

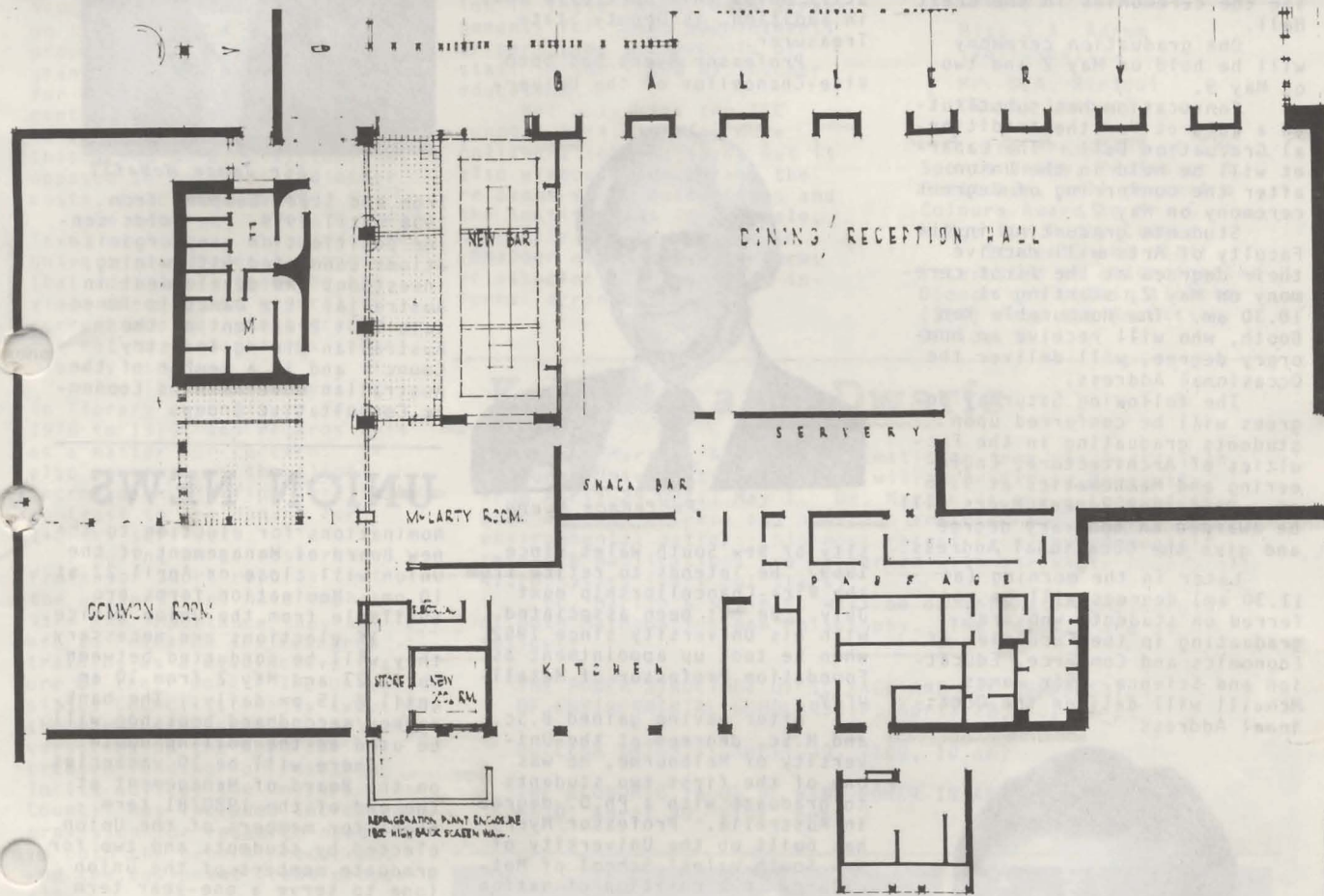
VOL 7 NO 5

16 APRIL 81

Newsletter for
The University of Newcastle



UNIVERSITY NEWS



PROPOSED ALTERATIONS & BAR EXTENSIONS TO THE UNION BUILDING.
UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

New bar plan

The diagram above shows how the Union has been advised to meet its future needs for liquor trading facilities.

The design is the result of a feasibility study, carried out by experts, Club and Hotel Construction Pty. Ltd. The scheme envisages the bar being re-located and enlarged, space in the Union being re-organised so that liquor can be served more effectively and a coolroom being provided. The new bar is proposed to be sited where the Wistaria Court now is.

The plans are presently on display in the bank agency in the Union. Responses have been invited before noon on April 22. Comments should be made to the Secretary/Manager (Mr. S. Barwick).

It is expected that the Board of Management will make a decision to proceed or not to proceed, with the scheme at a special meeting on April 22.

A representative of Club and Hotels Construction Pty. Ltd. will be present. Members of the Union who are interested have been invited to attend.

A good deed shines

The Rev. Alan Dutton's good deed was very much appreciated. How far he had to post the parcel! The Auchmuty Library opened it and found two books inside.

Rev. Dutton, Rector of the Anglican Parish of St. Luke with All Saints, Mosman Park, Western Australia explained in a note:

"I have recently found these books in a parcel that was given into the care of our opportunity shop.

"Quite obviously they should be returned to their home. I wish some persons unknown would return some of my strayed friends".

CE
120
8

1981 Graduation

The Honourable Ken Booth, M.P., Professor Rupert Myers, CBE and Sir James McNeill, CBE, will be admitted to honorary degrees during the University's 1981 graduation ceremonies on May 2 and 9.

The Chancellor, Sir Bede Callaghan, will confer degrees upon and award diplomas to approximately 700 graduands during the ceremonies in the Great Hall.

One graduation ceremony will be held on May 2 and two on May 9.

Convocation has substituted a cabaret for the traditional Graduation Ball. The cabaret will be held in the Union after the conferring of degrees ceremony on May 2.

Students graduating in the Faculty of Arts will receive their degrees at the first ceremony on May 2, starting at 10.30 am. The Honourable Ken Booth, who will receive an honorary degree, will deliver the Occasional Address.

The following Saturday degrees will be conferred upon students graduating in the Faculties of Architecture, Engineering and Mathematics at 9.15 am. Professor Rupert Myers will be awarded an honorary degree and give the Occasional Address.

Later in the morning (at 11.30 am) degrees will be conferred on students who are graduating in the Faculties of Economics and Commerce, Education and Science. Sir James McNeill will deliver the Occasional Address.



The Honourable Mr. Booth.

The Honourable Ken Booth has been a member of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly since 1960 and a member of the Council of this University and its predecessor, Newcastle University College, since 1963. When the full Council of the University was set up in 1966, Mr. Booth was appointed to it

by the Governor and he had continuous service on the Council until 1980.

Before he was elected to State Parliament Mr. Booth was a Physical Education Lecturer, and, later, Welfare Officer, for Newcastle University College and Newcastle Technical College. In May 1976, he joined the New South Wales Labor Government's Ministry receiving the portfolio of Sport, Recreation and Tourism. He still holds this portfolio and, in addition, is Deputy State Treasurer.

Professor Myers has been Vice-Chancellor of the Univer-



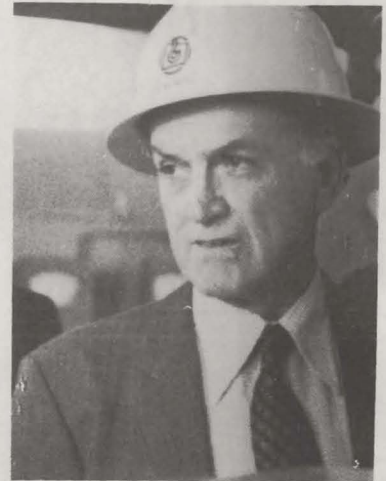
Professor Myers

sity of New South Wales since 1969. He intends to retire from the Vice-Chancellorship next July. He has been associated with his University since 1952 when he took up appointment as Foundation Professor of Metallurgy.

After having gained B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees at the University of Melbourne, he was one of the first two students to graduate with a Ph.D. degree in Australia. Professor Myers has built up the University of New South Wales' School of Metallurgy to a position of national prominence.

Besides his University activities, Professor Myers has given distinguished service to the community in several areas. He is a member of the New South Wales State Pollution Control Commission, a member of the Sydney Opera House Trust and a member of the National Energy Advisory Committee. He was Chairman of the Committee of Inquiry into Technological Change in Australia.

Sir James McNeill is Chairman of Directors and Director of Administration for the Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited. Sir James was the Company's Managing Director from 1971 until 1977. Born in 1916, he was educated at the former Newcastle High School. He worked for the BHP as an accountant from 1947 until 1954 and as Assistant Secretary from 1954 until 1956. He was Assistant General Manager Commercial for the Australian



Sir James McNeill

Iron and Steel Company from 1956 until 1959. He holds senior positions on many organisations connected with mining, investment and development in Australia. Sir James is immediate Past President of the Australian Mining Industry Council and is a member of the Australian Government's Economic Consultative Group.

UNION NEWS

Nominations for election to the new Board of Management of the Union will close on April 22 at 10 pm. Nomination forms are available from the Union Office.

If elections are necessary, they will be conducted between April 27 and May 2 from 10 am until 6.15 pm daily. The bank agency/secondhand bookshop will be used as the polling booth.

There will be 10 vacancies on the Board of Management at the end of the 1980/81 term - eight for members of the Union elected by students and two for graduate members of the Union (one to serve a one-year term and one to serve a two-year term).

The Union's annual general meeting will be held in the Union Courtyard on Tuesday, May 5 at 1 pm.

At the first meeting of the new Board, members will be elected to fill the positions of President, Vice-President and Treasurer.

First Term, 1981 saw the opening of a new shop on campus. Known as the Survival Store, the shop was formerly the AUS Pharmacy. It carries stocks of health foods, non-prescription pharmaceuticals, cosmetics and other items.

The Union suggests that officers of student clubs and societies who might be planning functions get in touch with the Activities Officer, Ms Chris Tingley, if they have to arrange for rooms for meetings, musical gatherings etc.

of 50 per cent) and for major works for the colleges.

Professor Short points out that the Universities Council report includes statistics showing the growth in library activity in recent years, and the pattern of expenditure on library services and acquisitions. It is recognised that university libraries are affected by the rapidly rising costs of books and periodicals and by increasing demand for specialised services.

The statistics show that Newcastle continues to spend on the library a little higher proportion of its recurrent grant than the national average for universities (7.97 per cent as against 7.0 per cent in 1979) and to use more of this grant on acquisitions, as opposed to salaries and other costs, than the average.

In order to maintain the level of library standards the Universities Council proposes that additional funds be provided through the general recurrent and equipment grants, not to earmark sums for library use.

The TEC notes a decline in library expenditure from 1978 to 1979, and regards this as a matter for concern. It also comments on the slight increase in staffing levels in contrast to the demand for library services.

Moving on to research, Professor Short reports that the universities have emphasised the importance they attach to research and research training as a distinctive feature of their work. The Universities Council strongly supports the views expressed by the universities on the need for increased funding for research. In its advice, the Universities Council has included increased provision for research needs in both the general recurrent and the equipment grant proposals.

The Universities Council proposes that the amount available for special research grants should be increased from \$6.0m in 1981 to \$7.0m in 1982, \$8.0m in 1983 and \$9.0m in 1984. To this it suggests should be added the sum required for the special research centres (\$4.0m in 1982, \$7.0m in 1983 and \$9.0m in 1984).

While all members of university academic staff are expected to contribute to scholarship, research and public service, not all can be expected to undertake original research. On this basis the TEC supports the view that in allocating research funds universities should have regard to the potential for high quality research of particular individuals and groups.

The TEC believes that the academic staff of universities and colleges of advanced education should be involved in scholarship, research and pub-

lic service, but distinguishes between the *institutional* responsibilities of the universities and colleges, with universities having a special institutional commitment to scholarship and research.

The TEC noted, Professor Short reports, that the Williams Committee had not been convinced that there would be net advantages from amalgamation of neighbouring colleges and universities in Townsville, Armidale and Newcastle, but had recommended greater collaboration in these cases, with arrangements for joint appointments or part-time secondments of staff in the field of teacher education.

Not only does the TEC support this call for more collaboration, he says, but it also wishes to encourage the relevant state authorities and the institutions in Armidale, Newcastle and Townsville to consider again possible forms of association other than informal arrangements.

In particular, the TEC advocates the integration of the two institutions in each city under a single governing body. This is the approach being developed in Wollongong.

The Blues Dinner will be held in the Police Boys' Club on Friday, May 1, commencing at 7 pm.

The Vice-Chancellor will present Blues to:

Mr. W.A. Wileman
(Rugby).

Miss J.A. Adnum
(Volleyball).

Mr. D.A. Rintoul
(Rugby League).

The President of the Sports Union, Professor B. Boettcher, will present a Colours Award to Mr. C. Mudge for Rugby League.

Students and staff interested in attending the Dinner can obtain tickets (\$14) from the Amenities Office.

Knights and Dwarfs

Dr. Brian Martin, Applied Mathematician from the Australian National University, Canberra, will be visiting Newcastle from April 29 until May 1. Dr. Martin is the author of the book *Nuclear Knights* and numerous articles and reports on environmental matters; his most recent "non-environmental" research publications are concerned with the *White Dwarfs* of Astrophysics (very hot stars).

Dr. Martin's seminars will be of interest to students of both Mathematics and Philosophy. The details are as follows:

THE POWER STRUCTURE OF SCIENCE AND THE SUPPRESSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOLARSHIP, April 29, B01, 1 pm.

NUCLEAR KNIGHTS, April 30, V109, 10 am.

THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF WIND POWER IN AN ELECTRICITY GRID, April 30, V107, noon.



Rotary Exchange Students from overseas who are being hosted by Rotarians in Newcastle and Northern New South Wales formed a group in order to spend the day at the University on April 3. The students aged 17 and 18, came from eight countries. The Secretary's Division arranged a tour of Behavioural Sciences Building, the Great Hall, the Auchmuty Library, the Union, the Faculty of Engineering, the Computing Centre and the Sports Pavilion. The students are pictured visiting Corlette Court in the Faculty of Engineering.

Academic Links survey

The Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee has just completed the first survey of academic links between Australian tertiary institutions and overseas universities and related institutions.

The survey was commissioned by the AVCC 18 months ago following considerable expansion of academic links between Australian and overseas institutions.

It will provide assistance to the Australian government in the development of its cultural, scientific and other ties with overseas, as well as providing

information for universities and other educational and scientific institutions.

The survey does not include ties which have been developed extensively between Australian and ASEAN tertiary institutions under the auspices of the Australian-Asian Universities Co-operation Scheme (AAUCS). The AAUCS scheme is funded largely by the Australian Government through the Australian Development Assistance Bureau.

The survey of academic links was undertaken to discover what links had been established by Australian universities and colleges, other than through AAUCS.

Many of the links described in the survey have been established as a result of over-

seas study undertaken by Australian academics during outside studies programs. Opportunities for Australian academics to undertake outside studies programs are a major factor in the development of international links.

In the foreword to the report of the survey, the Chairman of the AVCC's International Relations Committee, Professor D.A. Low, said the survey was modelled on the British Council's 1974 survey of academic links. He said the main purposes of the Australian survey were:

- to provide source material for universities and other interested bodies wishing to establish, or be informed about, links with overseas institutions; and,
- to provide a guide for answering the numerous inquiries which the AVCC, universities and other institutions receive from overseas universities and institutions wishing to establish links with Australian universities and institutions.

The AVCC Occasional Paper containing the results of the survey is over 400 pages long, and contains 1497 separate entries on academic links; 1284 of them with Australian universities and 213 with colleges.

Ambassador's visit

Mr. Mizuo Kuroda, Japan's Ambassador to Australia, toured the University and met staff and students in the Japanese Section on April 6.

After arriving from Canberra, Mr. Kuroda was given a Civic Reception by the Lord Mayor, Alderman Joy Cummings. He was guest speaker at Newcastle Rotary Club's luncheon.

During his tour of the campus he was accompanied by Senior Lecturer in Japanese, Dr. K. Ono and Tutor in Japanese, Mr. J. Fennessy.

Mr. Kuroda inspected the Auchmuty Library, the Great Hall and the Language Laboratory before having afternoon tea with the Vice-Chancellor, the Head of the Department of Modern Languages, Professor Ken Dutton, staff members and students in the Japanese Section.



Photo: Col Nevel

The Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Ono and the Japanese Ambassador discuss the forthcoming visit by 12 students and Dr. Ono to Kumamoto University, located in Kumamoto in Kyushu, the southernmost main island of Japan.

Election results

The following students were elected to various University bodies as a result of the recent elections:

- Margaret Kavanagh
(Council)
- Paul Maranik
(Senate)
- John Dermatis and Karen Underwood
(Faculty Board, Faculty of Architecture)
- Sherena Sayers
(Faculty Board, Faculty of Education)
- Kathleen Thompson and David Williams
(Faculty Board, Faculty of Engineering)
- Josephine Anderson, David Bollinger, Bruce Coppa, Catherine Errey, Richard Murphy, Timothy Rolfe and Tracie Taylor
(Faculty Board, Faculty of Medicine)
- Paul Maranik
(Faculty Board, Faculty of Science)

Also David Dockrill was elected to the Council by the members of the academic staff.

APRIL SENATE

A document dealing with the proposed National Superannuation Scheme for Australian universities has been circulated among members of staff. Senate requested the Vice-Chancellor to establish a committee consisting of members of the Senate and appropriate members of the Administration to explore the implications of the scheme, including a comparison between the proposed scheme and existing schemes and to disseminate information to members of staff. The Vice-Chancellor stated that he would be happy to comply with the request.

The Vice-Chancellor reported that at a special meeting on March 6, the Council had considered the recommendations of the Working Groups that had reviewed University finances. After a full day of discussion, Council had adjourned so that members could contemplate what progress had been made and decide what should be done at the April meeting. Professor

George stated that he hoped the Council's decisions would be published in a special edition of *University News* and that there would be time for discussion of any contentious points.

The Vice-Chancellor said that he had been a member of a party of Vice-Chancellors from Australian universities that had paid a two-week visit to China. He had visited more than two dozen universities and research institutes. The university system was in a rebuilding phase attempting to recover from the disastrous effects of the Cultural Revolution.

Academic standards had suffered and people in the 30-40 age group in particular had been adversely affected. Australia could help by offering postgraduate experience to this group.

A report on the visit was being prepared and could be made available to interested members. A return visit by Chinese academics would be made in August.

AFUW Report

All you ever wanted to know ... but were too embarrassed to ask!

This was the invitation extended to members and friends of the Hunter Valley Branch of the Australian Federation of University Women at the first of two seminars for the International Year of the Disabled Person, held in the Staff House on March 25.

The guest speakers were Carolyn Maxwell, perhaps the Hunter Valley's most well-known MS (multiple sclerosis) sufferer, and Andrew Buchanan, 2NC broadcaster, whose disability results from polio contracted soon after birth.

Here was a splendid opportunity for "us", as opposed to "them", to learn what life is like for the disabled and what their perceptions are of IYDP.

Perhaps one of the most fundamental lessons learned from our guests was that a disability does not necessarily mean any handicap and that all of us are handicapped in some way or another, at some time. We learnt, too, that the important thing is to find areas of abilities, despite the disabilities, and to cope with the inevitable "challenges" - the difficulties and frustrations including those resulting from "normal" people's reactions to, and their own inability to cope with, the disabled.

Clearly, in this special year, we must begin to understand some of these problems: transport, adequate funding for research and for community care programmes, educating parents and children about the disabled, support for the families involved, provision of ramps and other facilities in public buildings, encouraging the disabled themselves to speak out about their needs, to think about what they can in fact do, and to try and break down the psychological barriers associated with their disability.

For it is equally clear from listening to Carrie and Andrew that their particular disabilities have not prevented them from learning to cope, making the most of what they have, and contributing magnificently to society.

Would that we could all achieve so much!

The second of the seminars for IYDP will be held on April 22. Guests will be Dr. Peter O'Connor, Director of the Special Education Centre at the Newcastle College of Advanced Education and Dr. Geoff Booth, of the Rankin Park Rehabilitation Centre.

Topic: Management of the disabled.

The seminar will be open to the public, beginning at 8pm in the Staff House - all welcome.

Space flight link

Physicist, Dr. Robert Eather, a graduate of Newcastle University College, contributed to the research which allowed the Americans to launch the space shuttle, *Columbia*.

Dr. Eather is the elder son of Mr. and Mrs. R.S. Eather, of Bonnell's Bay. His brother is a Newcastle specialist medical practitioner, Dr. Geoff Eather.

Robert Eather came to Newcastle from Gunnedah High School to work as a B.H.P. Co. Ltd. trainee. In 1958 he enrolled at the University College in Science and four years later he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree with first class honours in Physics.

In 1963 Dr. Eather participated in an Antarctic research expedition. His research into auroras during that expedition earned him his Ph.D. from the University of New South Wales and the Polar Medal from the Queen. A mountain in Antarctica, was named, Mt. Eather in his honour.

In November, 1965, Dr. Eather left Australia to join a new Space Science Department at Rice University in Houston, Texas. Here, he began his research into the auroras in the Northern Hemisphere.

He left Rice University three years afterwards to continue his work at the Lockheed Palo Alto Research Laboratories in California.

In 1970 he was appointed Associate Professor of Research

at Boston College, Boston. He is continuing his research work at Boston College, but in addition he is an experimenter on the space shuttle research flights.

Dr. Eather was awarded the degree of Doctor of Science by the University of New South Wales for his outstanding and original contribution to scientific knowledge and in particular, to the understanding of auroral phenomena.

He produced a documentary film, *Spirits of the Polar Night* which won awards at a number of international festivals. It was televised by NBN3 a couple of years ago. He also completed a film, *Earthspace - The Magnetosphere*, which was shown earlier this year on the BBC.

Dr. Eather's book, *Majestic Lights*, was published by the American Geophysical Union, of Washington D.C. in 1980. It covers all aspects of auroras.

Mrs. George's talk

Mrs. Lorna George, who has recently toured China with Professor D. George, will be the guest speaker at the monthly luncheon of the University Women's Group on Thursday, April 23. Drinks will be served from 11.30 am in the Purdue Room and lunch will be served at 12.15 pm. Cost \$1.80. A baby-sitter will be available. For bookings please contact Mrs. Phillipa Powis, 33 2262.

TEC's Report - Likely effects upon us

"Rarely does the Tertiary Education Commission's Report give information about individual institutions, but it is possible to form some assessment of the general approach and its likely effects on the University of Newcastle".

This is how Professor L. N. Short, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University, introduces his analysis of Volume I of the TEC's report.

The mammoth five-part report contains the TEC's recommendations and the advice it received from the Universities Council, the Advanced Education Council and the Technical and Further Education Council concerning tertiary education policies and funding for the 1982-84 triennium.

After considering the report, the government is expected to announce its guidelines for tertiary education during the triennium, including the precise level of funding.

Professor Short says in his analysis that the Universities Commission provides information about the student/staff ratios, age distribution for staff, distribution of grades of appointment, and academic/general staff ratios for Australian universities (total figures only). It is to be noted, he says that in 1980 Newcastle had a student/staff ratio of 9.92 (with a total equivalent full-time academic staff of 324.41), compared with an expected ratio of 11.89 (corresponding to staff of 270.62) if national student/staff ratios are applied to Newcastle enrolments (excluding Medical School).

The approach of the Universities Council for the 1979-81 triennium relaxed the previous close connection between student load and funding, and universities were discouraged "from linking funding too closely with student load". The Universities Council believes this change has been beneficial and is likely to continue the revised practice.

Professor Short says that the Universities Council proposes that additional funds be made available for several specific activities. These will be developed in a number of centres for which proposals will be sought and it is not intended that the funds will be earmarked.

The fields mentioned are Computer Science and Engineering, Social Sciences (in relation to questions of natural resource development, economic growth and the environment), and the concentration of activities attracting small enrolments (Asian Studies, foreign languages, multi-cultural studies, and international relations).

The Universities Council proposes that earmarked funding

for the Newcastle Medical School be continued through the 1982-84 triennium, rather than terminate after 1982 as previously intended. The level of funding proposed is \$3.2m per annum compared with \$2.9m in 1981.

The Universities Council has advocated an extension of the general development grants (renamed "adjustment grants") to a limited number of additional universities. The new grants would be earmarked to enable the designated universities to make adjustments to their staffing by such means as early retirements and retraining programs.

The TEC does not support the provision of special funds to promote either early retirement schemes or retraining, seeing these as matters within the discretion of individual institutions. The existing "general development" scheme could be expanded by the Universities Council if judged appropriate.

General grants are proposed for the triennium at a level slightly higher than for 1981, i.e. \$728.0m, \$734.0m and \$740.0m for the years 1982, 1983 and 1984 respectively.

The TEC has retained the policy that additional costs for incremental creep should be absorbed by the universities. Commencing in 1983 the TEC intends to provide funds to enable universities to meet their increasing superannuation liabilities, up to 14 per cent of salaries of staff entitled to superannuation.

The TEC does not provide in the report specific recommendations regarding recurrent funding for universities, but includes in one item provision for universities and colleges of advanced education. The amounts recommended by the TEC are 1.9 per cent, 2.5 per cent and 3.6 per cent below the sum of the requests by the two Councils for 1982, 1983 and 1984 respectively. The 1982 amount is 1.1 per cent above the total grant for 1981.

As regards equipment funding, Professor Short says the Universities Council has estimated the equipments funding needs at \$40.0m, \$45.0m and \$50.0m for 1982, 1983 and 1984 respectively, compared with the grant of \$34.3m for 1981. The proposals include the provision of a small earmarked grant (no details given) for the Newcastle Medical School. It is also proposed that equipment funding be on a triennial rather than an annual basis.

The TEC has sought funds at the level proposed by the Universities Council. It also approves the use of equipment funds for lease arrangements provided the University is satisfied that such leasing is cost effective.

The Universities Council, Professor Short notes, has recognised the need for increased building funds to avoid damaging effects on teaching and research. Its recommendations seek to rectify "serious shortcomings and hazardous conditions" existing in many old buildings but not to cover new developments. This means that the serious deficiencies in relation to buildings for this University, noted in earlier re-

"... the Council has observed some signs of falling quality in the widespread use of obsolete equipment, in the deterioration of buildings and in the decreasing provision of library and other services. It has reached the conclusion, based on the information set out in some detail in this Advice, that a continuation of the present funding level for the university sector will result in a serious impairment of the capacity of many universities to maintain acceptable academic standards and to fulfil properly their teaching and research functions."

Extract from the Tertiary Education Commission's report for 1982-84 Triennium, Volume 1 Part 2, advice of Universities Council.

ports, are now no longer given priority.

The program for major works to be undertaken in the triennium and beyond includes one item for Newcastle (Animal House, \$600,000), for which design funds are available in 1981. The estimated cost of the program given in the report is \$54.0m, of which \$44.5m is requested for the triennium.

The Universities Council is unresponsive to the argument that additional student accommodation would enable the attraction of more students. It gives higher priority to the renovation of existing residential buildings. No provision is made for new student accommodation but it is open to any university to make other arrangements for the financing of such accommodation.

No specific provision is made for student union, sporting or similar facilities, and this policy is to continue while the existing need for academic buildings remains. Universities may include projects for such facilities in minor works programs.

The comments offered by the TEC suggest that significant reductions may be expected in the grants for minor works for universities (of the order

Research Board's grants

The Radio Research Board has provided a total of \$6,800 to support research by five members of the University's staff.

Professor A. Cantoni, Associate Professor in Electrical and Computer Engineering, has been awarded \$2,700 for his research project entitled, Adaptive Array Processing.

Dr. Pat McGovern, of the Department of Physics, has received a grant of \$1,800 for his project dealing with TEM-cell Development.

Professor Graeme Goodwin, Associate Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, is to receive a grant of \$900 in connection with his research on Design of Adaptive Digital Filters.

Dr. Robin Evans, of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, has been awarded a grant of \$900 for a project entitled, Switching Mode Battery Chargers.

Dr. Kewal Saluja, of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, has received a grant of \$500 for a project entitled, Transition Count Testing of Synchronous Sequential Machines.



THE MYSTERY PLAYS

A CYCLE FROM THE CREATION TO JUDGEMENT

IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE DRAMA DEPARTMENT & THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

APRIL 21ST TO MAY 2ND AT 7.00^{PM}

MATINEES ON SATURDAY 25 APRIL & SATURDAY 2 MAY AT 2.00 PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE CIVIC THEATRE CATHEDRAL OFFICE
AND THE USUAL AGENCIES

IN CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL HAS BEEN ASSISTED BY THE THEATRE BOARD
OF THE AUSTRALIA COUNCIL
A STATUTORY BODY OF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

Problems of Handicap

Problems of Handicap, edited by Professor Ron Laura of the Faculty of Education, is concerned to integrate the practice and theory of special education into a coherent social philosophy. The book is divided into two parts and addresses itself to a wide range of practical and philosophical issues.

Part I provides the reader with a basic understanding of the general problems concerning those who suffer handicaps, while also making explicit the nature and extent of the difficulties facing those who attend to their care and education. In the first section there is a consideration of questions such as; What is a Handicap?, Is there a distinction between a disability and a handicap?, How can society assist persons with handicaps to realise their potential?

Although most of the contributors to the volume are external to the University of Newcastle, Professor Laura has involved some members of the Newcastle Department of Education staff.

Dr. Adrian Ashman makes a contribution to Part I of the book with an essay titled, Changed in Educational and Residential Care for the Mentally Retarded. In his essay it is argued that changes in the educa-

tion and care of the mentally handicapped have followed a path which has circumscribed the notion of what we call the 'quality of life'. The essay challenges the reader to consider these developments in terms of the protection of human and civil rights, and one's intrinsic worth as an individual.

Mr. Bill Warren's contribution to Part I argues that if the society to which persons with handicaps are supposed to adjust is itself "inauthentic", the adjustment is pernicious. Far from setting a context in which the handicapped can confront and come to terms with themselves, social assimilation may, by its very nature, make that task more difficult. If the education of those with or without handicaps is tantamount to 'initiation' into the inauthentic, then education will deform as surely as thalidomide.

In Part II, problems of handicap provides a philosophical examination of the assumptions which shape society's attitudes towards persons with handicaps. In this section some of the following philosophical issues are raised. Do we handicap people by virtue of labelling them handicapped? What are the rights of the handicapped and what are the responsibilities on the part of a society in terms of which these rights accrue? Is infanticide really an option in respect of the sever-

ely defective infant? How should the legal system respond in those cases where the violation of law is by persons with mental abnormalities? These and other issues are carefully analysed, and serve to ensure that the book represents the first systematic treatment of the controversial issues surrounding the philosophy of handicap.

PROBLEMS OF HANDICAP

EDITED BY R S LAURA



Advertisements

FOR SALE

1969 TOYOTA CORONA SEDAN - all white, red interior; essentially a one-owner car; impeccable condition, mechanically excellent, 74,000 actual miles, excellent tyres, new battery, four-speed manual shift, 30 miles per gallon combined highway and city driving, registered until February 1982. Even the clock keeps accurate time! \$2,100 or nearest offer. Please telephone Extension 652 or 24 060 after 6 pm.

HONDA 90cc MOTOR CYCLE - original condition, mechanically faultless, registered until February 1982, 8,500 miles. Inspection welcomed. \$235 or nearest offer. Please telephone Extension 696 or 51 4560.

HOME - BIRMINGHAM GARDENS AREA
Three bedrooms, dining room, kitchen alcove, large lounge room, sunroom, bath room plus ensuite. Large garage.
\$75,000. Please telephone 55 8840.

1966 HILLMAN DE-LUXE - original condition inside and out. Disc brakes, heater, good tyres and registration. Economical transport. \$1,000 or nearest offer. Please telephone Extension 474.

WHIRLPOOL FREEZER, 12 months old, \$150

WHITE CHEST OF DRAWERS, \$30

TWIN TUB WASHING MACHINE, \$50

KNEE LENGTH, waisted KANGAROO FUR COAT, \$200

Large round CANE CHAIR with CUSHION and FOOTSTOOL, \$150.
Please telephone outside working hours - 25 446.

1969 HK HOLDEN - Generous academic offer for \$100. Mechanically terrific, only 49,000 miles (on five digit clock). Requires "some" bodywork for registration in May. Please telephone Extension 402.

POSITIONS WANTED - TYPING

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

Mrs. J. Gallagher, 13/36 Fowler Street, Hamilton South.

Brenda Harra, 57 Fleming Street, Wickham.

Sue Maloney, telephone, 51 3814.

DIARY OF EVENTS

noon - 2 pm

German feature film - Lina Braake. Language Laboratory (G28b McMullin Building).

THURSDAY, APRIL 23
1 pm

SRC LECTURE - Mr. John Miller, General Manager, Alumax Pty. Ltd. and Dr. Howard Dick, Lecturer in Economics will discuss the expansion of the aluminium industry in the Hunter Valley. (Courtyard).

FRIDAY, APRIL 24
2 pm - 3.30 pm

Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying Seminar. Speaker J.E. Ball, postgraduate student. Topic: Comparison of Interpolation Procedures in a Characteristic Flood Routing Model. EAG01.

WEDNESDAYS, APRIL 29
until JUNE 10

3 pm - 6 pm

VIDEO ON THE JOB. The Department of Community Programmes is offering a course on the vocational use of video cameras. Entitled - Using Video For Training/Demonstration in Industry, the course will be conducted at the University from April 29 until June 10. Mr. Bede Jordan, Senior Technical Officer will be Tutor.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29
8 pm

SRC SHEEP ROAST and BUSH DANCE - the Union, Bushman's Axe. Tickets at the Bank Agency and the SRC Office.

DIARY OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

9.15 am

Department of Mechanical Engineering Seminar. Speaker will be Dr. Howard Dick, Lecturer, Department of Economics. Topic: The Economics of Electricity Pricing. EAG01.

noon

Tarot Card Reading Course, Activities Office.

1 pm

P.A. Mixing Course, Activities Office.

5 pm

Scottish Country Dancing, Southern Cross Lounge.

THURSDAY, APRIL 16

MARKET DAY

noon

FILM - Creature From The Haunted Sea.

1 pm

SRC LECTURE - Senator Baume (Courtyard)

5 pm

Jazz Ballet Class, Southern Cross Lounge.

APRIL 17 GOOD FRIDAY

SUNDAY, APRIL 19

8 pm

Newcastle Film Society presents - LORD OF THE FLIES (GB 1963, Peter Brook) B01.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

9.15 am

Department of Mechanical Engineering Seminar. Speaker, Mr. John Hooper, Australian Atomic Energy Commission. Topic: Mini-Computer Control of an Experimental Turbulence Rig. EAG01.

Printed in the Secretary's Division, the University of Newcastle for the Editor, The Secretary, The University of Newcastle.