Conservatorium Fundraiser

The Conservatorium of Music Foundation will be holding a major fundraising concert on Saturday 19 October at 7.30pm to raise funds for the purchase of Northumberland House previously the Days of Planning, King St, Newcastle.

The tickets are $35 each and include pre and post-concert drinks (wine, champagne, tea, coffee), a wonderful variety concert by staff and students, free entry into the draw for 26 prizes to the value of over $5000 (including trips to Coops Harbour, overnight accommodation; lunch for 2; tickets to Beauty & the Beast sets of CDs; a guitar and etc) and supper.

Tickets available from the Conservatorium.

Travel Procedures

As a further initiative to streamline and expedite procedures it has been determined that TVL forms will not be required for travel related expense claims under the value of $50. Such claims will be submitted to the Accounts Payable Section using the ‘Claim for Travelling Expenses’ form C2, or paid through the University Cashier using a Petty Cash Form. Receipts substantiating all claims will still be required as will the signature of an officer with the appropriate financial delegation.

There is no change to the requirement of the University insurer that authorised University travel is to be notified to the Head of Department by memorandum, or noted on a Departmental register if a TVL Form is not completed in respect of the trip.

If further information is required please contact Wayne Leslie on 5124.

Travel Related Rates-Allowances Mileage - Private Motor Vehicle Use Engine Capacity Costs Per Km

- Under 150cc and under $8.50
- 150cc to 200cc $11.45
- 200cc to 300cc $16.52
- 300cc and over $22.00

Reimbursement of mileage to Central Coast Campus will not be paid unless there are exceptional circumstances, and with the approval of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor Central Coast Campus.

New daily rates for accommodation for staff travelling interstate or overseas as well as meal break allowances can be found on the CWS.

Effective Water Quality Management

The seminar aims to discuss recent current developments and future prospects in integrated water quality management - freshwater, drinking, operational monitoring and methods, policies and strategic issues.

Details to be announced April 1997.

Promotions Manager
International Seminars
The British Council
1 Beaumont Place
Oxford OX1 2PJ, UK
telephone: (+44)(0)865 316636
fax: (+44)(0)1865 516930/557368
email: International.Seminars@britcoun.org

1997 Diaries

The following diaries are available for issue. Please fill out a separate store issue note with diary requirements only, all goods will be issued all together.

Calendar Refills

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Do You Need Publicity?

Do you have an event or function you would like publicised to the media? If so contact Carolyn Warner by fax 7430, email: cwarner@email or phone her on 6856 by the Friday before the event. Carolyn will then be happy to include it in the media diary which is sent out each Monday to local media.

Do you have an event or function you would like publicised to the media? If so contact Carolyn Warner by fax 7430, email: cwarner@email or phone her on 6856 by the Friday before the event. Carolyn will then be happy to include it in the media diary which is sent out each Monday to local media.

The House of Lords is held in session for the first time in 1997 and will continue to sit throughout the year.

It is essential for Australia to continue to attract the highest calibre of people to our institutions.

There are long term issues which must be addressed on the role of Australian higher education, the contributions it makes to the society and economy, and the levels of funding which are necessary for the universities to fulfill the role and contributions required of them. It is expected that these issues will be appropriately addressed in the Review of Higher Education Financing and Policy: The AVCC welcomes the announcement of this Review in the Federal Budget.

The needs system to be funded at a level that would allow the nation to compete internationally and be competitive standards of quality.

The Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee (AVCC) welcomes the announcement of this system, there needs to be a recognition of both the public and private benefits graduates obtain from a university education.

The AVCC draws attention to the growing gap between the present level of the universities' operating grants and the demands on the system to maintain quality, including the offering of salaries at levels which are both nationally and internationally competitive.

The AVCC acknowledges that the Government has made its funding decisions in regard to higher education. There are nevertheless some immediate issues which need to be addressed before the Budget is implemented, and the Vice-Chancellors are aware of the need to gain Parliamentary approval of the Budget package.

The immediate issues are the financial difficulties that the universities have encountered in their forward planning.

Accordingly the AVCC urges:

1. The Government to provide a substantial increase in funding to support the level of teaching and research activities at the universities.

2. The Government to ensure that the real level of funding to the universities is maintained through the coming years.
AVCC recommendations might generate, consideration is given to the introduction of a wider range of incentives to encourage the up-front or early repayment of HECS such as:

- in addition to providing a 25% discount for up-front payment at the time of enrolment, to provide also a discount of 20% if payments are made before the end of the semester of enrolment;
- in addition to providing a 15% discount for voluntary repayments of $500 or more, to provide HECS debtors with a once only opportunity of a 25% discount if they repay their total debt within one year;
- that the proposed new threshold level for HECS repayments not be retrospective, but the AVCC supports the proposed new schedule of repayments for present HECS debtors above the old threshold of 28,494.

• while acknowledging the Government's decision on the introduction of differential HECS, and expressing some concern over the responsiveness of student enrolments in some areas, consideration be given immediately to changing some of the discipline allocation bands, for example mathematics, medical sciences and legal studies, on the grounds of course costs and income earning potential, and that all band allocations be reviewed within two years based on experience with the enrollments;
• that any action to modify the measures announced in the 1996 Federal Budget not lead to a further reduction in universities' operating grants for 1997-99;
• that the Government to legislate funding now for 1999 in addition to 1997 and 1998 to demonstrate a commitment to the triennial principle;
• that Minister to issue determinations in order them (not February 1998) of a wider range of incentives to encourage the up-front or early repayment of HECS and that any action to modify the measures announced in the 1996 Federal Budget not lead to a further reduction in universities' operating grants for 1997-99;
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