Sydney, University of NSW and UTSM.

The land, formerly part of the Eveleigh railway yards near Redfern, is proposed to become an Advanced Technology Park, with expressions of interest for its development expected to be called by July this year.

This site is part of the NSW bid for funding under the Federal Government's Building Better Cities program.

The Government has also announced that Japanese will one of the most popular HSC subjects by the end of the decade, with six languages identified as priorities for school study.

Mrs Chadwick said the Government had identified Japanese, Mandarin, Indonesian, Korean, Russian and Vietnamese as vital to the State's economic future.

The number of students taking Japanese at school had trebled since 1989, and it was now offered at two out of three State high schools.

Newton-John Award

Emeritus Professor Brin Newton-John made a rare visit to the University for the presentation of the Newton-John Award to Mrs Marjorie Biggins.

The award, presented by Convocation, is for a graduate who has made an outstanding contribution to the life of the community. Mrs Biggins, whose activities in the arts community of Newcastle have been ceaselessly energetic since her undergraduate days at Tighes Hill, was a popular recipient.

Accompanied by her husband Denis and three children - the actress and musician Penelope, the actor Jonathan, and the journalist Felicity (whose husband Mr Earl Caulfield has recently been appointed to staff) - and many friends, Mrs Biggins helped turn the annual Convocation dinner into a boisterous and enjoyable evening.
Parable of the Talents . . . . . Training versus Education

The award of the Convocation Medal for professional excellence was the University's way of saying, "We approve of what you have done with what we gave you," Dr Marlene Norst said in accepting her medal for 1991.

Therefore, she said, it behoved her to say thank you to the University for all it had given her.

She likened her position to the servants in the parable who increased the talents with which they were entrusted, earning the plaudits of the master who had given them.

But without the original gift, she could not have achieved as much.

Dr Norst, who has worked at Macquarie, Heidelberg, Edinburgh and Vienna, said Newcastle had given her her unique advantages.

Because the Hunter had not had a university before, many of Newcastle's students were "first generation" students. They would not accept that things were done a certain way because that was how things were done, they demanded to know why.

As a result, she learned to be honest as a teacher, and still regarded that as the teacher's greatest attribute.

"If you can cheat, it's bad for your character, because you keep doing it," she said.

At Newcastle, especially in the German Department, she also learned to be passionate.

"You can't learn passion from a computer," she said.

Dr Norst named many of the staff of the German Department as the individuals from whom she had learned to be passionate about her work, including Professor Brin Newton-John, who attended the presentation of the medal.

Within his Department, she said, people had learned that language was vital, literature was its highest expression, but thinking was not limited to any one subject.

We are under threat. That was the message from the Dean for Research, Professor Ron MacDonald, when he accepted the Convocation Medal for professional excellence on March 27.

Professor MacDonald said his generation - those who had studied at University in the 1960s and worked in universities until now - had been "very, very lucky, a very privileged form of society."

The advantages they had enjoyed were now being placed in jeopardy by a funding system which emphasised more vocationally oriented training and less education.

"We are becoming more about training and less about training people to train themselves," he said.

By the turn of the century, some 90 per cent of students would complete Year 12, Professor MacDonald said.

"But what sort of tertiary education will they have?" he asked.

Professor MacDonald thanked his teachers from his undergraduate days at Tighes Hill for the start he had received in his career in Science.

Professor MacDonald also thanked his two long-term collaborators in surface ion research, Dr John O'Connor and Dr Bruce King, for their part in his career.

"I'm an experimental scientist, and you can't do that on your own."

As a result of their work, the University had not only attracted major research funds, but a research team with members from Japan, Korea, Germany, China and Poland, all of them coming eagerly to Newcastle to further their careers.

And he thanked the staff of the Physics Department for putting up with the noise, the water leaks, the gas emergencies, the equipment coming through their windows... all the demands that experimenting physicists make on those around them.

Selection of Vice-Chancellor proceeding well

Responses to the advertising of the position of Vice-Chancellor had indicated a high degree of interest, the Chancellor, Justice Evatt, has told Bulletin.

After the second meeting of the Selection-Search Committee for the position on April 2, Justice Evatt said the response from within the University to a request for comments had also been strong.

"The selection process is going ahead strongly," she said.

"The position has been advertised around Australia and overseas, and Council's selection-search committee has met twice.

"A large number of people within the University have come forth with suggestions and comments, and I am sure that more will do so. We welcome that.

"Appropriate candidates may not necessarily come from predictable areas.

"This is one reason we still look forward to receiving comments from other members of the University - academic staff, general staff or student groups.

"I am sure there are plenty of ideas in the University, and people should not be shy about putting them forward.

"And, if anybody is hesitant, he or she can write to me personally. I would respect any request for confidentiality.

"The committee's objective at this point is still to cast our net widely to find a person suitably talented and committed to succeed Professor Morgan.

"The time for narrowing down the choices remains in the future."
Sumo, Soccer and Studies

It is not absolutely clear that Plattsburg soccer club needed a Professor of Japanese Studies, but Professor Leith Morton definitely was in need of a soccer club.

After 22 years at Sydney University, from his first year as an undergraduate to his role as a senior lecturer, Leith Morton had decided the time had come to move - and soccer has always been an important part of his life.

But coming to the home town of his boyhood hero Ray Baartz was not the only attraction in the move to Newcastle.

This University has one of the three or four biggest departments of Japanese in Australia, with some 600 students.

In fact, Japanese is extraordinarily popular in the whole Hunter region. While the region is home to just under 10 per cent of the State's population, it has 25 per cent of the high schools where Japanese is studied.

And Professor Morton's chair is in Japanese Studies, giving him the chance to build upon the existing strengths of the section and create a new section strong in scholarship.

Professor Morton has the highest regard for Professor Kiyoji Ono and the work he has already done at Newcastle.

Professor Morton has studied under Professor Ono - at Fort Street High, when Professor Ono had just arrived in Australia.

The direction of the Japanese Studies is already beginning to emerge, even though limited resources - it has just eight staff - restrict immediate moves.

Two new members of staff are specialists in history and, although language teaching will remain mandatory for all staff and the cornerstone of the section, they will bring a new breadth to the section.

It is impossible to teach a language without teaching something of the culture which produces it and which it serves and, as Professor Morton acknowledges, teaching at Newcastle has always contained a healthy element of cultural studies.

However, he would like to see the studies side expand, initially in the humanities areas of history, art and music, to give students a better feeling for the extremely subtle texture of the language.

There might even be room to pay attention to Professor Morton's other sporting passion - sumo.

Jayne Drinkwater, of Student Administration, has been a bicyclist for just 18 months but that has not stopped her from taking part in the Great NSW Bike Ride of 1992, all the way from Mount Kosciusko to Darling Harbour.

For covering the 625 kilometres, Jayne will receive sponsorship from staff members on behalf of the MS Foundation, to help fund research into multiple sclerosis.

Jayne and her husband Simon have contributed $400 each to take part in the highly organised ride.

Their entry fee covers transport (of themselves, their bikes and other gear) from Sydney to Mt Kosciusko; three meals a day; trucks to carry the riders' gear from camp to camp each day; establishment each day of a new camp, usually on local sporting fields and including hot water supplies; entertainment each night; a daily newsletter; and, most importantly, regular weather forecasts.

Although new to the sport, Jayne says she knows two other riders through Simon and at least one other through work at the University - Geoff Barcan, of Secretariat.

"There are plenty of riders from Newcastle, though," Jayne said on the eve of her departure.

"All the bike shops are complaining that they've been selling out of spare parts for weeks."

Joy Hoesli-Farnham Award

AWEUN - The Association of Women Employees at The University of Newcastle will be holding a luncheon on Thursday, April 30 to present the 1991 Joy Hoesli-Farnham Award to the Chancellor of the University, the Hon. Justice Elizabeth Evatt, AO.

The Joy Hoesli-Farnham Award is conferred annually by the members of AWEUN to a woman who has demonstrated a commitment to improving the status of women. The award is made in appreciation of the work of AWEUN's founding President, Joy Hoesli, and in recognition of the inspiration and example she has set for other women in the University community.

All members of the University are invited to come to the Hunter Technology Centre from 12.30 pm. The cost of the luncheon is $15 per person.

Bookings can be made by telephoning Ms Helen Parker at 21 5588 by Friday, April 24.
Organ Music with Michael Dudman

April sees Michael Dudman's weekly program of pipe organ music move to Canada, the home of Orgues Létourneau. "You can play one of these organs for hours without getting tired, they are just so beautifully made", Mr Dudman said.

Canada has a particularly rich tradition of organ building, and Mr Dudman found audiences enthusiastic about his concerts in Saint John, New Brunswick and St. Catherine's, Ontario when he visited there last September. His repertoire included works by Bach and Mozart, American composers like Foote and Cook, and the French organ masters.

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of Air Canada, 2NUR is able to broadcast recordings of these organs ranging from a tiny practice organ in a private studio in Saint John, New Brunswick to the 38 stop Grand Organ in the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria just a short drive from Niagara Falls.

To hear an organist of this calibre performing on such fine instruments makes compulsive listening. Hear the program for yourself - Organ Music with Michael Dudman, 8 pm Sundays on 2NUR-FM (103.7).

A Record for Recorders

The recent concert featuring Michaela Petri, and the visit during April by the Loeki Stardust Quartet of Amsterdam should reawaken local interest in recorders and their repertoire, particularly if one's only experience was to play the descant at school.

On Tuesday, April 14, the Music Lovers Club will provide "hands-on" experience of this very old and quite lovely instrument.

The program will be presented by Glen Grantham, and there will be an opportunity to examine a whole family of recorders, some home-made, to hear about their construction and history, to play them if you wish, or just listen to recorder music, on record and live.

The club meets in Room 416 at the Newcastle Conservatorium in Auckland Street, commencing at 6.30 pm. New members and casual visitors are most welcome and a charge of $3 or concession of $2 goes towards helping Conservatorium student scholarships.

If you would like to have the yearly program sent to you please contact Mr John Allen at 49 7421.

Handel's Messiah as first performed

On Good Friday, April 17, at 7pm, a Newcastle audience will have the opportunity to hear a performance of Handel's Messiah as close as possible to the one Dublin audiences heard at its premiere almost exactly 250 years ago.

The University Choir and Orchestra under the musical direction of Peter Brock, will present the work in the Great Hall.

Handel used seven soloists. To the four usually employed today, Peter Brock has added a counter-tenor, in Tobias Cole. Tobias Cole began his career as a chorister in Sydney at eight, continued his training in London and is now studying for a BMus while appearing with groups such as the Renaissance Players and the Australian Chamber Singers.

Soprano soloist is Jennifer Barnes, winner of the 1990 Doris Smith scholarship which took her to England for further study. She has sung with the Choir several times, with the Hunter Consort of Voices and appeared in local opera productions and as a soloist in Andrew Lloyd Webber's Requiem.

Mary-Ann Fraser, the contralto, has wide experience in opera both locally and with the Australian.

The tenor Andrew Coombes has performed extensively in Sydney and the Hunter. He has appeared with the Australian Opera in Lohengrin, Foss and Fidelio.

A graduate of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, the bass Clive Birch has wide experience in opera and oratorio. He has appeared numerous times with the University Choir and the Song Company.

On Monday April 13, the choir offers an open rehearsal in the Great Hall. Peter Brock will discuss the oratorio at 6.30pm and the rehearsal begins at 7pm. It presents a great opportunity to increase enjoyment of the work through better understanding. Admission will be $1 and all are welcome. Enquiries: 632774 or 65 2237.
University Engineer wins W.H. Warren Medal

Professor Rob Melchers of the Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying has been selected by the Board of the College of Civil Engineers for the Award of the W.H. Warren Medal.

Professor Melchers was presented with the award for his paper entitled "On Earthquake Design Standards for Australia", to be published in the Australian Civil Engineering Transactions, Volume CE34, February 1, 1992.

The award is made annually for the best paper in the discipline of Civil Engineering. The award was first made in 1929 and perpetuates the memory of Professor W.H. Warren who was the first President of the Institution. Professor Warren was appointed to the first Chair in Engineering at the University of Sydney in 1883. A position he held until 1925.

In 1895 Professor Warren was elected the first President of the Sydney University Engineering Society which later became one of the foundation societies of the Institution.

The presentation of the award was made at the annual general meeting of the Institution which is held in conjunction with the Engineering Conference held at Newcastle City Hall on March 31.

Engineering Expertise helps Historic House

In an example of how modern engineering knowledge can be applied to everyday life, one University academic has been able to give specialised advice which has assisted in the preservation of an historic Hunter Valley house.

Professor Rob Melchers from the Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying, was approached by Mr Peter Capp, the owner of Windermere House at Lochinvar for advice on an ongoing problem of water seeping into the basement level of the house.

Windermere House, built in 1821 with convict labour, is set just outside Lochinvar and is the oldest house in the Hunter Valley. It was built on a grant of land by Thomas Wright Melville Winder, an English sea captain and later to become a successful businessman. Winder is credited with growing the first grapes in the Valley.

Peter and his wife, Lorna and their daughters, Annabel and Phillipa, are the fourth and fifth generation of the Capp family to live in the house after Peter's great grandfather purchased the property in 1870.

When assessing the situation, Professor Melchers came up with the idea of digging 1.8 metre trenches around the house, placing agricultural drains, and installing heavy plastic sheeting at a 45 degree angle to channel the water well away from the building.

The work was undertaken with funds provided by an indexed refundable grant of $30,000 from the Heritage Commission of New South Wales, which has allowed the Capps to tackle the moisture problem.

"This situation has been causing considerable difficulties for us for some years," Peter said.

"We found that the moisture was having an effect on the handmade brick walls in the basement level. It was causing them to become powdery."

"This is the area where the convicts were housed in the 1820's and is of great historical significance. It was of the utmost importance to rectify the problem, not only to preserve the house, but also the history."

"The work that has been done appears to be working quite efficiently and it's proving to be worth the effort of having it done," he said.

Local contractors carried out the work which was completed in a period of two months.

Professor Melchers is delighted to have been able to solve the problem and said it was yet another example of how the University is closely involved with the community.

AISC Scholarship in Steel Structures

One of Australia's most substantial academic awards has been announced by the Australian Institute of Steel Construction.

It is the AISC Scholarship for the best structural steel project or thesis by final-year civil engineering students.

The winner will be sent on a six-week overseas working trip; the prize is worth up to $10,000.

AISC Chief Executive, lan Hooper, said: "This prestigious award represents the steel industry's substantial commitment to higher education."

"AISC already provides universities with extensive resource material."

The winner will be selected by a judging panel of structural steel experts brought together by AISC.

Each university will be requested to submit projects by two of their top fourth-year students to the judges.

It is expected the winner will be announced early in 1993 and the six-week trip taken any time during the following 12 months.

For further information please contact Michael Charlton at (02) 929 6666.
Awards in Chemistry

At a recent meeting of the Newcastle Section of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute (RACI) held on the campus, the national 1991 Applied Research Medal of the RACI was awarded to Dr Dom Swinkels, Industrial Research Associate in the Department of Chemistry. At the same meeting, prizes to the top chemistry students of 1991 were announced and presented. The RACI sponsors both the third and fourth year prizes in Chemistry, and all academic staff of the Department are members of the Institute.

The prizes for the best students in each year of chemistry during the 1991 academic year were awarded to Mr Jason Sharples (The Donald Petersen Prize for first year chemistry), Ms Kirsten Molloy (The RACI Newcastle Prize for third year chemistry) and Mr Scott Donne (The RACI NSW Prize for fourth year chemistry). Two of the student prizewinners (Ms Nolan and Ms Molloy) are pictured with the RACI 1991 Applied Research Medal winner, Dr Swinkels. Assoc. Professor Geoffrey Lawrance, Head of the Department of Chemistry, said that it was not only important for students to receive recognition for their academic achievements, but to have these achievements recognised more widely.

Presentation at an event such as the award of a prestigious national medal for chemical research makes these students known to a wider group of practising chemists and also lets them learn something of the opportunities in their chosen profession.

Dr Swinkels was presented with his medal by the Chairman of the NSW Branch of the RACI, Dr Graham Batley of the CSIRO. He then presented an address entitled The Joys and Frustrations of Applied Research, reviewing his experiences in an applied research career spanning some 30 years.

Applied research differs from pure or basic research primarily in its aims, in that applied research seeks new knowledge for that knowledge to be applied in some way, whereas pure or basic research seeks to gain new knowledge primarily for its own sake. Applied research tends to be more team oriented and to be more varied in its subject base than basic research, which can make it more difficult and frustrating because of the many constraints such as time, cost, and safety etc., within which results have to be achieved.

Dr Swinkels illustrated some of the characteristics of applied research with examples from his work ranging from molten salt batteries and ceramic electrolyte fuel cells and oxygen sensors for molten steel to orbital engines and work on hydrometallurgical and electrochemical processes. Along the way he developed a significant interest in chemometrics and the use of personal computers as an essential tool for the working scientist. Dr Swinkels work over the years has resulted in over 40 papers and a dozen patents awarded in up to eight countries.

Dr Swinkels now has a strong involvement in the Electrolytic Manganese Dioxide (EMD) plant built by BHP in Mayfield. In recent years the science and technology of EMD production and use have been his main interest and he has been active in the International Battery Materials Association of which he is a Vice-President.

To further the science of EMD and other forms of manganese dioxide, Dr Swinkels has worked with the Metals Chemistry Group of the Department of Chemistry in gaining support for two APRA (Industry) doctoral students, and other grant applications are in the pipeline to build up significant local expertise to support the high value added export oriented venture of the EMD plant.

Dr Swinkels association with the Department of Chemistry goes back many years, since he graduated with Honours Class I and the University Medal in 1960, when the Department was still located at Tighes Hill and was still a College of the University of New South Wales.

Careers Fair

Are you available from 1 to 5 pm on Tuesday, August 25, to talk to current students about your career?

Graduates of The University of Newcastle (including the former HiHE and NCAE) are invited to visit the University and meet with undergraduates. The fair also provides an opportunity for organisations to promote themselves to potential future employees.

Organised jointly by Convocation and the University Careers Office, the emphasis is on informality, with graduates meeting students on a one-to-one basis.

A particular strength of the day is that it gives undergraduates the chance to explore issues that may not be covered at the conventional interview stage, and to find out "everything they have always wanted to know about their career - but were afraid to ask"!

If you would like to know more about the fair, or if you would like to volunteer your service, please contact Ms Helen Parker, Careers Officer, at 21 5588 (fax 21 6926).
Copyright Corner

Category A Notice

Under the Collection Scheme Agreement between the Audio-visual Copyright Society and higher education institutions there is a procedure to nominate certain television programs for a higher payment rate of $4.84 per minute. These programs become Category A programs only if the copyright owner requests this classification and if AVCS agrees to nominate the program as Category A. AVCS will not nominate a program unless it believes that a special case has been made out and that the program was either principally intended for use as an educational program or has a significant potential market for sale as an educational program.

AVCS has accepted an application to have a documentary nominated in Category A. The details are:

Title - God’s Girls: Stories from an Australian Convent.
Anticipated broadcast date - April 17, 1992
Brief synopsis: God’s Girls describes life and changes in the Sisters of Mercy Convent. It uses archival footage and live action interviews with nuns and ex-nuns to highlight changes within Australian society as a whole.

Exiled Filipino

The work of Angelo Cosgayon, a final year student in B.A. (Visual Arts), will be displayed at WATT Space this month, in an exhibition entitled, Exiled Filipino.

Angelo has lived in Australia for 18 years and has followed closely the political and social developments of his homeland since the rebellion of 1986.

His work employs symbols of personal importance, such as rice, the cross and individual letters combined with materials including corrugated iron, galvanised tin and aerated concrete, to create a powerful statement of his anger at the exploitation of his people and their resources.

With his country still in political turmoil as it approaches a national election, Angelo Cosgayon’s Exiled Filipino is a strong reflection of the turbulence of the Philippines.

Exiled Filipino will be opened on April 16 and continue until May 4 at WATT Space, 11 Watt Street, Newcastle.

Cultural Power of Film

Video productions played a major role in the “people power” revolt which overthrew the Marcos Government, according to a recent visitor to the University from the Philippines.

Professor Bienvenido Lumbera, Dean of the Film Centre at the University of the Philippines in Quezon City, said one of the most popular films in the country had been a BBC documentary which would never have been broadcast on government-controlled television but which became an opposition rallying cry on pirated cassettes.

Professor Lumbera knows first-hand about the power of film and the dangers of disseminating ideas: in 1974, he was arrested by the Marcos regime for his “dissident views” and spent 10 months in prison.

Professor Lumbera was in Newcastle to visit Mr Frank Morgan, Head of the Department of Communication and Media Arts. The two met at a conference in Beijing last year on film in the Asia-Pacific region.

Although some filmmakers hold that Hollywood has conquered the rest of the world culturally - to the point where blue jeans and Coca-Cola are universal - Frank Morgan and Bienvenido Lumbera believe there is still a place for nationalist cinema, celebrating indigenous cultural values.

However, there are cultural differences between Hollywood and developing nations which are more mundane.

Since the major manufacturers have stopped producing eight-millimetre film, production costs have made filming the preserve of the wealthy.

Even at this University, not a frame of film is exposed in a year. Video is the medium in which all students have to learn their craft.

Still, despite a similar resolution of the Beijing conference calling for the return of Super 8, it has not reappeared from the manufacturers.

But, according to Professor Lumbera, film can still be powerful medium.

Ora Pro Nobis, a film about the denial of human rights under the Marcos government, is still banned in the country.

“The current government is scared that people will be able to say that this is what they are doing, too,” he said.

Curiously, the film was released in America as Fight For Us. The American distributors feared a film called “Pray for Us” would be mistaken for a religious story.

In any case, the film has been shown at Cannes and become a benchmark for Filipino nationalist artists.

And, despite its proscription, it continues to be widely watched in the Philippines on video.

Photographic Competition

University People and Places

A University photographic competition is being jointly sponsored by the University’s Art Committee, the Information and Public Relations Unit, with assistance from the Communication and Media Arts Department.

Prints can be black and white or colour - the only stipulation is that they are 10" x 8" and competitors can submit more than one entry.

There will be double judging - one by a panel of judges and the other by popular vote of viewers of the exhibition.

For each entry competitors must submit two prints. The first is to be mounted on 12" x 10" white board. The second print remains the property of the University and may be used in University publications.

Prizes in both judgings will be: First Prize, $500; Second Prize, $250; and Third Prize, $100.

Entries will be accepted until June 30, 1992 and should be handed in at the enquiry counter, Public Relations Unit, The Chancellery.

Winners will be announced at the Art Exhibition Dinner on July 17.

So, get the cameras clicking.
Higher Degree Reports

Reliability Fatigue Analysis of Offshore Structures

Dr Mukshed Ahammed was awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying for a thesis entitled Reliability Fatigue Analysis of Offshore Structures.

Offshore structures are extremely expensive and exposed to a very hostile environment. Corrosion and fatigue are the main enemies of the structure supporting the offshore operations. The thesis was concerned with more accurate prediction of fatigue life, that is the number of years before cracking due to reversal of loading in the structure becomes sufficiently critical for repairs to have to be made.

Metal fatigue is most easily visualised by bending a paper clip backwards and forwards. A somewhat similar behaviour occurs in the massive tubes that make up the legs and crossmembers of most offshore structures. The driving force is that of wave action. It has been traditional to use a simplified relationship between water particle velocity and wave force. Nevertheless, it has been shown by very extensive computer simulation that the simplification usually adopted can be unconservative.

The results of Dr Ahammed's work will be published at a forthcoming international meeting in Calgary, Canada, and also published in a prestigious journal in the United States.

Staff Development in Schools

Australia is going through a phase of massive change both socially and industrially which constitutes its own Industrial Revolution. To implement this change, concomitant changes in the nation's technology demand that people in the workplace become reskilled. This applies to public and private sector organisations alike and one of the most sensitive cases of reskilling concerns people who are teaching the next generation of children in our schools.

The term staff development is used to describe an overall strategy for implementing change in organisations. Various models of staff development have been expounded in relation to people at middle management level in schools. A study of this process has been conducted by Mr Colin Walters and Mr Ray Cleary (Wollongong University) which was submitted successfully by the former as a Master of Education (Industrial Education) thesis here.

The thesis focuses on three Government-managed secondary schools located within the township of Nowra, New South Wales, and investigates the development of an appropriate model for staff development within that context. In general, the study investigates means by which staff development programs in schools can be more effective. It investigates the most effective means of staff development in that context, the entry skills required of participants, formulation of programs and comparable models and their effectiveness. It identifies and reviews 13 models in all.

Questionnaire, interview and Delphi techniques were used during the study and Pearson's Correlation Factor was used to calculate correlations between responses.

Bearing in mind the need for change in schools, as well as in the communities within which they stand, more refined and effective staff development procedures will be essential to get the best out of the human resources that schools have. The economic and political pressures on Australia to perform are massive and will increase as time goes on. Our schools will be under similar pressures and will benefit considerably from research of this standard.

AUSTUDY Latest

Loans to replace Aустudy grants will not be recommended to the Federal Government, according to Dr Bruce Chapman, the ANU economist reviewing Aустudy for the government. Dr Chapman said in an interview with The Australian that he would not bow to pressure from student groups or the Government itself but would stick to the evidence in making his final report, expected later this month.

He had decided to move away from the idea of interest-free loans because they would discriminate against younger students, he said.

And he had made his decision before the Minister for Higher Education, Mr Baldwin, wrote to him on March 23 urging him to move away from a loan proposal.

The idea that loans could even be recommended in the final report to Mr Baldwin prompted demonstrations by students in several cities.

The Opposition and Democrats have both accused Dr Baldwin of trying to deflect the heat of the debate onto Dr Chapman, by writing to him with the message that the government considered a system of compulsory loans to be "unambiguously regressive."

The Aустudy budget is running at $3.3 billion.

It is understood that Dr Chapman plans to recommend that five per cent of that amount be given to universities to distribute to students they consider to be most in need.
Building Course - Strong Competition for Enrolment

A course introduced in response to demand from the building industry has attracted applications from all over Australia and strong competition for enrolment.

The course, an external building degree, known as the Bachelor of Building (External) was marketed extensively through Australian building publications and journals last year and received 500 enquiries resulting in 193 formal applications for 45 places.

Manager of the external course, Mr Brian Varnam, said the six-year course has been welcomed by the building industry which is acting on Federal and State Government initiatives to make the industry more professionally qualified.

Mr Varnam said the course is the first of its type in Australia and is the only problem-based learning course in building in the world.

He said the University of Newcastle was in a unique position being the only national provider of such an innovative and timely course.

"The course has been designed with the specific requirements of the building industry in mind and is applicable to both the private and public sector," Mr Varnam said.

"It has been developed in collaboration with Charles Sturt University, which is the Distance Education Centre for New South Wales. They will be the national provider even though it is a University of Newcastle course. Charles Sturt is also supplying instructional design support and production of the print material.

"It is a very broad course with a problem-based learning approach incorporating a strong link between theory and practice. It has been designed to meet the academic requirements of the two governing bodies, the Australian Institute of Building and the Australian Institute of Quantity Surveying," he said.

Mr Varnam said that of the 45 students enrolled in the course, 10 came from the Hunter Region/Central Coast area with the rest from other states throughout Australia. He said that all were from the building or building related industry.

He said the course which is offered entirely on a distance education basis, provides students with learning packages on an average of every five weeks. In return, students are required to submit assignments in the same time span.

"The level of response to this course is extremely pleasing. It goes to show how much this course was needed within the building industry and the University of Newcastle is happy to be able to react to the specific educational needs of the community," he added.

Ellen Rose Award

Susan who is currently enrolled in a full-time Bachelor of Arts course at the Central Coast campus at Ourimbah, completed the University’s Open Foundation course last year, studying English Literature and Philosophy. This year her subject include English, Drama and Sociology.

The award worth $500 is to encourage women who are upgrading their education a seeking a new career path.

Ms Govers says that women attempting tertiary studies while raising children and after a break away from formal education face more of a challenge than some.

"They have incredible motivation and determination like Susan, but it is still not easy," Marie says.

The Ellen Rose Award has been offered each year since 1986 when WEL member, Ellen Rose, was tragically killed in a car accident. Ellen herself studied at University as a mature-age student, gaining entry through the Open Foundation course and qualified as a Special Education teacher while her children were young.

Susan, a single mother with a seven year old daughter, says that at 39 it was a huge step for her to take.

In line with this thinking, Susan, who has a keen interest in writing, has ambitions to write for magazines and television, portraying women’s perspectives. She says she would like to write a series which incorporates the life of women, not just in the western world, but also in more oppressed societies.

"I attempted my A levels in England when I was 24 and felt too old then, but somehow now it seemed right," Susan says.

"The opportunity for tertiary study on the Central Coast has opened up a new world for people in the area, particular mature-age students such as myself.

"For me a university education will give me more depth of experience. It is not just the piece of paper that I am aiming for, it is what I can learn.

"It builds you up," Susan says.
Life Membership Awarded

A long-serving Convocation Officer, John Armstrong, was presented with Life Membership of the University Convocation at its annual dinner in March. John, who retired in January after some 20 years as the University's information officer, returned from his new home near Byron Bay for the occasion, unaware of the honour he was to receive.

Always one to enjoy the company of its members, John and his wife Anne were looking forward to seeing the Biggins family and Professor Brin Newton-John and other old friends.

Surprised by the presentation from the Warden, Mr Vic Levi, John carried out an old threat by making what he always claimed was the most crowd-pleasing of speeches - none at all.

Management of Grammar School comes back to Newcastle

Management of the Newcastle Grammar School has returned to local hands with the appointment of a Board to take over from Pittwater House, which has governed the school for the past 15 years.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Morgan, is Chairman of the new Board.

Its other members are: Mr Hugh McKensey, Ms Sandi Warren, Mr David Le Marchant and Mr Michael Johns (who is also a member of the University Council).

Founded in 1859, Newcastle Grammar has 600 students from Kindergarten to Year 12.

The school's Headmaster, Mr Alan Green, said the return of control to local hands placed the school in a very fortunate position.

"We have plans to develop a $2 million junior school building on our site, which will greatly improve our capacity to provide and education of quality to younger children.

And our academic results have been clearly improving over the past four or five years. The 1991 HSC results were among the region's best.

"The selection of the new board adds to the strength of our commitment to the Hunter Region, and I would like to thank those who have accepted positions on the Board.

To have the tangible support of people of the calibre of Professor Morgan and the other Board Members is something of which the school can be very proud."

"I eat my peas with honey, I've done it all my life, it makes the peas taste funny, But it sticks 'em to the knife."

The Faculty of Medicine's newly appointed lecturer in Nutrition, Rosemary Warden, will certainly not be espousing this ethic, but she will be using many innovative methods to lecture about nutrition to students enrolled in the Bachelor of Medicine.

The University of Newcastle can claim another first, as Rosy, as she prefers to be known, is the first Lecturer in Nutrition to be appointed to the Medical Faculty and in fact, is the first to be appointed to a Medical Faculty in Australia.

This supports a recommendation by the Better Health Commission of Australia in 1986, that a Lecturer in Nutrition be appointed to each medical course.

She is a Bachelor of Science and a Diploma of Nutrition and Dietetics graduate of the University of Sydney and holds a Master of Health Personnel Education from the University of New South Wales.

With her particular qualifications Rosy says the job fits her 'like a glove'.

She comes to the position after a six and a half year stint as Clinical Dietitian at the Royal North Shore Hospital, combining at the same time, lecturing to medical students at the University of New South Wales.

Excited by her appointment to Newcastle, Rosy is now involved in nutrition education across all levels of the medical course.

"There has been a lot of concern regarding the quantity of nutrition education in undergraduate medical curricula in Australia and the rest of the world. The University of Newcastle has been a leader in this area and has addressed the issues raised in a national conference held in 1988, where the need for nutrition education for medical students was stressed," Rosy says.

"Prior to my appointment, initial development of the nutrition curriculum was undertaken by professional officers within the Faculty. My brief now is to continue this momentum and ensure that students recognise the role of nutrition in the prevention and management of disease as well as the promotion of health in their patients."

"As part of this I envisage developing a nutrition manual for the medical students similar to the one I developed at the University of New South Wales," she says.

Not one to sit back and take it easy, Rosy is planning a PhD and is interested in researching the area of nutritional status and gut function. She is also interested in nutrition education of the general public and health professionals.

She also would like to be involved as a clinical dietitian on an outpatient consultancy basis, taking her knowledge and expertise full circle to the community as well as to the university.
Hong Kong a success for Uni half-back

Anthony Ekert, the University Rugby halfback, made an impressive debut for Australia at the Hong Kong Sevens tournament last weekend.

In the team’s first match, against Singapore, he scored three tries and kicked five conversions for a personal total of 22 points in Australia’s 42-0 victory. He also managed to create a break while playing in the unaccustomed position of lineout jumper, to set up Willie Ofahengaue for his first Hong Kong try.

This was the last game Australia played before tropical storms flooded the ground. The surface was so wet, the referees decided to award free kicks instead of scrums for fear a player could drown at the bottom of a pile of bodies.

Anthony Ekert was rested for Australia’s match against Tonga on Saturday, returning for the quarter-final in which Australia defeated Argentina 28-0. His try in this match made him Australia’s highest try scorer of the tournament.

Australia then came up against a Fijian side, whose mesmeric style of running and passing seemed unimpaired by the conditions. Fiji duly won and went on the defeat the All Blacks in the final.

The Sydney Morning Herald declared Anthony’s selection in the squad “inspired” after his performance and “Australia’s most consistent player”.

TUNRA in Cook Islands

TUNRA, the University’s commercial company, has won a development contract for OTC worth $200,000 in association with the Centre for Industrial Control Science (CICS).

The project involves the development of a prototype antenna tracking controller for an unstaffed earth station in the Cook Islands.

OTC has a contract to supply and install six satellite earth stations in the Cook Islands to provide automatic telephone services to six remote island communities. Each station will use solar power.

The satellites will service OTC’s PACT - Pacific Area Cooperative Telecommunications network, whose members include Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Niue, Nauru, Tuvalu and New Zealand, as well as Australia and the Cook Islands. Raratonga is the switching hub of the network’s satellite links.

The Chief Executive Officer of TUNRA, Mr Karel Grezl, said the OTC development built on the success of TUNRA and CICS in winning a $1.2 million contract from AWA Defence and Boulderstone Hornibrook to design, build, install, commission and support an antenna tracking project near Geraldton in Western Australia.

Mr Grezl said the production systems for the West Australian project, which were ordered under a 1990 contract, had been assembled and were being shipped now.

He said a market survey had been commissioned by Austrade to identify demand for antenna tracking controllers. Future opportunities were expected to be largely outside Australia, making the developments significant in terms of Australia’s balance of trade.

Making Life a Little Easier ....

A donation of $10,724 from The Friends of The University is making life a little easier for students with a disability living at Evatt House, one of the on-campus residential colleges.

The Friends came to the aid of Evatt House after an approach by the Warden, Dr Bernie Curran, for funds to provide better access to ‘A Block’ for students who have a disability.

President of The Friends, Keith Barbour, said the organisation had little hesitation in paying the cost of two new car parking spaces, pathways, a ramp and associated railing and also a new doorway for the building.

“One we held discussions with Bernie we realised the need of the students and the importance of the work,” said Keith who handed a cheque for the cost of the work to the Chairman of the Board of Evatt House, Mr John Peschar.

“The Friends were quite happy to help out as we know the parking spaces and ease of access to the building will be assisting students now and in the future.”

A student already making use of the new facilities is Grant Nickel (Year 2 Nutrition and Dietetics). Grant assisted in the planning stages and said that students such as himself who use a wheelchair or who have other disabilities such as Multiple Sclerosis had found life “a lot easier”.

“It’s through the assistance of The Friends of the University that we’ve been able to build such facilities and we are very grateful for their help,” he said.

The Friends of The University was formed 11 years ago to foster an awareness of the University and its place in the community. The organisation conducts various activities, including fund-raising, to promote the interests of the University.

Keith Barbour (centre) hands the cheque for $10,724 to John Peschar while Grant Nickel looks on during an inspection of the new facilities.

Third World Interest Group

Newcastle Branch meeting

Topic: Philippine Village Health
Speaker: Dr Brian Fegan, Dept. of Anthropology & Comparative Sociology, Macquarie University.
Lecture Theatre K202 Medical Sciences Bldg Wednesday April 15 5.30 pm - refreshments 6 pm - Speaker
Enquiries: Kathy Byrne 21 5682
Environmental Issues -
Latest Publications

A publication giving an authoritative account of the Lake Macquarie environment is currently being promoted by the Department of Community Programmes.

'Lake Macquarie - An Environmental Appraisal' has been edited by University lecturers Joe Whitehead and Howard Bridgman and the Environmental Manager at Lake Macquarie City Council, Rod Kidd.

Described as essential reading for those with a recreational, leisure, professional or scientific interest in the lake, the book contains the proceedings of a review seminar which was held at the University last year. Contents include sections on lake water quality changes, thermal discharges from power stations, heavy metal status, soil erosion and sedimentation, wetlands, Hunter Water Corporation interactions, the Lake Macquarie Foreshore Park and other relevant issues.

Another publication on the Department's list is the Board of Environmental Studies Occasional paper No. 17, 'Long Term Waste Planning and Management', which contains up to date accounts from Federal, State and local governments, statutory bodies and consultants. Contributions include those from the Waste Management Authority NSW, the Hunter Regional Waste Advisory Panel, AGC Woodward-Clyde, DASETT and EPA Victoria.

Details of the two publications, both of which cost $25 each (post free), are available by contacting the Department on (049) 215551.

The Board of Environmental Studies has a number of papers available in its Research (Occasional) Papers Series. A total of 14 papers are available, including 'The New Pollution Law - How Does It Affect You?' (1990), 'The Environmental Audit' (1991), 'Environmental Risk Analysis' (1991) and 'Living in a Global Greenhouse: Seeking Solutions'.

A price list of Board of Environmental Studies publications can also be obtained from the Department of Community Programmes (now located lower floor of McMillin Building) or the Secretary of the Board of Environmental Studies on (049) 215253.

Sensible Foreign Exchange Borrowing

Large financial losses and court proceedings resulting from foreign currency borrowings have almost become an everyday event in the media in the past few years - which begs the question, can foreign currency loans be an effective form of finance?

This question and many more dealing with the overseas loan market will be answered in a half-day workshop to be held at the Hunter Technology Centre later this month by the Department of Community Programmes.

All participants in the workshop will find out how to structure an FX loan with a bank guaranteed maximum cost of funds (if the Australian dollar weakens) of less than one percentage point above domestic interest rates, and with no limit on how low the cost of funds can be if the Australian dollar strengthens.

Designed also to be of interest to importers and exporters who deal with currency exposures, the workshop involves step-by-step documented instruction on how to structure and calculate cash flows involved in an FX loan hedged with options.

The workshop presenter is Dr Joe Winsen (Professor of Commerce) who has been involved in the commerce and business administration areas for more than 20 years and during the mid-1980's was employed in Sydney as Manager - Research for Noble Lowndes.

Date of Workshop: April 30
Time: 1 - 5pm.

Recycle your Jars

The Art School Printmaking Department urgently needs your empty jars, with or without lids, for use in the Silk Screen Studio.

Help the Art School out by collecting a boxfull and telephone Arthur Tupper on Ext. 6257 for collection.

The Friends of The University

Rare Book Room - Auchmuty Library

As from Tuesday, March 31, the newly appointed Rare Book Room will be open for inspection and use. On permanent display in the room will be the most significant items of the University's Rare Book Collections, including commemorative gifts such as the 500,000th and millionth books, First Fleet Material, representative items from major collections such as the Aurousseau, Ellis and Morpeth Collections, very rare individual items such as the Flinders, the Wallis and the Grant, and valuable facsimile editions. Changing displays of important and interesting items from the Rare Book Collections will also be set up in the Room from time-to-time.

The Rare Book Room will normally be open for inspection and use at the following times:

- Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 10am to 1pm
- In special circumstances arrangements may be made to take the Rare Book Room outside these hours on weekdays. Please contact Ms Elizabeth Guilford at the above times, through the Short Loans area or at Extension 5819.

At other times requests for Rare Books may be left at Short Loans. Requested items should be collected from, and used in the Rare Book Room during hours of opening or at pre-arranged times.

AARNet Training Courses

The Library will be offering elementary and advanced AARNet training courses for the VAX/VMS system on a regular basis commencing the week of April 20.

The elementary course encompassing getting started, basic e-mail commands, News and remote database access will be held on Thursdays from 9 to 11 am in EF102 (Engineering). The advanced course deals with File Transfer Protocol (FTP), advanced e-mail commands and e-mail discussion lists. It will be held on Fridays from 9 to 11 am in EF102.

Registration forms are available at the Reference Desks in the Auchmuty and Hunter Libraries. They should be forwarded to Mr Jim Cleary or Ms Charmian Mitchell in the Auchmuty Library. For further information about the courses please contact either Jim or Charmian.

C.H. Currey Memorial Fellowship

The C.H. Currey Memorial Fellowship has been established by the Library Council of New South Wales under the terms of the bequest made by the late Charles Herbert Currey "to promote the writing of Australian history from the original sources".

The amount of the award this year will be $10,000. However, this may be divided between two or more applicants. The money may be expended as the recipient sees fit, within the terms of the general intent of Dr Currey. Examples of use might be payment for photocopies or for typing expenses, or for travel in connection with research.

Application forms are available from the State Librarian, State Library of New South Wales, Macquarie Street, Sydney, 2000.

Closing date for applications is October 1, 1992. An original plus two copies of applications should be supplied.
Learning Something New at Uni

Kylie Mullington, like many 16 year olds, had thought about a career and wondered whether it would really be the way she imagined.

Thanks to an innovative program in NSW schools, Kylie has been working at the University to find out the answer.

TRAC is a 2-Unit "other endorsed studies" course for students in Years 11 and 12 which offers placements in four workplaces a year.

The University of Newcastle is happy to be a part of the "office" strand of TRAC, and Kylie Mullington has been working in the Staff Services Office under the guidance of Mr John Hattander.

Kylie elected to follow the TRAC course after talking to her careers adviser at Waratah Technology High School.

"I'd always thought I might be a secretary, but I wondered whether I'd like it," Kylie said.

After an interview at the start of this year, Kylie was selected as a suitable student for the program, which requires her to be at the University one day a week for seven weeks.

She chose to make Wednesday her day.

"We have sport on Wednesday, so there are only five periods at school instead of eight, and I had three of those free for study, so I'm only missing two.

"And I have a free period on Friday, and so does my teacher, Mrs Williams, so we make up the period of Legal Studies then. It's very nice of Mrs Williams, because it's a free period for her and she doesn't have to do it."

TRAC offers students the chance to acquire 104 nominated skills in 16 specified areas, including communication skills, such as answering and using the telephone effectively; time management and organisational skills; industrial relations, including rights and responsibilities of employees; office procedure; records management; and mathematical skills and basic accounting.

Among the areas of assessment is personal appearance and presentation. To help students, there is a TRAC uniform, which Kylie was proud to show, and which makes the young people stand out less around the office - except that they are better dressed than some full-time staff.

The program, as Mr Hattander pointed out, also offers the school student a chance to work away from teachers, to meet and interact with new people instead of remaining within a peer group, and a chance to take more personal responsibility than the school environment usually offers.

So far, Kylie has received an induction package - including a tour of some favourite haunts of our mosquitoes - worked on the reception desk of the Staff Office, processed leave forms, worked alongside executive secretary Ms Judy King, sorted correspondence and drafted letters, and followed some of the material she handled through the computer files.

"I have learnt basic office skills such as word processing and computer skills, the use of office equipment, mail distribution, communication and telephone skills and filing," Kylie says.

"I have elected to take the office skills strand of TRAC, whereby over the four school terms I will do three of office skills and one of retail skills.

My supervisor here at the University, Mr Hattander, has been very helpful and I am enjoying my time here.

There's so much going on," Kylie says.

Mr Hattander is expecting to have several more TRAC students follow in Kylie's footsteps this year.

Although the University is new to TRAC this year, TRAC is one of a number of special employment and training programs in which the University participates.

By J. Glenfield

Pat the Pratt

Hey wow! there's a parking spot right outside the door.

Bah! who needs a parking permit.

2 hours later

This would have to be Pat the Pratt's car?

Well who else would be so stupid.

Oh no!

Fine - $15

For Parking on the University grounds without a permit.

Ah bollocks 15 bucks!
PSA Report

Local Discussions on General Staff Salaries Proceed

At a general meeting of PSA members on March 18, Mr David Carey (Federal Industrial Officer, SPSP) outlined the disadvantages anticipated from AHEIA’s pursuit of a minimum rates award at the federal level. The meeting called on the University to begin negotiations locally to preserve paid rates, within the classification and relativity structure of the DWM report.

In fact, the local discussions were proceeding far more harmoniously than at the federal level. On March 19 AHEIA applied to have its minimum rates award heard by the Commission, and the ACTU called a national stoppage for March 25. The AHEIA application was considered by Commissioner Oldmeadow late on March 24. She recommended that both the award application and the industrial action be suspended.

Details of the outcome in the Commission reached Newcastle at 7 pm, too late to circulate. At a stopwork meeting at 10 am the next morning members voted to accept the recommendation and return to work, but called on the University to redouble its efforts to obtain a paid rates award for its employees.

The PSA and the University met again on March 26 and the University gave an undertaking to continue the discussion with all on-campus Unions. The agenda includes the form of a local award or agreement and the rates that would apply, the translation of staff into the DWM structure, the job evaluation processes required by this, training and development programs necessitated by a new award, and an appropriate performance appraisal system including of course an appeal provision.

The University also wishes to discuss a review of departmental secretory positions. The federal negotiators are due back in the Commission on April 24 to consider the results of a study now being done at the Universities of Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, and Queensland. Meanwhile, meetings will continue at a local level. The possibility of obtaining a national paid rates award has by no means vanished, but it is prudent for us to establish the basis for a local paid rates arrangement.

Ron Hunter, Chairperson, PSA Departmental Committee.

Letters to the Editor

Bus Stop

Dear Editor,

Today (March 25) I thought I should heed the advice of our Administration, leave the car at home, and come in by bus.

The journey was very pleasant until I got to the bus stop near the Western Entrance. As older members of staff (if any travel by bus) may recall, this stop used to be some distance west of where it now is, and there used to be a shelter and a concrete path all the way to the top of the drive. Now there is no path, and on days like today one needs gumboots to cross the numerous rivulets one encounters.

Alternatively, I suppose, one could have got off at the Kintaiba stop, crossed the mudstrip, and huddled with the traffic overflow in Number 2 carpark, but better to swim than do this. Or one might try cycling; but after dark one meets too many idiots on unlit cycles on the still unlit cycleway.

Is the University really fair dunking about wanting to relieve its parking problems? Yours more in sorrow than anything else.

John Lee,
Department of Philosophy.

Warrobe

Dear Editor,

Dr Menk may be surprised if not shocked to discover that the move for a corporate wardrobe came from the general staff “on the factory floor” not from the administration.

It may also surprise Dr Menk that many members of staff are proud to work at The University of Newcastle, proud to come to work looking like professionals and proud to present themselves in a way which brings credit to the University.

Nobody is trying to thrust a mode of dress onto members of the University who do not want it and there will be an opportunity for people to see the range of styles being offered as the corporate wardrobe during May. A corporate wardrobe is an opportunity to rationalise our wardrobe and attract tax deductions for the cost of purchasing and cleaning which is a dear financial incentive to staff.

I am happy to say that the Administration is giving their backing for this staff initiative. We should point out that the Administration is not financially supporting this initiative.

L.A. Aurelius & H. McLeod, Wardrobe Committee

Pedestrian Crossing

Dear Editor,

Last year, the Administration persuaded the relevant authorities to change the name of what was then called “Rankin Drive”.

Perhaps our mandarins might turn their attention to making that thoroughfare less dangerous for pedestrians. A crossing (with lights) is urgently needed. As things are, it is only a matter of time before someone is killed.

A.W. Sparkes,
Department of Philosophy.
Research Grants for 1992

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

Closing Date to Office for Research

Granting Body

Joint Coal Board Health & Safety Trust
Invites applications for research grants in the field of occupational health & safety in coal mining. 20 April 1992

DITAC Bilateral Science & Technology Programs
For activities commencing in the period 1 Jan to 30 June 1993, with the USA, Japan, Germany, France, Peoples Republic of China, USSR, India and Mexico. 20 April 1992

National Multiple Sclerosis Society of Australia
Support for research relevant to MS. 21 May 1992

National Heart Foundation of Australia
Grants-in-Aid for Medical Research; Grants-in-Aid for Education/Health Promotion Research; Travel Grants (apply two months prior to travel). 21 May 1992

Criminology Research Council
Support for research projects which are likely to produce results of relevance for the prevention and control of crime throughout Australia. 2 June 1992

Australian Kidney Foundation
Grants-in-aid for medical research. 5 June 1992

Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet
Co-operative Research Centres Program (Round 3). 17 June 1992

RV Franklin - Ship Time Available - National Facility Steering Committee Oceanographic Research Vessel - for the conduct of physical, chemical & biological oceanography. 20 June 1992

Clive & Vera Ramaciotti Foundations
Grants are available in 1993 for specific projects in medical research, particularly new fields. 20 June 1992

Scientific Exchanges with the UK - 1993
Australian Academy of Science. To support collaborative research between Australian and UK researchers. 24 June 1992

Arthritis Foundation of Australia - Ten research grant schemes are administered by the Arthritis Foundation, ranging from seedling grants to grants in specific areas, eg osteoporosis, lupus, Pagets Disease. 24 June 1992

Rhone-Poulenc Fellow - Grant for Scientific Visit to France - 1993. Under the Bede Morris Fellowship Scheme. 24 July 1992

Scientific Exchanges with Japan - 1993/94
Australian Academy of Science. To support collaborative research between Australian and Japanese scientists. 25 August 1992

Scientific Exchanges with China - 1993/94
Australian Academy of Science. To support collaborative research between Australian and Chinese scientists. 24 November 1992

Fellowships, Conferences & Prizes

Fogarty International Centre - International Research
Fellowships. United States Public Health Service. To undertake research in health related fields, in any biological or medical laboratory in the USA. 22 April 1992

AVCC Hungarian Government Scholarships
For postgraduate study in every field tenable in Hungarian institutions. 24 April 1992

NH&MRC Public Health travelling Fellowships
To enable Fellows to make postgraduate study tours abroad or within Australia. 5 May 1992

National Heart Foundation of Australia
Fellowships tenable in Australia and overseas; Postgraduate Medical Research Scholarships; Postgraduate Science Research Scholarships (21 October); Vacation Scholarships (5 September). 21 May 1992

AVCC French Government Scientific Fellowships
To enable Australians working in scientific and technological fields to visit France. 21 May 1992

Arthritis Foundation of Australia - Five types of fellowships available, tenable in Australia, USA, Canada, UK. Also three scholarships available. 24 June 1992

Postdoctoral Fellowships in Japan
Australian Academy of Science - Awards for scientists 1993/94. 23 October 1992

Further information and relevant application forms are available from the Office for Research - telephone 215305.

This list is also circulated to all Heads of Departments on a fortnightly basis.

B U L L E T I N • 15
Tibor Weiner Travelling Exhibition
Immigrant Artist

Great Hall Foyer
The University of Newcastle

May 15 to 24
Opening Night
May 15, 5.30 pm
Everyone Welcome

Bushbound to Suburban Shadows
- A Sense of Place -

An exhibition of sculpture, paintings and drawings by

Graham Gilchrist and
Ronald Hawke

April 1 to April 26
Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery

Gallery Hours:
Wednesday to Friday, 10 am to 4 pm
Saturday and Sunday, Noon to 5 pm

History Seminars

Friday, May 1
Postgraduate & Staff Symposium, Auchmuty Library in the morning and panel discussion in the afternoon in the Department.

Friday, May 8
William Brock, Cambridge University, will speak on The New Deal and the Idea of the State. (After 14 years in the History Chair at Glasgow, Professor Brock returned to his college, Selwyn, in 1981 as a Life Fellow. A FBA and one of Britain's most distinguished historians, his books include Congress & Reconstruction (1963), Scotland and America in the 18th century (1981) and Welfare, Democracy and the New Deal (1988).

Friday, May 15
Tony Negine, Postgraduate student, will speak on A History of the Newcastle Show. Please gather in the Staff House at Noon for lunch with the speaker. The meeting will proceed at 1 pm in the Common Room or ALG16.

NOTICE OF AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Sports Union will be held on Wednesday, May 13, in the Great Hall, commencing at 5.30 pm.

Nominations, which must be seconded and accepted by the nominee, are invited for the following positions on the Sports Union for 1992:
President, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer. It is essential that the nominee, proposer and seconder by Ordinary Members of the Sports Union.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the Sport and Recreation Unit office. Closing date for receipt of nominations at the Sport and Recreation Unit office is Wednesday, April 29 at 5 pm.
Please see notice boards for full annual general meeting agenda.

Watch Out For a Bush Campus

A major project is being undertaken by a number of members of the University staff with funding from The Friends of the University.

The project is a book describing the flora and fauna of the University's campus. The book will include descriptive text, photographs, drawings and maps.

Not only will it be a volume suitable for presenting to visitors as a memento of the campus, but many friends, staff and students will no doubt wish to obtain copies.

The profits from the sale of books will be used to support other projects by The Friends which are not income-producing.

So, keep reading the Bulletin for details on where you can obtain your copy in the near future.

Give Blood!!

The Mobile Blood Donor Unit bus will be located adjacent to the Shorthand and Hunter Unions from 10am-4pm.

Shorthand Union
(on Plaza between Union and Auchmuty Library)
Thursday, April 30

The Bulletin is the main means of communication inside the University of Newcastle. Published on a fortnightly basis, the newspaper disseminates university news to staff, students and members of the public.

The Bulletin is produced by the Information and Public Relations Unit using Desktop Publisher and WordPerfect. Production is by the Editorial and Advertising Assistant. Letters to the Editor (no longer than 300 words and signed) are welcome. All contributions are welcome.

The Bulletin is edited by Mr. John H. Lawton and can be made by contacting Ext. 6467 or 6459.