PICTURES AND MUSIC IN HARMONY

Graphic design students joined the City of Newcastle Wind Orchestra on June 13 and 14 to stage a type of audio-visual presentation believed to be a first for Newcastle.

Forty-one third-year students put together a computer-aided slide presentation to accompany the orchestra's performance at the Conservatorium of Mussorgsky's Pictures At An Exhibition.

It was the first public exposure on such a scale for the graphic design course.

One of the lecturers involved in the project, Mr Dave Cubby, said the performances had been a great success. Some school concerts were performed in the week following the Conservatorium concerts.

The visual presentation was thought out to produce a Newcastle reflection of the musical themes.

The music was divided into nine movements for the performance.

Mr Cubby said the students and academic staff had decided to present a partly Novocastrian interpretation of the music.

Design lecturer Mr Roger Quinn initiated the project, and put the idea to Mr Cubby and Mr Ian Cook, the conductor of the orchestra.

Mr Quinn said the project was then divided into two sections, the first being the creation of storyboard sequences, in which each student produced their own interpretation of one of the movements.

"The most appropriate sequences were then identified and production teams of four to five students were organised to take the storyboards from conceptual to photographic stage," Mr Quinn said.

"This relied on a most professional approach from the students, who had to organise studio set-ups, props and contacts for on-site shoots, which they did admirably."

Thanks to community cooperation, scenes in the presentation included tugs bringing a ship into Newcastle Harbour (an interpretation of a movement about oxen and their heavy load), Fort Scratchley, a large set of doors in the central business district (an interpretation of a movement called The Heroes Gate at Kiev), Newcastle Region Art Gallery and children playing in the university grounds and at Blackbutt Reserve.

"The value to the students is that they can learn about the presentation of animation using state-of-the-art equipment," Mr Cubby said.

The project brought the students into contact with local and national industries.

Kodak Australia assisted by lending computer software and dataton equipment for slide projector control. This allowed the slide presentation to be accurately sequenced to the music.

A photo-image projected during the movement The Heroes Gate at Kiev. The photograph is by Glendyn Ivin, a third-year Bachelor of Arts (Graphic Design) student. The other members of the image production team were Wendy Harding, Karina Murray, Colin Lockhart and Elise Crooks. The model is Belinda Dunn.

The students have also used the expertise of Mr Norman Schmiedeberg, Kodak Australia's head of presentation technology.

Sydney-based company Wavelength Australia provided advice and free use of professional quality projection screens.

Slides that were produced for a book titled The Mountain Men, by the head of Visual Communications at the University of Technology, Mr Colin Beard, were projected to accompany the orchestra's encore of The Man From Snowy River Overture.

Posters for the performance were designed by the third-year graphic design students.

These had been judged by representatives from the orchestra, who chose a design by Glendyn Ivin, who was responsible for taking the poster and concert program to print-ready artwork.

RECOGNITION FOR SPINE RESEARCH

Fourth-year medical student Dr Janet Macintosh and Professor Nikolai Bogduk, Professor of Anatomy, have won the inaugural Spinal Research Award of the Spine Society of Australia.

The prize, valued at $6500 and sponsored by the State Government Insurance Corporation of South Australia, is awarded by the Spine Society of Australia for the best research paper submitted in open competition for the award.

Their winning paper was on the axial torque of the lumbar back muscles.

The work has considerable ramifications in physiotherapy and rehabilitation medicine, because it shows that exercises for the back muscles hold no prospect of protecting or rehabilitating the spine from twisting injuries. It justifies focusing efforts on controlling and strengthening abdominal muscles instead.

Dr Macintosh undertook to dissect the back's 49 muscles. Professor Bogduk and Dr Mark Pearcy, an engineer at the University of Adelaide, developed a mathematical model for the analysis of the muscles, enabling the team to determine exactly what each muscle did and how strong it was

The study revealed for the first time the lack of strength of the back muscles in
COUNCIL REPORT

Appointment to Faculty of Law

At its meeting on June 12, the University Council appointed Mr R.N. Watterson as Associate Professor in Law.

Mr Watterson, who has been involved in the development of the Faculty of Law from its origins in the Department of Legal Studies and the Department of Law in the Faculty of Economics and Commerce, has long links with the University, having first been appointed in 1973 until 1983 and then again in 1989. He is a graduate of the University of Sydney, having received the degree of LLB in 1969 and LLM in 1974. He was admitted as a Barrister in New South Wales in 1981 and in the Federal Courts in 1982.

Clinical Academic Titles Announced

Council also appointed three Clinical Associate Professors to the Faculty of Medicine. These are Associate Professor Max Brinsmead (Obstetrics), Associate Professor Robert Batey (Gastroenterology) and Dr T. Singham (Cardiology).

Associate Professor Brinsmead has been associated with the University of Newcastle since 1981. He was a Senior Lecturer in Reproductive Medicine until 1991, when he took up the position of Director of Obstetrics in the John Hunter Hospital.

Associate Professor Batey was the Director of the Drug and Alcohol Unit at Westmead Hospital until 1991, when he joined John Hunter Hospital as Senior Staff Specialist in Gastroenterology.

Associate Professor Singham has been involved in lecturing at the University of Malaya and as a cardiologist and consultant physician at the University Hospital, Kuala Lumpur. He is currently a consultant cardiologist serving the Newcastle Cardiac Services and Lake Macquarie, Lingard and Warners Bay Hospitals.

Personal Chair

The Council appointed Mr Michael Dudman to a Personal Chair in Music.

Mr Dudman, the Dean of the Faculty of Music and Director of the University of Newcastle Conservatorium of Music, is renowned as Australia’s leading organist and is recognised nationally and internationally through performance and recording and for his research work.

Academic Promotions Procedures

Council approved a recommendation from Academic Senate that the decisions of the Promotions Committee be taken by two-thirds of the membership of the Committee to be in favour of a promotion for it to be approved.

Semester Dates for 1993

Council endorsed a recommendation from Academic Senate that the proposed semester dates for 1993 (printed below) be approved.

Semester 1 commences
Monday, March 1, 1993
Semester 1 Recess
April 9-18, 1993 inclusive
Semester 1 concludes
Friday, June 11, 1993
Mid Year Examinations
Monday, June 14 to
Friday, July 2, 1993
Semester 2 commences
Monday, July 19, 1993
Semester 2 Recess
September 25 to
October 10, 1993 inclusive
Semester 2 concludes
Friday, November 5, 1993
End of Year Examinations
Monday, November 8 to
Friday, November 26, 1993 inclusive.

Appointment of a Gay and Lesbian Officer to Students Representative Council

Council considered an application for an amendment to the Constitution of the Students Association to create a voting office of Gay and Lesbian Officer appointed to the SRC. It was moved that the Legislation Committee seek further discussion with the Anti Discrimination Board before a final decision was made on the matter.

The Chancellor, Justice Elizabeth Evatt, said that the Council had no wish to adopt an attitude that may be seen as discriminatory in any way.

Report from Parking and Traffic Task Force

Council discussed the formal notification from the New South Wales Minister for Transport, Mr Bruce Baird, announcing that $2.5M has been allocated for the construction of a Railway Station at Warabrook.

Council was informed that because of ongoing problems with traffic and parking on campus and also the proposed location of the railway station, it was considered by this committee that the rail stop proposal should be reviewed, particularly in the light of recent improvements in bus transport to the University.

Council was told that the current proposal to limit the rail link to Newcastle at Honeysuckle may also affect the viability of the rail stop at Warabrook as this would preclude students residing in the eastern end of Newcastle using the rail link.

Council agreed that it may be more sensible to seek to have the funding allocated for the railway station redirected to other initiatives designed to improve the traffic and parking situation on the campus.

Registrar, Staff and Estates Services, Mr Don Foster, told Council that the introduction of light rail which is quite possible in the future would provide a much better solution.

"It would be considered appropriate to adopt a holding situation for improving road transport up until a time when light rail could be introduced," Mr Foster said.

General Services Charges

Council endorsed a motion to defer a decision on the level of the General Services Charge for 1993 to its August meeting.

SENIOR OFFICER SALARIES

In accordance with the decision it took in 1990 to review the salaries of senior officers after the Remuneration Tribunal had made a determination, Council considered the matter at its meeting on June 12.

The Council noted that the Tribunal had reported that it believed that salaries of significantly higher order than those it had determined could be justified, but it had given the recognition it considered appropriate to the Government's policy of restraint which had been applied with stringency to the salaries of the public and associated sectors.

The Council was advised that the grants received by the University from the Commonwealth had been adjusted to provide for the payment of the increases recommended by the Tribunal. It was also noted that several universities had already implemented the Tribunal's recommendations.

The decision was taken to implement the Tribunal's recommendations in the University. The Vice-Chancellor will receive a salary of $119,925 per annum and the Deputy Vice-Chancellors $95,940 per annum, being 80% of the Vice-Chancellor's salary as recommended by the Tribunal.
Children, parents and staff at the University's Special Education Centre entertained the Governor of NSW, His Excellency Rear Admiral Peter Sinclair, AO, and Mrs Sinclair, on June 2.

Rear Admiral Sinclair is the chief patron of the Centre's parents and friends association, Firstchance. He unveiled a commemorative plaque in the Centre during his visit.

Rear Admiral Sinclair was welcomed to the Centre by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Planning), Dr Doug Huxley.

The Governor said that he and Mrs Sinclair visited many schools and received many school visits at Government House, and this interaction had left them with a very favourable impression the work being done in schools.

It was very impressive to see children's potential was being recognised, he said.

"It is important that tomorrow's citizens are given the right start in life," Rear Admiral Sinclair said.

"That applies to all children and all people."

He said he was heartened by the effort modern society made to give young people with disadvantages a positive start.

"They are given the opportunity to blossom," he said.

These opportunities had been provided by a change in social attitudes, an increase in the number of carers and advances in educational technology.

The Governor commented that the Special Education Centre had all these advantages within the University's research environment, which meant that even more improvements could be made in the future.

Rear Admiral Sinclair and Mrs Sinclair toured the Centre's senior and junior intervention classes and saw children in the Early Education Program. The pre-school-aged children in the Early Education Program are now integrated with children without disabilities in the classroom.

There are about 100 children at the Centre and about 30 in the Outreach program.

The Director of the Special Education Centre, Dr Phil Foreman, said the Governor's visit was important because it allowed Rear Admiral Sinclair the opportunity see the programs the Centre offered.

He said the visit reflected the recognition of the Centre and Firstchance in the community, and helped to raise the Centre's profile.

Dr Foreman said the Governor had shown a wonderful ability to relate to the children.

The University has a number of courses in special education and the many aspects of development, such as speech and motor skills, as well as social and behavioural development.

The Centre receives a Government grant of about $220,000 each year, and this is supplemented with money raised by Firstchance.

The Vice-President of Firstchance, Mr Garry James, said parents had hands-on involvement while their children were attending the Centre.

He said the Centre addressed chronic pain.

Despite this, spine research did not attract the financial backing of areas such as cancer and heart disease.

He said the only active basic spine units in Australia were in Newcastle, Adelaide and Perth, with a total of six permanent staff.

Despite this small base, Australian research has commanded 8.5% of international prizes awarded for spine research.

Professor Bogduk said that 20% of the population had neck or back pain at any one time but the condition was associated with "malingering, whiplash and compensation".
The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Morgan, cut the ribbon to officially unveil the new Transmission Electron Microscope (TEM) on May 29 in the Electron Microscope Unit.

The $280,000 microscope was in large part funded by competitive Australia-wide grants from the Australian Research Council and the National Health and Medical Research Council. The university also contributed to the purchase of this major item of equipment.

At the official opening Associate Professor John Heath paid tribute to Mr Gary Weber and Mr Dave Phealan, who maintain the Electron Microscope Unit.

"Who else in the unit could work in the dark without a window and for such a long period of time," Associate Professor Heath said.

The TEM is an integral part of the research being carried out by three of the seven research groups recognised and funded as Areas of Research Excellence by the university's Research Management Committee in 1990.

These are the Plant Science Group in the Department of Biological Sciences, and the Neuroscience and Placental Endocrinology groups in the Faculty of Medicine.

Total usage of the TEM includes the Faculty of Science and Mathematics, including the departments of Biological Sciences and Physics, the Faculty of Medicine, including the disciplines of Anatomy, Pathology, Medicine and Surgical Science, and the Faculty of Engineering, Department of Mechanical Engineering.

Of the total TEM usage, 85% is for research, with 35% of this being post-graduate research. The other TEM usage is by undergraduate teaching, educational services to schools and community groups, and, on request, for contract work.

The Plant Science Group is developing a program aimed at improving the productivity of agricultural plants through translating their basic research findings into gene manipulation technologies.

The TEM will be used to study the control of chloroplast DNA replication and the process of photosynthesis. Dr Tina Offler said the Plant Science Group was also using the TEM to look at the process within plants that controls the amount of carbohydrate moving to the agriculturally significant parts of the plant.

The control of carbohydrate distribution is important to the plant's yield because the plant could have a high rate of photosynthesis but the carbohydrate might go only to the leaves, not to the fruit of the plant.

If it is possible to identify what genes determine this control, then the genes could be altered to improve patterns of carbohydrate distribution.

Dr Offler said wheat, tomatoes, beans, grapes, spinach and annual medicus were being used in the research.

The gamete interaction section of the Reproductive Biology Group is using the TEM in its study of gamete development and fertilisation, with the ultimate aim of improving methods of regulating fertility in animals.

The two main themes of the work are the development of spermatozoa in the male reproductive system, and the maturation of the spermatozoa and egg within the female.

A feature of this work is the use of Australian native animals, particularly marsupials.

Associate Professor John Heath and his colleagues, Dr Gerald Little and Mrs Rhonda Reynolds, in the Discipline of Anatomy, Faculty of Medicine, are using the microscope for research that could ultimately be relevant in attempts to promote repair and recovery in multiple sclerosis and other demyelinating diseases.

Damage to a nerve trunk through an accident, whether it is cut or crushed, will produce degeneration of the distal part of the nerve. The exact details of this complex process are poorly understood, but it is likely that the mechanisms responsible for degeneration are also responsible for stimulating regrowth of the nerve.

In their project, funded by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society of Australia, the team is investigating cellular processes that occur during degeneration in the peripheral nervous system.

The microbiology department uses the TEM for diagnostic and research purposes.

Mr Bob Herd said the department directly examined urine, faecal and vesical fluids for the presence of viral particles and, if present, could provide presumptive identification of the virus according to its size and structure.

On the research side, the purity of laboratory-prepared virus strains can easily and quickly be verified using the microscope.

Mr Herd said the TEM allowed the department to effectively visualise the extremely small particles that could otherwise be seen only indirectly by their effects in tissue culture and serological tests.

The university established the Electron Microscope Unit in 1974 as a central facility to provide all departments requiring electron microscopy with top quality, high performance instruments and the infrastructure to maintain their efficient operation.

Individual researchers and their post-graduate students undertake their own sample preparation, microscopy and photographic processing.

Individual faculties and departments within the university do not have additional instruments, and suitable Transmission Electron Microscope facilities are not available elsewhere in Newcastle.

Professor Morgan, Professor Alan Roberts, Dr Tina Offler, Professor Ron MacDonell, Associate Professor John Heath and Professor Mick Carter watch Mr Gary Weber at work with the Transmission Electron Microscope.
JAPAN CENTRE ANNOUNCED

Professors Lethal Morton, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Keith Morgan and Professor Kiyoharu Ono.

Links between the Hunter Region and Japan will be strengthened with the establishment of a new centre on campus to be known as the Japan Centre.

The centre, announced recently, has been initiated by the University in answer to a growing need to foster and promote these links, will operate at the University campus although it will be an independent institution organised along similar lines to other institutes of the University. It will commence its activities towards the end of the year.

Associate Professor Kiyoharu Ono from the Department of Modern Languages who will be the Director of the new centre, said its aims will be to promote the understanding of Japan and its people, to encourage and facilitate programs of visits and exchanges with Japan involving academic staff, students and members of the wider community and to expand teaching and research activities within the areas of Japanese culture, commerce, history, education, language and society.

He said it will also liaise with local government, local tourism groups, business and commercial interests, industry, schools, the community as well as cultural groups.

"The Centre will provide information to the community at large through the establishment of a regional data-base on Japan, publications, meetings, seminars and lectures and will establish a register of scholars and researchers within the University as a first step in establishing a consultancy service for the Hunter Region," Professor Ono said.

STUDY REVEALS HIGH DRUG USE

The results of research by the School of Medicine into drug use in the Hunter have been published in the Medical Journal of Australia.

One of the researchers, Dr Lynne Hancock, said the research was the most extensive of its type carried out by the School of Medicine within the past 10 years.

The researchers questioned 2600 people chosen randomly in the Newcastle and Lake Macquarie areas. They believe the results can be applied Australia-wide.

More than three out of four people surveyed had consumed some kind of drug in the past few days.

Dr Hancock said the research uncovered a surprisingly high number of older women using discretionary drugs (those prescribed to ease discomfort or pain, but not to save life). These usually took the form of minor tranquillizers, such as Valium, Serapax and Mogadon, and were not compatible with driving.

Almost one third of the sample had used two types of drugs in the previous few days and 8% had used three types.

Among prescription drug-takers one in five in the over 65 age group were taking tranquillisers or similar drugs.

Dr Hancock said she was now interested in conducting a study on encouraging doctors to recommend other relaxation techniques, such as meditation, before prescribing tranquillisers. Many people questioned in the study said they did not recall their doctor recommending any other relaxation methods before prescribing tranquillizers, which, Dr Hancock said, should be used as a last resort.

She said some people surveyed had been using tranquillizers for as long as a year, although it was recommended that they be used for no more than two weeks.

Minor tranquillizers were dependence-forming and therapeutically ineffective when used over a long period.

They caused dementia symptoms and were not compatible with driving, operating machinery or alcohol consumption.

A similar number of old people were taking NSAIDs, usually for arthritis. This was a possible cause of half of all cases of gastrointestinal bleeding.

The study also found high use of alcohol, tobacco and prohibited drugs among young men.

The survey showed:
• 40% of women and 33% of men had taken a prescription drug in the previous four days;
• In the same period, 49% of women and 38% of men had taken an over-the-counter drug;
• In the previous seven days 8% of the women had drunk more than 14 glasses of an alcoholic beverage, and 13% of men had drunk more than 28 glasses (levels considered hazardous to health);
• Tobacco had been used by 22.8% of women and 31% of men;
• In the previous three months cannabis had been used by 21% of females and 38% of males in the 15 to 24-year-old age group.

Cannabis use in older age groups and the use of other illicit drugs was relatively small.

The study was conducted to provide data to help in testing the effectiveness of programs aimed at reducing drug use, and monitoring changing patterns of use.

Dr Hancock said the research was being used by the Hunter Area Health Service in an injury prevention program. It was also used by the Centre for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, a joint venture of the area health service and the behavioural science discipline.

Vitamin and mineral pills, which dieticians say are rarely necessary and in big doses can be hazardous, were being taken by 22% of women and 14% of men.

"I suppose they take them because they think they're doing themselves some good," Dr Hancock said.

She said that in Australia this was unnecessary because most people consumed a good nutritional balance.

Some of the tablets were toxic in high doses and, in any case, it was not advisable to consume artificial subs-tances unnecessarily.

Twenty-nine percent of women under 24 were taking oral contraceptives, as were 16% of women in the 25 to 44-year-old age groups.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the University Bulletin (Issue 8, June 8, 1992) an article appeared on Page 7 entitled 'The Sound of Light'. This article had previously appeared in the American Journal of Science and was written by Richard Stone. Our article added Associate Professor Keay's academic title. Unfortunately acknowledgement of this article was omitted. It appeared on Page 962, Volume 256, May 15, 1992 edition of the American Journal of Science. We apologise for this omission.
THE ART OF COMMUNICATION

The Hunter Area Speech Pathologists have chosen a design by 21-year-old student Scott Wilson as their new logo. The speech pathologists recently formed an organisation and came to the university's graphic design students seeking a logo to unite them and promote them in the community.

Mr Allan Morse, senior lecturer in graphic design and the co-ordinator of the graphic design course, said the speech pathologists had delivered a professional brief to the students. The students put forward 27 submissions, which were narrowed down to a final six.

The speech pathologists' representative, Ms Donna Hill, said the organisation was non-profitable and had not wanted to go to a commercial studio to have the logo designed.

Scott Wilson's winning logo contained the words "Communicating with care", as well as the essential information for business cards, letterheads and posters. Scott said he had chosen a typeface with a light-hearted look. He received $400 from the speech pathologists for designing the winning logo.

The other finalists were Trudy Chelman, Amanda O'Bryan, Karen Peters, Michael Naughton and David Lidster.

All the students were in the fourth year of a Bachelor of Arts, Graphic Design. They are the first group to be doing a fourth year in the course.

Ms Hill said the pathologists were impressed with the students' work, particularly of their development of the communication theme.

She said the students had captured the nature of the profession by showing the many aspects that make up the job of a speech pathologist.

Mr Morse had aimed to run the unit on a professional design basis to prepare students for the commercial environment.

WINNING SCARVES UNVEILED

Female guests of the university will now receive a scarf designed by Visual Arts students as a momento of their visit.

After consulting commercial designers outside the university, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Morgan, decided that the visual arts students should be asked to design the scarf.

The resulting design competition attracted about 50 entries.

On June 10 Professor Morgan presented the winner, 20-year-old Carolyn Young, a second-year Bachelor of Education (Visual Arts) student, and the runner-up, 19-year-old Kirewen Payne, a second-year Bachelor of Arts (Visual Arts) student, with cheques for $300 and $200 respectively.

Professor Morgan said the standard of all entries had been very high and judging the winner had been challenging.

The Head of the Fine Art Department, Mr Peter Singleton, said it was pleasing to see the money for the project going to students instead of it going to a company outside the university.

A senior lecturer in the Fine Art Department and coordinator of the fine art studio, Ms Jutta Feddersen, and Mr Brett Alexander, a lecturer in the Fine Art Department, also attended the presentation.

The unit is designing the publicity material for the Watt Space Gallery and a logo for the university Special Education Centre. It offered a design service for the campus at minimal cost, Mr Morse said.

Pictured - Hunter Area Speech Pathologist representative Donna Hill with Scott Wilson and his winning design.

HOESLI- FARNHAM AWARD

At the presentation of the inaugural AWEUN Joy Hoesli-Farnham Award, the person after the award was named, Joy Hoesli, made an interesting and significant speech.

The award, commissioned by AWEUN (The Association of Women Employees at The University of Newcastle) was presented to the University's Chancellor, the Hon. Justice Elizabeth Evatt, AO, in honour of her outstanding achievement as Chancellor and her commitment to improving the status of women.

Joy said she was delighted that Justice Evatt had been presented with the award as it was a highlight for AWEUN that the University had a woman Chancellor, and in particular, Elizabeth Evatt.

In her speech, Joy described the developments for women in the 1970s and 1980s as exciting and fruitful.

The Anti-Discrimination Act in 1977, an amendment of the Act in 1980, saw the appointment of the Director of Equal Opportunity in Public Employment, an important event for women. After a further amendment in 1983, a women's organisation known as 'WITI' (Women in Tertiary Institutions) was established, AWEUN being a branch of this organisation.

President of AWEUN for three terms, Joy then held an executive position until 1990.

Male guests of the university are usually presented with a tie.

The winning students will be consulted during the production of the scarves, which will be made of silk.

President of AWEUN, Ms Helen Parker, Ms Joy Hoesli-Farnham, the Chancellor and recipient of the award, Justice Elizabeth Evatt and the University's EEO Co-ordinator Ms Susan Jones.
INTERNATIONAL AUDIENCE FOR SOIL RESEARCH

Associate Professor Bob Loughran and his colleagues in the Geography Department will present the findings of a national soil erosion study to an international audience of experts in Sydney in September.

Their report will be presented at the seventh International Soil Conservation Organisation conference, being held from September 27 to 30 at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The results of the work by Associate Professor Loughran, Masters student Susan Curtis and postgraduate students Ms Lucy Sonjana and Mr Michael Saynor will provide information to landholders on erosion by water and wind. It is expected that the information will be useful for future land management decisions.

All State conservation authorities are participating in the study, which has received $280,000 in funding over three years from the National Soil Conservation Program of the Department of Primary Industries and Energy.

The rate of erosion is assessed by using the tracer caesium-137, which is firmly adsorbed to surface soils after fallout from atmospheric nuclear weapons testing. (*Adsorb* refers to the tracer adhering to the surface of the soil particles.) Caesium-137 was released globally as a result of testing in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s.

Scientists from the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation at Lucas Heights in Sydney are assisting the research.

Ms Curtis said she was looking at the factors affecting the rate of erosion on krasnozem soils (red-coloured soils) at Comboyne, between Taree and Port Macquarie, and at Silvan, north-east of Melbourne.

She has found:
- the net soil loss from the Comboyne site for grazing land was 0.03 tonnes per hectare per year.
- the net soil loss for Silvan for land cultivated for potatoes was 83.6 tonnes per hectare per year.
- the net soil loss for Silvan for grazing land was 0.3 tonnes per hectare per year, and
- the net soil loss for Silvan horticultural crops was 54.3 tonnes per hectare per year.

Ms Curtis said it was possible that factors such as slope and weather conditions contributed to the different results.

Associate Professor Loughran said rates of soil loss in Tasmanian forests, after cable logging on two different sites, were 2.5 and 4 tonnes per hectare per year, while on grazing and cultivated land in Tasmania they were 5 and 19.3 tonnes per hectare per year, respectively.

Also in the Geography Department, Associate Professor Howard Bridgman is in the second phase of an asthma and air quality study based on children from Lake Munmorah and Dungog.

The research team has been taking measurements at schools in the areas for the past year with the aim of determining whether a link exists between asthma, air contaminants and meteorology.

The study is looking at sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, wind speed and direction, temperature, humidity and particulate matter (dust and pollen).

THE STATE WE'RE IN

The Sydney Morning Herald quoted the following statistics from the Washington-based World Resources Institute's report, titled World Resources 1992-93.

- The global population has doubled to 5.3 billion since 1950 and may double again by 2050.
- About 10.5% of the world's most productive soils have been seriously damaged since 1945.
- About two-thirds of all seriously eroded land is in Asia and Africa, home to most of the world's poor.
- The average resident of an industrialised nation uses 15 times as much paper, 10 times as much steel and 12 times as much fuel as someone in a developing country.
- Nine per cent of the world's tropical forests were cleared in the 1980s alone.
- More than 95% of sewage is being discharged untreated into surface waters of the developing world.

- Water withdrawals globally are increasing by 4% to 8% each year.
- World economic activity has grown about 3% a year since 1950. At this rate the world economy will be five times larger than today's by the year 2050. This growth has the potential to dramatically increase the demand on natural resources and natural systems.

ENVIRONMENT OFFICER APPOINTED

The Physical Planning and Estates branch of the university has employed a part-time project officer (waste minimisation) to manage campus environmental issues.

Mr Kent Gillman, a Master of Environmental Studies student, will work every Tuesday.

Any environmental concerns or ideas can be addressed to Mr Gillman on extension 6512 or through internal mail.

Mr Gillman said one of the major environmental concerns on the campus was the litter created by posters.

Posters are permitted only on noticeboards, not on trees or buildings.

The possibility of more noticeboards is being considered.

Mr Gillman said pinning or stapling notices on trees could make them sick and allowed the introduction of insects.

The general litter situation is one of the university's main environmental concerns, Mr Gillman said.

He hopes to hold a special Environment Day during second semester.

$68,000 TO CONTINUE GENETIC ENGINEERING WORK

The Department of Biological Sciences has received $68,000 for the next financial year from the Australian Wool Corporation to continue research into genetic engineering in legumes.

The Head of Biological Sciences, Associate Professor Ray Rose, said he and his colleagues had been putting test genes into plants as a precursor to inserting insect-resistant and virus-resistant genes.

The research is aimed at producing a more resistant legume, and at developing a legume that can more easily take nitrogen from the atmosphere instead of from fertiliser.

Associate Professor Rose said the research was now at the crucial stage of having developed a system for the introduction

Continued p10
CARPARK CONVERTED TO SPORTS RESOURCE

An old basketball area which had degenerated into a makeshift carpark has been reborn as a multi-purpose teaching resource.

The area is beside the gymnasium and the Wollotuka Centre.

The Physical and Health Education course director, Mr Kerry Thompson, said that in the past students had had to travel to community facilities, such as the Broadmeadow basketball stadium and the National Park netball courts.

This had been inconvenient and time-consuming. Having the facilities on the campus was good for the course’s professional image, he said.

The area, which was originally three basketball courts, has a new surface and is fenced.

It was designed Mr Bob Hannon, the physical education course attendant.

Mr Hannon has made maximum use of the small area, using different colours to highlight different courts.

In the space of three basketball courts Mr Hannon has put in courts for netball, koriball, basketball and soccer. There are two courts for half-court tennis, koko tennis, volleyball and badminton, as well as a cricket pitch and half of a tennis court which faces a wall for serve practise.

Mr Thompson said the old basketball courts had degenerated to a point where they were dangerous and students had begun using the area as a carpark in the absence of it serving any other purpose.

The area will now be used by 140 physical and health education specialist students, plus the general primary, early childhood and some Diploma of Education students.

Mr Hannon worked on weekends and took material home for welding.

But despite the success of the project, Mr Thompson said he was unsure of the area’s long-term future because of plans to extend the union building.

Mr Thompson said health and physical education was now one of six key learning areas in the primary school curriculum and one of the eight key learning areas in the secondary curriculum.

WELSH AUTHOR VISITS SOCIAL WORK

Alan Twelvetrees, director of the Community Development Council for Wales, visited the Department of Social Work on May 25 and 26. Mr Twelvetrees is in Australia for five weeks on a British Council sponsored visit to all States to meet community development workers, take part in seminars and to speak to students.

Mr Twelvetrees’ books on community work are studied in social work, drama and welfare courses at the University of Newcastle. While in Newcastle, Mr Twelvetrees also met a large number of community workers from the Hunter Region.

ARC CAMPUS VISIT

The Australian Research Council has advised that advisory panels will visit the university on August 5, 1992. The details of which sub-panels will interview at this university have not yet been provided.

The panels will be available to meet and talk to members of university staff from 1pm to 2pm in the Committee Room, The Chancellery.

Professor Sheehan, Chair of the ARC Research Grants Committee and Professor Brennan, Chair, ARC, will also visit the campus on the August 5. A meeting open to all academic staff, at which Professor Sheehan will present some aspects of the Council’s work and invite questions and comments from the audience, will be held from 2pm to 3.30pm in lecture theatre K202, Medical Sciences Building.

These times and venues are still tentative. A final notice will be available in July after advice has been received from the ARC.

INDUSTRIAL ART STUDENTS AWARDED PRIZES

Four Bachelor of Education (Industrial Arts Technology) students were presented with prizes on June 10 in recognition of their 1991 results.

The students received their prizes from Mr Steve Piper, the president of the Hunter Region Institute of Industrial Art.

Mr Piper stressed the importance of joining a professional organisation, and the institute’s role in keeping industrial artists together.

The Dean of the Faculty of Education, Dr Jack Caldwell, stressed the importance of teachers taking responsibility for the learning of young students.

The winning students are pictured with Mr Piper (centre). They are, from left, Andrew McCudden (first year prize), Laurence Abela (second year), Peter Huish (third year) and Melissa Kennedy (also third year).
An art exhibition held recently gave its visitors some exercise as well as being pleasing to the eye. Located in not merely one, but three of Newcastle's art galleries, the exhibition captured the imagination of its viewers and well rewarded them for their efforts to travel between each of the venues.

The exhibition entitled 'Milestones' was held in the Wattspace Gallery in Watt Street, Newcastle, the Back to Back Galleries in Bull Street, Cooks Hill and the Newcastle Contemporary Gallery in Wood Street, Newcastle.

A survey exhibition of the work of 30 selected graduates of art courses at the University, it was conducted to not only acknowledge the achievements of the graduates, but to track their progress as well.

The Curator of the exhibition, Mr Graham Lang, said graduates from the years 1980 to 1988 were invited to take part and from these the final exhibitors were chosen. He said the exhibition featured a broad range or art styles and mediums including painting and drawing, ceramics, photography, printmaking, sculpture, fibre art and plant and wild life illustration.

"The exhibition gave us a chance to review the work of past graduates and enabled the University to re-establish contact with them," Mr Lang said.

"It took nine months to gather more than 100 art works together and it has proved very worthwhile. It is an acknowledgement of their success and the significant contribution they have made to the thriving art community in the Hunter Region and beyond.

"For those artists who evaded our driftnets of correspondence, it is hoped that the attention generated by this event shall entice them to re-establish contact with the University," he said.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF VAN LEER VISITS CAMPUS

A recent visitor to the campus was Dr Rien van Gendt, the Executive Director of the van Leer Foundation in Holland.

During his visit Dr van Gendt was briefed about the latest initiatives of the van Leer Project here at the University and took time to see other van Leer projects in Australia. He also opened and delivered the keynote address at a "Mobile Muster" conference held in Adelaide to allow discussion on all mobile services (such as the Hunter Caravan Project) that cater for the needs of isolated children.

Van Leer is an international philanthropic organisation based in The Hague in Holland, which funds more than 150 programs in 40 countries for the benefit of children and the communities they live in. The van Leer Hunter Caravan Project was first established here in 1986 and now has a number of other initiatives such as Homelink, Homestart, the National Discrimination Program and the Mobile Health Promotion Program under its umbrella.

Dr van Gendt also observed a longitudinal study conducted by Macquarie University of 900 children in the Mount Druitt area in Sydney's west, which followed their progress from primary to secondary school and highlighted areas such as youth delinquency, teenage pregnancy and other issues.

He had also held talks with Federal and State Government representatives about various van Leer programs operating in Australia as well as visiting other universities.

"There is a lot of distilled information contained in these programs and Newcastle is no exception," Dr van Gendt said.

"It's important to find out what can be learned from the work and use it as an experiential knowledge base for other projects," he said.

PROPOSALS FOR R&D PROJECTS 1993-94

The Land and Water Resources Research and Development Corporation has limited funds (approximately $1 million) available in 1993-94 to support a small number of R&D Projects and postgraduate scholarships which will lead to results enhancing the better management, sustainable use and conservation of land, water and vegetation resources in Australia.

Proposed R&D projects are required to take an integrated approach to the management of natural resources, and therefore projects likely to be funded will be those that involve a range of disciplines and organisations and results in outcomes that can be applied readily by resource managers. In the LWRDC's 1992-93 call, about 30 projects only could be funded from over 600 applications. Less funds are available for this call.

Preliminary proposals must be submitted on the Corporation's two-page application form. Copies of the form, and the 'advice to applicants' which describes the R&D priorities for 1993-94 and the assessment process, are available from the address below. Six copies of each application should be received by 31 July 1992 at:

Land and Water Resources Research and Development Corporation
GPO Box 2182
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Telephone: (06) 257 3379
TED'S TAKE OUT TOUCH TOURNAMENT

After many washed out games, the social touch football competition has finally come to a victorious end for Stuart Syron and his team.

Three weeks of a knock-out competition among 20 mixed teams saw four advance through to the major semis. The Simpsons - Geography
Ted's Team - Edwards Hall
Untouchables - Physical Education (2nd year)
The M.O.s - Physical Education (1st year)

All games provided some very entertaining football but unfortunately only two could compete in the grand final. Coinciding with the deciding match of the State of Origin, the Untouchables and Ted's battled it out on No. 1 Oval. After 40 minutes of exciting touch we had our winning side. Congratulations Ted's Team, who convincingly defeated the Untouchables 6-3.

Thanks to all those teams who competed. A special thanks goes to Simon Navin who couldn’t have done a fairer job in the refereeing.

Look out for next semester’s Round Robin competition, not only for touch football but all sports.

All information will be available in the Recreating Handbook.

Environment.. Cont. from p7

of genes of commercial importance.

The system used in developing the seed has been provided to a number of laboratories around the world.

At the moment the genetically-engineered seed is restricted to a glasshouse environment.

Working with a legume similar to lucerne, Associate Professor Rose and his colleagues aimed to transfer insect and mite resistance to cultivated medics (legumes) from wild species and less cultivated medics.

He said the work had passed the theoretical stage and was on track to reaching the goal of leading farmers in West Australia, South Australia, Victoria and NSW to cheaper production and better soil maintenance.

He said the Australian Wool Corporation and the university both had an interest in the financial spin-offs that would result from the seed rights.

Associate Professor Rose welcomed the recent approval by the US Government for genetically engineered fruits, grains and vegetables to be put into supermarkets.

Under new guidelines in the US, approval by the US Food and Drug Administration will be required only when genetic engineering has included the addition of substances that raise safety questions.

The decision has caused ructions among environmentalists, who are concerned that the process could alter the nutritional balance of the produce.

Critics also claim that insects could develop resistance to genetically engineered produce.

Associate Professor Rose said there was a misunderstanding among people opposed to genetically engineered food.

“This is just a different way of doing what has already been done before.” he said.

The driving force behind people working in the genetic engineering of plants was to make the produce safer and more effective, not just a desire to do something differently.

He said genetic engineering had environmental benefits because it could circumvent the use of pesticides and insecticides. A wider array of resistance mechanisms could be introduced.

BOOK TO BERecordED

Professor David Frost, whose novel The Deed's Creature was released by Aquila in Australia in April of last year, has been invited by Christian Blind Mission International to record the book for print-handicapped readers.

Christian Blind Mission International provides a free lending library of audio books for handicapped people, that is, those who cannot read, comprehend or handle standard print material. The books are also sold at cost to libraries serving the print handicapped, or to handicapped individuals.

Books are in 2 track audio format, and are from 5 to 10 cassettes in length. The Deed's Creature will be available from late September.

2NUR NEEDS READERS

2NUR, the community radio station operated by the University, is seeking expressions of interest from people wishing to become involved in Paper Talk, the station’s news program for the print-handicapped.

'The Paper Talk is an essential service for a large number of people,' said Program Manager Steve Ford.

'About ten per cent of the adult population has a print handicap. That includes not only the blind and partially-sighted, but people with specific learning disabilities and other literacy problems.'

Paper Talk, which is broadcast between 9am and 10am, Monday to Friday, consists mainly of readings from the daily papers.

'We need people who can read clearly and concisely,' Mr Ford said.

'A good knowledge of current events helps, especially with the pronunciation of names and places,' he added.

Paper Talk is normally presented by a team of two readers, who are rostered to the program either once each week or once each fortnight.

Enquiries should be directed to Steve Ford or Monique Crichton on 21 5555.
The Head of Human Physiology in the Faculty of Medicine, Professor Saxon White, has been presented with a medallion in recognition of his 1991 Lambie-Dew Oration at the University of Sydney.

Professor White addressed staff and students in the university’s Great Hall on August 7 last year.

Addressing the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sydney, Professor Don McNicol, the Acting Dean of Medicine, Professor James Lawrence, the Director of the Lambie-Dew Oration, Mr Andrew Wines, and staff and students of the University of Sydney Medical School, Professor White’s address was titled Physiology and Medicine in the Community: From Ballerinas to Drugs in Sport, the Hunter Academy of Sport.

Professor White spoke about relationships between the School of Medicine and the Hunter community.

He pointed out the advantages and disadvantages of regionalism by contrasting the example of pensioners housing students because “we must help our students at our famous medical school”, with the new Administrator replacing the Hunter Area Health Board, Dr Tim Smyth, being greeted with scepticism in some quarters because of his Sydney origins.

Professor White said he had been faced with a similar challenge in 1976 concerning how he could implement his aim of carrying the science of physiology to the Hunter community because his background was in Sydney and Adelaide.

But he said that, despite some initial wariness from the medical community and the public, great cooperation had been achieved. He cited the findings of research into the phenomenon of underlying sex hormone disturbance of menstrual dysfunction in the female athlete. Ballet schools, their teachers, students and parents participated in the research, along with a control group of non-dancing school friends of the teenage ballerinas.

Professor White said it had been possible to create, as a societal expression of human physiology, the Hunter Academy of Sport, not in the university but in the community, and to convince NIB Health Funds Ltd to be the academy’s main financial backer.

But against this background of successful Faculty of Medicine and community relationships, the sacking of the Area Health Board had presented the health services of the Hunter and the clinical teaching capacity of the Faculty of Medicine with a crisis.

It had been said that one reason for the crisis was a misplaced defence of local health services even in the face of escalating health costs generated by an additional, but state-of-the-art, teaching hospital.

When the Minister for Health Services Management, Mr Ron Phillips, announced the sacking of the board, he said the area health service had been told for two years that the commissioning of the John Hunter Hospital would require a reorganisation of existing services.

Professor White said: “Nevertheless, whatever happens in the clinical domain, I am confident the link between Physiology and medicine in the community will survive, as will the Hunter Academy of Sport and its next congress in October, 1992, on the highly controversial and modern issue of ethics in sport . . . The question will remain however whether parochialism in the Hunter should interfere with legitimate change brought about by its own, more learned society.”

**DISCOUNT THEATRE TICKETS**

You won’t find better prices than these! The University Union is still offering Discount Tickets. Remaining shows for the 1992 season will include dance, theatrical, orchestral and operatic works.

The Australian Opera in conjunction with the Union have arranged a myriad of performances for your enjoyment. The next show will be *Fidelio* on the 10th of July. The reduced price for the opera will be $56, usually $70. Following this, on the 14th of July, will be the *Marriage of Figaro*, also $56.

On the 20th of August, *Hansel and Gretel* will be staged at $46, reduced from $58. *Simon Boccanegra* will be sung on the 19th of September at the cost of $46. The final operatic work will be the popular *Fiddler on the Roof* with Max Gillies. This will be staged on the 9th of October at the price of $51, reduced from $57.

The Australian Ballet Company is presenting a Triple Bill of *In the Night, New York*, and *Etudes*. This will be danced on the 7th or the 14th of December. The reduced price will be $16, a huge discount from the regular price of $54.

A collection of works by Mozart will be played by the Sydney Symphony Orchestra in the *Mozart Master Series*, on a series of Fridays; the 24th of July, the 14th of August, the 18th of September, the 9th of October, and the 20th November. The concert will be available at the price of $10 reduced from $24.

On the 3rd of September, *Uncle Vanya* will be played by the company, with Greta Scacchi. The cost for this performance will be $20, usually $34.

With an array of shows such as these, who could miss Discount Theatre Tickets?

All tickets are available from the Publicity Department, Level 4, Shortland Union Building, Ext. 6013.

Travel to and from each show is the responsibility of the ticket buyer. There are no bookings without payment and no refunds or exchanges on ticket sales.

Come with us and enjoy!
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE ART COMMITTEE (TUNAC) NEWS

Photographic Competition and Exhibition

As most of you will have seen, the Chancellery foyer is currently being used to exhibit works by Peter Singleton, Principal Art Lecturer, Department of Fine Art. The paintings look terrific in the space, and TUNAC is very grateful to Peter Singleton and to Maitland City Art Gallery for lending the works to the University.

The foyer is an excellent space for presenting small exhibitions, and we hope to continue to use it for this purpose, given that it exposes the work on display to a wide group of people including staff, students and visitors to the University.

We would like to focus on displaying artworks or other work that is associated in some way with the University so if any staff member has a proposal for an exhibition in the Chancellery foyer, please contact Virginia Birt, the Art Exhibitions Officer, c/o Room 189, Hunter Building. (Ext. 6663).

TUNAC (THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE ART COMMITTEE

Dear Art Lover

I would like to invite you and your friends to the 1992 Art Committee Dinner on Friday 17 July in the University Staff House. Mr Leon Paroissien, Director of the Museum of Contemporary Art, will be the guest speaker. Our first dinner was a great success: outside the weather was below freezing but inside, the food, music and company were excellent. We look forward to this dinner being even better.

The charge for the dinner will be $35 and if you would like to purchase a ticket(s), please fill in the form below and return it, with a cheque by 10 July, 1992.

Due to limited space in the Staff House, we need to restrict the numbers to 100, so replies are required as soon as possible. Reservations will only be confirmed upon receipt of the cheque.

The Committee is currently sponsoring a Photographic Competition, "University People and Places," which is open to any staff member or student. There will be two judgings, one by a panel of experts and the other by popular vote. You are invited to view these photographs in the Great Hall from 11 July and cast your vote. The winners of the competition will be announced at the Art Dinner.

I look forward to seeing you.

Yours sincerely,

L F Hennessy

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration)
Chairperson The University of Newcastle Art Committee (TUNAC)

RETURN TO L F Hennessy,

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration)
The Chancellery
UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE CALLAGHAN 2308

I would like to attend the 1992 TUNAC Dinner on 17 July 1992.

Please reserve ................................ tickets for NAME(S) : ...............................................................

ADDRESS : ...........................................................................................................................................

If you wish to be seated with a particular guest or group, please indicate below:

My cheque/money-order for $ .................................. is enclosed. Please make cheques/money-orders etc, payable to The University of Newcastle Art Committee.
ROBYN WILLIAMS

The interviewing was precise and succinct and the interviewer asked razor sharp questions of his subjects that will provide listeners with definitive information and entertainment as well. The interviewer? None other than the acclaimed journalist, broadcaster and presenter of the ABC's Science Show, Robyn Williams.

Robyn was visiting Newcastle after being invited to be guest speaker at the Medical Research Week Dinner, which was held at the Newcastle City Hall recently. His topic "The Origins of Medicine - Six Million Years Ago" certainly held the attention of his audience and provided some interesting insights. He took advantage of his visit to gather some interviews for his program and talked about about new methods for measuring blue-green algae and what can be done to monitor this. Dr Cheng Smart about her research into white blood cells that kill cancer and Professor Nik Bogduk about Osteoporosis, new developments in whiplash injury and a plan for back pain research.

FOOTBALLER MAKES STATE TEAM

Outstanding performances at the NSW Rugby League Carnival held at Macquarie University in May has earned university rugby league player Peter Sharpe selection in the Combined NSW Tertiary team. The team is participating in a two-match tour of Western Australia in June, and will play the Queensland student rugby league representative team in late June. After this match a team will be chosen to represent Australia in the Student World Cup, to be played in Sydney in August this year. Peter is hoping to be chosen to represent Australian universities. Peter is a former Eastern Suburbs Under 19 representative player. He took a year off from his university studies in 1990 to play rugby league professionally in France with the Roanne club. He returned to Australia in 1991 and transferred to the University of Newcastle to resume his studies.

WINTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Department of Community Programmes will present Winter School 1992 from July 6 to 10. The program offers a choice of extension courses and activities for young people of school age. The courses are arranged in half-day sessions, some in the mornings and some in the afternoons. Several courses are offered in more than one age group. The courses are: Beginners Golf, Environmental Science, Radio Broadcasting, Keyboard for Kids, Guitar for Beginners, Artists' Workshop, Colourful Kites, Drama, Mastering Maths, Computer Programming and Music Theory.

COUNCIL BALLOT

The following nominations have been received for the University Council ballot.

For one non-academic staff position: Richard John DEAR, Susan Anne MCDONALD. For one student position: Chris Lazo FOTEFF, Anthony James HANSON, Marion Monica WILLIAMS. Nominated for two academic staff positions: Jennifer Margaret GRAHAM, John Davis HAMILTON, Robert Lance IRVINE, Colin Stewart Lindsay KEAY, Arthur John MCCULLOCH, Frank Gilmore MORGAN, Timothy Kigour ROBERTS, Robyn Ann WAMSLEY, William George WARREN.

The ballot will be a postal ballot. Voting papers will be despatched on Monday, July 13, 1992. To be included in the ballot they must reach the University Secretary by 5pm, Friday, August 21, 1992.

REVUE '92

Are you into acting, directing, or writing? If you are, then Revue 1992 is for you! The University Union is inviting all interested people to attend a meeting on Wednesday the 22nd of July at 4pm in the Shortland Bar.

Writers, actors, singers, dancers and directors are all welcome to participate in making this the best revue ever. So come along and join in!

For further information, contact Andrew McAllister (Acting Activities Officer) in the Activities Office, Level 4, Shortland Union Building, or by phone on 683 717 or 602 454.

CHILD CARE CENTRE APPLICATIONS

Members of staff are reminded that the new child care centre to be built for staff of the University opens its waiting list on 1st July 1992.

This means that all applications for a place for a child at the centre that are received before that date will be at the top of the waiting list (according to the criteria). Applications received on or after 1st July will be placed in date order of receipt on the waiting list.

To obtain an application form or for information about child care, contact Vicki Petersen, Child Care Officer on extension 6548 or write c/- EEO Unit, Box 24 Hunter Building.

Sincere condolences are conveyed to Elaine McRae (Library Technician at the Central Coast Campus) and her family on the recent passing of her husband, Larry. Elaine is well known to students at Ourimbah as she has worked at the campus since its establishment.

Larry lost an eight-month fight against cancer and is survived by four sons and two daughters.

FOOTBALLER MAKES STATE TEAM

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Dear Editor,

Dr. Roger Coldwell's remark equating affirmative action with "being female" is gratuitously offensive. Affirmative action may indeed be necessary for the social policies dependent on such attitudes as those he expresses. Thankfully not all males hold to such opinions, and we are appalled and appalled to appoint male EEO coordinators as to place boastful paedophiles in charge of nurseries.

The remark "for being female" remarks well also with the other offensive assumption that a woman's discipline to flourish.

The point I am labouring to make is linked with another issue also making demands on our institutions, the question of the institution's highest reality, our putative security of non-performers. Sadly with both facts it is even more disturbing that these are in even relatively senior positions whose needs must be observed over lengthy periods to detect signs of life.

The point I am labouring to make is linked with another issue also making demands on our institutions, the question of the institution's highest reality, our putative security of non-performers. Sadly with both facts it is even more disturbing that these are in even relatively senior positions whose needs must be observed over lengthy periods to detect signs of life.

Dr. Coldwell's knowledge is sadly deficient on the issue of male EEO coordinators. I'm sorry he didn't try to establish the facts before going to print (one expects better from an academic). There are many more male co-ordinators, I agree, but there are some. At a recent EEO practitioners' conference I attended, for example, Liberal University appointed a man to the half-time EEO Officer position late last year (from a selection committee I chaired). Unfortunately, he left soon after starting work because he obtained a better paid academic position. In Monica Hayes' time as co-ordinator, Mr. John Goldsworod was a member of the EEO Unit, and he continues to be active in Sydney in EEO-related issues. And quite a few practitioners in EEO in the Public Service are men.

The information on the granting of Associate Professor positions post-amalgamation of the Psychology and English Departments, and Mr. Dr. Coldwell offers as indicating that the University 'compensates people for being female' may be accurate as far as it goes. It is necessary to state that the 400 equals three women only. Of 82 Associate Professors in this University, 5 (6%) are women. Does that sound like 'compensation for women' or a derogation from the principle of merit? It sounds to me like not enough application of the principle of merit.

My difficulty with confusions about "equality" is the tendency to which I respond. It strikes me as peculiar also that the argument of Dr. Coldwell seems to rely both on *promotion on merit* and historic equality of status, when these principles are demonstrably propped against. Dr. Coldwell may indeed be the best of both worlds to obtain?

Ralph Richardson

Dear Madam,

I regret the fact that Dr. Roger Coldwell finds me guilty of affirmative action for women to be "aggressive". Personally, I see it as no more than firm, but Dr. Coldwell is of course entitled to his perception. His letter goes, however, raise a couple of points which I cannot let pass.

Affirmative action for women is not my personal crusade, and I do not have to justify giving attention to it. Whether Dr. Coldwell likes it or not (and clearly he does not), affirmative action is the law of Australia. Dr. Coldwell's remedy is not to attack me for doing my job, but to approach his minister of Parliament to seek repeal of the Affirmative Action Act. His chances are not good, given that most women and male supporters of affirmative action have joined the Liberal Party "back-slash" package pledges to retain the Act, but he can try.

Dr. Coldwell's knowledge is sadly deficient on the issue of male EEO coordinators. I'm sorry he didn't try to establish the facts before going to print (one expects better from an academic). There are many more male co-ordinators, I agree, but there are some. At a recent EEO practitioners' conference I attended, for example, Liberal University appointed a man to the half-time EEO Officer position late last year (from a selection committee I chaired). Unfortunately, he left soon after starting work because he obtained a better paid academic position. In Monica Hayes' time as co-ordinator, Mr. John Goldsworod was a member of the EEO Unit, and he continues to be active in Sydney in EEO-related issues. And quite a few practitioners in EEO in the Public Service are men.

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It's always easier, on an emotive subject like affirmative action, to speak from emotions, but I suggest that a bit of objective scrutiny of facts is a better way to proceed.

Suzy M Jones - EEO Coordinator

Dear Madam,

Thank you for correcting the "Dear Sir" in "Dear Madam". In view of the misleading information that you print, we - your readers - were unaware of the facts.

Following the advice of the Concise Oxford Dictionary of Current English you might consider altering the title of your publication. Perhaps "Dear Madam"? You could at least try to be consistent, dear!

Dr. Roger Coldwell - Curriculum Studies

Dear Madam,

I am writing in order to express the deep concern of the students' association over the decision of the Legislation Committee of University Council regarding the exclusion of the position of Gay and Lesbian Committee Convener from our Constitution. The committee has refused for the second time to recommend to the University Council that our Constitution be accepted, solely because of the existence of this position. The reason given for refusal is that it is simultaneously contradicts this and open the floodgates for minority group representation. When the process by which Council is being amended is considered, it can be seen that it is absurd to suggest that a group that was not represented when Council would be able to get it. To amend the Constitution, the amendment must first be approved by a majority of the Students' Representative Council and by a majority of students at a Special General Meeting called for that purpose. That representation would fall in this process.

Our Constitution, containing the Gay and Lesbian position, was accepted by an overwhelming majority of representatives present at a Special General Meeting of the Students' Association. Last year, the Students' Representative Council appointed a gay officer and a lesbian officer as non-voting members of council. This year, it was decided in order to represent their constituents effectively they should be given a voting position the same as is available to international students and part-time students. Why not give gay and lesbian students any distinction based upon sexuality.

A study conducted on this campus by Dr. J. D. from the University Department suggests that approximately 11% of students are either homosexual or bisexual. This does not include those who who can change to it because of the stigma placed upon homosexuals by our society. We are disappointed that the University is choosing to perpetuate this stereotype. The Gay and Lesbian position on this campus is intended to act as a support for students, to work on an HIV/AIDS Policy (which this University does not have), to raise awareness of issues relating to sexuality, and to assist in the eradication of homophobia and biphobia. At the University of New South Wales, of which this University is a branch, that position is actually supplied and funded by the University itself, in addition to two homosexual officers (with voting rights) on the Senate Council. It is unfortunate that the administrators of The University of Newcastle cannot be as forward thinking. This University would not exist without students, yet their needs and opinions do not seem important enough to heed in the eyes of those who can change to it because of the stigma placed upon homosexuals by our society. We are disappointed that the University is choosing to perpetuate this stereotype.

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Tina Bubulikovic - President, Newcastle University Students' Association

BULLETIN • 14
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

Australian Tobacco Research Foundation Research Grants
Research into the relationship in Australia between smoking and health and disease in its widest context.
19 June 1992

Leo & Jenny Leukaemia and Cancer Foundation
Grants for one year in the field of research and clinical investigations into malignant disease.
22 June 1992

The Apex Foundation for Autism
Grants in the area of research to advance the knowledge, treatment or prevention of autism or to promote health, welfare or general well-being of autistic people.
22 June 1992

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

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

AIDS Research Training Awards: Research Traineeships
To assist person wishing to obtain experience or further their skills in HIV/AIDS research.
24 June 1992

AIDS Research Training Awards: Training Development Awards
Resources that will enable suitable individuals or institutions to create properly supervised research training positions.
24 June 1992

Scientific Exchanges with the UK - Australian Academy of Science. 1993
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 seed grants to grants in specific areas, eg osteoporosis, lupus, Pagets Disease.
29 June 1992

The Australian Associated Brewers Medical Research Advisory Committee.
Alcohol related medical research fund 1993
7 July 1992

Local Government Association of South Australia -
Special research projects of up to $15,000 or greater in any field, of general benefit to Local Government in SA.
21 July 1992

Land & Water Research & Development Corporation
Preliminary submissions which will lead to results enhancing the better management, sustainable use and conservation of land, water & vegetation resources in Australia.
21 July 1992

Wool Research & Development Corporation
Preliminary submissions for “On-Farm Research in 1993/94” (Formerly production and wool harvesting research).
24 July 1992

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

The Asthma Foundation of New South Wales -
Research Grants
3 August 1992

Dairy Research & Development Corporation
Preliminary submissions for dairy research proposals
5 August 1992

FELLOWSHIPS, CONFERENCES & PRIZES

ARC Reciprocal Research Fellowships with the Federal Republic of Germany.
Recipients are nominated by eminent scholars in the host country. The research areas for this award are the natural sciences or engineering, humanities and social sciences.
22 June 1992

ARC Reciprocal Research Fellowships with Korea
The research areas for this award are the natural sciences or engineering.
22 June 1992

Rothmans Foundation Fellowships
Open to graduates of any University for the specific purpose of postdoctoral research.
22 June 1992

NH&MRC Public Health Research & Development Committee -
Research Fellowships.
24 June 1992

NH&MRC Public Health Research & Development Committee Post Training Fellowships
24 June 1992

1993 AIDS Research Training Awards: Postdoctoral Fellowships
Awarded to applicants who have recently completed or will shortly complete a doctorate and wish to gain further research training. Awards for up to 3 years & proposal for overseas institutions considered.
24 June 1992

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

World Health Organisation
1993 Fellowships to provide opportunities for training not available in Australia and to facilitate the international exchange of scientific knowledge in public health techniques and medicine in general.
20 July 1992
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS AND STAFF SEMINAR PROGRAM:

Venue:
Room C67 Hunter Building, Thursday 4.15 - 5.30 pm.

Staff involved in these seminars present papers on their current research. The students participating are employed in major thesis degrees such as the PhD, Ed.D and M.Ed and report on aspects of progress in their research.

Presenters for June & July 1992:
25 June
Ruth Reynolds - Development and Implementation of the Social Science Curriculum in NSW.
Ian Ferguson - Language in Maths. Learning in Different Cultural Contexts.

30 July
Mark Hills - The Role of Narrative in Religious Education.
Dennis Mahoney - Perceptions of Environment in the Wollombi Valley: Implications for Environmental Education.

BRITISH UNIVERSITIES' GUIDE TO GRADUATE STUDY:

The Authoritative Source.

The 1992/93 edition of this publication of the Association of Commonwealth Universities has been placed in the Auchmuty Library.

It provides a comprehensive introduction to graduate studies at British universities including fees, grants and awards, a directory of graduate taught courses and university profiles.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE 1993/94 CANADIAN STUDIES AWARDS

As part of the Canadian Studies Program in Australia, the Canadian Government is pleased to offer three annual awards to Australian academics.

These are:-
- The Canada-Australia Institutional Research Award (CABIRA - $25,000);
- The Faculty Enrichment Award Program (FEP - max $5,300);
- The Faculty Research Award program (FRP - max $5,300);

Please note that the closing date for these awards has been brought forward from November to 31 August, 1992 to avoid clashing with end of year exams.

ACSA NZ (the Association for Canadian Studies in Australia and New Zealand), in association with the Canadian High Commission, has introduced a Postgraduate award for ACSANZ '92 to enable a student to attend and present a paper at the ACSANZ biennial conference to be held in Wellington in December, 1992.

For further enquiries please contact Paulette Montaigne, Acting Cultural Affairs & Academic Public Relations Officer, at the Canadian High Commission, by telephoning (06) 2733 844.

Further information can also be obtained from the University's Information and Public Relations Unit in the Chancellery.

THE HUNTER VALLEY THEATRE COMPANY

THE COAST MONGRELS

by Stephen Abbott
Director - Brent McGregor
Musical Director - Glenn Butcher
Designer - Michael Bell
at 8.00p.m.
Wednesday 17th June - Saturday 11th July in the Playhouse
(Tuesday to Saturday nights at 8.00 p.m. with Saturday Matinees at 2.00 p.m.)

SEMESTER 1 FINAL EXAMINATION RESULT NOTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS

It is intended that Semester 1 final result notifications will be mailed to students between WEDNESDAY 15 and THURSDAY 16 JULY 1992.

Final result lists for SEMESTER 1 SUBJECTS will also be displayed progressively by Faculty as soon as they become available from Wednesday 15th July in THE HUNTER BUILDING CONCOURSE.

If you have not received your final result notification for SEMESTER 1 SUBJECTS prior to the commencement of Semester 2, you will be able to view them in the Concourse area.

THE BULLETIN

The BULLETIN is the main organ of communication within The University of Newcastle. Published on a fortnightly basis, the publication disseminates campus news not only to staff and students of the University but also to graduates, community leaders and members of the media.

Copies are also supplied to students of the University Conservatorium of Music and at the Central Coast Campus.

The BULLETIN is produced by the Information and Public Relations Unit using PageMaker, Corel Draw and Wordperfect applications.

Letters to the Editor (no longer than 300 words and signed), reports on outstanding and unusual research, advertisements and news stories are particularly welcome.

This edition of the BULLETIN has been edited by Miranda Harman. For enquiries please contact Rosemary Roohan on Extensions 6440 or 6463.

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