SEPARATE FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS

Following a resolution of the University Council, a Faculty of Mathematics was established on December 1, bringing the number of faculties within the University to seven. Creation of the new faculty had been recommended by the Senate.

Although Faculties of Mathematics are not uncommon overseas, the Faculty of Mathematics at the University of Newcastle is the first to be established in Australia. In constituting the faculty the Council of the University recognised the central role of Mathematics in most Universities and, especially, in the University of Newcastle.

The Dean of the Faculty of Mathematics (Professor R.G. Keats) said the new Faculty would offer several new courses not previously available at the University. Some of these would be available immediately and others would be introduced as the University expanded.

In 1971, courses leading to the degrees of Bachelor of Mathematics at both ordinary and honours level and to the degree of Master of Mathematics would be offered. Requirements for these degrees would be published in the Faculty Handbook.

In addition to the Faculty Handbook, which will be available before the end of 1970, the Faculty of Mathematics was preparing a brochure which would describe the faculty's courses in greater detail. The brochure would also contain information of interest to those contemplating a career in Mathematics, including a list of some of the avenues of employment open to graduates in Mathematics.

BOARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

At its last meeting the University Council decided to establish a Board to promote and co-ordinate graduate and undergraduate work at the University in the field of Environmental Studies.

Membership of the new Board will consist of the Deputy Chairman of Senate (ex officio), a representative from each of the full-time academic staffs in the architecture, chemical engineering, civil engineering, commerce, economics, education, geography, mechanical engineering, physics and psychology departments (to be appointed by Senate) and further members to be appointed from time to time by Senate on the nomination of the Board provided that the total membership shall not exceed 25 and at least two-thirds of membership shall be full-time members of the academic staff.

The Board of Environmental Studies has been empowered to elect a chairman from among its members at its first meeting to hold office until the first meeting in the following year.

The Council decided that the new Board should meet at least three times every year, that a quorum should be 10 and that the Board should report on its activities to the Senate, which recommended that it be established, at least three times a year.
The University has entered into a contract with R.T. Parker Pty. Ltd. for the construction of extensions to the pavilion at the sports field to cost $33,826.

It was reported to the University Council that tenders were being called for the construction of Stage IA of the Hall of Residence. Tenders were expected to close on January 15, 1971, and work should commence on January 25, with February 1972 as the likely date of completion.

The Building and Grounds Committee advised the Council that tender documents for the construction of the proposed Social Sciences Building were being prepared and tenders were expected to close on February 8, 1971. The architect had been instructed to speed up work so that the building could be occupied prior to the commencement of the first term in 1972.

The Council was also told that a letter had been received from the Australian Universities Commission granting approval to the University to proceed with the classroom block (building F) of the Engineering Complex.

PROMOTIONS ANNOUNCED

The Vice-Chancellor announced that the Council of the University of Newcastle at its meeting on November 20 had approved of the following promotions:

Dr. N.R. Cattell to Associate Professor in the Department of English,
Mr. W.G. McMinn to Associate Professor in the Department of History,
Mr. W.A. Oates to Associate Professor in the Department of Metallurgy,
Dr. J.A. Ramsey to Associate Professor in the Department of Physics.

The following Lecturers have been promoted to Senior Lecturer grade:

Miss R. Beare, M.A. (Cantab.), Department of Classics,
Mr. E.J. Burke, B.Com. (N.S.W.), A.A.S.A., Department of Commerce,
Dr. D.W. Dockrill, B.A. (Syd.), Ph.D. (A.N.U.), Department of Philosophy,
Mr. G.S. Halford, M.A. (N.E.), Ph.D., Department of Psychology,
Mr. N.A. Molloy, B.E. (Qld.), Department of Metallurgy, and
Dr. N. Rutherford, B.A. (N.S.W.), Ph.D. (A.N.U.), Department of History.

COUNCIL RESIGNATION

Professor E.O. Hall has tendered his resignation from the University Council as from December 31. A by-election is to be conducted to fill the vacancy on the Council.

STUDENT EXCLUDED

The Discipline Committee met on Friday, November 27, 1970 to deal with the allegation that a student had entered a lecturer's study and removed, without authority, the students' examination scripts for the second paper in the subject, Accounting IIA.

The Committee resolved that the student concerned be excluded permanently from the University of Newcastle, such exclusion to be effective from November 27, 1970 and that his attempt at the examinations for the year 1970 be annulled.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

Mrs. G.V. MacNeill (Otago), has been appointed Lecturer in Linguistics
to work in collaboration with Dr. N.R. Cattell in devising and presenting the new course in Linguistics to be introduced at the University next year. Mrs. MacNeill tutored and lectured at the University of Otago from 1950 to 1963 and was Lecturer in English at Wollongong University College from 1964 to 1969.

HIGHER DEGREES APPROVED

Council approved the admission of the following candidates to the degrees specified:—

Doctor of Philosophy
Mr. G.S. Donald, Faculty of Engineering, Thesis title: Stability of space-grid structures; Mr. A.L. Black, Faculty of Science, Thesis title: Studies in synthesis and mode of action of organic pesticides.

Master of Arts
Miss M.F. Jurd, Faculty of Arts, Thesis title: Structure of adolescence thought with history-type material.

COMPUTER DELIVERED

The University's ICL1904A computer has arrived from England and an informal commissioning ceremony will be held on December 10. Three senior officers of International Computers (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., which supplied the computer, will visit the University to see the computer in operation. They are the General Manager (Mr. A. Kilroy) and Messrs. B. Michael and M. Heasman. They will be welcomed by the Vice-Chancellor (Professor Auchmuty) and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Professor Allen) at noon. The new computer was bought with a special Government grant of $450,000. It replaces the IBM1130 computer which the University rented since 1966.

EPITAPH PRIZE AWARDED

Here lies the mystic Emily,
Beneath this earthen covering
She reached the heights artistically,
But now she's started wuthering.

This epitaph won Richard Harland, post-graduate student in English, the Talbot prize at the English Society's annual dinner on November 27. The prize was one of white and one of red. Members of the English Department bore the Bronte of several of the epitaphs composed for the dinner, including:

Under this fallow
Is a very fine fellow,
It's his nobs
Gibbs.

Here lies the body of Norman Talbot,
Who could bowl quite well
and others said he could bat.
But for all the exercise he never grew thinner
Because of all the booze that he drank with dinner. (Brooke Murphy)

The sky is gray, it looks forlorn.
The morning sun will never dawn
Again. The sky will cry,
The morn will mourn. Even the little fly
Is torn by grief, I'm sure, for
He's laid, laid low, laid law.

(Ian Carlin)
Teacher, tutor, critic, he,
And dabbler in poetry
Sometimes. What he did best
We never knew or guessed
But, at any rate, I'm sure
Something to do with literature
Was laid, laid low, laid law.

(Peter Putnis)

To you, the reader of this cold grey stone,
Who puzzles at its hieroglyph,
May well you know this of that script
It is carefully penned in phon-et-ik,
Complete will stresses and marks of elision,
To leave you no chance for decision
So that very well you may tell
The name below is not Cattle, but Cattell.

(Brooke Murphy)

S. R. C. RESOLUTIONS

The Students' Representative Council, at its last meeting on November 2, elected Mr. J.M. O'Brien Vice-President. Mr. O'Brien was the only nominee.

A committee will be convened to select one of Messrs. J. Beiers and R. Schulz as Editor of Opus for 1971. Messrs. Beiers and Schulz were both nominated for the post.

The Council will send five delegates to the A.U.S. Annual Council to be held at the University of N.S.W., Sydney, from February 1 to 11. The delegates will be Miss F. Atkinson, Miss J. Lee, Mr. A. Laffan, Mr. J.M. O'Brien and Mr. A. Svirskis.

Messrs. M. Pavlovic and R. Schulz were elected delegates to the Regional Conference to be held at Queensland University, Brisbane, on December 19 to 21.

The S.R.C. decided that Mr. A. Fenwick and Mr. R. Hill should be the council's delegates to the A.U.S. Cultural Affairs Conference to be held on January 30 and 31.

LITERARY MAGAZINE AVAILABLE

The 1970 issue of Nimrod, the Students' Association literary magazine, has been printed and the Editor (Mr. Brooke Murphy) has delivered copies to the S.R.C. Office, where single issues can be bought for 40 cents. Nimrod was first published in 1962 and contains poetry, literary criticism and short stories, most of which were contributed by University of Newcastle staff and students.

GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS FOR COMMONWEALTH STUDENTS 1971-1972

On the recommendation of the Centre for Commonwealth Studies of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Duke University, North Carolina, U.S.A., Duke University will award three James B. Duke Fellowships to qualified graduate students (one each from Australia, Canada and New Zealand) for graduate study at Duke University during the 1971-1972 academic year. The fellowships carry a stipend of $4,500, from which amount tuition and fees must be paid. The stipend is considered adequate for the needs of an unmarried student. Fellowships normally are renewable for the second and third years on the basis of satisfactory progress.
To be eligible for an award an applicant must: Complete satisfactorily either the final undergraduate year or the first year of graduate study at a university or college in either Australia, Canada or New Zealand; meet the requirements for admission to the Duke University Graduate School, or plan to pursue a Ph.D. degree programme in either economics, history or political science at Duke University but not necessarily in the area of Commonwealth studies. Further information may be obtained from the Secretary.

HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

The thirteenth edition of a handbook for students from overseas and their advisers will be published shortly for the British Council and the Association of Commonwealth Universities.

The University will receive two copies early in the new year; one will be placed in the Library and the other will be held by Mr. Todd, Student Administration Office.

Copies of the Handbook may be purchased from the office of the Association of Commonwealth Universities, 36 Gordon Square, London. W.C.I. England, the price per copy being 12s. plus 1s. 4d. surface postage.

FLAT WANTED

"WANTED: Fully furnished self-contained one or two bedroom flat. Must be close to University. Phone K. Walker, Ext. 401".

COMING EVENTS

Skidiving Championships

Eleven universities will send teams to the Inter-varsity Underwater Contest for men and women to be conducted at Port Stephens from December 4 to 6. The University of Newcastle is host for the event.

The programme for the three-day contest will include a spearfishing competition off Fingal Bay on December 5, theoretical and practical scuba competitions, a scavenger hunt and a crocky match.

The teams competing in the inter-varsity contest will stay in tents and caravans at Halifax Park, near Nelson Bay.

The Vice-Chancellor (Professor J.J. Auchmuty) will present trophies to the winners at Nelson Bay R.S.L. Club on December 6 at 7 p.m.

It will be the second annual underwater contest involving students from Australian universities. The 1969 contest was held at Bermagui and hosted by the Australian National University.

Cricket Final

The Amenities Office is inviting members of staff and their families to watch the final of the inter-faculty cricket competition between Administration I and Economics and Commerce/Architecture on Sunday, December 13, at the University Oval beginning at 11 a.m. Spectators will be able to take breaks from the cricket to play tennis or squash and barbecue facilities will be available.

7 P.M. Start

The informal gathering, with refreshments, to be conducted by the Philosophy Club in the Staff House on Wednesday, December 16, will begin at 7 p.m. It was previously reported that the function, to which members of staff and the Staff House Club have been invited, would begin at 5 p.m.