Second Laureate Professor

One of the world's leading experts in the area of infertility, Professor John Aitken, has become the University of Newcastle's second Laureate Professor. The appointment to the position of Laureate Professor is a means of recognising a Professor of the University who is internationally acknowledged to be of the highest academic distinction.

Professor Aitken, who was appointed Professor and Head of Biological Sciences in 1998, said, "I am deeply honoured by my appointment as a Laureate Professor and welcome the opportunity it provides to contribute to the University's international standing as a site of research excellence." 

Professor Aitken is a leading researcher in the fields of human fertility, diagnosis and treatment, the development of contraceptive vaccines and in the application of reproductive technology to animal conservation.

He is internationally distinguished for his work in the field of reproductive biology and in particular his work on male infertility and he recently received the ST Huang-Chan Memorial medal from the Faculty of Medicine at The University of Hong Kong for his research activities in biomedical science.

He was the lead researcher in a bid that won a $9.5 million grant to establish the Australian Research Council (ARC) Centre for Biotechnology and Development at the University, which works to develop practical outcomes from several clinical fields including male contraception, testicular cancer, male infertility and environmental impacts on human health.

Professor Aitken has been closely associated with the internationally famous Centre for Reproductive Biology in Edinburgh and has carried out work for the World Health Organisation. He has filed seven international patents relating to his work and he has 560 publications including two books to his credit.

Professor Graeme Jameson from the Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment was named a Laureate Professor earlier this year.
The University Foundation

Throughout the celebrations of our 40th birthday this year there have been frequent references to the Great Hall and the lessons to be learnt from its origins. The Great Hall embodies two great traditions which are fundamental to the future of our University.

First, the Great Hall is a symbol of the determination and foresight of those leaders from the Hunter community who drove the campaign to have a university of their own, in their own region. Second, because the Hall was built through funds raised from the community by a campaign led by the then Lord Mayor of Newcastle, Alderman Frank Purdy, it symbolises the generosity and support of the people of the Hunter who were prepared and willing to back up this drive and determination with their own dollars.

For them it was a matter of our community, our university, our future. Since that time the community of the Hunter has been extremely generous in supporting a variety of University programs. Whether the donation is big or small, each one counts. As a result, we have a strong record of prizes, scholarships, teaching and research projects, and academic positions that have been supported by donations, public and private, as well as by bequests.

As the University has expanded its campuses to the Central Coast and to Tamworth those communities also have contributed financially to projects which were seen to benefit their community and the University. In 1997 the University Foundation was established to coordinate the fund-raising strategies of the University and to develop a consistent and uniform approach to philanthropy. Leaders from the community, business and industry, some of whom were graduates of this University, were invited to form a Foundation Board to assist in developing projects which would win support, financial and in-kind, because of their benefit to the community.

In recent years two major projects have been identified for development. One is the Institute for Environmental Studies which has been adopted by the Foundation because of the importance of the environment to our health and the future of our region. This Institute is to be called the Tom Farrell Institute, named after a man who was a great leader and citizen of the Hunter, a great champion for the establishment of a university in our region and one of Newcastle's first environmentalists.

Another major project is the Centre for Business School Education on Aging (CSERA). The issues arising from the rapid increase in an aging population constitute one of the challenges for all communities. In November this year, with support from the Hunter Leadership Forum, led by Mr Mcchrystal and Mr Wolf, Hunter Economic Development Corporation, CSERA will be conducting a major workshop with the Hunter community to develop strategies for the future.

In 2004 donors and Foundation Board members sought ways to raise the profile of the Foundation and promote the strengths of our University. Dr Berenice Cueran, Executive Officer to the Foundation Board approached graduates and friends from the media and communications industry for advice and support. Because of the community focus of the Foundation's work the response was immediate and generous, especially from Mr Jeff Kather from NBN and Mr John Ainsworth from the Herald. As a result a Foundation Marketing and Media team was formed, led by Mr Vic Lev, President of the Friends of the University. With assistance from the University's own Marketing Unit the team set to work on a strategy to increase public awareness of the Foundation and the University, and to encourage support for its work. For the theme of the campaign members chose the same theme which underpinned the fund-raising campaign for the Great Hall - Our Community, Our University, Our Future and added Our Thanks. The launch of the awareness campaign, appropriately, coincides with our 40th birthday celebration dinner on 24 September - a time to reflect on our origins, to draw strength from a great tradition and to look ahead with confidence to the future. On Sunday 25 September NBN Television will screen the first of the commercials followed by a full-page advertisement in the Herald on 26 September.

The undertaking of such a comprehensive campaign would not have been possible without the commitment, support and generosity of our local community. They have donated all costs associated with this initiative, including the costs of production, broadcast and publication.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank NBN Television, The Herald, Radio Newcastle (KOFM and NXPFM) and NCP Printing for their enormous support. Likewise, I would like to thank all the staff, students, friends and family who volunteered their time, both those who worked on or appear in the commercials.

This is just a first step which signals our renewed commitment to build our place within the communities we serve. And these communities, be they the Hunter, the Central Coast, Tamworth, Port Macquarie or Singapore, can look forward to a future full of exploration, excitement and energy generated by a truly international University with strong roots in the homes which gave it birth – the city of Newcastle and the Hunter.

Nick Saunders
Vice-Chancellor and President

Excellence in Teaching

The Vice-Chancellor’s Award for Teaching Excellence has been awarded to Dr Jill Gibbons. Dr Gibbons also received the Faculty of Education and Arts award.

Dr Pauline McGuirk and Dr Adam McCauley shared the Faculty of Science and Information Technology award for teaching excellence. The Award for New Career Academic went to Dr Geoff MacFarlane. David MacEathrom, Kathryn Grubisik and Kerry Chalmers were all highly commended.

The nominees are assessed against nationally-recognised criteria and are based on a lecturer's ability to deliver high-quality student learning. The winners are those who demonstrate outstanding ability to motivate students' desire to pursue further learning and encourage independent thought.

Dr Jill Gibbons in the convener of the Social Work program at the University of Newcastle, which has developed an innovative experience-based approach to education. Dr Gibbons has published widely on this model of social work education and has been attracting widespread interest in social work education circles. Dr Gibbons says, "An age where information is readily and rapidly go out of date, our approach is not just to give them the knowledge, but how to learn." Dr Pauline McGuirk has developed an international reputation for research on the interface of science and public engagement, and the transformation of the role of the scientist and its institutions. Professor McKee is Associate Dean (Science) and Deputy Director of the Centre for Urban and Regional Studies (CURS), University of Newcastle. They are also seen as a way of sharing innovative processes of academic, teaching ecology and biology education and has been attracting widespread interest in the field of environmental and life sciences.

Dr Adam McCauley has been involved in the implementation of changes to the Chemistry curriculum and the incorporation of the Bachelor of Science in Foundation Board member since his arrival at the University in 1995.

Dr Geoff MacFarlane is an early career academic, teaching ecology and biology within the School of Environmental and Life Sciences. Dr MacFarlane acknowledges that the candidature of Coral Bayley-Jones (deceased 2002) was the subject of concern raised by Dr Donald Parke from 1983 to 1999. The University acknowledges that Dr Parke has been distressed and has experienced a lot of stress in his concerns to the University throughout this period. Whilst the University has received legal advice that it should not formally resolve this matter, the University has, upon the Vice-Chancellor's recommendation, taken steps to ensure that the doctoral thesis is not to be available for academic or other reference.

The University acknowledges that in 1988 and 1997 the Council resolved to hold a public inquiry in all aspects of the Bayley-Jones case, its supervision and its examination. The University also acknowledges that in 1995 you were offered the opportunity to have your views heard. Dr Parke has requested a public inquiry into the University's handling of the matter. The University regrets that this matter was not put to rest many years ago.

The University Foundation Board memberImmediate and generous, especially from Mr Jeff Kather from NBN and Mr John Ainsworth from the Herald. As a result a Foundation Marketing and Media team was formed, led by Mr Vic Lev, President of the Friends of the University. With assistance from the University's own Marketing Unit the team set to work on a strategy to increase public awareness of the Foundation and the University, and to encourage support for its work. For the theme of the campaign members chose the same theme which underpinned the fund-raising campaign for the Great Hall - Our Community, Our University, Our Future and added Our Thanks. The launch of the awareness campaign, appropriately, coincides with our 40th birthday celebration dinner on 24 September - a time to reflect on our origins, to draw strength from a great tradition and to look ahead with confidence to the future. On Sunday 25 September NBN Television will screen the first of the commercials followed by a full-page advertisement in the Herald on 26 September.

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Nick Saunders
Vice-Chancellor and President

Apology to Dr Donald Parkes

In late 2004 and during 2005, Dr Don Parke, a former member of the University staff, approached the Vice-Chancellor with a number of concerns about the University's handling of a number of cases. The award of the Doctoral degree candidature and the awarding of a Doctoral degree by the University to Coral Bayley-Jones (deceased). The Vice-Chancellor has considered in detail the concerns presented by Dr Parke and has formed the view that a public apology requested by Dr Parke should be provided. That apology is printed in full in Uni-News at the time of the Vice-Chancellor's agreement to this request.

Dr Parke, A PUBLIC APOLOGY

The Council of the University of Newcastle apologises to you, Donald Parke, and regrets that this matter was not addressed more than 10 years ago.

The University acknowledges that the PhD candidature of Coral Bayley-Jones (deceased 2002) was the subject of concern raised by Dr Donald Parke from 1983 to 1999. The University acknowledges that Dr Parke has been distressed and has experienced a lot of stress in his concerns to the University throughout this period. Whilst the University has received legal advice that it should not formally resolve this matter, the University has, upon the Vice-Chancellor's recommendation, taken steps to ensure that the doctoral thesis is not to be available for academic or other reference.

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The University Foundation Board member

Teaching Award News from NiTl

Now is the time for students and staff to consider nominating exemplar teaching academics who have made significant contributions to teaching and learning for the Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Teaching Excellence (VCAE). The planning stage for VCAE 2005 is now underway. The VCAE are held annually and the process and guidelines for these awards have been derived from those used for the Cairns Australian Awards for University Teaching (CAAUT) 2004.

VCAE 2005 winners will form a pool from which University nominees for the CAAUT 2006 will be drawn. CAAUT nominations will then require minimal additional preparation. Following VCAE, teaching academics have the opportunity to apply for the NSyQ Quality Teaching Awards (QTA). The QTA recognises and applauds accomplished teaching practice through a process involving referees' reports, professional development and workplace visits. For further information regarding the VCAE, NSyQ Quality Teaching Awards (QTA) and the Cairns Australian Awards for University Teaching (CAAUT) please refer to the website of NiTl or contact Lyn Sinclair on 4921 5350.

"Since 1995 the Australian and the University of Newcastle Excellence in Teaching Awards (AUTA)"
Power in Engineering Chair to boost interest in Industry

Leading Hunter based engineering firm Ampcontrol has sponsored a Chair in Power Engineering at the University of Newcastle.

Ampcontrol is recognised as one of Australia's leading privately owned electrical and electronic engineering firms and the Chair in Power Engineering has been established to foster and develop power engineering research and education at the University.

Professor Bob Betz from the Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment has been appointed to the newly established Chair. According to Professor Betz, the Hunter region is one of Australia's largest in terms of electricity generation, mining, manufacturing and heavy industry and the new power engineering Chair will assist these industries.

"The formation of this Chair will allow both undergraduate and postgraduate students to become involved in industrially relevant project work," said Professor Betz.

Chief Executive Officer of Ampcontrol Dr Alan Broadfoot explained, "Ampcontrol is proud to be working with the University with the sponsorship of the Chair in Power Engineering. This position will help foster and reward academic excellence in the field of power electronics and power engineering, through the development of the electrical and electronics resource and capabilities of the University. This will ultimately add in delivering employment opportunities and benefits to the local community."

The Chair in Power Engineering has been designed to correspond with the establishment of the high technology joint venture company, ResTech Pty Ltd, between Ampcontrol and the University.

The Chair will provide an academic focus to ResTech's research and training activities involving the research and development of power electronic technologies for the heavy industry, mining, power distribution and defence markets.

"The vision for ResTech is that it will research and develop significant technologies in the power area," said Professor Betz. "The Chair in Power Engineering will also help create a critical mass of activity in the power engineering area that will allow the University to potentially attract funding available from such organisations as the Australian Power Institute, which was recently established by the power industry to promote power engineering education at all levels."

"The Chair is also providing a focus for the re-emergence of power engineering courses at the University. This is now being reflected in the enhancement of power engineering courses in the undergraduate degree programs."

Convocation Awards

The University of Newcastle honoured exceptional graduates and students at this year's Convocation Awards held recently.

Samantha Martin, General Manager of Newcastle University Sport (NUSport), and Conjoint Professor Peter Stutchbury, leading Australian architect, have joined the list of esteemed graduates who have been recognised by the University for their community contribution and professional achievements.

2004 Newtown-John Award — Samantha Martin

The Newtown-John Award, named after the late Professor Eric Newtown-John, is presented to a graduate who has made a substantial contribution towards improving the quality of life in the community.

Samantha Martin has distinguished herself in the area of sport and sports administration as General Manager of NUSport, the organisation responsible for managing The Forum Sports and Aquatic Centre and sporting facilities at the Callaghan campus. NUSport has built a reputation for commitment to participation, sporting alliances, pathways to sporting excellence, sports education and research.

Samantha is a University Foundation Board member, Hunter Medical Research Institute Foundation member, Board member of the CornerStrength Foundation for youth suicide prevention, Director of the Hunter Business Chamber and is a member of the Hunter Institute of Technology Advisory Council. She was awarded the 2002 Hunter Business Chamber Young Achiever of the Year Award, the 2002 NSW Young Business Woman Award and the 2003 Women of Enterprise Award in the Hunter Business Women's Network.

2004 Convocation Medal for Professional Excellence — Conjoint Professor Peter Stutchbury

First introduced in 1987, the Convocation Medal for Professional Excellence is awarded to a graduate with an outstanding record of professional excellence.

Peter Stutchbury is highly regarded by his colleagues. His reputation of place and form and commitment to sustainability and understanding of legibility in built form have become central to his designs, earning him a reputation as one of Australia's leading architects. Completing his Architecture degree with Honours at Newcastle in 1978, Peter established Stutchbury Architects in 1981 and this practice has now expanded to become Stutchbury and Rowe, of which Peter is a Principal. Peter's reputation has spread internationally and he has worked and exhibited extensively in Australia and overseas.

In 2003 Peter Stutchbury was the first architect to be awarded both of the premier National Architecture Awards from the Royal Australian Institute of Architects in the same year — the Robin Boyd Award for Residential Design and the Sir Zelman Cowan Award for Public Buildings (in association with Richard Leshitzer and Sue Harper). The Sir Zelman Cowan Award was presented for the design of the Birubah Indigenous Centre at the University's Callaghan campus.

Annual Student Acquisitive Art Prize

The Annual Student Acquisitive Art Prize is the major art prize of the Watt Space Gallery at the University of Newcastle. The total prize money of $2,500 was split between four recipients.

Rockette's artist in residence who recently returned from exchange to the University of Nova Scotia, Bethany Jean Fellowes for her three photocopied drawings; "'The Espanol Country Singer Series'." Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Education student and first-time exhibitor, Jake Henriot for "Sofima, Patrick and Ellis" a work of wool, buttons and needles.

Final year Bachelor of Fine Art student and winner of the 2004 Annual Student Acquisitive Art Prize, Kate Stewart for her oil on canvas entitled 'cinnamon and nutmeg'.

The Corbell Award of $1,000 was presented to Fine Art PhD student Amy-Marie Hunter for a woven tapestry in coloured yarn called "Summertime".
Spotlight on the Faculty of Health

The Spotlight in this edition focuses on the University's Faculty of Health which epitomises the University's expansion in many ways. Long regarded as one of the most innovative faculties of its kind in Australia, the Faculty has been renowned for its distinctive model from the University's Discipline of Medical Sciences and its unique approach to education and research.

The Faculty of Medicine of the University of Newcastle was founded, after some years of lobbying, in 1974, with Professor David Maddison as its first Dean. Professor Maddison had previously been Dean of the Medical School at the University of Sydney. The teaching of health subjects at the Newcastle College of Advanced Education began three years later, with the introduction of the first course in Nursing Education, and the CAE's School of Paramedical and Community Welfare Studies was established in 1979.

The Medical School gained international recognition early in its history (1976) when it received a grant of $US41,000 to support its innovative educational programs. The organisation of the school, the lines on which its curriculum was perceived to be developing, and the development of small group teaching and its community orientation were seen as having important implications for Asia as well as Australia. (Looking Back At History of the University of Newcastle by Don Wright, 1992)

In 1987 the Faculty of Medicine was made subject to an external review conducted by the National Inquiry into Medical Education (the Debrecht Commission). The Committee's report was favourable to the lines along which the Faculty had been developed. In the same year the CAE School of Paramedical and Community Welfare Studies was re-organised as the School of Health Studies, to be re-named the School of Health a year later.

Upon the amalgamation of the University and the Hunter Institute of Higher Education (the former CAE) in 1989, the Faculty of Medicine and the School of Health became members of the same institution. Restructuring of health education at Newcastle inevitably followed. In 1991 two new Faculties were created, those of Health Sciences and of Higher Education (the former CAE) (1989). The various Faculties and Schools responsible for Health Education have consistently engaged with the medical bodies and institutions of the Hunter region, responding to the needs for well-educated medical professionals in many fields, and cooperating with the region's main hospitals. This has led to the accumulation of a large body of research materials in the University's collections, and the quality of records from the Royal Newcastle, Wallasey and Newcastle Western Suburbs Hospitals.

Since 1994 the Faculty of Health has been dissolved. The Faculty of Nursing, which was combined as a separate body until 2003. In that year the University underwent a major restructuring, as part of which the two Faculties were combined to form the present Faculty of Nursing and Health.

The Faculty of Nursing and Health is Australia's only university to be formed as a local, a national, a regional and an international strong institution. Now, at (University) the message is

South towards the central coast

At the Ourimbah campus, the University enjoys a partnership with TAFE NSW - Hunter Institute and the Central Coast Community College in a multi-sector education provider that has grown rapidly since its inception.

From humble beginnings, the campus now presents as a state-of-the-art facility where students study in a magnificent sub-tropical setting. From a rocky start to the first lectures in 1969 (when the power failed), the campus has grown from strength to strength and is now, according to the Callaghan campus, enjoying tremendous support from its local community in a region of rapid population growth and development.

In the early days, the campus operated out of three demountable buildings owned by the Community College and also the existing cottages on the site. From a design by renowned architect, Philip Cox, Stage 1 of a massive building program was completed in 1995 and officially opened by then Governor General, the Right Hon. Bill Hayden on 1 September 1995. Then in 1999, Stage 2 of the building works was completed. The then Director and Pro Vice-Chancellor, Professor Len C extracted, described the campus as "at University in Paradise".

Currently there are around 2,500 students undertaking University programs at the Ourimbah campus, around 8,000 in TAFE programs and a further 10,000 people are involved in Community College programs each year. The campus is affiliated with the Gwydir and Wyong TAFE campuses in a partnership known as the Central Coast Campuses.

North to Port Macquarie

In February, 2004 the first University of Newcastle student began degree programs at the Port Macquarie Tertiary Campus. After two years of collaboration and planning, the partnership between the University and TAFE NSW - North Coast Institute, became a reality. People from the mid-north coast now have the opportunity to undertake University degree programs in their local area.

Like Ourimbah it is small at first, starting off with programs in Nursing, IT and the University’s adult enabling course, Open Foundation. In 2005 programs offered at Port Macquarie will expand to include Business and Education. And like Ourimbah, the strategic partnership with TAFE will provide valuable educational and vocational opportunities in a rapidly growing region.

Focus on Special Education

As part of the field of Special Education, the University also has a venture with The Royal Institute of Deaf and Blind Children at Renouf located at North Rocks in Sydney. An Academic Board provides teaching assessment and day-to-day activity of the College which trains staff for work with disabilities.

Special thanks to Cae Patterson for assistance in the preparation of this chapter.

Newcastle always destined to be a ‘university city’

The idea of a university for Newcastle was first proposed by Bishop Terry, Bishop of Newcastle in 1849. However, the idea didn’t surface again until 1967 when it was reinvented publicly by the then Newcastle Morning Herald editor, Terry Laycock.

In 1985 Newcastle began the process to align its College of Advanced Education with other universities. The College went on to become the University of Newcastle, a major research university.

Still the push for an autonomous university continued and in 1981, the then Lord Mayor and Member for Newcastle, Frank Furder, gathered a huge crowd at the Newcastle Jubilee Theatre and as a result, the Newcastle University was born.

In 1981 the University amalgamated with the Hunter Institute of Higher Education and the Newcastle College of Advanced Education and in 1998, the Newcastle Conservatorium of Music. Today, the Callaghan campus is the largest in the University and the Newcastle campus is the second largest.
A BONUS for borrowers

An Australian first in resource-sharing, BONUS (Books Of New Universities) enables members of the University of Newcastle community to borrow selected library materials from the collections of Charles Sturt University and the University of Technology Sydney. The service can be accessed from: https://bonus.newcastle.edu.au.

The BONUS service is a two-year pilot to test unmediated interlibrary loans between the participating university libraries; the University of New South Wales is expected to join in the future.

Detailed lending and collection usage statistics, client feedback and cost/benefit analysis will be undertaken as part of the research study to inform collaborative resource sharing initiatives between the participating libraries.

To search the combined catalogue, to request books from participating institutions and provide a template for future resource sharing initiatives, visit the BONUS FAQ site at https://bonus.newcastle.edu.au/answer.

Media Doctor website wins Eureka Prize

Congratulations to Professor David Henry, Head of Clinical Pharmacology at the University of Newcastle, and Amanda Wilson, research officer at the Newcastle Institute of Public Health, on winning the 2005 Australian Skeptics Eureka Prize for Critical Thinking.

David and Amanda won $10,000 for Media Doctor, a website dedicated to improving the accuracy of news stories about new medical treatments in the media.

Media Doctor reviews current news items about medical treatments and rates the quality from one to five with a star system. The award recognises work that promotes rational thinking in the community and in the education of young people.

Visit the Media Doctor website at http://www.mediadoctor.org.au

IRU success

The IRU Australia Libraries Group (led by the University of Newcastle) has achieved major success under the Systemic Infrastructure Initiative (SII) as partners in the RUBRIC consortium which was awarded nearly $3.9 million to develop institutional repositories - the second largest of the nine funded SII projects announced recently.

RUBRIC, which stands for Regional Universities Building Research Universities Collaboratively, involves the University of Southern Queensland (overall lead institution), the University of New England, the University of the Sunshine Coast, the University of Newcastle (linking with Macquarie University, Flinders University, Murdoch University and Massey University).

The project will provide considerable benefits for the IRU Australia universities including a highly strategic link between universities working to develop a national framework to integrate digital repositories and the impending Research Quality Framework which might well adopt this technology for publications collections. The announcement from DEST (slightly modified for context) states:

"RUBRIC will develop infrastructure and capability across the universities to maximise access to digital research resources. The project will take on the best practices developed from existing Federated Repositories of Digital Objects (FRODO) projects and develop similar institutional repositories in partner universities. RUBRIC will provide a means for these institutions to work in a structured framework using the latest tools, to act collectively and to develop the expertise that will be necessary to respond to emerging needs of the Research Quality and Accessibility Frameworks across universities.

Full credit and congratulations for this success goes to the four members of the IRU Australia Libraries Group who started this opportunity following a meeting in April - Greg Anderson (Newcastle), Maxine Brodie (Macquarie), Bill Cations (Flinders) and Margaret Jones (Murdoch)."
Brian Retires

After 15 years at the University and almost nine years as the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Brian English has retired from administrative life at the University of Newcastle but will remain a firm face on campus as he continues his research back in the Discipline of Social Work.

Brian first came to the University to take up the position of Foundation Chair in Social Work - "I knew enough about the University of Newcastle to know that it was innovative and that appealed to me immutably. I also knew that it placed value on, and had a strong reputation in, enabling programs and in working with Indigenous communities - both areas for which I had passion. I knew it would be a good match."

The Social Work program that Brian established was internationally recognised as the most authentic experience based social work program in the world in the year 2000 – a fact of which Brian is immensely proud.

In 1994 Brian was elected President of Academic Senate. He relished this role and became increasingly involved and responsible for all academic matters at the University. The University at that time was going through a difficult phase - the University had amalgamated with the Hunter Institute of Higher Education and the Newcastle Conservatorium of Music in 1989. It was an amalgamation of three institutions that was not welcomed by many of the staff involved. Each institution had individual and firmly established reputations, and each had its own administrative structures and processes and the amalgamation was perhaps one of the most complex problems in the University's history.

"I was probably the right person in the right place at the right time," Brian explained. "My training in social work, sociology and industrial relations meant that I had the skill base to deal with many of the issues that came with the amalgamation. Not only was it an administrative nightmare to get started but for the staff involved, it was a time of upheaval and that upheaval lasted many years."

"There was one thing each of the institutions had in common, and that was a commitment to education as vital to changing the lives of individuals and to the development of a community. That commitment has continued through and remains the University's mantra."

"That was one of the reasons why I wholeheartedly supported the University in its push into the Central Coast and in recent years into Port Macquarie. More than that, I regard this university as the natural provider in these regions. We are still a comprehensive university and one which provides an excellent education for our students." The years at the University have always been enjoyable according to Brian. "I have never, ever wanted to work anywhere else." There were difficult times amongst the staff and that appealed to me more than according to Brian, "that's life. From the amalgamation and a few restructures the most trying time for Brian was the ICAC inquiry, which recommended that consideration be given to disciplinary action against Brian for misconduct. A few months before his last day, Brian received the news he had been resolute would come - he was cleared of misconduct. "I am delighted with the result," Brian said. "It was a trying time for the University as a whole but it has come through as a stronger institution." Brien is highly regarded by all who have worked with him - as an academic, as an administrator, as a friend and as a mentor. "Mentors are those people who give you guidance at critical times in your life. I have several throughout my career who helped me shape my life. I hope I have been able to help others as I was helped."
Do you want a new navigational tool which will save you time with your literature search?

Yes, I want a navigational tool which allows me to:

• Browse by author
• Advanced search
• Read full text
• Quick search
• Search for doctoral theses (with full text search)
• Select journals and browse titles
• Select keywords and browse words within titles.

Search and learn within detailed results.

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We welcome new users who are interested in exploring the database.

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