Australian first with Chair of Cancer Research

Professor Gordon Burns, of Adelaide, has been appointed to fill the first Chair of Cancer Research established in Australia.

The Chair has been endowed by the NBN Telethon Trust and established within the University's Faculty of Medicine from monies contributed by the people of the Hunter Region to the 1983 and 1985 NBN Telethons. An allocation of $1,500,000 was made from these funds to establish the Chair.

Professor Burns will be in charge of a professorial unit located alongside the Oncology Unit at the Mater Misericordiae Hospital at Waratah. The Telethons financed the establishment of the Oncology Unit and equipped it with state-of-the-art technology.

Apart from financing the Chair of Cancer Research the NBN Telethons will provide support staff for Professor Burns and advanced research facilities.

Professor Burns will be responsible for carrying out and directing fundamental research into the ways in which cells become cancerous and then grow and spread.

Professor Burns, who is presently Assistant Director of Research and Chief Hospital Scientist in the Division of Human Immunology at the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science in Adelaide, graduated from Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh in 1970 with the degree of BSc in Biochemistry. He was awarded a Diploma in Bacteriology by the University of Manchester (1973) and the degree of PhD by the University of Cambridge (1978).

After graduation he worked at the Raigmore Hospital, Inverness and the Western General Hospital, Edinburgh before moving as Research Associate to the Department of Haematological Medicine in the University of Cambridge. In 1979 he was appointed Lions Research Fellow at the Walter & Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, Melbourne and Head of the Lions Cancer Research Laboratory of the Clinical Research Unit.

His major research interests in recent years have been with specific cell surface receptors of human cells and the mechanisms involved in cellular cytotoxicity. He was responsible for identifying the LAK lymphocyte cell which is now recognised as an important factor in the development of an immune response against cancer.

He is currently concentrating on what molecular factors control receptor responses and how the receptors are able to modulate cellular behaviour.

Dr Burns has published extensively; including one book and almost 100 papers. Support for his research has been provided by the NH&MRC and recently by the Anti-Cancer Foundation of South Australia. His long experience of working in cancer laboratories has provided important experience: notable in this regard is his success in establishing the laboratories and research programme of the Lions Cancer Research Laboratory at the Walter & Eliza Hall Institute.

Dr Burns is 41, married with two children and expects to take up his Chair in April, 1989. He will live in Newcastle.

2NUR Building Appeal

A public appeal has been launched for funds to build new studios for Radio Station 2NUR at the University.

Full story Page 9

Inside

- The University's Board of Environmental Studies will sponsor a conference on the impact of the Greenhouse effect on the Hunter — Page 3.

- The amounts of money allocated to researchers at the University of Newcastle for 1989 are recorded — Page 5.
Combined course receives wide acclaim

A combined degree in civil engineering and surveying, which was introduced by the University this year, has received wide acclaim from both the engineering and surveying professions.

Students from the degree courses in civil engineering (BE) or surveying (BSurv) may transfer to the combined course after they have successfully completed their first year of study.

After five years of full-time study, it will be possible for the students to obtain a double qualification - Bachelor of Engineering and Bachelor of Surveying.

The combined civil engineering/surveying degree is the first to be offered by an Australian university. It was introduced in response to the demand by industry for professionals with several interdisciplinary skills.

Professor Rob Melchers, Head of the Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying, said the combined degree was commenced early this year when three civil engineering and three surveying students transferred to the combined program. The degree was made feasible by the fact that all subjects in Year 1 were common to civil engineering and surveying programs and some subjects in later years were also common.

He said students who were already part of the way through their civil engineering or surveying degrees were able to transfer to the combined degree course at any time.

He said he and his colleagues were delighted with the enthusiastic response shown to the new degree. Practising surveyors and engineers had offered their congratulations and there had been a flood of enquiries from secondary school students who were interested in enrolling in the course next year.

'The new degree is important because it reflects an urgent need by Australia's construction, engineering and surveying industries. 'Civil engineers and surveyors are at the forefront of progress and development, yet must be sensitive to attempts to protect the social and physical environment in which they operate.

'They are often leaders of professional teams dealing with problems as diverse as water supply dams, harbours, highways, town planning, land development, or mapping from satellites.

'As Australia moves towards the 21st century graduates with more than one discipline will be much sought after,' Professor Melchers said.

Professor John Fryer, Assoc. Professor, and Director of Surveying Studies, said the five-year combined degree program consisted of all the essential elements of both the civil engineering and surveying degrees and was professionally recognised by the Institution of Engineers, Australia, and the Board of Surveyors of New South Wales.

He said he had received telephone calls congratulating the University on the introduction of the degree from as far away as Roma in central Queensland.

He had received inquiries from firms sponsoring trainees and from students in Sydney, which indicated the popularity of the course and its potential to grow.

Ken Booth: Member of University Council

The Hon. Ken Booth, MP, Member of the University Council and former Treasurer of New South Wales, died on November 1.

A long and distinguished Parliamentary career, in which Mr Booth represented the State seats of Kurri Kurri and Wallsend and held numerous portfolios, including Treasurer, saw him become the longest serving member of the New South Parliament and 'Father of the House'.

His connection with the University began in the 1960s when the University College shared a site with the Newcastle Technical College at Tighes Hill.

The holder of a Diploma of Physical Education from Sydney Teachers' College, he came to Newcastle University College as Welfare Officer.

He was a co-founder of the University of Newcastle Rugby Club and, after he began his political career in 1960, maintained his active interest in, and personal support of, University sporting teams. Among his other areas of involvement was the University Union, which he served by being a member of the Board.

Appointed to the University Council at its inception in 1966 he remained a member, with only a short interruption, for a total of 19 years.

In 1981 the University bestowed upon Mr Booth the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters for his services to the University.

Small business

Newcastle will be the conference venue for leading researchers in the field of small business when they meet for the Fourth National Small Business Research Conference at the Parkroyal Motel in February, 1989.

The two-day conference will feature many studies examining the role of small business in employment generation, small business efficiency, planning and evaluation.

Professor Sue Birley, an internationally known expert in the field, will be coming from the United Kingdom to be the keynote speaker.

The conference is being hosted by the Institute of Industrial Economics, University of Newcastle.

Telephone enquiries may be directed to the Institute at (049) 68 5779.
The University's Board of Environmental Studies will sponsor a conference on the impact of the Greenhouse effect on the Hunter early next year.

It will be the first conference held in Australia to look at what global warming will do to a particular region rather than the Earth itself.

Scientists will be invited to explain the impacts of Greenhouse effect on a wide spectrum of the Hunter's environment. It is hoped to attract a wide cross-section of people from the community — town planners, engineers, environmentalists, developers, tourist operators and others.

How much hotter will the Hunter become?
What will be the changes in rainfall?
To what level will the sea rise?
Can we do anything to minimise the overall effects?

According to Dr Howard Bridgman, a climatologist and a Senior Lecturer in Geography, the Greenhouse Effect is not a cause for panic.

Dr Bridgman said the warming of the Earth would not have the same effect worldwide. The impact would vary according to local atmospheric and environmental features. However, because of present societal dependence on fossil fuels, the chances of reversing the Greenhouse effect are small.

Our conference will be a one-day seminar and it will follow-up the CSIRO's report entitled Greenhouse: Planning for the Climatic Change, a summary of scientific views of what global warming will do to Australia. Invitations will be extended to experts who can comment on particular aspects of the Greenhouse effect.

The report is the culmination of a lengthy research project and presents a consensus scenario of what is most likely to happen in Australia by 2030.

Average temperatures will probably rise by from two to three degrees Celsius, changing the Hunter's climate to be more like that now experienced in the Northern Rivers of New South Wales.

Changes in rainfall could see a 20 per cent rise in summer rains over much of the continent, and a 10 to 20 per cent decline in winter rains.

The snowfields will shrink, because of rising temperatures, and snow will only fall on the tall peaks, reducing the amount of runoff into storage dams.

Although we still do not have all the answers, we know that in the last 10 years the world has had six of its hottest years on record. Winters have been warmer than previously.

As regards rainfall, we can see an overall increase over the last forty years, attributable to a shift in the climatic circulation zones during the 1940s.

Conferences on the Greenhouse effect can have beneficial consequences. They force people who are in positions of authority to think about the issues and do something about it.

For further information please contact Dr Bridgman at (049) 68 5644.
Better services for older people

On Friday, November 4, 1988 the Minister for Family and Community Services and Minister Assisting the Premier on the Aged, Mrs Virginia Chadwick, delivered the Dick Gibson Memorial Lecturer at the University of Newcastle.

Mrs Chadwick, a University of Newcastle graduate, is a member of the University’s Council.

Her topic for the lecture was The Challenge of Better Services for Older People.

An edited version follows:

‘I am well aware of the pioneering work undertaken by Dr Gibson during his 26-year association with Royal Newcastle Hospital. Not only did Dr Gibson change the direction of geriatric care in this country, but on his passing in 1980 he was described — with every possible justification — “as a leader of world class in all branches of geriatric medicine and gerontology.”

‘Earlier this year, I was appointed as the first Minister to assist the Premier on the aged in New South Wales.

‘Having been charged for several months now with the responsibility to assist the Premier on the aged, I have become increasingly concerned about a number of issues associated with the provision of community support to older people.

‘The ageing of our population has become synonymous with the assumption that we are facing a huge burden of caring for people who no longer have a vital role in our community.

‘I am disappointed that both Government and service providers frequently have this jaundiced view of the abilities of older people to make decisions about their own lives.

‘Age and disability and health have become confused in the minds of many. There is a prevailing perception that growing old should be linked always with ill-health and disability.

‘But it is a fallacy to believe that all older people are dependent and a drain on resources. Nothing could be further from the truth.

‘Most older people manage adequately on their own.

‘There is clear evidence that older people are contributors to family well-being, providing needed assistance to their own children and their families.

‘Around half of the retired people in Australia are involved in voluntary community work, while more than half are members of clubs, societies and church groups.

‘This Government’s policies on the provision of service to older people is based on this realistic assessment of the abilities of older people, their rights and the contributions they can make to the community.

‘I have charged the Department of Family and Community Services with three specific responsibilities in the area of services for older people.

‘The three responsibilities are Advocacy, Support and protection.

‘Under my direction, the Department is progressively moving away from providing services in an atmosphere which reinforces dependency to one which emphasises independence.

‘The advocacy role extends to the Department’s local district centre offices.

‘Six specialist workers are based at district centres in Newcastle, Wollongong, Gosford/Wyong and Sydney are providing advocacy and support for older people. They have been active in promoting to the broader community a positive image of older people.

‘I mentioned earlier the relatively small proportion of older people who do require community care support. The backbone of the community care support network in New South Wales is the Joint State and Commonwealth Home and Community Care (or HACC) program which is co-ordinated by my Department.

‘We now have the basis for a comprehensive network of community care services.

‘Consumers of community care services also have rights. It is just that these rights are not yet formally recognised.

‘Foremost among the rights of users of HACC services is the right of users to identify and to choose what services they need to assist them to remain at home.

‘Many older people who need more than one community care service have difficulties in negotiating with different organisations to get the right kind of package of services they need to stay at home.

‘The Department is now exploring a number of strategies to improve service co-ordination to reduce this problem.

‘The third responsibility of the Department is protection.

‘We know that most older people are quite able to make all the decisions they need to manage their own lives.

‘Naturally, however, a very small proportion of older people may have difficulties in adequately managing their affairs.

‘These people are open to abuse and to exploitation.

‘Since taking office, I have given particular priority to the Implementation of the Disability Services and Guardianship Act of 1987 which has my full support.

‘The implementation of this Act will provide protection for the first time for older people who are not able to partly or fully manage their own affairs.

‘The Act provides for the appointment of guardians to assist these people in the management of their lives. These guardians will only be empowered to make decisions in those areas of an older person’s life where that person is unable to do so.

‘In conclusion, my objectives are simple but ambitious — to ensure that better services and facilities are available for older people reflecting their individual needs.'
Record research grants

The amounts of money allocated to researchers at the University of Newcastle in Australian Research Council (ARC) and National Health and Medical Research Council (NH&MRC) grants for 1989 are records.

The ARC, which has replaced the Australian Research Grants Committee (ARGC), awarded the University a total of $1,390,000. This is a 37 per cent increase on the 1988 figure of $1,019,000. Forty-nine applications for support for research projects have been funded compared with 46 applications last year.

The NH&MRC has allocated $1,401,000 to researchers from the Faculty of Medicine for research in 1989 — an increase of $65,000 on this year.

Of the 49 projects funded in 1989, 13 projects receive more than $30,000 each. They are:


Dr J.C. Rodger, Fertilisation and Early Development in Marsupials and its Experimental Manipulation in Vivo and In Vitro, $36,152.

Dr J.W. Patrick, Control of Phloem Unloading of Photosynthates, $32,622.

Dr G.A. Lawrance & Dr M. Maeder, Carbon Acid Metal Template Syntheses and Complexation of Pendant-Arm Macrocycles, $32,000.

Dr R.J. Loughran, The Measurement of Hillslope Erosion and Sedimentation with the Environmental Isotope Casemium-137, $35,000.

Dr C.J. Fletcher (Sydney) & Dr D.H. Wood, Internal Swirling Flow, $59,774.


Professor J.L. Keedy & Dr J. Rosenberg, A Massive Memory Supercomputer, $45,878.

Professor J.F. Burrows, Computer-Assisted Studies in the Analysis of Language, $30,000.

Professor C.A. Hooker, An Evolutionary Epistemological Theory of Scientific Progress, $30,000.

Assoc. Professor B.J. Fraser & Dr F.W. Menik, Propagation Studies of ULF and ELF Waves, $90,000.

Professor R.J. Macdonald, Dr D.J. O'Connor & Dr B.V. King, Ion Solid Interactions, $115,000.


Dr D.C. Finlay, Dr D.L. McElwain & Mr M.L. Manning, Electrophysiological and Behavioural Studies of Visual Perception, $30,000.

Program Grants

Professor R.A. Antonia & Dr L.W. Browne, Transfer Processes in Turbulent Shear Flows, $110,018.

Professor G.C. Goodwin, Dr R.H. Middleton, Professor R.J. Evans, Dr D.J. Hill & Dr C. De Souza, Robust Control and Communication Systems, $111,265.

NH&MRC GRANTS

New Grants

Dr S.J. Bunn & Assoc. Professor P.R. Dunkley, Second Messenger Systems and Stimulus-Secretion Coupling, $74,096.79.

Professor J.F. Forbes, Dr M.J. Byrne, Dr J.P. Collins & Assoc. Professor A. Goates, Adjuvant Therapy Trial for Node Negative Patients with Operable Breast Cancer, $56,231.40.

Dr D.A. Fowls, Calcium and Transmitter Release from the Adrenal Medulla, $37,890.65.

Dr J.A. Rostas, Assoc. Professor P.R. Dunkley & Dr J.W. Heath, Molecular Mechanisms of Neuronal Maturation, $38,567.28.

Professor N.A. Saunders, Assoc. Professor M.J. Hensley, Dr L.G. Olson & Assoc. Professor S.L. Carney, Epidemiology of Disturbed Breathing during Sleep, $84,600.31.


Continued next page
Research and Technology

Professor R.F. Heller, Dr D.L. O'Connell, Dr S. Redman & Professor T.J. Boulton. Risk Factor Reduction among Families of those with Ischaemic Heart Disease, $50,694.09.


Continuing Grants

Professor R.C. Burton & Dr Y.C. Smart. Natural Killer Cell Specific Alloantigens, $59,735.51.

Dr L.A. Chahl. Pharmacology of the Opiate Withdrawal Response, $34,326.86.

Professor R.L. Clancy, Dr G.T. Pang & Dr A.W. Cripps. Oral Immunisation-Mechanism of Protection in H. Influenzae Related Bronchitis, $37,266.38.


Dr J.C. Cubis, Assoc. Professor R. Smith & Dr M.W. Brinsmead. Assessing Risk Factors for Depressive Illness in Pregnancy and the Puerperium, $40,469.80.

Professor MacDonald, Physics

Dr P.R. Dunkley, Protein Phosphorylation in Stimulus-Secretion Coupling, $68,752.09.

Professor J.F. Forbes & Dr M.J. Byrne, Optimal Endocrine and Cytotoxic Adjuvant Therapy in Early Breast Cancer, $44,728.31.

Dr J.F. Gerkens & Professor A.J. Smith, Role of Vascular Endothelium and Renal Papilla in Reversal of Hypertension, $78,720.16.


Assoc. Professor A.J. Husband, Functional Activities of Intestinal T Cells, $54,289.36.

Dr L.G. Olson & Professor N.A. Saunders, Resistance and Compliance of the Upper Airway, $36,108.25.

Dr J.A. Rostas, Cell Surface Differentiation of Skeletal Muscle Fibres, $34,035.51.

Dr J.A. Rostas, Cell Surface Differentiation of Skeletal Muscle Fibres, $34,035.51.

Professor R.W. Sanson-Fisher, Dr J.A. Dickinson & Professor W. Walters, Randomised Trial of Interventions to Increase Screening for Cervical Cancer, $50,822.65.

Professor R.W. Sanson-Fisher & Assoc. Professor R.W. Gibberd, Evaluation of Two Interventions to Increase Children's Use of Safety Restraints, $37,191.89.

Professor S.W. White & Dr P.G. Moore, Behavioural, Reflex and Local Control of the Bronchial Circulation, $37,845.44.
Improving health and lifestyle

The Wallsend Community and Health Project, directed by Professor Rufus Clarke of the University's Faculty of Medicine, offered an improvement in health and lifestyle to the community in the Newcastle suburb of Wallsend.

This area was chosen because several factors, including its long community tradition, its mix of settled and developing areas and the impending impact of major roadworks and commercial re-development, combined to make it an ideal area to study and to assist.

The project aimed to help people to achieve a better lifestyle both physically and socially.

It was launched in 1987 with a house-to-house census of 100 residents.

Conducted by the Wallsend Community Health Service team of nurses, over 300 respondents underwent a limited physical examination, were interviewed extensively on their personal health and were asked to give their views on problems their community faced now and those it expected to face in the future.

The results indicated they saw the rising cost of living, unemployment and low job security as major problems affecting their health, lifestyle and general wellbeing.

Traffic noise and danger, smoking, alcohol, illegal drugs and the relative knowledge of welfare and social benefits were also identified as difficulties that needed to be resolved.

The death profile of the Wallsend respondents showed then diet, blood pressure and cholesterol levels to be similar to those elsewhere in Newcastle, but the proportion of overweight men and women gives cause for concern.

The results of the project were published in a small booklet that was distributed to every household in Wallsend.

Professor Clarke said this stimulated a variety of responses in the community, none the least was the demand for extra copies of the booklet.

Many of the participants welcomed their involvement in the project because of the improvements achieved in their health and lifestyle.

Professor Clarke said overseas studies had found direct links between health and the quality of life in the community.

'So far there has been no data collected at a local or national level that would indicate whether Australian suburbs are similarly affected,' he said.

'People find that breaking out of an unhealthy lifestyle is difficult but it can be done. But the importance of a healthy environment at home and at work cannot be exaggerated.'

One feature of the project was the development of a computer-based lifestyle appraisal program where people were asked questions on their lifestyle and after the data was processed a commentary was printed out, congratulating them on their good points but also advising them on the less healthy aspects of their lifestyle.

This program proved very popular at the University's 1988 Open Days when visitors were prepared to queue for up to an hour to have their lifestyle assessed in this manner.

Based on a South Australian model, the program was greatly modified and as, Professor Clarke said, '... it probably wouldn't be recognised as the original'.

We are in the process of showing it to community health teams and I think it will be popular as part of their health promotion programs, especially in places such as shopping malls,' he said.

Professor Clarke believes much of the success of the program is its use of modern technology combined with the personal touch of an individual print-out for the person concerned, and the opportunity to discuss lifestyle issues with a qualified health professional.

Professor Clarke sees the project as successful at a number of levels, including giving community health teams the opportunity to work on preventative aspects of health, raising public awareness of health problems in Wallsend, and pointing out the need for continued study of community health awareness and needs.

The results of the project should be finalised by the end of 1988 and the data, together with recommendations, will be widely distributed both to health bodies and academic institutions.
Building appeal launched

A public appeal has been launched for funds to build new studios for Radio Station 2NUR at the University.

At a dinner hosted by the University and attended by invited guests from throughout the Hunter Region, Professor Cyril Renwick, Chairman of the Board of 2NUR, launched the appeal.

Alderman John McNaughton, the Lord Mayor of Newcastle, Professor Keith Morgan, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, and Mr Brett Gleeson, Station Manager of 2NUR, also spoke.

Plans have been prepared for a two-storey building costing approximately $500,000 to house 2NUR's studios and facilities. The Council of the University has allotted a prime site for the new building adjacent to the Mathematics and Classrooms Block on the University's main ring-road.

Mr Gleeson said that from a tentative start in 1978 and guided by three paid staff and some 40 volunteers, 2NUR has grown into one of the largest public broadcasting stations in Australia. He said in 1986 2NUR saw nine paid staff and more than 40 volunteer presenters pass through its doors each week.

"Public broadcasting allows a wide range of people previously denied access to the media to lend their talents to enrich the lives of others," Mr Gleeson said.

"Public broadcasting has bolstered the confidence of minority groups, helped maintain the language and culture of Aboriginal and ethnic communities and provided much needed sources of information on important issues," he said. As an example, 2NUR currently broadcasts seven hours of ethnic programs each week and, over a month, 13 different languages can be heard on 103.7 MHz.”

Professor Renwick said the University's new phase of expansion and development 2NUR could play a vital and expanding role.

Professor Renwick said the Building Appeal has high priority because it relates to information, education and community welfare - areas of first priority with thinking Australians.

"Your support as sponsors will be recognised and publicised in our programs. This is an important way to reach our estimated weekly audience of 50,000 people." The Vice-Chancellor, responding to the speakers, said a great warmth of spirit greeted the activities of the University throughout the region. In particular, 2NUR had achieved community support through its links with the region.

Professor Morgan said the radio station was one of the University’s main communication bridges with the local community.

"If we did not have 2NUR, we would be desperately trying to invent it. The appeal is a way of ensuring that 2NUR will flourish together with the University and the Hunter Region," he said.

For further information please contact Mr Gleeson at (049) 68 5713.
A German-born PhD student is engaged in a research project in the Department of Geology sponsored by the BHP's gold exploration group which is based in Melbourne.

Approximately $28,000 will be made available over the next three years to allow Ms Sabine Hopf, from the University of Heidelberg, to examine gold deposits in New South Wales, North Queensland and New Zealand. The aim is to pinpoint the factors that are important in concentrating gold in volcanic environments.

The project was proposed by Dr Philip Seccombe and Professor Ian Plimer, of the Department of Geology.

Ms Hopf arrived in Newcastle last May and the work has already taken her to the Parkes district in central west New South Wales where she mapped and sampled at the Mount Aubrey gold deposit.

Part of the study will be based on the geothermal fields of New Zealand.

A Senior Lecturer in Anatomy at the University of Newcastle has shared the US Cervical Spine Research Society's annual prize.

Dr Nik Bogduk and his two collaborators received the $2,500 prize for their work on the cervical zygaphystral joints as a source of neck pain.

He will present a paper on the research and receive his award at the society's meeting in Florida in December.

The US Cervical Spine Research Society offers the prize for basic or clinical research on the cervical spine. The prize is awarded on the basis of competition between manuscripts submitted from around the world.

Dr Bogduk's collaborators are Dr Charles Aprill, of New Orleans, and Professor Tony Dwyer, of the University of Colorado.
New Schools

Five directors named

The Council of the University has appointed Directors of the five new schools which will administer the allocation of resources within the University.

The Directors of the Schools will take up their positions on January 1 and each will serve a term of three years.

Assoc. Professor J.A. Ramsland has been appointed Director of the School of Humanities.

Professor F.L. Clarke has been appointed Director of the School of Economic and Information Sciences.

Professor A.W. Roberts has been appointed Director of the School of Engineering and Architecture.

Professor J.D. Hamilton has been appointed Director of the School of Medicine.

Assoc. Professor B.A. Engel has been appointed Director of the School of Science and Mathematics.

The directors of the new schools, from left, Professor Roberts, Professor Ramsland, Professor Hamilton, Professor Engel and Professor Clarke.

Chair of Psychiatry appointed

Professor Vaughan Carr has been appointed to the Chair of Psychiatry.

Dr Carr graduated from the University of Adelaide in 1973 with degrees of MB and BS; he was awarded the degree of MD in 1988. He was elected into the Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians of Canada in 1978; and the Membership (1980) and Fellowship (1981) of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists.

After graduation he worked at the Royal Adelaide Hospital before moving as Fellow in Psychiatry to the Strong Memorial Hospital, Rochester, New York (1974-78) and to the Yale Psychiatric Institute (1978-80). He was appointed Lecturer in Psychiatry at the University of Adelaide in 1980 becoming Senior Lecturer in 1985; during the same period he has held positions of Visiting Psychiatrist and Senior Visiting Psychiatrist at the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

Dr Vaughan Carr

Dr Carr’s research has been largely in the area of studies of schizophrenia, notably in developing biological models for its study and in consideration of the psychosocial effects of it. He has received support from the NH&MRC for this work and published 18 papers on the research in international journals. He has also published a highly acclaimed book, Understanding Schizophrenia addressed to patients and their families which is in general use in hospitals. He will take up his Chair in January.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Morgan, said Dr Carr’s referees described him as set to become one of Australia’s outstanding academic psychiatrists who combined the attributes of a clear and lucid teacher with those of a fine clinician and an outstanding researcher. His departmental work as a teacher and in administration had been an impressive area of activity in recent years and he had made major contributions to the governmental review of Psychiatric Services in South Australia.
Environmental Award

Facts will save the environment

Conservationist and self-taught botanist Mr Don McNair has won the prestigious Newcastle University Board of Environmental Studies Environmental Achievement Award.

Mr McNair, 67, has been a 'greenie' through many of the Hunter's fiercest environment battles, but firmly believes that 'facts are what save the environment — radicalism gets no one anywhere'.

A former botany lecturer with the University's Department of Community Programmes and a founding member of the Newcastle branch of the Society for Growing Australian Plants, Mr McNair is now honorary curator of the Hunter Region Botanic Gardens.

As Newcastle University's first Convocation Scholar in biological sciences, Mr McNair has been drawing together notes and writings from almost 30 years of studying plants in the Hunter.

He believes Novocastrians should be proud of their environment but admits that many people, especially outsiders, believe, because of its industrial base, that the area is environmentally derelict.

Don McNair ... honoured conservationist

Hunter industries offer work experience

Some Hunter industries are actively helping the University by offering students work experience at the end of the academic year.

The firms inform the Careers and Student Employment Office on the campus that they are willing to provide full-time employment ending in February.

In most cases the students who wish to obtain work experience are offered positions akin to their career goals.

The following companies have this summer supported the University in this way:

- The Sulphide Corporation Pty Ltd,
- Alcan Aust. Ltd,
- Greenleaf Fertilizers,
- Telecom Australia,
- IBM Australia Ltd
- BHP Steel

Students Andrew Geyl (left) and Jane Suggit (right) with Ms Helen Parker, the Careers and Employment Officer, who organised work experience for them.

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