FIVE BRILLIANT STUDENTS

Five brilliant Singaporean students will graduate in absentia from the Faculty of Science with first class Honours on May 4.

Military service is a mandatory occupation for all young men from Singapore, the students have had to delay the commencement of their careers a long period.

Wing Teck Chong, Francis Chee Heng Foo, Jeng Seng Lau, Klan Sin Siew, and Wai Soen Chan came to Newcastle early in 1981 and enrolled in the Faculty of Science.

Their undergraduate records show strings of Distinctions and High Distinctions and their fourth year project work impressed the staff with their research potential.

Wing Teck Chong and Francis Chee Heng Foo will be awarded University Medals in Mathematics/Physics IV.

Jeng Seng Lau will graduate with Honours Class I in Mathematics/Physics IV, Klan Sin Siew will graduate with Honours Class I in Physics IV and Wai Soen Chan will graduate with Honours Class I in Mathematics/Psychology IV.

The Dean of the Faculty of Science, Professor R. MacDonald said the University was proud to number among its outstanding graduates the group of young men who would undoubtedly become scientific leaders in the Republic of Singapore.

The students obtained a photographic record of their academic success prior to returning home. A copy is published above with (left to right) Klan Sin Siew, Mrs. June Haddow, Wing Teck Chong, Mrs. Aileen Rowley and Jeng Seng Lau. Mrs. Haddow and Mrs. Rowley are staff members of the Department of Physics.

Additional accommodation

A tender has been accepted for the construction of additional residential accommodation near Edwards Hall.

Work commenced on the site on April 22.

Council was told on April 19 that in accordance with the Council's resolution the Vice-Chancellor has accepted a fixed lump sum tender from R.W. Black Pty. Ltd. for 50 additional residential places at Edwards Hall.

Nine tenders were received, ranging from R.W. Black's tender of $848,167 up to $958,898. The construction time is 32 weeks, including a provision for wet weather.

Completion should be achieved by early December, 1985.

Dr. Alan J. Husband, Senior Lecturer in Immunology, this month was awarded the Royal Society of New South Wales' Edgeworth David Medal for 1984.

Dr. Husband went to Macquarie University on April 3 to receive the medal, regarded as a most prestigious Australian scientific award.

The Edgeworth David Medal is awarded for distinguished contributions by scientists under 35 in the fields of medicine, dentistry, engineering, agriculture or veterinary science.

The citation noted Dr. Husband's strong contributions to understanding the mechanisms of immunity at mucosal sites such as the intestine, lungs and breast and the development of vaccines to control diseases in these organs. Further, the citation praised Dr. Husband's active team of postgraduate and technical researchers, which currently embodies three Ph.D. degree students, four research staff and an honours student.

"The award can be seen as recognition of the vigorous research programme undertaken in the Medical School and also reflects favourably on Newcastle," Dr. Husband said. "My various collaborators have contributed as much as I have to the success of our work."

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Prolific Playwright

Playwright Stephen Poliakoff was 19 when he had his first professional production. By the time Hitting Town was produced, he had written 10 plays.

Hitting Town is the Department of Drama's third production for 1985.

Poliakoff was 23 and a Cambridge drop-out when he wrote the play, which has been described as an entertaining and gripping 90 minutes of theatre.

Ralph, a practical joker, comes to visit his elder sister, Claire, and takes her for a night out "on the town". During the course of the evening he sets out to shock her and everybody else around them. They meet Nicola, a waitress, whose leading aim in life is to speak to the local radio station D.J., Leonard Brazil, on his seemingly mellifluous talk-back programme.

Poliakoff's prime concern is with individuals and how they react to the pressures placed by studying important, contemporary issues.

There was rousing publicity surrounding the premiere of Hitting Town, because of the suggestion of an incestuous relationship between Ralph and Claire. The play, however, is really about the emptiness of urban life and how some people deliberately flout convention on them. He tries to reflect the "uncertainty of our time" to relieve their boredom.

Hitting Town is directed by Honours student Robert Graham. The cast comprises Tracey Pettiford (Claire), Steven Wilson (Ralph), Liane Chalmers (Nicola) and Adam Macaulay (Leonard Brazil). Hitting Town will be performed nightly in the Drama Studio from May 28 to June 1 at 8.15 pm and on June 2 at 5 pm.

 Admission is free. Please telephone the Drama Department at Extension 705 to make your reservations.

Lunch With A Writer

The Friends of The University will hold its next Lunch With A Writer at the Sea Witch Restaurant in the Travalodge Motel on Thursday, May 23, at 12.15 pm.

The speaker will be Olga Masters, author of The Home Girls, which won the 1983 National Book Award, and Loving Daughters, which was highly commended in the same competition in 1984.

Michael Cordell, writing in The Sydney Morning Herald, commented: "Olga Masters is emerging as one of Australia's important literary talents."

Tickets for the lunch cost $13.50 each and are available at Arthur Warner's Bookshop, or from 63 2774.
2NUR EXPANDS TEAM

2NUR-FM, the University's radio station, has expanded its administration team with the appointment of two new staff members.

Mr. John Roden has been appointed Producer; and Mr. Steve Ford has begun duties as Programme Manager.

Mr. Roden, 29, brings to 2NUR-FM experience in public broadcasting in Adelaide. He was previously employed by the University of Adelaide in its radio station, S.U.V. The position involved producing a range of programmes, including the breakfast programme, Community Theatre, Craft in South Australia and Adelaide Festival Round-up.

Mr. Ford, 32, was on the staff of 2MCE-FM at Mitchell CAE before coming to this University. He held the position of Station Manager for more than three years. In 1983 2MCE won the prestigious Peter Award in a national competition in the category Best Community Radio Station.

The position of Programme Manager of 2NUR involves the control of day-to-day on-air operations at the radio station, as well as acting as Assistant Manager in the absence of the Manager.

Mr. Ford will also assist to develop ways in which 2NUR's programmes can be improved and, although he is a very new arrival on campus, he has commenced discussions with some of the paid staff and the volunteers who run the radio station.

Mr. Roden has responsibility for 2NUR-FM's participation in a new series of programmes to be jointly produced by a group of Australian public stations.

The first of the programmes, Open Mind, is a combined venture by 2NUR, 2SER of Sydney, S.U.V of Adelaide and GNR of Perth. 2NUR has responsibility for a segment specialising in health and medicine, 2SER society and technology, S.U.V science and GNR Australian studies.

Open Mind will be broadcast on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 4 pm.

Donation

Brilliton Australia Ltd., the Metals Division of the Shell Company of Australia, donated $2,000 to the Department of Geology for research on the Giants Den tin deposit, Bendemeer.

The purpose of the research is to understand the history of granite crystallisation and the role of hot fluids in the formation of an unusual tin deposit.

The research is being undertaken by honours student Philip Kuehn, under the supervision of Professor I.R. Plimer.
The Vice-Chancellor told Council that the agreement with the Arabian Gulf University was signed on March 4 in the presence of academic staff of the Medical School and Government officials from Bahrain and Australia. The President of the Arabian Gulf University, Professor Safir, had expressed an interest in cooperation in other academic areas, and these possibilities were being followed up.

Following a recommendation from Senate, Council on April 19 decided that from the start of next year no new students will be enrolled in the Bachelor of Metallurgy course.

Council was informed that the Faculty of Engineering supported in principle the creation of a new department as early as possible combining the staff of the Departments of Chemical Engineering and Metallurgy.

Moreover, the Faculty supported the new department being given a name such as the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering and being responsible for:

- Course programmes leading to the Bachelor of Engineering degree with specialities in Chemical Engineering and Process Metallurgy.

- The development of the discipline of Materials in the Faculty and to provide service teaching in this discipline for the various courses offered.

- The continuation of the Bachelor of Metallurgy programme until a date to be specified for those students already enrolled in the Department of Metallurgy who elect to complete the Bachelor of Metallurgy degree, provided they are able to do so by the specified date.

- Giving consideration to the introduction of a new degree programme in Materials Engineering as early as possible, this programme to draw upon the expertise of the new Department and, as appropriate, the expertise of other Departments of the Faculty in areas of relevance to the programme.

Commenting on the decision, the Head of the Department of Metallurgy, Professor E.O. Hall, said he regretted the necessity of the move. "For the past 30 years, the Department has produced about a quarter of the country's graduate metallurgists each year. However, the student intake depended on a well-supported traineeship programme in the local industries, and, with the widespread recession in the steel sector in the past few years, the programme could no longer be sustained."

Professor Hall said the old B.Met. degree course would be replaced by a Process Metallurgy course, which is already in existence in the Department of Chemical Engineering, and, with the amalgamation of the two Departments, it is also hoped to offer a new degree course in Materials Engineering. The closer integration of the departments should permit a more rational use of resources in the servicing of courses on materials.

Professor Hall stressed that no student in the existing B.Met. course would be disadvantaged by the move. "The University has an obligation to these students to see them through the course they enrolled in", he said, "and there is an equal obligation to ensure that the courses both new and old attract the professional recognition which all engineering degrees must have".

Council appointed Selection Committees for the Chairs in Drama and Geography with the following membership:

CHAIR IN DRAMA

Ex Officio, the Vice-Chancellor, the Vice-Principal, the Deputy, Chairman of Senate, and the Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

External Scholars, Professor R.J. Jordan (the University of New South Wales), and Dr. E. Cowle (the University of Wollongong).

Senate Nominees, Professor J.F. Burrows and Professor R.S. Leura.

Council Members, Dr. J. Dyce and Dr. P. Hendry.

CAE representative, the Principal or his nominee.

Mr. Brian Vitnell, Chief Geologist of Coal and Allied Operations Pty. Ltd., has been appointed an Honorary Associate in the Department of Geology, for two years.

The Chancellor of the University of Adelaide, Dame Roma Mitchell, wrote to the Council commending the formation of a Federation of Australian Universities principally to promote the work of universities to governments and the community and to preserve their independence and integrity. Dame Roma said the University of Adelaide would be pleased to sponsor an inter-university meeting, say in mid-1985, at which the role of the federation could be discussed.

Council decided to note the submission, and to send an observer to the meeting.
CHAIR III GEOGRAPHY

Ex Officio, the Vice-Chancellor, the Vice-Principal, the Deputy Chairman of Senate and the Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

External Scholars, Professor J.L. Davies (Macquarie University), and Professor P. Scott (the University of Tasmania).

Senate Nominees, Professor R.J. MacDonald and Professor B.S. Mahtland.

Council Members, Dr. D. Day and Mr. B. Reif.

CAE representative, the Principal or his nominee.

Progress was made at the April Council meeting towards selecting a successor to Professor D.W. George, Vice-Chancellor of the University.

Professor George will cease duties as Vice-Chancellor at the end of next year.

Council appointed a Selection Committee to make a recommend-ation to Council concerning Professor George's successor.

Members of the Committee are:

The Chancellor (Sir Bede Callaghan), who will Chair the Committee (appointed ex officio); The Deputy Chancellor (Dr. A.C. Forsythe) (appointed ex officio); Mrs. M.E. Bowman (a member of Council associated with the Newcastle College of Advanced Education); Professor C.C. Renwick (a member of Council appointed by the State Government); Professor M.P. Carter (a member of Council being the Deputy Chairman of the Senate); Professor R.J. MacDonald (a Professor elected to Council by the academic staff); Dr. D.I. Wright (a member of Council, other than a Professor, elected by the academic staff); Dr. D.J. Kay (a member of Council elected by staff other than the academic staff); Mr. M.D. Yates (a member of Council elected by the students), and Mrs. E.D. Morrison (a member of Council elected by Convocation).

Sir Bede reported in a special document the selection procedures he believed should be followed, the most appropriate committee structure and the form of a newspaper advertisement.

The Vice-Principal, Professor K.R. Dutton, who is Convenor of the Selection Committee, in a letter to Deans, Union representatives, the SRC, Convocation, the Association of Women Employees and other campus bodies, has indicated that he would welcome suggestions and submissions as to the qualities it should attempt to identify in the person selected as the next Vice-Chancellor by July 31.

Tamil Presentation

The Tamil Cultural Evening in the Drama Theatre on April 20 produced brilliant bursts of colour and sound. More than 350 people attended.

The evening was arranged by the Newcastle Tamil Sangam, founded in 1983 to promote Tamil culture as part of the broad Australian culture.

Among the performers wearing traditional saris, jewellery, ankle bells and headresses were many students of the University, including Purush, Balan, Thambi, Geetha, Palani and Padmini.

The Drama Theatre function depicted Tamil culture through classical and folk dances, songs and, for a special item, excerpts from a Tamil Hindu wedding.

Pictured are some of the performers for the evening: Geetha, a Computer Science student, Purush a Civil Engineering postgraduate student, and Padmini a Medical student.
Introduction to war history

Dr. Peter Hendry, a member of the Council, is the author of an introduction in a newly-published book which deals with the story of a small World War II medical unit, the 2/10 Australian Field Ambulance, 8th Division, many of whose members were recruited from the Hunter Valley.

The book, Medical Soldiers, was written by some of the unit's members who survived the Malaya and Rabaul campaigns. Among the first-hand accounts of their wartime experiences are horrific reports of Changi prisoner-of-war camp, the Burma railway, the Sandakan death march and the Rabaul massacre.

It was co-edited by Mr. Ray Connolly and Mr. Bob Wilson and published in Newcastle by the 2/10 Australian Field Ambulance Association.

Dr. Hendry, who served in the unit, relates that the ambulance unit was formed in June, 1940, under the command of Lieut. Col. E. Mac Sheppard, a Newcastle general medical practitioner. The surrender to the Japanese in Malaya in February, 1942, was not the end of the war for the Australian medical troops, he says. "Rather, it was a pause before the long years of captivity were to bring out the very best of our men and the benefits of their months of training.

"These men were to man first-aid posts, dressing stations, sick bays and even hospital units in many scattered locations, often without supervision or the help of a doctor," writes Dr. Hendry.

The book shows how a team of young men with little medical knowledge, but with unbounded initiative and courage, coped with such unfamiliar diseases as malaria, cholera, dysentery and beriberi in malnourished and exhausted comrades.

Rather than glorifying war, Medical Soldiers exposes its horror and futility.

In an address given at the launching of the book, Dr. Sep Owen, a Newcastle medical specialist and writer, called the story of the 2/10 Australian Field Ambulance "an important part of the military, medical and social history of Australia and a window on the human soul. When you read the book, you experience some incredulity, because the events happened not hundreds or years ago, but comparatively recently, and involved people who are still with us."

Copies of Medical Soldiers are available at Angus and Robertson for $13 each.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Mr. John Sutton, an undergraduate student at the University was recently awarded by the Credit Union's Assistant Manager, Mr. Michael Russell, The Universities Credit Union Scholarship for 1985.

Established in 1982, The Credit Union Scholarship valued at $500 is open to full-time students who are enrolled in the second or later year of any undergraduate course.

Applicants must be members of the Universities Credit Union of one year's standing or the immediate family of a member.

Enquiries should be directed to the Secretary of the University, C/- the McMullin Building.
To Catch A Mouse

University staff and students are now able to purchase Apple's Macintosh computers and peripherals at substantial discounts, thanks to an agreement signed recently. The agreement, Apple's Tertiary Buy Program, also covers purchases by University departments.

It provides discounts of up to 25 percent off the recommended retail price of the Apple Macintosh, Macintosh XL (formerly the Lisa), ImageWriter printer, external disk drives and various other accessories. Certain software supplied by Apple is also available at reduced prices.

The Apple Macintosh is a new computer based on the Motorola 68000 microprocessor. It makes extensive use of graphics and a mouse so that even computer novices find it easy to use. A mouse is a small grey object which, as it is moved around on a table, moves a pointer on the screen. The screen shows a desktop, with all the normal accessories a desk would have: a clock, a notepad, a calculator, files, folders, even a puzzle for those idle moments.

Programs supplied free with each Macintosh include:

- MacWrite, a word processor which is easy to use and allows many different type faces to be used.
- MacPaint, a graphics program which uses the mouse to draw lines, circles, boxes, patterns, etc.

In addition, there are two "guided tours", one for using the Macintosh, and one for using MacWrite and MacPaint. These consist of a disk with demonstrations, and a cassette tape which explains what is happening.

Terms of the agreement

The agreement provides only for reduced prices on goods provided by Apple Computer. In addition, sales tax exemption may be claimed subject to certain conditions laid down by the Taxation Department.

Orders placed with Apple must be for a minimum of $10,000. In other words, anyone placing an order may have to wait until several other people order things before the order will be filled.

The Computing Centre will co-ordinate orders from departments. Computer Cellar, of 62 Maitland Road, Mayfield, will co-ordinate private orders from staff and students. It is hoped that the first order will be placed on Wednesday, April 24.

Further information can be obtained from David Morrison (Extension 208) at the Computing Centre.

Women's Group

The objectives of the University of Newcastle Women's Group are to foster friendly relations among all women connected with the University, welcome new personnel and further projects of common interest, relevant to University activities, as may arise.

Membership is open to all women who are, or have been, associated with the University and pay the prescribed fee.

Meetings are held in the Purdie Room, the Great Hall, on the third Thursday of each month. Drinks are held at 11.30 am and lunch about 12.15 pm. Generally speaking, there is a guest speaker after lunch and proceedings are usually over by 2 pm.

If you feel you would be interested in the group please telephone the Secretary, Ildiko de Souza, at 52 6742. She will send you an application. For a payment of $2 you will receive a monthly newsletter and notice of meetings.

Animal Experimentation

A seminar on animal experimentation - ethical, legal and scientific perspectives - organised by the University of New England's Department of Continuing Education, will be held in July at the University of New South Wales, with whom the activity has been jointly planned.

The seminar will feature two speakers from the USA and many of Australia's leading professionals in the fields of medicine, agriculture and veterinary science; plus philosophers, educationists and sociologists.

Generous grants have been made by both the Federal Government and by the Government of New South Wales to support the activity and the Australian Veterinary Association is covering the travel costs of one of the overseas speakers.

More detailed information about the seminar, to be held from July 8 to 10, can be obtained from the Department of Continuing Education, University of New England, Armidale, 2351.
Health Service News

Training in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

Thursday, May 23, 10 am to 11 am and Noon until 1 pm.

Friday, May 24, 10 am to 11 am and Noon until 1 pm.

Training sessions will be of one hour duration and limited to six participants. During each session, Sister Juliana Hazell will give instruction in the first-aid assessment of an unconscious person, and in the respiratory and cardiac resuscitation of both adults and children. Each participant will be given the opportunity to practice these techniques on a mechanical model.

You may enrol in one of the training sessions by telephoning the University Health Service at Extension 763 before Friday, May 17.

Advertisements

For Sale

Three-in-one MacLaren pram and stroller (brown) in very good condition. Asking price: $60. All interested persons are requested to telephone 43 7573.

Weatherboard and tile home in New Lambton Heights. Features include: three bedrooms, panoramic views, renovated kitchen and bathroom, bushland setting, marvellous television reception, room for development, adjoining garage and is situated on bus route and near schools. Asking price: $65,000 or near offer. All interested persons are requested to telephone 69 2909.

INFLUX - SCHOOLS

Schools Visit Day is coming up. The influx of senior students from schools on May 23 is expected to comprise more than 2,000 students.

The visitors will have to be nimble and quick if they are to avail themselves fully of the University's programme.

They will be offered a total of 10 30-minute sessions and during each session they will have several options.

Schools Visit Day allows all interested senior school students to learn about life at a University.

The visitors are derived from schools in the Hunter Valley, but this year students from schools in districts bordering on the Valley have also been invited.

As well as receiving briefing on the Universities and Colleges Admission Centre system, the students will be offered tours of departments, service units, laboratories, 2NUR-FM, the Auchmuty Library, the Computer Terminal Room in Mathematics and the Language Laboratory.

An Information Centre will be operating in the lower foyer of the Union Building.

Faculty Secretaries will be available on request to answer questions about courses.

The Careers and Student Employment Office and the Sport, Recreation and Accommodation Offices will be open all day and enquiries will be welcomed.

Laboratories in the Departments of Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Geology and Psychology will be open for inspection.

The Curriculum Resources and Research Centre in the Department of Education will be open between 9.30 am and 3 pm, while from 2 pm onwards visitors will be able to inspect the Department of Architecture.

Many members of staff will present lectures on courses provided by their departments.

Wanted

To share travelling costs to and from the University from Kenley Crescent, Macquarie Hills. If you are able to assist please telephone Linda Aurelius at Extension 328.

Indian Snacks

Samosas, Matharis, Sev etc. and certain dishes are available on order from R. and K. Mathur of 56 Brooks Street, Wallsend. All interested persons are requested to telephone 55 9156.