COUNCIL

One of the redistributed seats on the University Council must be given to a postgraduate student, according to Mr. Matthew Yates, President of the Student's Representative Council.

In discussions with the Vice-Chancellor and the Minister for Education, Mr. Cavalier, he pointed out that he intended to partially reconstruct the Council. In legislation expected to go through the budget session of Parliament, the three positions filled by members of the Council themselves would be reallocated so that he, the Minister, appointed six members (five at present), the academic staff other than professors elected three members (two at present), and Convocation elected seven members (six at present).

Mr. Yates said the redistribution of three seats on the Council presented a great opportunity to increase student participation in university government.

"Instead, perhaps, of reallocation one of the seats to a member of Convocation another seat should be allocated to a student representative, changing their number of seats from two to three.

"Specifically, "Mr. Yates said, "I am asking for a student representative elected from postgraduate students at University."

The postgraduates were currently under-represented at all levels of university government. They had concerns and ideas often quite different from undergraduates and were organized on the campus by the APSUN.

Many other University Councils deemed it valuable to have postgraduate student representatives on Council.

ANGLICAN CHAPLAIN

Father Thirlwell has arrived on the campus as Anglican Chaplain. Previously he served the Church in Fiji as a missionary and in Newcastle as Port Chaplain.

Thirlwell, Rector of Birmingham Gardens, while working as Chaplain is continuing his University studies. He graduated as a B.A. in 1984, majoring in Japanese, and is currently learning French.

The Chaplain can obviously claim an appreciation of students' needs and he is looking forward to the opportunity to work with students and staff on the campus.

An LL.B in the University of Sydney, he was working in the Crown Law Office when he became intensely aware of a call from God. On advice from the late Bishop Burgmann, he entered theological college. After being ordained as a Priest, marrying a girl he had met at Sydney University and filling acuracy for a brief time in Albury he went to Fiji as a missionary.

He was in Fiji for 12 years working successively on Labasa, Ba and Nadi Islands. A large part of his time was spent ministering to the Indian community, comprised of descendents of indentured labourers who emigrated from India in the last century. He took the opportunity to learn Hindi.

Moving to Newcastle in 1974 he joined the Missions to Seamen as Chaplain for the Port. These duties included visiting as many ships as possible, meeting the seamen and running the Seafarers' Centre in Wickham. In this work he was greatly assisted by being able to speak Fijian and Hindi.

INSIDE: Revue with a difference
Hunter's "powerful voice"

A tradition at Hunter Valley Dinners was broken when Professor Cyril Renwick did not present the report on HVRF research and the Hunter Region economy. Professor Renwick, Director of Research since the Foundation's inception more than 25 years ago recently retired. He was not able to attend the dinner.

Dr. W.E.J. Paradice, Acting Director of Research, wished Professor Renwick a long, happy and fulfilling retirement and brought the sponsors up to date on the Foundation's perception of the Hunter Valley, its economy, social and physical environment and its research programme.

Professor Carter said it was just eight days since he had taken over the challenging Chairman's reins and he deemed his election to be a considerable honour for himself and, if he might presume, for the University.

"My confidence in a flourishing future for the Foundation rests particularly upon the recognition that a dedicated and experienced Board of Directors has, working with it, a first-rate team of research, administrative and other staff well tutored by the founding Director, attuned to the aims and aspirations of the Foundation and loyal to those ends", he said.

The Chairman asserted that over the 10 years since he left Scotland to join the University there could be detected a significantly changing social climate in the Region - a growing sense of community awareness, a clearer vision of what is possible and a determination to strive together for improvements in the whole realm of life, economic and social, and its cultural dimensions.

He added that the recently announced substantial increase in the level of funding from the NSW Government was an outstanding affirmation of support for the work of the Foundation.

Dr. Paradice provided a summary of the major indicators of regional social and economic well-being. In his summary Dr. Paradice said that the international economic situation was a mixture of positive and negative factors and that these factors were important in understanding the issues facing the Hunter Region.

"It is necessary to realise that the challenges before the Hunter are not unique. The advantage held by the Hunter in meeting these challenges is its unique mixture of resources, infrastructure, location and people, and it will be these attributes that will continue to form the basis for growth and development in the Region" Dr. Paradice said.

"The Hunter Region continues to show signs that it is adapting to the structural changes necessary to remain competitive, nationally and internationally. Although the manufacturing industry has been substituting capital and technology for labour, the economy is generating jobs in other sectors. This is a sign that the regional structure is shifting to accommodate the new demands of the market place", he said.

In describing the research programme of the Foundation, Dr. Paradice said: "The research programme at the Foundation is the principal element of the organisation, and the direction that the programme takes will have a major influence on how the Foundation is perceived by, and operates in, the community."
"The have & the have nots"

Senator Walsh's latest plan for the financing of tertiary education reinforces the growing notion of a "have" and "have not" Australia. This is one of the reactions of the University's Students' Representative Council to Senator Walsh's plan to introduce loans for university students.

Mr. Matthew Yates, President of the SRC, said Senator Walsh's proposal was another of a long line of attempts to cover up his government's economic mismanagement by attacking the education sector with hysterical accusations and inaccurate generalizations. It would further discourage the needy from entering into higher education.

"Not only are Senator Walsh's proposals economically dubious," Mr. Yates said, "they will hit the groups that he claims to represent the hardest."

"Senator Walsh proposes student loans at commercial interest rates for all who need them. Then he foresees a situation in which only disadvantaged groups would have to utilize them. Therefore, those with the ready cash, will be paying by his calculations between $4,200 and $7,000 for a degree, whereas those who take out the loans will be forced to pay through interest rates a figure at least 16 percent higher than that paid by more well off students or their families."

In Mr. Yates' view, as well as treating education as a commodity with no intrinsic value, which it unarguably was not, Senator Walsh was also ensuring that the present generation of young Australians whose blue-collar roots had worked damned hard to help, would be kept well and truly outside the school gates facing the dole queue.

Rehearsing a scene from the University Revue, 1985: Dannielie Fraser, Chris Fletcher and Bonnie Rae, watched by Director Merelyn Hey.

The company - 14 students and Director, Merelyn Hey - will give performances at Macquarie University on August 13, the University of Wollongong on August 14, Mitchell College of Advanced Education on August 15 and the University of New England on August 16 and 17.

The Vice-Chancellor's grant of $1000 made it possible this year for the revue "to improve its visibility."

Named the Travelling Hawking Show, the revue will present five performances at this University beginning on August 6.

The cast includes Bill Keir, Chris Fletcher, Dan Lucas, Phillip Hancock, Richard Howard, Patrick McGrath, Brian Birkfield, Peter Olivera, Bern Dooley, Clare Smith, Dannielie Fraser and Mel Fraser.

The revue will be presented in the Southern Cross Lounge and tickets, at $4 for students and $5 for guests (price includes a light supper), may be ordered in advance at the Westpac Bank Agency in the Union.
Trend towards interference

Professor Don George said at the annual general meeting of Convocation on July 10 that one of the most serious trends of the last decade was government interference in universities.

The indifferent, "shotgun" approach had damaged teaching and research in universities and was very alarming.

In an address, The Future Decade, Professor George explored the university's "shopping list" for the next ten years given continuing growth.

The Vice-Chancellor said the University had been established by an Act of the New South Wales Parliament and was funded by an Act of the Commonwealth Parliament. "If there is any single thing I would like to see achieved, it is for us to be able 'to get into one bed or the other'. Nothing is worse than being subjected to the whims of separate governments."

Professor George referred to the fact that the Federal Minister of Finance, Senator Walsh, had proposed the introduction of loans for tertiary students, instead of the re-introduction of tertiary fees. The Vice-Chancellor's view was that this was another half-baked scheme, characteristic of the way the Minister for Finance had approached the complex question of providing higher education.

"It is alarming that we may have to face government intentions which are so dramatically capable of doing grave damage to our university system."

In the state sphere, the Minister of Education had told how he intended to change the University's Act in respect of the composition of Council. "The Minister's success in changing the University of NSW's government has influenced him to reorganise the Councils of other universities in the state."

"Mr. Cavalier likes our Council except for the three members elected by the other members. At Macquarie University he increased the number of members he appoints himself by three. At this University he will take just one. I got him to agree to Convocation electing one additional member and academic staff other than professors electing one additional member."

The Vice-Chancellor's suggested "shopping list" for the next decade includes a number of academic developments in such areas as architecture, law, economics and commerce, the performing arts, politics and research.

He said the Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission had approved a building degree course in the Faculty of Architecture, which had introduced this year a fully integrated problem-based course similar to the Faculty of Medicine's course.

It was a tragedy that the state's law schools were all located in Sydney, which was oversupplied. An interesting development was the changing of the name of the University's Department of Legal Studies to the Department of Law.

The University had proposed that expansion take place in fields including social work, clinical epidemiology and geriatrics, the Vice-Chancellor said.

The arrival of the new Tax Office in Newcastle could affect the list of courses offered by the Faculty of Economics and Commerce.

In the realm of the performing arts, music could be a desirable addition to activities. Politics had also been long-wanted.

The Vice-Chancellor said that the developments the University should be looking for were those which were innovative and appropriate for the Hunter Valley. "Also, we should never assume that something is not a possibility until we have examined it closely."

The Warden of Convocation, Father James Bromley, reported on Convocation's highlights during the last year, including a Newcastle Lecture, two Inaugural Lectures, Graduation Day activities for new graduates, the appointment of Mr. Don McNair as Convocation Visiting Scholar at the University, and other events.

Standing Committee had expressed concern at the rapid growth of Convocation and the lack of adequate administrative facilities and secretarial support. A request from Standing Committee to the Council convinced the Council that a Working Party should be formed to review the relationship between the University and Convocation and the support given to Convocation.

Convocation's annual meeting approved amendments to the Constitution changing the term of office of the Warden from two to three years, changing the election of the Warden from the annual general meeting to the election of members of Council by Convocation, eliminating the position of Immediate Past Warden and creating a new position, Deputy Warden.

Emeritus Professor Cliff Ellyett was elected Deputy Warden for a term of one year.

Elections were held to fill vacancies on Standing Committee of Convocation. Ms. D. Oughton, Dr. W. Jones, Mr. J. Broughton, Mr. A. Danilov and Mr. J. Armstrong retired after having served terms of office of three years. Dr. R. Amar, Mr. S. Date and Mr. R. Lutton were elected to the Committee. Standing Committee at its next meeting is expected to consider names of possible members to fill the remaining vacancies.
The Talmud is a collection of ancient Jewish literature written over the course of about 700 years. "My major aim has been to show the relevance of the Jewish teachings to modern economics," Professor Ohrenstein said.

His wife, Ruth, was not able to accompany him to Newcastle because she is a Maths teacher and kept working.

Professor Ohrenstein was born in Poland and although he was incarcerated in nine concentration camps in the second World War, including Auschwitz, and was a participant in the "death marches", he survived the war. When freed in 1945, he was totally blind and weighed only 50 lbs owing to lack of nourishment. His definition of his war experiences: "My luck, my fate, my destiny."

In 1945, at the age of 24, he and some other ex-prisoners were tested and admitted to the University of Munich. He now holds a degree of Master of Arts and a Ph.D. degree.

As an Economist he feels very conscious of the help given to him by Arthur F. Burns, his teacher when he held a post-doctoral scholarship at Columbia University. "Burns is now the American Ambassador to West Germany. He is a famous scholar and diplomat, to whom I dedicated my book, Inventories During Business Fluctuations."

He paid tribute to Barry Gordon’s international reputation as a scholar and thanked Assoc. Professor Lionel Fredman for having brought him into contact with members of the Newcastle Jewish Community.

Also, he pointed out that he had been very favourably impressed by the Department of Economics, together with the warm welcome given to him by Professor Clem Tisdell and his colleagues. He said he would cherish his visit to Newcastle all his life.

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**Super Fund**

The Staff Office has sent circulars to "permanent" staff who are aged under 55 years and fall into the following categories:

a) those who are not contributing to the Fund, but are eligible to do so.

b) those who were rejected from Fund membership on medical grounds.

c) those who obtained a formal exemption from contributing to the fund.

If you have not received a circular and think you should have, please contact the Superannuation Officer on extension 550 as soon as possible.

M.J. Govill
A report which calls for additional resources to be provided to support the activities of Convocation was presented to the Council at its June meeting.

Council approved the report's recommendations and asked for detailed proposals.

The report was prepared at the request of the Standing Committee of Convocation and the Council by a Working Party established to review the relationship between the University and Convocation and the support given to Convocation.

Standing Committee had pointed out its concern about the present and future condition and development of Convocation, in particular:

The implications of its rapid growth since the establishment of the University,

The method of electing the Warden, and

The implication of a lack of administrative support for contribution to the academic and general development of the University.

The Working Party's report notes that since the earliest days Convocation had sought to support the University by not restricting its efforts simply to the fulfilment of its statutory obligations. From its formal activation in 1966 it had developed a range of activities which had sought to enrich the life of the University as well as develop a productive link between the continuing work and concern of the University and its graduates.

"This pioneering work of Newcastle Convocation," the report says, "is perhaps best reflected in the very significant role it has played in the Australian University Graduate Conference.

"Currently a major change is occurring in the attitude of Australian Universities to the matter of relations with their graduates, possibly stimulated by the changing level of Government support. The development of closer relations and the need to harness the goodwill and active support of graduates is receiving much greater recognition and significant resources are being allocated for the development of graduate relations."

The Working Party said that the University must ensure that it did not lag behind in these developments. The Party was disturbed to find that with the resources currently allocated there was a real danger that the benefits of the pioneering work in this University could be lost.

If such a situation were to be avoided, it was essential that the current activities of Convocation be maintained and that every effort be made to provide conditions which would enable development which would further harness the interest and assistance of its graduates and those of other universities, who, through interest in the University, had joined Convocation.

The report recommends that the term of office of the Warden of Convocation be three years and that the election for that office be conducted in conjunction with the election of members of Council by Convocation. Also, the creation of the office of Deputy Warden is proposed.

The Working Party argues that rather than conducting the election at Convocation's Annual General Meeting, provision should be made for all members of Convocation to participate in the election of the Warden.

The support of Convocation be determined taking into consideration a budget covering its proposed activities for the following year.

As far as this recommendation is concerned, the Working Party was disturbed to find that there was a real danger that even the present activities of Convocation could not be maintained, let alone developed, and it believed that at a time when other universities were moving to develop graduate relations it would in due course be to the detriment of the University if the University, which played such an important role in the field, would not be part of the development.

Since 1977 the demands made of the staff of the Secretary's Division in order to provide support for Convocation had increased significantly.

No additional resources had been made available, the report said and the extent and level of support had been achieved partly because of some involvement in a personal capacity in the activities of Convocation but also as a result of a commitment to ensure that activities to which Convocation had committed itself did not fail through lack of support.

"The alternatives facing the University are either to allow the current activities of Convocation to collapse, or to provide the resources necessary to support them in the normal way they are provided for other activities which the University is required to, or chooses to, pursue", the report notes.

Particular proposals supported by Council included: the Secretary to the University be the Secretary to Convocation and its committees and resources be allocated to the Secretary's Division to enable necessary administrative support to be provided.
Philosophy for Children

Philosophy for Children is a highly successful curriculum which was originally designed in the United States by Professor Matthew Lipman. Professor Lipman was formerly Professor of Philosophy at Columbia University and is now Director of the American Institute for the Advancement of Philosophy for Children at Montclair State College, New Jersey.

The Philosophy curriculum, which is concerned to develop and expand the critical thinking and reasoning skills of children of all ages, is currently taught in more than 4,000 schools throughout the U.S.A.

Research undertaken in the United States, where the programme was initiated in 1970, has confirmed that children who have participated in the programme exhibit dramatic improvements in respect of a range of basic skills such as reading, mathematics, and comprehension. In addition to the obvious benefits associated with improvements in critical thinking and reasoning, children involved in the programme have shown considerable growth in motivation and self-esteem.

During the May break at the University, Professor Laura, of the Department of Education, organized a Philosophy for Children Curriculum Workshop, which was hosted by Professor Lipman, and Professor Ann Margaret Sharp, Director and Associate Director respectively of the American Institute. In excess of 50 staff, teachers, and students attended the workshops and seminars. Dr. Susan Knight, of the University of Adelaide, delivered a paper and seminar on epistemological theories influencing the philosophy for children curriculum.

During the course of their Australian visit, Professor Laura formalized his ongoing negotiations with Professors Lipman and Sharp by submitting a proposal for the establishment of an Australian Institute for the Advancement of Philosophy for Children whose structure would be comprised by an Executive Board, Regional Centres and an advisory Board of Directors.

The proposal was discussed at a special meeting with Professors Lipman and Sharp held at the University of Wollongong, at which interested staff from universities, colleges and at least one State Department of Education agreed to found an Australian Institute.

Dr. Lawrence Splitter, of the University of Wollongong, was appointed the first Executive Director of the Institute, with Ms Ann Gazzard, of the Newcastle University Department of Education, as Associate Director. Ms Gazzard is currently writing a doctoral thesis on the philosophy for children programme under Professor Laura's supervision. In 1982 she took leave of absence from her doctoral programme at Newcastle to broaden her research by undertaking a master's degree in critical and creative thinking at the University of Massachusetts, completing the degree in 1983. In July Ms Gazzard will return to the United States, where she will work directly with Professors Lipman and Sharp at the American Institute in order to gain the experience necessary to assist in the successful development of the Australian Institute.

Regional Centres have also been established in Adelaide, Canberra and Sydney, with Professor Laura serving as Director of the Newcastle Centre.

Mr. Helmut Schultz, of the Newcastle Faculty of Architecture and a former graduate student under Professor Laura's supervision, is also actively involved in the newly established Institute and its Newcastle Centre.

Ron Laura, Susan Knight, Matthew Lipman and Ann Gazzard

Ann Sharp
On Assignment in Canberra

As a member of the Department of Pacific and South East Asian History within the Research School Dr. Dick will contribute to a major project on the causes and consequences of industrialisation, in Asia and the Pacific. Specifically, Dr. Dick will make a study of the urbanisation of Surabaya since the 1920s. He will have to spend a significant part of his assignment in the field in Indonesia and Malaya.

Dr. Dick wrote to the Research School of Pacific Studies that he had long thought Surabaya to be a fascinating field for study. The second largest city in Indonesia, it had a long and independent urban tradition without the complications that flow from being the seat of national government.

"I am reminded of the Dutchman who remarked that, if Batavia was the Amsterdam of the Indies, then Surabaya was its Rotterdam, more bustling, more industrious and without pretensions."


He expects that his study will begin with an exploration of primary sources in Surabaya and Jakarta, and, desirably, The Netherlands. The availability of useful data on population, employment, income production and consumption will then determine the direction of further research.

"With regard to the proposed study's relation to the rest of the project, I hope that it would provide a focus to the East Java research and a counterpoint to that in Kuala Lumpur," he advised the Research School.

The date of commencement of Dr. Dick's assignment is at the end of this year.

Books from the British Council

During July the Curriculum Resources and Research Centre will have on display books from the British Council Exhibition, Computers and Their Applications. The display includes books on systems software, programming and programming languages, computer graphics and applications for Pure Sciences and Medicine, Applied Sciences and Engineering, Business, Commerce and Law, Humanities and Education.

The Centre, Room W301 in the Behavioural Sciences Building, is open weekdays from 8.30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

BOOK FAIR

GREAT HALL,
JULY 27 to AUG.3
Christina Stead's fiction

Dr. Bruce Holmes received a Ph.D. degree for his doctoral thesis on Moral Dialectic in the Fiction of Christina Stead, completed in the Department of English.

The thesis has, as its starting point, a disagreement with critics who see a strong ideological influence in Stead's fiction. It contends that, while ideology is clearly of interest to Stead, her fictional stance is less partisan than such interest might indicate.

The term "dialectic" is borrowed by Dr. Holmes from the idealogues not as a means of discussing ideological components so much as a method useful for describing Stead's qualities of tonal variety, characterization and evocation of mood.

He says it is a term that can be applied in a comprehensive and flexible manner to an analysis and discussion of Stead's individual way of seeing people, situations and ideas in the presentation of evolving dualities and contradictions.

"She perceives life as everlasting conflict and process of change, but the antitheses she notes are matters of degrees, requiring minute discriminations, and are not subject to formalistic treatment or the resolutions of Hegelian logic," Dr. Holmes says.

US's J. Herriot

Author, Donald McCaig, who is being called the U.S.'s James Herriot, will give a talk at the Friends of the University's Lunch With a Writer on July 24.

The luncheon will be held at the Sea Witch Restaurant in the Travelodge Motel beginning at 12:15 p.m.

McCaig, who lives in Virginia's Highland County, has written one book of poetry, three novels and numerous paperbacks under pseudonyms. His new book, Hop's Trials, is a story of a border collie and his sheepfarming master. McCaig is himself a farmer in Virginia with two border collies of his own.

Tickets for the next Lunch With a Writer can be obtained from Arthur Warner's Bookshop or Marjorie Biggins (261666).

HONORARY ASSOC.

An experienced Hunter Valley geologist has been appointed Honorary Associate of the Department of Geology. He is Mr. Brian Vitnell, Exploration Manager of Coal and Allied Operations Pty. Ltd.

Mr. Vitnell has had more than 30 years' experience in geology in the Hunter Valley coal industry. He worked with Coal and Allied, the Joint Coal Board, the Drilling Corporation of Australia and the CSIRO Division of Soils.

He has published numerous papers on coalfields geology and is a very strong supporter of the Geology Department at this University. He is a regular contributor to the annual Newcastle Symposium. The Irene and William Vitnell Prizes are awarded for the best results in Geology IIIA and IIIB.

Brian Vitnell
Adieu George Walker

Born at Merewether, George was only 15 when he joined the staff of the B.H.P. Co. Ltd. He finished "dog watch" and pushed a bike to business college so that he could become proficient in shorthand and typing, a prerequisite if you were to be accepted for a commercial career with the B.H.P. Fifteen months later he was writing shorthand at a speed of 120 words a minute and typing at 50 words a minute; today this skill would qualify him for a secretary's position.

He spent a period in the BHP's Head Office in Melbourne in 1951 making a tour of all branch offices and subsidiaries. He returned to Melbourne in 1954 to work on a new share issue. (At this point he began working closely with Mr. Stan Farquharson, of the Faculty of Medicine's staff. The friendship resumed when Stan joined the College in 1961).

George joined the College as Accounts/Purchasing Officer in 1958. He was promoted to Assistant Accountant in 1965, Accountant 1966 and Assistant Bursar 1974. He said he had seen the University grow enormously since the Administration was established in 1958. The position of Warden of the University College was separated from that of Principal of Newcastle Technical College in 1960.

George recalled having worked at week-ends to co-ordinate the moving of items from Tighe's Hill to Shortland. Whilst located at Tighe's Hill, he assisted with the arranging of graduations - ceremonies held in the open air in front of the Edgeworth David Science Building. Afternoon teas were served in the courtyard of the H.G. Darling Engineering Building. Some graduations were photographed by George and one photo shows how hastily chairs were vacated when rain interrupted the ceremonies.

Mr. Walker's expertise as a pianist was developed in the early days partly by "jam sessions", which included several University staff. (Mr. Peter Myors, one of George's colleagues, attested to the great enjoyment of these gatherings).

Three of George's children are graduates of the University and a fourth is enrolled here. Father and one daughter are members of the Australian Society of Accountants. George is interested in church history and has prepared a draft history of Presbyterianism of approximately 50,000 words.

As for his retirement, he said his greatest problem was allocating time to his many hobbies. There should now be more time to devote to photography and transferring his Bmm movie film to video tape. George has also been associated with Crossroads from its inception 24 years ago. He hopes to devote more time to helping the institution to develop more activities for the handicapped.

STAFF
APPOINTMENTS
Mr. M.G. Ramsey, Teaching Assistant in Physics.
Mr. P.R. Higginbottom, Teaching Assistant in Physics.
Mr. B. Gibson, Senior Tutor in Commerce.
Mr. S.F. Quinn, Clerk in Staff Office.
Professor T.W. Dunfee, Visiting Professor in Legal Studies.

RESIGNATIONS
Ms. M.E. Carlile, Stenographer in Geography.
Mrs. L.J. Brown, Word Processor Operator in Medicine.
Mrs. K.E. Neil, Library Technician in Library.
Dr. Y. Sasaki, Post Doctoral Research Fellow in Metallurgy.

Mrs. G. Durham, Stenographer in Secretary's Division.
Mr. G.W. Walker, Assistant Bursar in Bursar's Division.
Professor M.O. Jager, Professor in Commerce.
Mr. R.W. Gibbins, Senior Lecturer in Commerce.
Associate Professor J.P.S. Bach, Associate Professor in History.
PEACE STUDIES GROUP

Early in July, several Newcastle University staff and students met to discuss the possibilities for promoting Peace Studies on campus. We decided to form a group under the name of Peace Education Project.

Peace Studies in various forms has become a part of the academic scene at many universities here and abroad. This is hardly surprising, since, during the last few years, many people around the world have come to feel that the questions of how to bring about a lasting world peace and how to avert the danger of nuclear war are among the most important issues of our time. The Peace Education Project group has no specific answers to these questions, and, indeed, we feel that in the present circumstances open discussion, in which as many different views as possible can be considered, is more useful than insisting on the correctness of any particular solution.

Given the current economic climate within which the University of Newcastle, like other Australian universities, is operating, there is little likelihood of Peace Studies becoming a formal part of the University's course structure in the immediate future. However, there are other and, in some ways, more useful approaches to peace education. Almost all subjects taught at the university have some relevance to the issue of peace.

Mathematics, science and engineering help design the technology of war, but also provide vital tools for analysing its effects and investigating alternatives. Medicine has to deal with the consequences of human conflict at all levels. Sociology, economics and commerce, philosophy, and legal studies have obvious relevance for understanding the mechanisms which promote, or avoid, military conflict. Similar cases could be made for other disciplines. If these issues were exposed and discussed, wherever relevant, in lectures, tutorials and seminars, the level of awareness among both staff and students could be greatly increased.

For third term this year, we hope to arrange a short series of public lectures by local and invited speakers on the subject of 'The role of the University in promoting peace'. We envisage that lectures will be given by representatives of several different academic disciplines and that the speakers will consider the relevance of the peace issue to their particular subject area in terms of teaching and research. If these lectures meet with sufficient interest among the University community, we hope to arrange more extensive activities for 1986, which is the United Nations International Year of Peace.

The next meeting of the Peace Education Project group will be on Wednesday, August 7, at 1 p.m., in the Sociology Department (Room 326). We invite anyone who is interested in the project to attend this meeting. Ideas for possible activities are particularly welcome. For further information, contact me via the Sociology Department on home (26-4634).

Geoffrey Samuel

So why the runny nose, Dr. Parsons?

Most people are aware that their noses "run" in cold weather. This is part of a physiological response which humidifies and warms cold, dry air before it enters the lower airways of the lung.

Some people without this effective "airconditioning" might find that their lower airways react to cold by constricting, resulting in asthma-like syndromes.

The whole issue of airway conditioning is a fascinating topic and the part that relates to the blood flow changes in the mucosal lining of bronchial airways, in response to cold air, is the special interest of Dr. Gibbe Parsons MD, a Cali-for-

Dr. Parsons

nian scientist-physician, who is visiting the University's Medical School for a short study leave (July 13 to August 16).

Dr. Parsons will study the ultrasonic techniques available for measuring blood flow in Professor Saxon White's laboratory in the Medical Sciences Building on campus. Together they intend to develop a new approach to the analysis of factors controlling bronchial blood flow.

He is accompanied by his wife, Ann, a trained nurse, and his children Christopher (15), Craig (14), and Kerry (12). The family will live in a flat at the Rankin Park Hospital.
Guest Director

Former Director of the Darwin and Melbourne Theatre Group, Simon Hopkinson, is working on the Drama Department's presentation, Kotara Kotara. Hopkinson is the Drama Department's Guest Director for this year.

Kotara Kotara will be presented in the Drama Theatre on eight nights, beginning on July 31, and on August 4 at 5 p.m.

Simon started his theatre career 25 years ago as a child actor at London’s Mermaid Theatre. He has worked as both a playwright and director for companies throughout Australia.

The Drama Department describes Kotara Kotara as an excursion into uncharted comic territories by a cast of seventeen actors, a director, a designer and a backstage crew.

"Set (at last report) in a quiet corner of suburbia, the production features passionate lovers, manic doctors, unfaithful husbands, alcoholic wives and high speed action that can take place anywhere in the theatre and even in your lap."

The cast comprises: Philip Bilton-Smith, Ellen Carayannis, Heather Clay, Melanie Davies, Anton Denby, Megan Dunn, Melinda Fraser, Jaynell Gudsett, Stephen Happ, Anita Holgate, Deborah Jones, Andrew O’Dallaghan, David Owens, Annetta Pierce and Stephen Williams.

Bookings can be made at the Drama Office (ext. 705)

Morpeth Lectures

Monica Furlong, the well-known British writer, will deliver the 1985 Morpeth Lectures at the University.

Ms. Furlong’s lectures, on the topics Change in the Church and Change in the Individual, will be held in the Medical Sciences Lecture Theatre at 8 p.m. on July 24 and 31 respectively.

The visit is being sponsored by the Department of Community Programmes in association with the Anglican Diocese of Newcastle.

The Morpeth Lectures make it possible each year for clergy and interested lay people of all denominations in the Hunter Region to meet, hear and talk with theological thinkers of international significance.

After reading Philosophy at University, Monica Furlong quickly established a considerable reputation as a journalist, writing regularly for The Spectator, Punch and the Manchester Guardian and producing a weekly column in The Daily Mail.

She then turned to the writing of novels and biographies, most of which are significant both as literature and as insights into contemplative religion. Her more specifically religious works include With Love to the Church, Travelling In, Contemplating Now, The End of Our Exploring and Merton, a biography of the Trappist monk Thomas Merton.

For several years she was producer of religious programmes for the BBC and is the author of many radio and television scripts.

In recent years Monica Furlong has become deeply interested and involved in the "Women’s Movement." She is the Moderator of the Movement for the Ordination of Women.

RSI Seminar

In a joint initiative, the University, H.A.R.E.A., P.S.A. and U.A.S.A. have combined to promote an educational seminar.

This will take place in Room V07 of the Mathematics Building at 1 p.m. on Thursday, July 25.

A short film on RSI will be shown and health experts will be available to give information and answer questions.

It is in the interests of everyone who operates electronic keyboard to attend this seminar. The University and Associations are also planning more detailed workshops on RSI during the Long Vacation.

For further information, please contact Mr. M. Edmonds [Extension 201] or Mr. M. J. Covill [Extension 375].

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