Election time

The University has entered a season of electioneering and the next few weeks may hopefully see some keen and interesting elections, as follows:

- Every year at about this time elections are held for student membership of the Senate, Faculty Boards, the Board of Studies in Business Administration, the Board of Environmental Studies, the Standing Committee on Asian Studies and the Library Committee. Notices are about to be distributed throughout the University calling for nominations by April 7.

- In addition to these elections, students will have the opportunity to elect a student member of the University Council to fill the casual vacancy caused by the resignation of Greg Holding. Notices will be posted to all students who are proceeding to a degree or diploma inviting nominations also by April 7.

- A further vacancy exists on the University Council in its academic membership following the resignation of Assoc. Professor G.C. Curthoys. Members of the academic staff have already been advised of the election to fill this vacancy, nominations closing on April 3.

Full details of each election are set out on the notice of that election. More information can be obtained by telephoning Lionel Farrell on Extension 213.
"One measure of the quality and relevance of the research being undertaken by the University", he said, "is the extent to which academic staff are able to win research funding from outside the normal recurrent and special research grants to the University.

"In 1980, external research grants totalled $1,337,222 and involved 118 grantees from 28 separate sources. This represents an increase of 30 per cent over a similar listing of external grants for 1979 ($1,065,265). It is taken in conjunction with TUNRA's own specialised and growing role in contract research, the picture is one which should generally reassure us".

The Vice-Chancellor stressed that he saw as major issues for this year:
- The trend in student enrolments.
- The implications for us of the TEC reports, in particular the governments ensuing financial guidelines.
- The maintenance of external research funding as a buffer against reducing recurrent funding (in real terms).
- The resolution of the present industrial issues.
- The decisions to be taken in respect of the Review of University Government.

Professor George said, unpalatable and damaging as the strict controls over expenditure had been, the outcome of applying the brakes had been to effectively balance the 1980 budget and even slightly reduce the cumulative deficit in general recurrent funds of $92,700 at the end of 1979.

With the first medical graduations due in two years' time and Medical Faculty recruitment virtually complete, it would be timely to assess the profound impact the Medical Faculty had had on the University and the community. The Faculty had gained a mention in a recent newspaper article on the "top seats of learning" in New South Wales - "it is considered the best by many people in the medical professions, because of its innovative approach to teaching".

The grafting of a medical school onto a small university like Newcastle was bound to pose severe problems, although he viewed the exercise overall as having been remarkably successful. Negotiations with hospitals and outside bodies had consumed vast amounts of energy and time and still required final resolution in certain aspects.

The year 1981 could see major difficulties in several areas over which we exerted little control. As two examples he mentioned the Copyright Amendment Act 1980 and the proposed legislation to control the use of animals in research.

In conclusion, the Vice-Chancellor said the ultimate nature of a university was determined by the quality of the staff and students it could attract, and its unwavering commitment to excellence. He remained confident that we had sufficient talent "on board" to carry us into a successful and promising future.

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**Award for Book Prizewinners**

Professor L.A. Summers, Assoc. Professor of Chemistry, has been awarded the 1981 Archibald D. Olle Prize by the New South Wales Branch of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute.

Professor Summers received the award for his book, The Bipyridinium Herbicides, the subject of an article in the July 10, 1980, issue of the University News.

The Archibald D. Olle prize is awarded every year, or every second year, to any member of the Institute for the best treatise, writing or paper on any subject relevant to the Institute's interests. This year, two full prizes have been awarded; the other recipient is Dr. J.C. Watt, of the CSIRO's Division of Textile Physics.

The adjudicator stated that The Bipyridinium Herbicides was to be highly regarded and was a valuable reference work which gave a thorough coverage of the chemistry of an important family of herbicides. This is the first time the prize has been awarded to a chemist from an organisation outside the Australian capital cities. Previous winners include Dr. D. Solomon, Dr. D. E. Weiss and the late Dr. J.E. Falk (CSIRO, Melbourne or Canberra), Professor S.J. Argyal and Professors H. Livingstone (University of New South Wales), Professor A.R.H. Cole (University of Western Australia) and Professor R.L. Morten (now Vice-Chancellor of Monash University).

At a small ceremony in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering on March 6 two high school students who had been judged winners of the Raelec-Scientechnic Electronics prizes were presented with their awards.

Brett Ninness, 17, of Kotara High School, was presented with first prize of $100 for his design for a quartz time base digital clock.

Jonathan Peters, 16, of Merimbula High School, was the recipient of the $25 second prize for his prototype for a game of computer cricket.

Assoc. Professor G. Goodwin, Head of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, said that the awards were the first to be sponsored by local firms, Raelec Products Pty., Ltd. and Scientechnic Pty. Ltd. The purpose of the awards was to stimulate interest in electronics among high school students and to recognise students who displayed an understanding of the basic principles.

Brett Ninness said that he had been fascinated with electronics since his first year at Kotara High School. He was a former member of the West Lakes Radio Club. It had taken about 35 hours' work, and approximately $70, to produce the quartz time base digital clock.

He said that he was studying two-unit Physics and two-unit Chemistry and aspired to enrol in first-year Electrical Engineering at Newcastle University next year.
Letters to Editor

One of the most annoying public misconceptions of the University is the conviction of many people that academics are able to treat vacation periods as holidays, to say the least, to see that misconception given encouragement in an article in the News of March 5. I refer to the article of Professor Andreski, who is Sub-Dean of the Faculty. Another colleague spent five days per week in the Public Record Office in London; yet another spent six days per week in libraries and archives in Sydney. One spent a considerable proportion of their time in preparation, examining and research. I seriously doubt if any of them was able to devote more than four or five days of this month to anything in the way of recreation.

Part at least of the present troubles of this and other universities is directly due to a lack of understanding and sympathy for them in the community at large, and the erroneous idea that their staffs work for only a few hours per week during half the year is an important cause of this lack of understanding and sympathy. It should be the function of the News, or at least one of its functions, to correct such false impressions, not to encourage them.

The Geology Department deserves congratulations for the activity reported on March 5, but I am sure that its members would prefer that such congratulations do not involve inveterate and absurdly inaccurate comparisons.

W.G. MCMINN, Acting Head, Department of History.

In his letter (University News, March 5), Professor A. Brand described "academic leadership" as "too problematic a concept of academic leadership is itself a matter of doubt, and the dogmas and the dogmatists who, in order to maximise individual freedom, seek to remove the constraints that give some semblance of unity to teaching and research. I should have thought that the doubts and questions associated with the concept were concerned with the conditions under which academic leadership exists and may be exercised most effectively. The view expressed in the organisation of universities is that there are benefits to be obtained by collegiate action involving leadership roles and some limitation on individual freedom of action.

Meanwhile, I am sure that it is possible to understand that a system of academic leadership may be devisable. It is difficult to believe that our selection procedures are so hopelessly inadquate that this represents a significant problem. This could be the case if we lacked competence in the recognition of intellectual merit or were intent on denying to it other forms of recognition; the consequences of denying the recognition of other forms of academic leadership would be far-reaching. Unfortunately I was unable to benefit from the intriguing reference to Andreski's "generalisation and has no claim to his Elementa). Andreski is known, of course, for his comments, possibly of dubious validity, regarding the damaging effects of social scientists on education, literary expression, personal relations and business efficiency (see Social Sciences as Sophistry), so that it is important to approach his judgements with some care.

It is reassuring to know that neither Andreski nor Professor Brand has written the last word on the problem. It so happens that the group responsible for the Report did not recognise the existence of the problem - that is why the matter was raised in the Report - and took note of differences of opinion within the University. A significant change was made in the final report, which was apparently lost on Professor Brand.

The more general issue raised in Professor Brand's letter is that of the most satisfactory means of arriving at decisions on matters such as those covered by the Report. It is no contribution to honest discussion when he distorts the statements in the Report (paragraphs 1.7 and 1.8) concerning discussion in the University, values and decision-making. The submissions made in response to the Interim Report fell into three categories. The first group offered variations on the observation that the financial difficulties should be solved by obtaining increased grants; the second, (to which Professor Andreski contributed) suggested positive action, in most cases of unspecified character; and the majority, constituting the third group, defended special interests. In many cases the chief argument against the Working Group's position was that it had exceeded the terms of reference. Under these circumstances there was little to stimulate further "careful and patient argument" by the Working Group, which had always proceeded on the assumption that its ideas and recommendations would receive careful and critical consideration throughout the University. Professor Brand seems to believe in consensus as the most acceptable approach to reaching a decision in the matters before us, and as being feasible in relation to those matters. I assume that he uses "consensus" in its stronger sense of "total agreement" rather than as a substitute for "majority rule". If my assumption is correct, I would argue that consensus on an important range of matters is not feasible and in particular provides no basis for handling the financial planning issues for which time is an indispensable factor. On the other hand, if he means "majority rule", he should define the franchise for specific types of issue. Personally I have difficulty in accepting that a simple majority vote of the University community can give validity to all decisions in academic matters or financial management: but any limitation on participation or issue means that the whole basis of decision-making must be refined beyond the simple acceptance or rejection of the "consensus" approach, and it is then that real difficulties become evident.

L.N. SHORT.
Once bitten ...

As those who come to the campus will attest, the University is experiencing one of the worst mosquito infestations for several years.

Dr. Brian Conroy, Senior Lecturer in Biological Sciences, kindly be interviewed by the University News about the dreaded pests, why there are so many at this time and whether their bites can threaten the health of people on this campus.

QUESTION: Why are the mosquitoes so bad at Newcastle University?

ANSWER: We are living on the coast, where there are a large number of swamps. We’re in an urban area, where water is lying around in gutters etc. And we have a large amount of bushland close at hand.

Basically, the mosquitoes are of two types - those which breed in fresh water and those which breed in salty water. The former type, of the genera Culex and Aedes, are the problem at the moment. The problem species is Aedes aegypti, which is a fresh water breeder (paddles, containers etc.). It breeds in temporary water, which is usually fairly free of predators. Aedes aegypti is quite ferocious and bites both day and night.

The review of the University’s finances. The Executive had made a submission to the University Council.

New Regulations for Outside Studies Programmes and Special Study Programmes.

The protection and future development of the University. The Staff Association had proposed that the Council establish a Public Relations Committee which could also be responsible for all publications such as University News.

The salaries case conducted by FAUSA before the Academic Salaries Tribunal. It is hoped that the case will be concluded before Easter.

Affiliation of FAUSA with the ACTU. This matter will need to be reconsidered before FAUSA’s annual general meeting next August.

The staff association has decided to appeal by a member of the academic staff against his unsuccessful application for promotion to Senior Lecturer, having raised some important issues for the Association. After discussion of the matter, the following motion was carried:

This meeting directs the incoming Executive to approach the Vice-Chancellor, as a matter of urgency, to commence discussions regarding:

- Promotion criteria in current use.
- Appeal procedures.
- Procedures concerning complaints against members of staff.

Dr. Dockrill reported that Professor Curthoys had left Australia to commence an Outside Studies Programme. Professor Curthoys had written a letter resigning as a member of the Council elected by the post-professorial staff. Mr. Mackie said it was expected that, in accordance with past practice, the Staff Association would endorse Dr. Dockrill’s nomination for election to the Council.

It was agreed that the minutes should reflect the very large measure of gratitude owed to Professor Curthoys whom Mr. Mackie said had served as President off and on for about 18 years and had made other contributions to the Staff Association’s work.
Academic Recruitment

The National University of Singapore (NUS) was established in August, 1980, with the merger of the University of Singapore and Nanyang University. NUS has embarked on a rapid expansion programme and will increase its student enrolment from about 9,000 in 1980 to 14,000 by 1985. The University will be expanding all its faculties, especially in the following disciplines:


On Wednesday, March 25 at 11 am, Miss Ong Jin Soo, Assistant Recruitment Unit NUS, will address an open meeting in Lecture Theatre R02, Geography Building. The objective of Miss Ong's visit is to promote the NUS and generate interest among staff and postgraduate students in becoming academic staff members of NUS.

NUS will be accepting applications and arranging a schedule for a visit later by a recruitment team, led by Professor S.C. Choo, Director of Planning and Development and member of the Department of Electrical Engineering.

Postgraduate students hearing the completion of studies may be particularly interested in these visits.

Miss Ong, who will be accompanied by Mr. W.L. Bonnett, Executive Officer of the Australian-Asian Universities Co-operation Scheme, will be visiting the following Faculties where she will be available to speak with any member of staff interested.

10 am - Faculty of Arts (Department of English) (contact Professor Burrows).
2 pm - Faculty of Economics and Commerce (contact Professor Jager).
2.45 pm - Faculty of Mathematics (contact Professor Keats).
3.15 pm - Faculty of Engineering (contact Professor Roberts).

Journals wanted

I have received the following letter from the AAUCS Library Consultant:

The Australian-Asian Universities Co-operation Scheme (AAUCS) is a joint Australian Government programme, administered by the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee with its main emphasis on the scientific technical and socio-economic aspects of food production. To date, the scheme has operated in Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore.

Part of the programme has been concerned with assistance in planning courses and degree qualifications in selected universities. In association with this, current subscriptions have been placed to some of the Australian scientific journals and a few overseas publications relating to agriculture and general food production. In most cases, however, the libraries have little relevant material apart from that supplied by the AAUCS.

A number of people associated with the Scheme have commented that some scientists are often lacking back sets of journals which they no longer require but which could be of use to the participating Asian universities. It should be noted, however, that it is only practical to send complete volumes and preferably runs of a minimum period of five years.

If any members of the University have unwanted back sets of journals in the fields of agriculture and related sciences which they consider would be of use to these Asian universities, they are asked to contact Miss P. Longley, Specials Librarian at La Trobe University. She will check if the titles are needed by the universities and arrange for their collection and despatch.

PETER IRWIN, Academic Liaison Officer, AAUCS, Department of Geography.

Donation

The Auchmuty Library has just been fortunate to receive a substantial donation of books from the Austrian Embassy. Totalling about 80 volumes, the gift is a good, representative collection of 20th Century Austrian literature. In addition, a microfiche copy of the well-known philosophical periodical, Frankfurter Zeitung, was received from the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany. Part of this title is already held in hard copy.

These additions are a welcome complement to the existing holdings.

JOAN MURRAY

Parents Forum

Parents, and close friends, of new students took the opportunity on Sunday, March 8, to meet with members of the University staff in an open forum to discuss the University experience on which their son or daughter or friend was embarking. The function was held in the Purdue Room and was attended by people both from Newcastle and further afield.

Visitors came from the ACT, the Central Coast, the Upper Hunter and towns such as Taree and Taree to the North. The visitors had the opportunity to ask questions, but most of them centred around the crucial themes:

- What demands will University life place on the student?
- How will the student know if he is progressing satisfactorily?
- How can he get information about career opportunities?

After the Forum the visitors were able to go on tours of the campus and see something of its buildings and facilities.

Disabled Persons

Students doing the Faculty of Architecture's Design III course have begun a project aimed at producing designs for a house to cater for the needs of disabled persons.

The Commonwealth Department of Housing and Construction is conducting a competition for Architecture students at tertiary institutions in Australia. The competition, which provides a prize of $500, is inviting entries in the form of suitable designs for a household for four disabled persons and one able-bodied person. The basis of the design is a real tenement-type terrace house in Sydney.
ARGC Grants

Applications for these grants are currently being invited and details have been sent to the Heads of Departments.

Applications must be lodged with Mr. G.W. Walker on or before March 31. Application forms are available from Mrs. G. Durham, Extension 240.

Newton-John Award

Mr. Greg Foster, 36, enrolled in the Faculty of Education and studying for a Diploma in Education, was offered admission to three tertiary institutions in New South Wales. "I was advised that this University's way of life was less intense and that the University had a favourable working relationship with schools", he said. "I had wanted to receive my training in the State of New South Wales, because, having a large population, it offers a greater variety of types of educational training".

Mr. Foster was born in Sydney and spent his boyhood in Melbourne. He spent the period 1972 to 1977 seeing the United Kingdom and Europe. One of his jobs overseas was working for the British Council in the Overseas Fellowships Department.

He is single and looked for private board when he arrived in Newcastle to begin his course. After initial difficulties he has been given congenial accommodation by a landlady. He said he had been pleased to find more hospitality in Newcastle than he could have expected.

Newcastle Graduate

Dr. Wan Rafaei obtained his B.Sc. (Honours in Psychology) and M.Sc. in Psychology from the University of Newcastle. He is currently a member of the Australian Psychological Society and General Secretary of the Malaysian Psychological Society.

On his return to Malaysia he was appointed Lecturer in Psychology at the Universiti Kebangsaan (National University) of Malaysia, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, where he continued to work with Dr. Daphne Keats (his supervisor) and Professor John Keats on research in cross-cultural psychology. He published jointly with them in the Journal of Cross-cultural Psychology and the Australian Psychologist as well as in the local journals in Malay.

From September, 1975 to 1979, Dr. Wan Rafaei studied at the University of Wales Institute for Science and Technology and obtained his Ph.D. in 1980 for a thesis based on cross-cultural studies of English, Welsh and Malaysian children.

In 1979 an independent Department of Psychology at Universiti Kebangsaan was established. This was the first independent Department of Psychology in Malaysia. Dr. Wan Rafaei has recently been promoted to an Associate Professorship and is Head of Department.

A tutor from that Department, Mr. Yahaya Mahamood, is currently working under Professor King's supervision for his M.Sc. at this University. Dr. Wan Rafaei and Dr. Daphne Keats are preparing an undergraduate textbook in the area of cross-cultural psychology for use in Asian Universities and a handbook for cognitive testing in Malay, Chinese and English with some sections in Tamil. Further collaborative studies are planned.

Siti Maimun, Dr. Wan Rafaei's wife, is also a graduate of this University. She obtained a Masters degree from Aston (Birmingham) and is currently Deputy Director, Research and Planning, Malaysian Industrial Development Authority.

Drawn here

Greg Foster

New arrivals on the campus at the commencement of the 1981 academic year include a graduate of the Western Australian Institute of Technology who elected to come to Newcastle University because it is a small university conducive to study.

Mr. Greg Foster, 36, enrolled in the Faculty of Education and studying for a Diploma in Education, was offered admission to three tertiary institutions in New South Wales. "I was advised that this University's way of life was less intense and that the University had a favourable working relationship with schools", he said. "I had wanted to receive my training in the State of New South Wales, because, having a large population, it offers a greater variety of types of educational training".

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Problems to be solved in the design include access to all parts of the building, provision of off street parking for two cars, disabled toilets, kitchens and a reasonable budget.

Seven students of Design III are working on plans for the house. The competition calls for the plans to be submitted by the end of First Term.
New arrival

Dr. James Matthew, of the University of York, United Kingdom, is attached to the Department of Physics until March 27 as a Visiting Lecturer in Surface Science. He is on special leave, funded by an IRAC grant, and is collaborating with Professor J. Ramsey, Mr. R. Roberts and Dr. P. Smith on research into the theoretical aspects of low energy electron diffraction and Auger spectroscopy.

Dr. Matthew, who holds B. Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, has been a Reader in Physics at the University of York since 1965. He noted as a similarity between the University of York and the University of Newcastle their small students and about the same number. He said that the University of Newcastle has been a very small university, the National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D.C., and the University of Innsbruck, Austria.

He participated in the International Workshop on Electron and Ion Beam Techniques held in the Department of Physics late in February and presented a paper.

On March 18 he delivered a lecture in the Department of Physics on Is Surface Science Any Use? The Impact of Auger Spectroscopy.

He will speak on Is Surface Science Any Use? Order or Chaos? Low Energy Electron Diffractions and Other Techniques for Determining Surface Structure in Room G012 in Physics on March 22 at 1pm.

Dr. Matthew's visit to the campus has included discussions with representatives of industrial laboratories, other universities and Departments of the University.

Support for research

Newcastle motor car dealers, Crossroads Mitsubishi, have supported the Faculty of Education's handicapped children research programme.

Early this month Crossroads Chrysler provided a Mitsubishi L300 Express mini-bus to assist the Faculty with transportation.

Professor Ron Laura, Dean of the Faculty of Education, said the University's work relating to Special Education involved a number of different areas: some children were intellectually handicapped, some had special learning difficulties, while others exhibited difficulties relating to reading, or mathematics.

"Many of the children connected with the University programmes", he said, "have physical handicaps, but have average, or superior, thinking skills. Some of the children have sensory handicaps, while others have delinquent tendencies."

"Lecturers, such as Mrs. A. Chopra, are actively involved in school visits in order to carry out research in the classroom to ensure more effective ways of teaching children with special problems."

Moreover, Professor Laura said, University students viewed various programmes that had been implemented for disabled children in State, Catholic and separate schools.

The University had been engaged in this type of work for many years, but in the past two years a team had been formed to investigate learning problems in a more systematic and comprehensive manner.

Dr. A. Ashman had been carrying out much-needed work into aspects of physical and mental retardation, working for some of the time at the Morisset and Stockton Hospitals.

"The concept of disability is very wide indeed", said Professor Laura. "Some children are intellectually superior, but are still handicapped in that they are unable to perform at the level of which they are capable."

Dr. E. Braggett and Dr. Ashman were conducting research with children of this type in order to develop programmes that would extend their thinking abilities. The bus provided by Crossroads Mitsubishi would be used to develop these University programmes. In turn, Professor Laura said, it was expected that the community would benefit, as the Faculty of Education was better equipped to help in the education of disabled persons.
Good bowling by Newcastle University gave them a win in the annual Inter-Staff cricket match against the University of New South Wales at No.1 Oval on March 8.

Batting second in reply to Newcastle's 113, New South Wales was 9 for 104 when John Hay bowled the last visiting batsman.

The home team's 113 included solid batting by Col Whitehead, who reversed dismal man. fours. The innings of 59 contained six fours when a seat jammed one of our girls into the water opposed by the stumps was outstanding and his work on the legside was reminiscent of Rod Marsh at his peak. (This is not surprising as John has always been an astute legman). (P.S. by team Captain).

On Sunday, March 8, University Boat Club competed in the Chatham Regatta on the Manning River. Two men's and one women's crew were entered for a number of races, as well as Tim Drinkwater in the sculls.

Drama arose in the scratch mixed fours when a seat jammed during the race, catapulting one of our girls into the water (but she could swim). Tim Drinkwater put in a magnificent and powerful performance to win the sculls by a long margin. This goes well for Tim's chances in Sculls at Intervarsity in Perth this May.

The Regatta was a good follow-up to the Boat Club's efforts at the Australia Day Regatta where crews took off a first and a number of places. All interested rowers and beginners should meet with the club at the Boat Shed (King Street, Raymond Terrace), on Sunday mornings at 9 am - or ask any person wearing a 'Rowing - the ultimate ....' T-shirt.

the Club is organising picnic rows, social rowing and coaching for beginners, and training crews for intervarsity, and the Vice-Chancellor's Interfaculty Regatta to be held in mid-April.

PAVILION - Sportsman's Bar Opening Hours:

- Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays - 5 pm.
- Saturdays - 3 pm.
- Sports Shop has a wide range of sporting and other goods for sale, including Badminton shuttles, cricket bats, head bands, hockey sticks, racquet covers, sandals, shorts, sports union ties, squash balls, sports shoes (jogging), squash rackets, squash racket-grips, sweatshirts, sweats, drinks, table tennis balls, tennis balls, towelling grips, university socks, white socks and wrist bands. Prices are ultra keen so buy where its cheaper.

GYMNASTICS - Classes of Instruction in the Auchmuty Sports Centre are conducted on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 4.30 to 6.30 pm. Please contact Jock Armstrong, Activities Organiser on Extension 469.

SQUASH - Classes of Instruction in the Pavilion on Fridays, 3 to 5.30 pm commenced March 13. Tuesdays, 3 to 5.30 pm commencing March 24. Entrants for these specific classes have already been advised.

Friday Round-Robin Squash (individual competition) commenced on March 13, noon to 2 pm session.

University Cricket Club will hold its annual dinner in the Southern Cross Lounge in the Union on April 3 at 7.30 pm. Tickets, which cost $15 each, cover the cost of the dinner and refreshments. Bookings can be made by getting in touch with the Club's Secretary, David Bell, on 51 2370.

1981 Club Training Times on the University's Ovals:

No 1 OVAL
- Tuesdays: Hockey (women) 5.30 to 7.30 pm.
- Hockey (men) 7.30 to 9.30 pm.
- Rugby League 7.30 to 10 pm.
- Thursdays: Hockey (men) 5.30 to 7.30 pm.
- Hockey (women) 7.30 to 9.30 pm.
- Rugby Union (30/3) 5.30 to 7.30 pm.

No 2 OVAL
- Tuesdays: Soccer 5.30 to 7.30 pm.
- Rugby Union 7.30 to 10 pm.
- Thursdays: Rugby League 5.30 to 7.30 pm.
- Soccer 7.30 pm to 10 pm. (16/3)
Staff Bible Study

The Staff Bible Study has recommenced in Room S113A and is scheduled to run each Wednesday from 1 pm to 1.45 pm throughout the term. Studies for the term are in the book of Acts. Any member of staff, agnostic or otherwise, is welcome to attend. The group is convinced of the relevance of Christian faith to contemporary living and is composed of a broad spectrum of church affiliation.

R.W. GIBBINS, Department of Commerce.

New Book

A survey of the history of Australian education from the time of the aborigines to 1980 written by Dr. Alan Barcan, Associate Professor in Education, was recently published by Oxford University Press. The book, which contains 415 pages, is a straightforward and comprehensive guide - a History of Australian Education.

This is the first comprehensive survey of education in Australia from its beginning to the present day. It examines the overall development of Australian education in the light of social and economic forces. The analysis extends beyond the political and administrative history of education to encompass changes in the curriculum, teaching methods, methods of examining, educational aims, and other facets of education. Each level of education is considered - infant, primary, secondary, tertiary, technical, teacher training and adult education.

About one third of the book deals with developments in the last forty years, including the enormous expansion of secondary and post-secondary education since the early 50's.

The organisation of the book permits one to identify significant developments in each of the Australian colonies and states. Dr. John Cleverley, of the University of Sydney, described the book in Education News as "a handsome volume" and "a significant addition to our knowledge of education in Australia."

Dr. Barcan is the author of A Short History of Education in New South Wales and Social Science, History and the New Curriculum. He has edited, and is co-author of five history books for secondary school, and is editor of Aene Review. Soft copies are available at the University Co-operative Bookshop for $14.95 each.

MARCH SENATE

The Vice-Chancellor informed Senate that discussions on a National Superannuation Scheme for academic staff had made considerable progress but there were many questions still to be resolved. The Bursar will be writing to members of staff about the situation. An unexpected hurdle was the amendment of University Acts to allow participation in the scheme. The Vice-Chancellor said he proposed to submit the issues to the Senate, with further discussion in June, if necessary.

The local committee organising activities connected with the International Year of the Disabled had asked the University to nominate someone representative to work with the committee. The Vice-Chancellor has nominated Mr. Ron Gibbins, Senior Lecturer in Commerce.

The committee organising the Bicentenary Celebrations had requested information on any research or other activities which might be related to the Bicentenary. The committee had also asked the University to nominate a liaison officer.

Following the decision of the Council to establish a Positive Initiatives Committee, nominations had been invited for the election of two members as Senate's representatives. Senate elected Professor R.G. Keats and Associate Professor L.K. Dyall.

Senate was told that Council had elected Professor C.D. Ellyett and Dr. P.I.A. Hendry.

Weber's works

The Auchmuty Library has just received a valuable donation of two sets of original language works by Max Weber, sociologist and philosopher. To implement its holdings in English. The donation has come from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, of West Germany, as part of the Research Fellowship awarded to Dr. Peter Hempenstall, of the History Department in 1978-79.

The volumes are Weber's Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft: Grundriess der verstehenden Soziologie (two volumes, plus commentary volume by Johannes Winckelmann) and the three volumes of Aufsatze zur Religionssoziologie.

The donation also includes an important annotated inventory of archival material held in the various branches of the West German archives. It is entitled Das Bundesarchiv und seine Bestande (compilers G. Granier, J. Henke, K. Oldenhage) 3rd edition, 1977.


**Mr. Donald Stokes, Lecturer in Accounting, will graduate with a Master of Commerce Degree at this year's Graduation Ceremony. He enrolled in the Master's Degree in 1978 and commenced research on a dissertation in December, 1979, entitled, An Investigation Into The Perceived Role and Audit of Directors' Reports of Public Listed Companies. Supervision of the research was provided by Professor N.O. Jager and financial support to complete the research came from a Reserve Bank of Australia Research Grant. Mr. Stokes has made submissions on proposed national company legislation for Australia based upon his research and currently has two papers prepared from his dissertation being reviewed by an Australian European Law Journal and an overseas Accounting Journal. The following summarises the research reported in Mr. Stokes' dissertation.

A Director's Report is required under company law to be issued annually by Australian companies to persons entitled to receive notice of general meetings of the company and on request to any shareholder or debenture holder of the company. The role of the Directors' Report is to give shareholders a description of the company's affairs up to date and, within limits, of warning them of changes of fortune which are not reflected in the financial statements of the company. (In the case of companies listed on the Australian Associated Stock Exchanges a maximum period of four months is allowed between the balance date relevant to the financial statements and the issue of the Directors' Report).

Previous research into the role of the Directors' Report has examined perceptions of directors and investors as to the usefulness of the Directors' Report relative to other sources of corporate information. In his investigation of the role of the Directors' Reports of Public Listed Companies, Mr. Stokes included a comparison of the data contained in Directors' Reports of those companies with other more timely disclosures required to be made to the Australian Associated Stock Exchanges (AASE). The analysis showed, given strict enforcement of the AASE Listing Requirements, the Directors' Report was not a timely source of information to investors in the market and not relevant to their investment decisions. It was reasoned that the Directors' Report would be relevant if an auditor's opinion on the Directors' Report was released simultaneously with the report. The feasibility of auditing disclosures made in Directors' Reports was investigated and confirmed. Such audits would be a logical extension of the traditional audit of the financial statements.

If it is the practice of auditing firms to audit Directors' Reports and if there is little public knowledge of the practice, a survey of audit firms in Australia conducted for the purpose of the dissertation confirmed that "audits" of Directors' Reports were made by the majority of auditing firms. Variations in the nature and extent of such audits were detected and recommendations have been prepared and submitted to the appropriate legal and professional authorities to achieve a uniformity in approach for audits of Directors' Reports and to encourage auditors to report the findings of their audits.

**Reading course**

The usual pre-term reading course conducted for beginning students was conducted by Pat Loftus, of the University Counselling Service. In six sessions of two hours each, spread over three weeks, members who completed the course raised their reading speed by 70 per cent from an initial average of 232 words per minute to 392 words per minute.

The initial comprehension score of 70 per cent dropped very slightly after the course to 61 per cent. A skimming speed measure taken after training had been given on the course showed a respectable figure of 500 words per minute with 62 per cent comprehension.

A further reading course will be given in Term 1 on

**Book recognised**

Professor Ron Laura, Professor of Education, is the author of the new book, *Problems of Handicapped*, which has been judged Academic Book of the Month in the Mathematics Building. All students are welcome. No prior enrolment is required.

**Aid to the disabled**

Recently I was asked to represent the University at a seminar organised by the International Year of Disabled Persons Committee. A good cross-section of the community attended the meeting and indicated a lively interest in the needs of handicapped people.

I have since received brochures from the Technical Aids to the Disabled organisation, pointing out the excellent products currently available to the physically handicapped. If any member of the University is interested in making a donation or helping in any way, I would be happy to supply information.

R.W. GIBBINS,
Department of Commerce.
From Kumamoto

Kumamoto University is located in the city of Kumamoto in Kyushu, the southern most main island of Japan. Through a co-operative relationship with the University a student has studied at the University of Newcastle each year since 1979.

Twelve of our students in Japanese and Mr. K. Ono, Senior Lecturer in Japanese, have been invited to visit Kumamoto University in May for special seminars to be conducted in Japan.

The Japanese Section of the Department of Modern Languages is investigating a reciprocal visit by students from Kumamoto University to this campus in 1982.

Mr. Hitoshi Motomura is the third student from Kumamoto University to join us at Shortland. Since last August he has been studying three units in Education and one unit in English. Moreover, starting this week, he is tutoring Japanese Calligraphy to about 30 students of Japanese and a few outsiders.

Mr. Motomura said that although there was a disparity between the student numbers at Newcastle University and the student body at Kumamoto University each was composed of eight faculties, including Medicine. After he returned to his own University he hoped to major in Primary Education and Secondary Education. He is the only Kumamoto student who is presently in Australia. "English is very tough for me because I have to read many books", he said. Mr. Ono said that the Newcastle students' visit to Japan in May would be sponsored jointly by the Japanese Association for International Education and the Australia-Japan Foundation.

Their support would allow these students to travel to Japan free.

He said that all of the students would visit the city of Ube, with which Newcastle had recently forged a "Sister City" link. The Japanese Section had established links with Yamaguchi University Medical School, Ube Junior College and Ube Academy of Foreign Languages.

We have sent a Japanese graduate to the Ube Academy of Foreign Languages as an English Instructor and we are negotiating to send students of Japanese who have been enrolled in the Faculty of Medicine to Yamaguchi University for their elective in Medicine", he said. "We are also trying to get a Tutor in Japanese Culture from Ube Junior College to come to the University commencing next year".

Overseas visit

Professor B. Boettcher and Dr. D. Kay, of the Department of Biological Sciences, are presently attending conferences in Europe.

Professor Boettcher presented a paper at a Symposium on Immunological Factors in Human Reproduction held in Rome on March 6 and 7 and chaired one of the sessions at the symposium. Professor Boettcher's paper deals with Immunological Fertility Control in the Male - Clinical Perspectives.

Following the symposium Professor Boettcher went to Groningen in The Netherlands, where he acted as "Opponent" in a thesis defence. The formal proceedings of a thesis defence, and its subsequent acceptance for a Ph.D., are great occasions at universities in Holland and it is a mark of honour and respect to be invited to take part.

Dr. Kay also attended the symposium in Rome and chaired a session. He presented a paper entitled Incidences of anti-spermatozoal antibodies in sera from infertile couples from Newcastle, Adelaide and Perth - a statistical comparison of results.

His itinerary provides for a visit to the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University of Kiel, West Germany, and then a visit to the World Congress on Human Reproduction being in West Berlin from March 22 to 26.

Advertisements

ROYAL EASTER SHOW

Coach trip to Royal Easter Show: Saturday April 11. Cost $7.50 return fare. Leaves Argenton 9 am, departs from Sydney at 9 pm. Arriving home approximately 11.30 pm to midnight. For bookings please telephone 58 2240 before 9 am or after 4 pm.

CAR CARER

Responsible academic with short-term transport problems seeks position as "car carer" for staff member proceeding on overseas study programme in near future. Willing to come to financial arrangement for the period of leave and guaranteed to look after car with loving concern despite the state of local roads. Please telephone Extension 471.


POSITIONS WANTED - TYPING

The following persons would like to type theses, reports, occasional papers etc.

Mrs. K. Haigh, telephone 43 8932.
Mrs. Jessie Johnstone, telephone 49 7551.
Ms Sue Maloney, telephone 51 3814.
Mrs. Shirley Morgan, telephone 67 1261.

LOST

GOLD BALL PEN - great sentimental value. Would the finder please contact Peschar on telephone number 52 2068.

BEWARE —— the SRC ball is coming
FOR SALE
FOUR GLASS FRENCH DOORS - (10' area), two with fly screen doors. Best offer. Please telephone Extension 236.

BUILDING BLOCK - Large, flat allotment, in a quiet location, set among quality homes in Metford. $25,000. Please telephone Extension 231.

YACHT - 22' Bluebird: Bunks, stove, sink, etc. Solid, dry boat with lots of gear. $3,950. Please telephone Ross Telfer on Extension 421 or 59 4285 for a test sail.

GENUINE KANGAROO SKIN FINGER TIP LENGTH FUR COAT - Cream with silk lining, Size 12-14 (hardly worn) $200 (worth more). No offers, please telephone Extension 649.

1974 STATESMAN HQ de Ville - many extras which include factory air-conditioning, stereo tape-deck, 65,000 km. Carefully maintained and in excellent condition. $2,750. Please telephone Extension 358.

HANDY-BOY WANTS WORK
Fifteen-year-old boy seeking part-time gardening jobs - mowing, weeding, edging, etc. in the East Lake Macquarie area. Please telephone Extension 328 or 46 7272.

WANTED TO BUY
Old fashioned push mower in good working order. Please telephone Denis Rowe, Extension 679.

COMPUTER TERMINALS
The University has three used computer terminals for sale by tender, and details are shown below. Tenders will be accepted up to 11.30 am on April 13.

TELETYPe ASR 33, Serial No. 5393/11203, located at EAG06 (Engineering). Please contact R. Goodnew Extension 782.

TELETYPe ASR 33, Serial No. 5393/11225, located S105 (Economics). Please contact D. Morrison Extension 563.

ECS T02 VISUAL DISPLAY UNIT, Serial No. 4011, located in the Cataloguing Department, Auchmuty Library. Please contact Mrs. L. Jansen Extension 399.

Tenders should be forwarded in a sealed envelope marked "Tender for Terminal", to the Purchasing Section, University of Newcastle, 2308. The University reserves the rights to reject all tenders.

J. M. Falconer, ASSISTANT BURSAR.

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Diary of Events

THURSDAY, MARCH 26
noon
DIARY OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, MARCH 27
noon
FILM - Ryan's Daughter.
Department of Sociology Seminar, Mr. Frank Campbell (School of Humanities, Deakin University) will discuss his research on BHP and its links with the local community at Wyalla. This research was discussed by Frank Campbell and Peter Green (of Prahran CAC) in a recent Four Corners programme.

SUNDAY, MARCH 29
3 pm
Newcastle Film Society screening, THE DEPUTY (Spain, 1979), 801.

MONDAY, MARCH 30
6 pm
PARTY TIME with Musical Flags, Beer, Garden.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29
noon
FILM - Unknown as Yet
Department of Mathematics Seminar, Professor Basil Rennie, of the James Cook University, will speak on Generalised Functions. Room V107.

SUNDAY, APRIL 1
1 pm
LUNCHTIME CONCERT
Prize presentation (University Union Voucher Scheme).

APRIL 2
5 pm
Singing in the Bar.

THURSDAY, APRIL 2
noon
FILM - Unknown as Yet
SPEECH - Bishop Holland, Courtyard.

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