AUS AT CRITICAL POINT

The President of the Students' Representative Council, Mr. Daniel Lucas, believes that the Australian Union of Students has perhaps reached the most crucial phase of its lifetime.

"The national union faces a possible dissolution, or at least a radical remodelling. We may see the end of the organisation, or the establishment of state-based Unions rather than the national collective," Mr. Lucas says.

Successful secession campaigns at several universities around the country have seen the loss of some 30,000 student members and more campuses are threatening secession.

With such a drop in membership, the union no longer stands true as a national body and its representation is no longer the power it used to be, he says.

"The AUS provides the voice of a collective and the best way to protect the welfare and interests of students is to belong to such a body. The united voice has a greater 'push' than one campus could possibly have.

"But, the Union is now so deeply divided that it is unable to respond adequately to the recent secession campaigns."

"The division, combined with the fact that many students no longer perceive the Union to be a national one and the fact that some feel the Union lacks any long-term strategic considerations, and therefore is unable to formalise any real action, has thrown the National Executive open to harsh criticism."

The Executive feels, Mr. Lucas says, that the recent attacks upon AUS have been led by right-wing factions, who hold a distorted view of Union policy, magnified by the fact that student membership fees rose recently to $3.50 per student. The narrow, "hip-pocket nerve principle", states the Executive is causing grave concern.

Mr. Lucas says that at a meeting of the National Executive of AUS over Easter, it was felt necessary to convene a Special Council meeting to review the workings of AUS.

"Newcastle University SRC has joined other campuses to support the special council, which will consider any proposals for the future of AUS and possible alternative structures. The special council will look at the possible dissolution of AUS, or at least a radical restructuring of the Union's functions.

"While the need for student unionism is important to represent the needs and wants of students, the present Union is failing to work effectively to achieve these ends."

"Hopefully, the Special Council will see a positive move towards an effective, united body that will work towards the improvement of further education standards and quality in this country," Mr. Lucas adds.

For further information on the AUS, please contact the Students' Representative Council in the Union Building.
received by the Ombudsman has to be analysed to see whether it relates to an administrative matter.

A recent case illustrates this process. A postgraduate student wrote to the Ombudsman complaining that he had failed to obtain his degree because his supervisor had not given him sufficient guidance and criticism in the preparation of his thesis.

He had re-submitted the work, trying to take account of the examiner’s criticisms, but again failed because the examiner discovered fresh problems. The Ombudsman’s view was that the conduct of the supervisor and the examiner did not amount to a matter of administration. The judgments they had made related to how much supervision was necessary and the academic merit of the research. Administrative procedures would have operated to put the judgments into effect, but the judgments themselves were unlikely to come within the Ombudsman’s jurisdiction.

On the other hand, such questions as whether marks have been calculated correctly, or whether all the assessable material has been examined, are “matters of administration” under the Ombudsman Act.

The Ombudsman investigated one complaint, which involved a student whose project had received widely divergent assessments from two different examiners.

The supervisor was supposed to make a recommendation to a committee on the most appropriate course of action, with the possibility that a third examiner already appointed would submit a report. In fact the supervisor reported directly to the meeting of the school in favour of recourse to the third examiner but the school adopted the committee’s recommendation to rely instead upon the report of one of the two examiners. When the supervisor lodged a rescission motion in relation to this decision, the committee had one of its own members examine, in effect, the paper and report on it. As this committee member was not the already appointed third examiner there was a prima facie case that a wrong administrative procedure had been followed.

The Ombudsman’s capacity to bring outside scrutiny to bear on matters of administration within universities has sometimes led academics and administrators to accuse his office of interfering with academic freedom.

Some universities have argued that adequate appeals procedures exist within the institution itself; others, that outside review is provided for within the institution by means of a visitor.

To some extent, these questions have already been canvassed in debates on whether an Ombudsman was necessary at all. Evidently, Parliament believed that existing procedures could occasionally fail; a visitor might not be a real, or adequate, remedy; and an institution governed largely by academics might on rare occasions be overly reluctant to criticise or rectify some error of unfairness on the part of a colleague. At the same time, Parliament also gave the Ombudsman a wide discretion to decline to take up a complaint or to discontinue an investigation once it became clear that, for example, existing appeal procedures appeared satisfactory or that the complaint could be best resolved within the institution itself. These discretion are used frequently, with the result that a reasonable balance is struck between the legitimate concern of academics and administrators and the right to independent investigation of complaints where it
Support for CTEC Report

The Executive of the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee at its meeting in Canberra last week welcomed Volume I of the Report of the Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission for the Triennium 1985-87, and especially the basic proposition that the expansion of activity in higher education is both necessary and timely in the interests of extending the contribution of the universities to national development through their teaching and research.

While the AVCC Executive regrets that the Commission did not fully support the recommendations of the Universities Council, it accepts the Commission's funding proposals as the necessary minimum to sustain the Government's programmes for increased participation and greater equity in higher education.

The report documents the extent to which the decline in real funding for universities in recent years has put at risk the quality of university work and indicates that increased funding for operating costs, building and equipment is necessary to improve participation and to make special provisions for increasing access for disadvantaged groups. The AVCC Executive strongly endorses these conclusions as it believes that increased support for higher education should have high priority in the Government's budgeting.

The AVCC Executive also strongly endorses the recommendations for increased funding for research by the expansion of the Special Research Centres Scheme and the inclusion of proposals for reinforcing institutional strengths in teaching.

The Chairman of the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee, Professor Michael Birt, described the report - Program for Growth - "as a blueprint for the resumption of the effective development of the university system". He said that it was important that the Commission's recommendations be accepted if progress is to be made towards meeting the Government's objectives for higher education. Professor Birt was sure that universities would respond effectively to suggestions made in the report about desirable institutional changes and developments.

Sartre's Existentialism

The Philosophy Club invites all interested staff and students to hear a paper entitled Sartre's Existentialism which will be presented by Dr. Paul Critenden (University of Sydney).

Time: 1 pm
Date: Thursday, May 31.
Venue: Auchmuty Room, University Union.
Wine and cheese supplied.
A special concert held in the Griffith Duncan Theatre recently represented a very interesting collaboration for a worthy cause – between the University, Newcastle CAE and a private ballet school.

The concert raised $2,000 for the Special Education Unit at the CAE.

Mrs. Vicki Robinson, a member of the First Chance Committee of parents and friends of children with developmental delay who attend the Special Education Centre, had approached Miss Robyn Turner, of Hamilton, and asked if her talented group of ballet students (girls and boys aged between five and 17) would be prepared to present a special concert to raise funds for First Chance.

It was agreed that the concert would be held.

According to some who attended the concert, the evening turned out to be a brilliant evening of dance, with a rare blend of contributions from several interesting areas.

During the rehearsals it had become apparent that two of the children of First Chance Committee members were highly animated by the dancing children.

It turned out that both of them (one, a little girl of three years of age, Claire Robinson, who has a motor problem and has difficulty walking, and the other, also a three-year-old girl, Sandy Booth, who has a different motor problem – not being able to express emotions through the facial muscles) were included in the programme for the concert amongst children of the same age and size.

Professor Saxon White, Professor of Human Physiology within the Faculty of Medicine, compered the evening.

He explained to the audience that they were witnessing the full expression of the brain in motion: the highly skilled ballet students showing the graceful range of human movement possible or the drama and power of human movement, and those with developmental delay showing the brain in need of special education. Professor White thanked the audience for their interest and their financial support to promote the special education of children with developmental delay.

For the evening, the Griffith Duncan Theatre, with its excellent stage facilities, was provided by Newcastle CAE.

At the end of the concert Miss Turner handed a cheque to Mrs. Robinson for support of the activities of the Special Education Unit.
ARABIAN GULF UNIVERSITY LINK

The Medical School at the University and a new University in Bahrain have forged an inter-disciplinary link.

The Arabian Gulf University has, as its first College, a College of Medicine and Health Sciences and its first Faculty, the Faculty of Medicine. It has been set up to respond to the needs of States surrounding the Arabian Gulf and will compliment pre-existing universities. The medical education is to be attuned to the broad needs of the communities concerned.

The original possibility of a link arose when Dr. Rod Neame attended a workshop in Bahrain in 1981. Thinking on curriculum development and priorities was very much along similar lines to those of the Newcastle Medical School which had already developed a reputation for innovation in medical education. Arising from that initial consultation came a number of visits and workshops to assist in curriculum development and finally a proposal that this link be formalised to enable a more intensive relationship and appropriate financial arrangements between the two institutions.

The Dean of the Medical Faculty, Professor John Hamilton, said that the choice of Newcastle University was not just an accident of initial contact. "This University has built up links with a number of other medical schools and is a founding member of the Network of Community Oriented Institutions for Health Sciences which was initially set up with the guidance of the World Health Organisation. In recent years the Medical School has developed a programme for the training of postgraduate clinicians in epidemiology bringing students from all areas of South East Asia under the funding of the Rockefeller Foundation.

The main form of assistance provided to the Arabian Gulf University will be in curriculum development and training of teachers. The programme will be mainly in the hands of Dr. Rod Neame and Mr. Brooke Murphy with additional input from other members of the Medical Faculty. Part of the work will be done in Bahrain and there will also be workshops here in Newcastle and the first of these has just been completed.

The Medical Faculty will also benefit from the expertise that Bahrain will bring to the planning of the curriculum in relation to its own needs and together we shall pay close attention to the effectiveness of this form of association and the assistance that has been given.

Additional assistance will be in Faculty development by the provision of postgraduate degree studies for members of staff with the appropriate qualifications.

The formal contractual arrangements are being finalised and it is expected that these will be completed in the next few weeks."

Phillipsy Club News

In Term II the Philosophy Club will be presenting a series of papers on the areas of common interest in Philosophy and Medicine.

 Offers already to hand cover topics ranging from the origins of medicine in ancient Greece to problems in ethics and epistemology in contemporary medicine.

Further offers of papers are warmly invited from those with an interest in this attempt at interdisciplinary contact.

Kindly forward offers of papers to Glenn Albrecht, President, Philosophy Club, Extension 266 or 51 6601.
Chaplaincy Course

A new course in theological education for lay people is to be offered in Second Term by the Anglican Chaplain, Father James Bromley.

The course, entitled Education for Ministry, has been developed by the School of Theology at the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, which is an Anglican University. It comprises the core (only) of that University's Bachelor of Theology degree programme.

The University of the South's agent in Australia is the General Board of Religious Education, of Melbourne, which is the official educational Board of the Anglican Church of Australia.

No academic pre-requisites are required for entry to the course. There are no examinations and no diploma or certificate is issued at the end of it.

The philosophy of the programme, Father Bromley says, is based upon the premises that every baptised Christian is called to be a minister. The purpose of the course is to enable lay people to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for happy and effective ministry in their own life circumstances.

The full programme takes three years to complete, with the group meeting once per week for two hours. The group is limited to 12 members. The course may be commenced at the beginning of any term. The tuition fee, which includes texts and materials supplied through GBRE, is $45 per term.

Staff and students who are interested in joining the group should write to the Anglican Chaplain at the Chaplains' Office, or telephone Father James at Extension 204. His home telephone number is 71 2520.

A meeting for interested persons will be held in the Chaplains' Office (opposite Mathematics) on Thursday, May 31, at 7.30 pm.

Dialectics

The Newcastle University Philosophy Club has recently published two new issues of its journal, Dialectic.

Volume 21 contains contributions by Philosophy staff and postgraduates on a number of themes, including a major address, entitled Design or Perish, delivered by Professor Cliff Hooker to an Australian Engineering conference.

Volume 22 brings together six papers from the "-isms" series arranged by the Club in the second-half of 1983. The contributors are: Glenn Albright on Marxism, Bill Donella on Rationalism, Cliff Hooker on Empiricism, John Lee on Hedonism, Ralph Robinson on Realism and Bill Sparkes on Liberalism. Though these papers were intended in the first place for philosophy students, they are intelligible to the average reader as well.

The two volumes were edited by Assoc. Professor Bill Donella and are available from the Philosophy Department office at $2 each.

NEWCASTLE LECTURE

June 13, 8pm, Drama Theatre.

BARRY JONES, MHR.

ESSO Reps.

Two representatives of Esso Australia Ltd. will visit the University on Thursday, June 14, to talk with final-year students in the Faculty of Engineering about employment prospects with their company in 1985.

Interested students should attend a talk/film about Esso's operations in Bass Strait in Room T29 (Temporary Buildings) at 10 am on that day.

Additionally, interested students should call now at the Careers and Student Employment Office and make an appointment for a personal interview with the Esso representatives.

Literature and application forms are available.
BOOK RELEASE

First Aid in Reading, Writing and Spelling, a handbook for parents showing them how they can teach a child to read, write and spell, by Theodore H. MacDonald, Hale and Iremonger Pty. Ltd., Sydney.

Professor Theo MacDonald, Assoc. Professor of Education at the University, and author of First Aid in Basic Mathematics (published by Hale & Iremonger in 1983) has written a new book for parents and teachers of children having difficulty with reading, writing and spelling.

First Aid in Reading, Writing and Spelling is a practical book intended for use with children on an individual basis. Professor MacDonald sets out a system that he has developed over 30 years of teaching young children to read and in helping remedial readers at later stages in school to overcome their reading problems.

Professor MacDonald incorporates the teaching of reading with both the physical skills associated with writing and the development of an understanding of how to write simply and clearly. The book gives step-by-step instructions so that the interested parent or teacher can follow the entire method from the first stages in phonics up to the study of basic grammar and the writing of simple essays.

Used at home, First Aid in Reading, Writing and Spelling will supplement school reading programmes, but it can also be used as a complete method to teach a child to read.

CHANGES IN THE UNION

Mr. Dale Dobie, a final year Arts student, is the new President of the Board of Management of the Union. Mr. Dobie defeated Mr. Daniel Lucas in a ballot.

The new President commented that as a result of taking up the post he found that he was in a unique position to understand the needs of the Union and its inner workings.

"From this base, I hope to be able to build on the fine foundations of my predecessors, so that the Union will not stand still, but, like any living organism, continue to grow. Plans are already coming to fruition with the installation of the new roof, which, with a tasting period finalised, is a complete success."

Mr. Dobie noted that this year had seen the granting of a 2 am licence, whereby major functions could now be extended to their logical conclusion instead of being cut short. He was certain that this would prove to be a successful benefit for all our members.

He also announced that plans were afoot to relocate the Bar in the Common Room and place the Coffee Lounge facilities in an extended area in the existing Stan's Bar. It had been proposed to enclose the present pinball area, effectively doubling the size of this area, allowing the Union to cater better for more members.

"The move has become especially urgent to alleviate congestion in the food preparation areas and comply with new resumptions."

The optimal allocation of space in the Union continued to be a problem Mr. Dobie said, and he intended to work towards a more functional use of the building to facilitate access by students and staff to the Health Service, the SRC, the Printery, Counsellors and other services.

"The Board has endorsed a development programme for the next five to 10 years and, given the unexpected growth in student numbers, the facilities of the Union are severely taxed. Planning must start now to ensure a continuing, viable Union.

"I intend to review the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, including a policy review in the areas that directly affect the students, to ensure that the best possible benefit is gained by the whole of our membership. Further, this review will reflect current changes in legislation and management practices.

Mr. Dobie emphasised the variety and intensity of planning that went into directing the future of the Union. "With this is coupled with the day-to-day running of the various outlets, I feel that there is much to be gained by our members. Furthermore, I have much confidence that, with the helpful assistance of the staff, the Union will once again look forward to a successful year."

Recommended retail price is $12.95 p/h; $24.95 h/b.

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No Discrimination: Unies' Policy

Australian universities are firmly committed to the principle of non-discrimination. According to the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee, the universities believe in providing equal employment opportunities for both women and men, thereby drawing on the overall pool of intellectual talent which exists in Australian society.

The Chairman of the AVCC, Professor M. Birt, has released the committee's policy on women on the staff of universities, saying that the statement dealt with an issue of great importance to the university system at this time.

With respect to academic staff, the statement asserts there are considerably more men than women employed in teaching and research positions (17 per cent women in 1983) and the imbalance is greater at the senior level than at the junior (2 per cent women at professorial level, 43 per cent in tutorial posts).

However, it must be recognised that possession of a higher degree is almost essential to be appointed to a tenured academic post. In 1982/83, women received 22 per cent of doctorates awarded, 29 per cent of masters degrees and 45 per cent of bachelors degrees, but as the proportion proceeding to higher degrees was much lower in earlier years, there are even now few women applicants for many academic positions.

The AVCC realises the policy says, that it will be many years before the imbalances in particular disciplines are fully corrected. In some, especially those based in technology and some sciences, the numbers of female students and graduates is small and it is important that there be role models for women in these disciplines. Recent changes in society's attitudes to careers for women, especially in non-traditional areas, will need to be sustained to bring about significant increases in the proportion of women in the academic staff of universities.

Australian universities are also committed to a policy of appointment and promotion according to merit, believing that the most able person should be appointed to fill any vacancy. Every vacancy should be defined and advertised in terms that do not permit covert or inadvertent discrimination in selection and appointment.

The AVCC, while adhering to the principle that the best person be appointed to vacancies, supports steps to reduce the imbalance in staffing and to this end, it is working with FAUSA to provide a national guideline on equal opportunities for employment. All efforts should be made to identify and to eliminate practices which unwittingly place women at a disadvantage in respect of selection and career opportunities.

In relation to general staff, it must be recognised, that, although women are in the majority, they are predominantly located in the lower paid positions within the university structures.

The AVCC believes that re-arrangement of career structures, increased training opportunities and positive encouragement of other kinds can increase both the number of women applying for vacancies and the likelihood that among those applying there will be persons properly qualified for appointment.

The AVCC believes, the statement indicates, that by actions of this kind it should be possible over a period of years to achieve more equal representation of the sexes in the senior ranks of general staff.

The AVCC believes that universities should aim at representa- tion of both sexes on all committees, within the
"The acknowledgement by the AVCC that universities should aim at representation of women on all major committees and the endorsement of the establishment of committees or working parties to enhance the status of women in universities is also most welcome," the Minister said.

"Although there will be some who will regret that the AVCC felt unable to embark on a more formalised means of pursuing the objectives of affirmative action, I recognise that there may have been practice difficulties in doing this before the Government's Green Paper was released."

"Universities are all subject to different State laws as well, and this factor no doubt made the Committee reluctant to draw up a national affirmative action approach before the release of the Government's Green Paper," she said.

Professor J.M. Rist, of the University of Toronto, Canada, was given a very cordial welcome before he delivered the Roderick-Ashworth Memorial Lecture at the University on May 18. Pictured are Dr. J. Lee (left) and Dr. D. Dockrill (right), from the Department of Philosophy, with Professor Rist and Professor G. Tanner, Head of the Department of Classics.

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### 1984 Enrolments

Student enrolment as at April 30 totalled 4,944 an increase of 11.5 per cent over the 4,435 in 1983.

There is a continued trend towards full-time enrolment: 51 per cent in 1982, 58 per cent in 1983 and 61 per cent this year.

Male students number 3,109 (63 per cent) and females 1,835 (37 per cent), about the same ratio as in 1983.

Enrolments:

**Ph.D.**


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The main increase has taken place in the undergraduate courses, accompanied by a shift in these enrolments towards full-time attendance.

**Undergraduates:**
- 1982 - 1,825 (full-time), 1,534 (part-time), total: 3,359 (54 per cent and 46 per cent respectively).
- 1983 - 2,253 (full-time), 1,325 (part-time), total: 3,578 (63 per cent and 37 per cent respectively).
- 1984 - 2,628 (full-time), 1,395 (part-time), total: 4,023 (65 per cent and 35 per cent respectively).

**New Undergraduates:**
- 1982 - 545 (full-time), 417 (part-time), total: 962 (57 per cent and 43 per cent respectively).
- 1983 - 803 (full-time), 304 (part-time), total: 1,107 (73 per cent and 27 per cent respectively).
- 1984 - 1,034 (full-time), 351 (part-time), total: 1,385 (75 per cent and 25 per cent respectively).

The greater number of our overseas students, 563 compared with 368 in 1983, came from Malaysia (209), Singapore (102), Hong Kong (84), India (27), Indonesia (27), Fiji (13) and Thailand (10). Others came from Bangladesh, Belgium, Brunei, Canada, China, France, Ghana, Iran, Italy, Japan, Kampuchea, Korea, Macau, Pakistan, Papua-New Guinea, Philippine Islands, Romania, South Africa, Sri-Lanka, Taiwan, Tanzania, United States of America, West Germany and Western Samoa.
Do it for the kids

Due to lack of response the closing date for entries to the Kintaiba Logo Competition has been extended until July 1. Remember, we are looking for a logo suitable for T-shirts to be worn by the children and those associated with the centre, and possibly for letterheads as well. You could win a book token and an original painting as well as having the satisfaction of having your original design worn by so many people.

The winner of the competition will be announced at our annual gala event, the "Sausage Sizzle" on Saturday, July 7. A sample T-shirt will be available for inspection and orders will be taken. The event will provide a fun day for the whole family and also give you an opportunity to visit our centre which does such an excellent job in caring for children from a wide variety of backgrounds - ranging from those associated with the University to others with special needs.

If you wish to make donations to any of the stalls please telephone Judy Raper at Extension 517 and she will arrange for collection. (Some of the stalls are: cake stall, elephant stall and timboola.) Please don't forget to put your competition entries in at the centre by the end of June.

Philosophy at Morpeth

The Philosophy Club will hold its annual camp at the Morpeth Conference Centre from June 1 to 3.

The Conference Centre is set in picturesque grounds overlooking the historic Morpeth town and the Hunter River.

The Philosophy Club has found that the environment provides an ideal setting for philosophical discussion, dialectic (in the Greek sense) and aesthetic experiences. In addition the club says that eating, drinking and frivolity form an essential part of the weekend's activities. All those on and off campus with a philosophical bent are invited to join us in a weekend of mind (and body) stimulation.

Although the full programme of papers for the camp have not been finalised, there will be a series of papers with Freud and Freudianism as the central theme. Other papers will be of general philosophical interest.

Costs for the camp are flexible, depending on accommodation required, however they will be kept to a minimum. Full details of costs and advance registration forms can be obtained from the Philosophy Club, C/- Philosophy Department, University of Newcastle.

Advertisement

Mrs. Pamela Graham of 34 Montgomery Street, Argenton would like to do child minding, housework or ironing (no job too small). All interested persons are requested to telephone 58 3417.

Recruitment Drive

United Nations Technical Assistance Recruitment Service (UNTARS) is currently undertaking an extensive recruitment campaign.

A circular has been received from the International Recruitment Officer, Department of Employment and Industrial Relations, enclosing a 27-page listing of positions available.

Any persons interested may consult the listing at the Careers and Student Employment Office.
Inspecting a pressure sensing unit during the conference are (left to right) Professor Frank Oldfield, University of Liverpool, Professor J. de Ploey, University of Leuven, Belgium, Dr. J.R. Henry, US Department of Agriculture, and Mrs. Henry, Dr. D.E. Walling, University of Exeter and Mr. L.O. Longworth, Commissioner for Soil Conservation.

The gathering together in the Department of Geography of more than 60 research workers from Australia and overseas from May 14 to 17 provided a rare opportunity for discussions around the conference subject, Drainage Basin Erosion and Sedimentation.

Erosion of fertile topsoil is one of the most serious environmental problems in Australia today. The understanding and the measurement of the processes that lead to water pollution, deposition of sediment in reservoirs and other problems were the main objects of the national conference.

It attracted delegates from universities throughout Australia, the CSIRO, the Commonwealth Department of Primary Industry, the Soil Conservation authorities in various states, the Water Resources Commission, the Pollution Control Commission and the Forestry Commission in New South Wales and the Hunter Valley Conservation Trust, as well as the United States Department of Agriculture and Exeter and Liverpool (United Kingdom), Louvain (Belgium) and Hong Kong univer-

Erosion Conference

The conference was opened by the Commissioner for Soil Conservation in N.S.W., Mr. Doug Longworth.

These experts from overseas took part in the meeting:

Mr. Lindsay Kleeman, a postgraduate student and a double University Medallist, has won a major professional award given by the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, of the USA.

Only 10 awards have been given by the IEEE, which is presently celebrating its centenary.

Six students from the United States, Mr. Kleeman from Australia, one student from Canada, one from Belgium and one from Guatemala have been named IEEE Outstanding Centennial Students.

The award will pay airfares and accommodation in connection with the students' participation in the Institute's centenary celebrations in Boston from May 11 to 16.

Mr. Kleeman, who is presently overseas, is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, with Honours Class I and two University Medals.

He was awarded a medal in Electrical Engineering last year and, in his absence, a Medal in Mathematics on May 5 this year.

He is in Italy attached to the University of Pisa, where his supervisor, Professor A. Cantonì, is carrying out research. His thesis topic for his Ph.D. is on fault tolerant multi-processor systems.
V-C Speaks out on Nuclear Power

He said he was "not another Sir Phillip Baxter," in that he did not feel that nuclear power was always a good thing in itself. However, nuclear power for electricity generation was suitable for countries such as France and Japan under certain conditions.

These conditions were:

- That it is economically viable for the country concerned,
- That safeguards are adequate in respect of nuclear weapons proliferation, terrorism, reprocessing of fuel elements and safety standards, and
- That the problem of dealing with nuclear waste is solved.

Economics ruled out nuclear power for Australia, Professor George said. He believed that nuclear fusion and fast breeder reactors would never be economically justified anywhere.

"The use of nuclear power is justified under certain conditions." This was the theme of a talk given by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Don George, at the University on May 2.

Professor George, a former part-time Chairman of the Australian Atomic Energy Commission was addressing a lunch-time meeting organised by the Student Christian Movement.

"The types of nuclear reactors in use today are very safe, as was shown by the absence of fatalities in the Three Mile Island disaster."

Professor George also stated that there was more danger to humanity in the emissions from coal-fired power stations than in the emissions from nuclear power plants.

A lively question time followed the address.

The People for Nuclear Disarmament on Campus has issued a statement which says that while it disagrees with some of Professor George’s opinions, it wishes to encourage dialogue about uranium and nuclear power, in particular nuclear weapons and disarmament.

During Second Term the group is planning to continue discussion and other activities on the topics.

For further details please telephone Extension 292 or 69 6750.

BACK FROM CHINA

Mr. Steve Garlick, Research Manager of the Hunter Valley Research Foundation and part-time Tutor in Economics, is presently in China.

Mr. Garlick; a B.A. and M.Com. graduate, and six other economists (from the Universities of New South Wales, New England and Queensland) are spending 18 days in China on a study exchange programme awarded by the Australia-China Council and the Chinese Association for Science and Technology.

Mr. Garlick has pursued considerable research into the economic structure of the Hunter Valley and the impact of recent developments. His experience includes regional planning, regional labour studies and regional input-output analyses.

While in China he will participate in meetings and symposia on rural regional planning involving his Chinese counterparts and present a paper at a conference in Suzhou on regional planning problems in the Hunter Valley.

While in China the Australians will hold discussions with their Chinese counterparts about the reciprocal visit the Chinese will make to Australia later this year arranged by the Australia-China Council and the Chinese Association for Science and Technology.

A visit to the Hunter is to be included in the Chinese visitors' itinerary.
**Christian Perspectives**

A series of lunchtime lectures in the Drama Theatre on various Christian viewpoints has been arranged for the second week of term.

Tuesday, June 5, Pastor Max Hall will speak on Christ and Pleasure. (Many of the Asian students on campus have found a home at the Mayfield Church of Christ. Over 50 Asian students regularly meet with Australian students.)

The Wednesday topic of Christ and your Future will be addressed by Rev. Tom Binks, the Baptist University Chaplain.

Mr. Ten Kok Ben will speak on Thursday on the subject of Christ and the Underprivileged. Mr. Ben is from Singapore and is the Director of the Asian Evangelical Fellowship. He has travelled widely in South East Asia and India.

The meetings have been organised jointly by two Newcastle University student societies, the Overseas Christian Fellowship and the Evangelical Christian Fellowship.

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**Gift from Japan**

The Baha'i community from the City of Ube, Japan, has presented two books in Japanese to the Japanese Section of the Department of Modern Languages.

One of the books, *Beyond East and West*, is the memoirs, portraits and essays of Bernard Leach, potter and long-time member of the Baha'i Faith, who spent many years in Japan.

The other, *Proclamation of Baha'u'llah*, contains letters written over a century ago by the founder of the Baha'i Faith to kings, rulers, ecclesiastics and others.

A firm relationship between the Baha'i communities of Newcastle and Ube was established in January, 1981, following the formation of Sister City ties by the councils of the two cities.

Picture shows Dr. Allan Waters, Secretary of Newcastle Baha'i Community, presenting the books to Dr. K. Ono, Head of the Japanese Section.

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Professor Richard Kelman will present the 1984 Convocation Inaugural Lecture on May 31 at 5.30 pm in the Medical Sciences Lecture Theatre (University campus).

All interested persons are welcome to attend the lecture and meet Professor Kelman at a gathering organised by Convocation in Room 612 in the Medical Sciences Building afterwards.
Lawrence of Arabia, now "Birch of Bahrain".

- Will he follow in the footsteps of his compatriot?
- Will he ride his camel into the desert and repeat The Infidel?
- Will this indomitable Pym return to our shores?
- What secrets are held in his hands, or are behind that inscrutable smile?

These and other questions may be answered in future issues of The News. Make sure that you read The News for up-to-date reports on the exciting saga of Sayed Birch, Faculty Secretary in Medicine, now on leave of absence from the University and working with the Arabian Gulf University.

**Staff Moves**

**Appointments**

Mr. Dean W. Ferry, Apprentice Fitter and Turner, Faculty of Engineering.

Ms Margaret S. Finlayson, Stenographer, Faculty of Medicine.

Ms Jennifer C.J. Groves, Technical Officer, Biological Sciences.

Mrs. Jennifer M. Hargrave, Stenographer, Department of Economics.

Mr. William W.E. Holzinger, Computer Programmer, Computing Centre.

Ms Christa M.J. Moch, Stenographer, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Mr. Frank A. Page, Maintenance Officer, Property Division.

Mrs. Suzanne F. Pendlebury, Stenographer, Secretary's Division.

Mr. James J. Smith, Computer Programmer, Computing Centre.

Miss Lyn E. Thomas, Office Assistant/Typist, Department of Mechanical Engineering.

**Resignations**

Miss Nitsa Athanassopoulos, Technical Officer, Department of Psychology.

Mrs. Karen E. Blackford, Stenographer, Department of Biological Sciences.

Mrs. Helen C. Bramble, Stenographer, Secretary's Division.

Dr. Cathryn P. Brown, Senior Lecturer, Department of Psychology.

Mr. Graeme B. Cremer, Storeman/Driver, Bursar's Division.

Mr. Richard D.C. Graham, Architectural Draftsman, Property Division.

Mrs. Margaret A. Richardson, Office Assistant/Typist, Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying.

Dr. John F. Stewart, Research Fellow, Faculty of Medicine.

Back from meeting

Professor M.P. Carter attended a meeting of Chairmen of Academic Boards and their equivalent, which was organised by the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee and held at the University of Queensland on May 14 and 15 - a previous meeting had been held as long ago as 1978.

The meeting was chaired by Professor D.R. Stranks, the Vice-Chancellor of Adelaide University and Deputy Chairman of the AVCC.

A number of sessions were held, on the following topics: decision-making structures - in which the central problem of reconciling widespread partici-
The annual Students v- Staff Golf Match was played at the Steelworks Golf Club Links on Friday, May 4. Students proved worthy winners by 135 - 211 and they are now rubbing salt into the wounds by offering an informal return match just as soon as their opponents are willing to pick up the gauntlet!

A fine gathering of some 300 persons attended the Blues Dinner at the University Union on Friday Evening, May 4, to celebrate this annual event and to pay tribute to the recipients of "Blues and Colours" and "Sportsman of the Year" awards. Heartly congratulations to all in achieving the ultimate distinctions.

SPORT

The following morning the run back to the University of New England was restarted by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Don George, who spoke a few words of encouragement to the participants.

University of Newcastle runners who escorted the teams through local suburbs comprised the Vice-Principal, Professor Ken Dutton, Professor Terry Wall, Mrs. Kim Jenkins, Messrs John Lambert and Adrian Ikin.

Professor Ted Flanagan, a visiting academic from the University of Vermont (USA) revealed Olympic prowess in rapidly out-distancing the field - Robert de Costella had better beware!

Advertisements

Leaving the Country Sale

1983 Datsun 6X Bluebird in excellent condition (one owner). Features include: very low mileage, air conditioned, built-in radio, cassette player, manual, brown metallic exterior. Asking price: $9,000 or near offer. This car will be available from June 25.

Coloured Rank Arena television (one owner), 48cm screen (UHF, VHF), on mobile stand. Asking price: $400 or near offer.

Formica dining table with four matching chairs. Asking price: $130 or near offer.

One two-seater lounge and three matching pine chairs (orange cushions). Asking price: $170 or near offer.

Frigidaire refrigerator (190 Litres) in excellent condition (six months old). Asking price: $270 or near offer.

"Sportsman of the Year" - Robert G. Haberl, Table Tennis.

"Blues"

Gerard Alfred, Squash; Andrew Butler, Cricket; Stephen Curran, Hockey; Kerry Plater, Rugby League; Cameron Ross, Cricket and Nicholas Wright, Rugby.

"Colours"

Michael Goldman, Rugby; Trevor Harvey, Squash; Warren Lawrence, Basketball and Christopher Tola, Surfing.

UNE 'Run for Your Life' Campaign - Two teams arrived in Newcastle on Tuesday, May 15, and were hosted overnight by and Hobart, but in spite of this, the teams looked extreme.

For Sale

Pyrox console gas heater (Model 303) in good condition. Asking price: $250. All interested persons are requested to telephone Extension 262 or 61 2651.

Dick Smith Wizard, Basic Computer with Basic cartridge. All manuals including "First Book of Programmes". Datasette and moving keyboard. (Ideal child's computer). Asking price: $300 or near offer. (Several games cartridges and tapes are also available, will negotiate). All interested persons are requested to telephone Extension 346 or 43 9217 after hours.

1975 Toyota Corolla in very good condition. This car is very reliable and economical and is only priced at $3,100 or near offer. All interested persons are requested to telephone Manjit Gilhotra at Extension 368 or 57 4344 after hours.
DIARY OF EVENTS

Tuesday, May 29, 1 pm
Lunchtime concert in the Union Courtyard. Guest artist Wendy Saddington (singer from the Hip Hop Club, Paddington).

Wednesday, May 30, Noon
German feature film: Glueck im Hinterhaus, Room A132 (McMullin Building), admission free.

Wednesday, May 30, 1 pm
Lunchtime concert in the Union Courtyard featuring Journey (duo singing well-known folk songs).

Thursday, May 31, Noon
Movie: Victor/Victoria, University Common Room (donations appreciated).

Thursday, May 31, 1 pm
Department of Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science seminar entitled Recent Results from the OPCS Longitudinal Study. Guest speaker: Professor John Fox (Department of Mathematics at the City University, London).

Thursday, May 31, 1 pm
Philosophy Club seminar entitled Sartre's Existentialism. Guest speaker: Dr. Paul Critenden (University of Sydney), Auchmuty Room, University Union, wine and cheese supplied.

Thursday, May 31
Newcastle Branch of the Australian Psychological Society will be holding their annual general meeting. Guest speaker: Dr. Sandra Pertot. Topic: Sex in the 1980s! Harold Robbins or the Reverend Fred Nile. For further information please telephone Patricia Duncan at 68 5595.

Friday, June 1, 11 am

Friday, June 1, 1 pm
Department of Psychology seminar entitled Self-Categorisation Theory of Group Behaviour. Guest speaker: Dr. John Turner, Macquarie University. Venue: Room W246, Psychology.

Friday, June 1, 5 pm
Entertainment in the Bar featuring Marguerite Ashford.

Friday, June 1, 8 pm
Hockey Club Bush Dance featuring the Bushman's Axe.

Sunday, June 3, 8 pm
Newcastle Film Society presents: Moonlighting (Skolimowski, UK, 1982), Lecture Theatre 801.

Monday, June 4
All this week in the Southern Cross Lounge and the Godfrey Tanner Room there will be a Polish Tapestry Exhibition. Admission free.

Tuesday, June 5, 1 pm
Lunchtime concert in the Union Courtyard featuring Creole Band (straight from Kinsellas in Sydney. This band boasts the World Champion Limbo expert. Steel drums the lot!) Admission free.

Tuesday, June 5, 8 pm

Friday, June 8, 5 pm
Entertainment in the Bar featuring Kulture Kringe (an all-Australian collection of songs, poems and dramatic monologues with the emphasis placed on humour, acted by Mary Haire).

7 pm until 8 pm
Busking in the Bar.

8 pm until 9 pm
Entertainment in the Bar featuring We Know Gus (new band making their debut. Students mainly and well worth a look).

9 pm until 10 pm
Busking in the Bar.

Tuesday, June 12, 1 pm
Freewheels Theatre in Education present: Year 9 are Animals in the Southern Cross Lounge (if wet) or Union Courtyard (if dry). Admission $1.

Wednesday, June 13, Noon
German feature film: Solo Sunny, Room A132 (McMullin Building), admission free.

Thursday, June 14, Noon
Movie: The National Health, University Common Room (donations appreciated).

Friday, June 15, 5 pm
Jazz in the Bar featuring Paul Watters.