As reported in a recent issue of the "News", the University's ICL 1904A computer is expected to be delivered this month and the Computer Centre's staff has been designing systems to permit the University to make the fullest possible use of the machine's resources.

The big machine will replace the IBM 1130 computer which the University has rented since 1966.

Duties to be assigned to the new computer include the control of book borrowing at the Library and the documentation of students' academic records.

One change to flow from the purchase of the computer will be the issuing of newly designed cards to students when they pay their fees and academics when they join the staff. The cards will replace the plastic identification cards which are currently used. Every card will bear a unique number, in addition to the name of the owner. As previously, it will entitle the owner to borrow books from the Library and, if he or she is a student, to receive transport, Union and sporting rights.

Advantages of the card system include immediate official accreditation of students on the payment of fees instead of postponement of official accreditation until plastic cards have been manufactured.

Student Administration

Advantage is being taken of the installation of the 1904A computer to review the procedures followed in the area of student administration. Over recent months work has been carried out to create a basis on which computerised procedures will be developed.

In addition to assisting the staff in handling the work associated with examinations and enrolments, the new procedures, which it is intended to introduce over the next year or so, will have direct benefits for students. While, when re-enrolling next year, you will again be asked to provide information, for example, name and address, a number of times when completing the enrolment form, it is hoped that in 1972, and thereafter, you will be asked to provide information only once and as far as personal information is concerned only to indicate the nature of the change if it is different from that given in the previous year.

The provision of statements of academic record and the notification of examination results will be greatly improved and in due course students will not have to fill in applications to sit for examinations but will merely have to check the accuracy of information on their enrolment sent to them by the University.
NEW LIBRARY PROCEDURES

The control of monograph lending in the Library is expected to be assigned to the 1904A computer on January 1, 1971, when new procedures will become necessary.

The authority for borrowing books will be the cards issued to students and members of staff.

A set of book cards, punched and imprinted with details of all monographs in the Library, will be held by the Library and duplicates of these cards will be inserted in pockets in all Library books. The 1904A machine will store on magnetic discs the information contained on the cards.

After books have been selected it will be mandatory to present them and the borrowers' cards to library officers at the circulation desk and when it is intended that book loan periods be renewed. Renewal of loans by telephone will not be permitted.

A machine operated by the officers on the circulation desk will note the information about the books together with the numbers of the borrowers' cards. The facts about every book will then be recorded on two punched cards - one to be kept by the Library and one to be placed, with the book card, in the pocket of the book.

At this point the Library possesses all the information it needs about borrowed books and their loan periods, while the borrower has a record of the date by which the books should be returned or renewed.

As regards members of staff, the maximum period in which books can be borrowed will be changed to 12 weeks to replace the present period of an academic term. The computer will automatically generate overdue notices 12 weeks after the day on which the books have been borrowed. Members of staff will be able to keep their cards at the circulation desk if they prefer.

LIST OF BOOKS ON LOAN

A big asset of the new Library control system will be the printing every day by the computer of a full list of books which are out of circulation. The list will be placed in a location central to all users of the Library. It will state not only the prescribed dates by which books should be returned to the Library but whether they are included in the reserved collection, are away for binding or away on inter-Library loan.

Naturally, the list will be helpful to persons who cannot find certain books on the shelves. They will be able, by examining the list, to ascertain whether or not the books have been borrowed. If the books are not mentioned it can be deduced that they should be in the Library.

Gains to result from computer control of book lending are numerous. For one thing, book borrowers will not have to fill in cards as at present, nor will the Library staff have to puzzle over illegible and semi-legible handwriting. Further, Library staff will no longer have to be consulted about books which cannot be found on shelves; the daily print-out of borrowed books will provide this service.

Some students will probably lament two aspects of the computer control of book lending. First, the computer will automatically generate fines when books have been kept out too long and, also, it will be impossible to borrow books without presenting identification cards at the circulation desk.
The Library regrets that book loans cannot be extended by telephone but this service is not possible under a computer control system.

**LOCAL BOOKSHOP NOMINEES**

Mr. J.D. Stowell, Senior Lecturer in German, and Mrs. G.S. Martin, Tutor in Mathematics, have been nominated for election as Directors of the University Co-operative Bookshop Limited. Sydney, Macquarie, N.S.W., New England and the Australian National Universities have also nominated candidates.

Mr. Stowell and Mr. Martin said they had agreed to nomination because they believed the interests of the University of Newcastle would be better protected than at present if the University had a representative on the Board of the Bookshop. Currently, the only universities represented were Sydney, with a large majority of Directors, and New South Wales.

"Students and staff of this University frequently complain that the community is not well served with books that appeal to those who have an academic education. One way of making this complaint heard more widely, would be to ensure that someone from Newcastle is elected to the Board of the Co-operative Bookshop," they said.

**UNION BOARD REPLACEMENT**

Messrs. G.L. Hurrell, T.J. Ryan and J.J. Skehan were nominated for election to Newcastle University Union Board of Management to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. G.M. Brown. The ballot was held between October 15 and 21, with the following result: Hurrell 14 votes, Ryan 26 votes and Skehan 23 votes. The Returning Officer (Mr. W.V. Bridgewater) declared Mr. Ryan elected.

**MOUNTAINEERING CLUB TRIP**

The University's Mountaineering Club will go to Tasmania in January to visit Cradle Mountain, Lake St. Clair, Lake Pedder and Mount Anne. The party will be away for two weeks. Persons wanting to join the walkers should contact Terry Jordan (55 9766) or Bill Filson (63 2147).

**WORK HOLIDAY IN BRITAIN**

Thea Hopson (Economics and Commerce student) and Bill Dowey (Engineering student) have been selected to join a team of 24 Australian students for a working and touring holiday in Britain in the long vacation. Eight students from universities in N.S.W. were chosen.

The tour of Britain has been arranged by the National Union of Australian University Students and the English Speaking Union. The students will leave Australia on December 11 and return on February 27. Every one of the students will work in Britain for about two months.

**S.R.C. RESOLUTIONS**

The Students' Representative Council has decided to declare all the elections it recently conducted invalid, except the election for its executive. Nominations for election to the invalidated positions on the council will be reopened in the first week of first term next year "because of anomalies in procedure."
The Council has postponed a decision on the question whether or not fundamental changes should be made in its constitution until a general meeting can consider the question in first term next year.

The body also decided to form a committee to make preliminary investigations into education in Newcastle, prepare material for distribution and work in conjunction with bodies such as the Teachers' Federation, P. and C. Associations, the University Staff Association and other relevant groups.

WOMEN'S OVERSEA SCHOLARSHIP

Applications are called by the Victorian University Women Graduates' Association for the eighth Lady Leitch Scholarship, to be available during 1971 or 1972.

The scholarship, open to all members of the Australian Federation of University Women for study or research in any country on any subject, is worth $1,500. Applications will be received from graduates of any age and graduates who have not yet taken out their degrees.

Applications must be in the hands of the Honorary Secretary of the V.U.W.G.A., Mrs. D.E. Price, 6 Berkeley Court, Kew, Victoria, Australia, 3101, by 10th March, 1971.

Further details may be obtained from the Secretary to the University.

AUSTRALIAN-AMERICAN TRAVEL GRANTS

The Australian-American Education Foundation is offering travel grants for projects in the United States commencing between May 1, 1971 and April 30, 1972. The grants are awarded in the following categories: Lecturers and Research Scholars (Senior), Lecturers and Research Scholars (Junior) and Post-graduate students. Grants provide for return economy-class air travel between the successful applicant's home town in Australia and the selected American University.

Further information can be obtained from the Secretary.

CAMBRIDGE COMMONWEALTH FELLOWSHIP

The Council of St. John's College, Cambridge, invites applications for a Commonwealth Fellowship for the year 1971-72. The Fellowship, which is offered from time to time, is intended to afford to a scholar from an overseas member-state of the Commonwealth on leave of absence from his University the opportunity to pursue his own study and research as a member of a collegiate Society and to make contacts with scholars in Great Britain.

Applications for the Fellowship should be made to the Master, St. John's College, Cambridge, to reach him not later than 1st March, 1971.

The Secretary to the University can supply additional information.

ONE-DAY COMPUTER SEMINAR

The Australian National University Computer Centre will hold a Seminar on Data Acquisition and Real Time Systems on December 9.

The emphasis of the seminar will be on the application of current technology to solve problems using readily available hardware. Papers to be submitted will deal with: Special purpose hardware designed for
Data Acquisition from experimental apparatus and from typewriter consoles the different programming techniques required for gathering and manipulating date in a Real Time environment and Examples of Real Time Systems.

Details of the programme and application forms may be obtained from the Secretary.

COMING EVENTS


This year it has been necessary for the university to make use of almost every building for annual examinations. This means that students who delay perusal of the lists of room allocations for examinations until the last minute might be late for their examinations. You are advised to peruse the lists early and carefully.

Mathematics Seminar

A Seminar will be held at the Department of Mathematics on November 6. Mr. R. Groenhout, a post-graduate student, will speak on "Isomorphism of Group Rings" in room G06 beginning at 2 p.m.

Kindergarten Conference

The Science Lecture Theatre (H01) will be the venue for all sessions of the conference on Pre-school Education to be held on November 6 and 7.

Speakers will be Lecturer in Education, Mr. E. Braggett ("Trends in Pre-school Education"), the Principal of Sydney Kindergarten Teachers' College, Miss R. Harrison ("Learning Through Play", "Learning Objectives in the Area of Language"), Miss M. Chase, of the Kindergarten Union ("Introduction to the Pre-school Programmes"), the Director of Mayfield Pre-school Kindergarten, Mrs. J. Howard and Miss J. Robinson, of the Kindergarten Union ("Creative Activities") and Miss H. Newton, of Sydney Kindergarten Teachers' College ("Learning Through Music Experiences").

At the afternoon conference session on November 7, Miss B. O'Donnell, Inspector of Schools, Sister Mary Ignatius, Supervisor of Infants' Teachers in Mercy Schools, Diocese of Maitland, and Miss Chase will take part in a panel discussion dealing with liaison between the Pre-school Kindergarten and the Infants' Department.

Staff Association Meeting

The third-term meeting of the University's Staff Association will be held on Thursday, November 12, in the Staff House at 3.30 p.m.

The annual Farewell Party, organised by the Staff Association for members and invited guests, will be held on Thursday November 12, in the Staff House between 4.15 and 6.15 p.m.

Meeting of Convocation

Convocation's second meeting for 1970 will take the form of a Wine and Cheese Evening. It will be held in the Staff House on Wednesday, November 18, beginning at 8 p.m. Mr. Dickson Morris, Manager of Tulloch's Vineyard, Pokolbin, will speak on "Grape Growing and Wine Making".

Oyez Oyez Oyez

Hear ye Hear ye Hear ye
It is publicly and officially hereby proclaimed that on the occasion of the English Society's Annual Dinner (Staff House 7.45 on the 27th November, $2.30 for members of the English Society, $2.80 for non-members) there will be awarded FOR THE FIRST TIME ON ANY STAGE the Talbot Prize. (One of white and one of red).

The prize will this year be awarded for the best Epitaph composed on or before the said occasion and recited aloud on the said occasion; any number of entries are permitted but an entrance fee of 27¢ will be charged for every entry in excess of one dozen (12); the form should be orthodox, or appear to be so inevitable as to have been potentially orthodox for at least 23 years, and therefore suitable for inscription upon stone, plaque or space module; the subject of the Epitaph may be any person, institution or other mortalisable object, (since it has been bruited abroad - falsely - that God is dead, this leaves considerable scope). Good luck to you all.

MR. OATES' TOUR DE FORCE

As a result of the visit made by the University of Newcastle staff golfers to Armidale on October 31 and November 1, Mr. A. Dates will be remembered as one of the immortals of sport in the University. The local team played the staff of the University of New England.

The teams were all-square at the conclusion of the normal match - for the third time in five years of competition between the universities.

Mr. Oates, under the expert guidance of Mr. R. Deamer and with advice being freely given by members of his team, played brilliant golf to seal the match for Newcastle at the third hole in a sudden-death play-off.

STENOGRAPHER, PSYCHOLOGY

Applications are invited from competent and experienced Stenographers for position No. N76/70. Commencing salary will be up to $52.36 per week depending on age, qualifications and experience. In addition efficiency allowances are available. Further information and application forms may be obtained by contacting the Personnel Section, or by telephoning 68 5251 during business hours.

BIG CRICKET SERIES BEGINS

Matches in the Inter-Faculty Cricket competition began at University Oval on November 4, when Administration proved that it is always on the qui vive by defeating Science.

Science, batting first, scored 106 (T. Haig 20, T. Jacobs 14) against an intense Administration attack (D. Doherty 2 for 7, P. Middleton 2 for 15). In reply Administration scored 149 runs (Doherty 58 n.o., Middleton 31, R. Blanch 23); 1. Eckhard (3 for 14) and Haig (2 for 29) were the best bowlers for Science.

The draw for the remaining games: November 5, Administration II v. Commerce/Architecture; November 11, Arts v. Science; November 12, Administration II v. Engineering; November 17, Commerce/Architecture v. Engineering; November 18, Administration I v. Arts. The winner of each division will play in the final on Sunday, December 13.