Vice-Chancellor's open style of government

Professor Keith Morgan took up his appointment as the third Vice-Chancellor of the University of Newcastle at the beginning of January. He was previously Senior Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University of Lancaster, England. He first came to Australia five years ago to be Visiting Fellow at the Darling Downs Institute of Advanced Education in Toowoomba and has since become well acquainted with the Australian higher education scene. Keith Morgan says he is used to a style of university government which involves a lot of discussion and consultation. ("I think it's important that the Vice-Chancellor should meet and talk with people and I welcome opportunities to do that. The Vice-Chancellor should be accessible"). In an interview with University News, Keith Morgan gives his views on a variety of matters.

ROLE OF THIS UNIVERSITY AND ROLE OF ITS VICE-CHANCELLOR

I think that the role of a university is primarily to educate. That's the view taken from inside. However, the view from outside the university is that universities prepare people for gainful employment. I don't think that the two views are incompatible, but they are not synonymous. It's important to remember that education is what universities are in business to provide. That means making sure students are able to engage in more than just useful employment. They should be educated more widely than just the confines of a narrow discipline and, therefore, be able to play a full part in the community.

Indeed, one could almost argue that, in a democracy, government ought to fund higher education just to make sure that it's going to have an educated electorate. A university has a role in providing broader cultural horizons for people and making sure that they are able to benefit from the inheritance of the civilised world.

Our own University has at least three major aspects to keep in mind. It's a part of the international community of universities. That's important. That's ultimately where we are assessed in our contributions to research and scholarship. The University has a national role in Australia — a responsibility to provide good value in education, good value to the electorate and in particular good value to the students. Then, we have a responsibility to the Hunter Region to provide undergraduates and graduates with the educational services a region has every right to expect. A university can also provide a focus for new activities and new developments. And, insofar as this brings new job opportunities into the Hunter Region, here again is a very clear role for the University.

As for the role of the Vice-Chancellor, I find myself spending rather too much time in my office at the moment dealing with the familiarisation of the rather complicated machine that is the University itself.

As far as my priorities are concerned, I place presenting the University to the community high on the list. I am currently trying to know the people in the University and what they are doing, because without this knowledge I'm not in any position to represent the University outside.

MEETING WITH PEOPLE

I have arranged to meet all departments and sections of the University in the next few weeks. I am hoping that at these meetings or at follow-up meetings I shall meet everybody. I hope that I shall be able to keep up a programme of fairly regular meetings with people around the University both formally and informally.

I am almost looking forward to the opportunity to have a meeting with staff so I can have an audience to try some thoughts out on. However, I am not quite sure whether the notion of a scheduled address to staff each term is the best way: certainly I think that Vice-Chancellors ought to be visible inside their own universities.

Do I intend to make myself visible beyond the University? That is very much what I intend to do. I think it's an important role of a Vice-Chancellor to let people know what the University is
AUSTRALIAN HIGHER EDUCATION SCENE

I think it's probably a bit premature for me to make comment on that. It is an interesting year. It's "The Year of the Triennial Submission". I shall, over the next few weeks, enjoy meeting various people in Canberra and Sydney. I think it's important to get to know these people and, indeed, something of the way the process works.

PRIME PURPOSES OF THE UNIVERSITY

Universities are characterised as institutions of higher education and one of our primary tasks is to be committed to research and to generate opportunities for people to engage in research, and in particular opportunities for research excellence to develop and gain such momentum that it stracts further research excellence.

Teaching, the prime purpose of institutions of higher education, is to some extent understated in universities. There is an old saying: "What goes on in universities is teaching in an atmosphere of research". This is really the chief characteristic of a university, because it actually identifies a function (teaching) which to some extent we take too much for granted.

I believe there is a great benefit for a university — and, in particular, this University — if it organises activities so that it places a very high emphasis on the quality of teaching it provides.

We should take pride in the fact that if we offer teaching of high excellence it will indeed be perceived by that most important section that we serve, the students, and contribute very dramatically, and very quickly, to a public perception of our excellence as a university institution. Teaching will contribute just as effectively to this perception as will a high reputation in research.

THE FUTURE

I think the University needs to know where it's going. It's important to state what our aims, priorities and principles are as far as educational matters are concerned. It's important to be able to translate these into objectives so we can work towards them as opportunities present themselves. And I think it's very important that we should seek to create an institution which is recognisable and visible from beyond Newcastle as an institution of weight and importance.

Many people will be aware that the University's equipment budget for 1987 was devoted largely to upgrading the central computing capacity. While there have been a number of gripes, it did badly need upgrading. What is of more cause for concern is the procedure used to determine how to upgrade it best, and the outcome.

A working party was appointed to determine the requirements and evaluate proposals. Of the seven schemes, three never use the central computers and two use them only occasionally. None could really be considered typical users of our computers. (One seemed only interested in whether a particular, large program could be run faster.) Then, these "knowledgeable" people were given the task of preparing a specification of our requirements for potential suppliers. They were also expected to evaluate the offers and decide which best suited our needs. I do not know whether it was a reflection on these people that most of the negotiation and discussion with suppliers involved only the Director and Assistant Director of the Computing Centre. The decision was, I suspect, largely made by the Director.

The specification itself was not as open as it could have been. It was slanted obviously in the direction of one or two large computers, irrespective of any other possible solution. There are two reasons for this. One is that some users require large amounts of computer time, and they argue that the only way to achieve this is to have a large computer. An analyst of current usage reveals that only a three-times improvement would be obtained. (By comparison, a similar cost solution consisting of twenty smaller computers would give a nine-times improvement. Alternatively, the same improvement could be obtained for one-third of the cost!)

The second reason for a large computer is more emotional — to quote Mr Sloane at the Computer Users' Committee, "we must have a large computer or we will be a laughing stock". Unfortunately, past experience has shown that this is a view the Director of the Computing Centre strongly subscribes to.

You may think that all of this seems to ignore the 99 per cent of users who do not need large amounts of computer time and you would largely be right. Unfortunately, the majority of these users are students, and students in this University seem to be the lowest form of life. So long as a few academics can get what they want, it does not matter that every student who wants to use the computer has to wait an hour before he is even connected to it! (In 1986, this was usually the case from 9 am to 10 pm on weekdays, and most weekends.)

And despite the direction to the working party that they were primarily to improve computing for students, they still considered themselves mainly with how to get a large computer for a few staff users and what was left over would do the students.

The outcome of this process is that we have replaced two of our VAX's with two larger VAX's. Those are at the limit of their expansion capability, and cannot be enhanced to give improved performance. In two years time, we can expect to go through the same process again, with a consequent extraction of at least another $1 million from the equipment grant. (The multiple smaller computer solution could be upgraded easily by spending $50,000 for an extra processor whenever it was necessary.)

The equipment purchased also has some oddities. $38,000 was spent on disks for which there is no planned use. About $50,000 was spent on memory which will almost certainly not be used in the foreseeable future.

There were other interesting observations to be made during this exercise. A person who I had thought was very knowledgeable about computers, stood up in public and made the astounding statement that doubling the speed of a computer meant that it could support more than twice as many users. This sounds to me as though he would also advocate the existence of a perpetual Motion Machine. He was later referred to by the working party for his opinion about the computers offered!

The computer replacement came about following the creation of a "five-year plan" for computing, starting in 1986. This was a word-for-word copy of a similar plan produced by the University of Melbourne, substituting the word "Newcastle" for the word "Melbourne". The Melbourne plan was the result of a very sound and original process. In fact, the Newcastle plan, however, gave very little consideration to needs, and decided that for five years, all that was needed was a "big new computer in 1987". It made no real
representatives carefully and elect only those who promise to regularly attend the
recommendations about microcomputers, departmental computers, word processing, etc. Again, this was the work of the Director of the Computing Centre.

It is about time that this University seriously looked at the way it makes major decisions. As far as computing goes, the policy has been one of "me-to" ism. That is, do not bother to look at what is best for us, just copy what someone else is doing. It is a ridiculous way to run anything.

David Morrison,
VAX System Manager,
Computing Centre.

I have just received notices calling for nominations for the election of members of the University Council. Academic staff and students should exercise great care in choosing those whom they nominate. For the past eleven years I have by invitation sat at meetings of the Buildings and Grounds Committee of Council. During that time the attendance of the elected staff and student representatives has been abysmally poor. One sees a student member perhaps once a year and academic staff members of Council only slightly more often. It is not good enough to turn up only at the departmental computers, word processing, etc. Again, this was the work of the Director of the Computing Centre.

When the Department of Drama puts on three large-scale productions this year the drama students involved in the shows will be working with theatre professionals.

The professional input into each production may take the form of acting, direction, design, music or a combination of these aspects.

Professor Victor Emeljanow, Professor of Drama, said the students would gain valuable first hand experience of the professionals' work, while the professionals would contribute directly to the Department's teaching, thereby enriching the life of the University as a whole.

The three shows have been chosen specifically for their variety and their popular appeal and aim to please a broad cross-section of Newcastle audiences. Few cities will be able to boast the kind of University community contact through live theatre which this series will aim to foster.

The Department of Drama was conscious of its responsibilities, Professor Emeljanow said. No theatre could exist without an audience. 'For this reason the innovative programme includes a policy of low ticket prices. These will allow the Newcastle community to see professionalism at prices it can afford'.

The first in the series is The Three Cuckolds which opens on Wednesday, 11 March and runs Tuesday to Saturday until 28 March. It is a ribtickling farce in the commedia dell'arte style featuring the well-known characters of Harlequin and Pantalone.

The cast includes Genevieve Lemon, who will act in The Three Cuckolds.

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As well, audiences will see Adam Macaulay and David Berthold, last together in the extremely successful Us Or Them.

Barry O'Connor, playing Pantalone, will be remembered for What If You Died Tomorrow and The Real Thing at the HVTC in 1986.

Justin Collins, who plays Zanni, also appeared in Don't Pay! Don't Pay! and has just completed a season of the HVTC's children's play at Fort Scratchley.

The Three Cuckolds will also feature the talents of Narelle Feeney, Michelle Offen, Richard Cherry and Peter Trist.

The season in the series is Waiting for Godot, by Samuel Beckett, opening on 15 July.

The play will be aimed specifically at Year 11 and 12 students in order to help them and their teachers in the study of the text for the HSC. This production will be the first professional production in Newcastle.

The third in the series will be The Schoolmistress, by Sir Arthur Wing Pinero, arguably the most successful English playwright of the 19th century. It will open on 16 September.

The play is a stylish and hilarious farce of the 1890s which brought fame to Pinero, the future writer of The Second Mrs. Tanqueray.

The three plays will all be performed at the University's Drama Theatre and directed by Victor Emeljanow. A former Artistic Director of the Donzi Pavilion Theatre, Professor Emeljanow is also an executive member of the Producers and Directors Guild of Australia which represents the interests of professional directors in this country.

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Frank Clarke has returned to his home town as Professor of Accounting. After working in a local office, the Newcastle Tech High 'old boy' moved to Sydney in 1965.

He was born at Bar Beach and has fond recollections of being a pupil at The Junction Public School and Tech High.

Professor Clarke remembers many people who were well-known around the town. His background, he explains, has strongly influenced his conviction that accountants' education is too narrow. Many programmes "have no educational soul". He left school after the Intermediate Certificate and learnt a trade. After having obtained his accountancy certificate at the Tech College in Hunter Street West, he worked for the late John S. Thompson as a public accountant and company auditor.

Bernie Colditz, Bruce Taylor and the late Neal Dickinson were teaching at the Tech around this time and Neal persuaded Frank Clarke to get a university education and take up lecturing. He graduated from Sydney University with first class honours having had an adult matriculation scholarship.

From the staff of the Department of Technical Education and secondment to the Institute of Technology he moved to the University of Sydney as a Lecturer in accounting in 1970. He was awarded a PhD by the University in 1982 and held the rank of Associate Professor and Head of Department when he accepted the Chair of Accounting at this University.

Professor Clarke has published numerous papers in academic and professional journals in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States. Many are in the area of inflation accounting. He is particularly interested in the historical development of ideas underlying accounting practices and techniques. He is the author and co-author of several books and a contributor to others. Frank’s PhD thesis was published in the US in 1982 under the title The Tangled Web of Price Variation Accounting.

He expanded his experience by working at the International Centre for Research Into Accounting at the University of Lancaster in 1977-78. He later made trips to international conferences in London and St.Gallen (Switzerland) to present papers on the contribution of European accounting scholars.

He said he had welcomed the opportunity to develop further the well-established Accounting Department at this University.

As an ex-Novocastrian he knew several lecturers and former lecturers whose activities had earned the Department a good reputation.

As he sees it, university departments usually achieve recognition primarily in two ways: by producing scholars and teachers and by producing graduates who make a splash in commerce and industry.

The Newcastle Department has depth in both areas. It has probably produced as many teachers of accounting as any other Australian university apart from Sydney; they hold academic positions in both Australian and overseas universities. Its graduates consistently perform well in the professional assessments made by the Institute of Chartered Accountants. Many of its graduates hold important positions in Australian commerce and industry.

The Professor, speaking about his staff, said they were mainly young, with diverse research interests.

I would like to see an increase in the number of visiting professors from overseas. I hope this idea receives encouragement and support from local firms. Moreover, I hope to further develop the honours programme and encourage more graduates to pursue higher degrees. Both need the support of employers, so there is an education job to be done on them, too'.

Offered the opportunity to come to Newcastle University, he grabbed it, Professor Clarke said, because the Accounting Department had good prospects and he felt he had something to contribute to its development.

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**NEWCASTLE RESISTANCE CLUB**

Wine, Cheese and mini filmfest

*RESISTANCE CLUB*

Bread & Dripping,
A feminist film, and *Boom*,
an animated anti-nuclear short.

Wednesday, 25 February,
1 pm.

Auchmuthy Room (upstairs in the Union building), everybody welcome.
 MANAGEMENT OF CAMPUS WETLANDS

by: Don Moris, University Planner.

Low lying areas on the main University campus have changed significantly over the years since construction of the University commenced on this site in 1965. At that time, consideration was given to the formation of an artificial lake, which would have flooded these wetlands and the adjacent valley systems.

The review of the Master Plan completed in 1976 rejected this earlier proposal, as follows:

This area was originally proposed as an artificial lake formed by the construction of a dam some five metres high in the vicinity of the water supply main (Chichester Water Main). It is now proposed to form a series of interlocking small lakes and islands by deepening the existing swamp and widening the watercourse at appropriate points to provide a suitable habitat for water birds and wild life. This will provide a more stable water level and avoid the eyesore which would occur with fluctuating water levels in a large artificial lake.

It might also be added that the original lake proposal would have inundated a major part of the valley systems, with consequential loss of botanical diversity, and involved a considerable capital cost in the construction of the dam.

Over the years there has been a significant increase in the area of swampland on the main campus following the use of the swamp further down stream as a garbage disposal area. Raised water levels on the University site led to the demise of many Paperbark trees growing in the original swamp areas and the invasion of the enlarged wetland with Bulrush. Coupled with the dense Lantana and private infestation of the valleys and slopes adjoining the swamp, this represented a significant potential fire hazard in dry weather.

In order to reduce this problem and as an initial step to facilitate the future management of the area, the edge of the swamp to the north of Engineering was deepened during 1986 and the excavated material was used to establish a trafficable bench around the southern perimeter of the swamp and along the valley sides to link with existing access trails at a number of points.

The new trail will provide access for fire control and will be used by the Grounds Maintenance staff in the removal of Lantana and other introduced weeds, as well as providing a major addition to the walking trail system on campus. The new trail following these two valleys passes through attractive Eucalypt forests with a scattering of rainforest trees (twenty species have been tentatively identified in the area), as well as along the edge of the wetland area itself.

The area has a great potential to provide a diverse wetland habitat and for the regeneration of the rainforest along the valleys.

The area also supports a wide variety of bushland bird species and care will need to be exercised in the removal of Lantana to ensure that some areas are left until alternative dense cover is available for bird species requiring this.

The plan shows the existing and possible future walking trails through the area and illustrates the current Master Plan concept for the development of the wetland as a series of interlocking small lakes and islands.
VC ANNOUNCES MAJOR PLANNING EXERCISE

At the first meeting of Senate the Vice-Chancellor said the University should identify its academic objectives and set out to become a strong and unique tertiary institution.

If successful the University would become an institution widely recognized for its strength and able to demand funding appropriate to its needs.

'We have little alternative to following a fairly aggressive planning strategy, if we are to achieve the status we are entitled to,' Professor Morgan said.

Many of the universities established in the sixties had been characterized by youth, commitment and vision. He had spent a good few years with this kind of institution [the University of Lancaster, England] and had now joined one which had enjoyed the same experience.

As an outsider, I can perceive the effect of twenty years' impressive growth and achievements, despite very substantial external pressures, which have prevented the plans made in the sixties from being implemented.

Lack of funds and an obsession with discussion about amalgamation were distractions which had affected proper planning.

One possible course of action was to accept the restraints on funds as inevitable and take steps to preserve existing structures inside the University, including jobs.

The other course of action was to pursue a more aggressive strategy in which the University planned its own future. 'Instead of waiting for the government to enunciate a policy, we should identify our objectives and work to achieve a strong and unique institution'.

'The former course of action is defensive — a tactic to buy time — and if continued too long would lead to stagnation and destroy the University as a viable institution'.

'The latter proposal is, frankly, a high risk-high reward strategy. The risk is reduced by the great capacity of the University and the level of its achievement.

If the University were successful, it would be an institution whose strength was apparent and which had a basis for demanding funds appropriate to the University's needs.'

Professor Morgan listed the preliminary steps he proposed to take forthwith:

- Establish the University's current position. This would involve updating of the Academic Plan prepared in 1980-81.
- Obtain information from departments on work currently being done on teaching and research and their academic plans for the next three years and the next ten years.
- Ask the Planning Committee to consider the information received and prepare a draft academic purpose document for the University.
- Work is proceeding very satisfactorily on the Faculty of Science.
- The Vice-Chancellor said that the detailed planning review would involve a lot of work which would have to be added to the other work of the University. The conclusions finally reached would not be painless, as changes would be involved. However, without aggressive planning ahead it would be difficult to continue and maintain the University.

University has several building schemes

Building work at the University will be markedly accelerated in the next few months.

The University has been given permission by the Federal Government to proceed with a new combined Science and Engineering Building.

Work is proceeding very satisfactorily on the major extension to the Anzac Hall Library known as Stage II B.

In addition, the Hunter Technology Development Centre has two building schemes under way in the University's grounds — a Headquarters Building and an annex at the Engineering Complex.

A rough estimate of the total costs involved in these projects is $12.5 million.

The new Science/Engineering Building is expected to cost in excess of $5 million and will provide significant improvement in accommodation in the Faculty of Engineering and also for the Faculty of Science. Conversion of space vacated in the existing Science Buildings will provide some accommodation relief for senior undergraduates, postgraduates and research activities of that Faculty.

The building will be located between the Engineering Complex and the pedestrian bridge from Engineering to the main campus. It will comprise four levels in all and provide 3706m² of usable space. Construction is expected to commence in the latter half of this year.

The Hunter Technology Development Centre — an independent undertaking — has as its primary purpose the broadening of the Region's industrial base by collecting information about high tech developments and disseminating it to local industries and manufacturers. The Centre will work closely with a large number of organisations including departments of the University and TUNRA.

The buildings providing the Centre with office, laboratory, computing and scientific facilities will be erected in Rankin Drive at the front of the University, while the annex from which the Centre will initially operate will be sited among buildings in the Faculty of Engineering.

The total cost of these buildings is in the vicinity of $3,500,000.

Student Accommodation

Worst-ever

The University is facing its worst-ever student accommodation crisis, according to the Vice-Principal, Professor Ken Dutton.

Though the beginning of each academic year presents problems, the combination of a tight rental market and a high acceptance rate by students has meant that sources of accommodation for continuing students still arrive. Professor Dutton has appealed to all members of the University staff who have a room available, even for a short period, to let the Accommodation Officer, Mrs Kath Dacey, know as a matter of urgency.

Mrs Dacey's Extension is 520.
Great Hall hums — increased intake this year

The enrolment exercise early in February was once again a busy time for the new students and the members of staff involved. The atmosphere in the Great Hall was frenzied and, in the foyer, representatives of student clubs vied for the students' interest.

Top: Part of the almost 1.400 new students who attended. This is an increase on the intake in 1986.

Right: At the Biology Club display (left to right): Brett Anderson, Damian Norris and Patrick Curteis.

Below left: Vesna Blagojevic (enrolling in Chemical Engineering) talking with a representative of the Hockey Club.

Below right: Jane Ahern (who enrolled in the Faculty of Arts) with her baby son, Jesse.
The Vice-Chancellor has decided not to put the proposal to build a Council/Senate Chamber to the Council for approval at this stage.

Professor Morgan told the Council that he wanted a decision on the funding of the Chamber to be deferred until the University's financial position was more clearly defined.

Following the Council's authorisation of the project last year, Senate expressed its concern about the expenditure of approximately a half a million dollars from the Vice-Chancellor's Discretionary Fund.

Council reconsidered its decision last December and agreed to the Finance and Personnel Committee considering the University's financial situation before the commencement of the new chamber was authorised.

The Vice-Chancellor said it would be several months before a decision could be made.

Council was told that Mr John P. Forbes had accepted the offer of the Chair in Surgical Oncology and Dr Barry Hughes the Chair in Economics.

The Vice-Chancellor said he had launched a major exercise in University planning.

He said he had also launched a planning exercise into the structure of the University's administration. He was consulting with his colleagues in the administration to obtain information about what changes, if any, were required to give the University a structure suitable to its needs.

He would perhaps be in a position by the April meeting of Council to get a working group together to help him move towards the realisation of any desirable changes.

The Joint Committee established by the University and Newcastle CAE to effect rationalisation and co-operation between the administration and the CAE, said there had been insufficient discussion between those responsible for the transfer of the postgraduate Diploma in Education to the College. His motion ensured that there was direct representation on the Joint Committee for those groups on the campus which were likely to be most directly affected by any future recommendations of the Committee.

Dr Huxley said that the Council of the CAE had felt that the most appropriate way for the Joint Committee to deal with issues was for the Committee to remain as it was but for it to have a mechanism for consultation.

Mrs M. Bowman said the Council should reject any step towards the establishment of a super committee which mirrored the composition of the Councils of the University and the CAE. Otherwise, it would be seen as replacing the Councils and paving the way for amalgamation.

Dr J.A. Cooper was appointed Head of the Department of Management for three years from 6 February.

Dr P.G. Peterson was appointed Head of the Department of Linguistics for three years beginning 27 February.

Professor F. Clarke was appointed Head of the Department of Commerce for three years beginning on 6 February.

Professor B.S. Maitland was appointed Head of the Department of Architecture for three years beginning on 17 February.

Mr T. Waring and Mrs M. Bowman were appointed as Council members of the Board of Trustees of Edwards Hall.

Mr P. Moore, Senior Lecturer in Education, was appointed Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Community Child Care Centre and Dr P. Hendry and Mr T. Askie were appointed as Council members of the Board.

Mr C. Boyd was appointed as a Council member of the Board of Community Programmes.

Professor Morgan said the problem of student accommodation which the University was facing had become critical during the recent enrolment period. 'We must attack this with suitable vigour and resource'.

Enrolments this year were running ahead of enrolments for last year, with new enrolments substantially ahead, he said. The shortage of student accommodation may lead to some students not actually enrolling.

I see this as not just a problem of student accommodation but also as a problem of academic accommodation. Unless we can get students suitable living space we will not be able to get growth in academic areas.'

Council changed the pattern of dates for its meetings.

In recent years it has met on the third Friday of February, April, June, July, August and October and the second Friday in December.

After a discussion about the difficulties some members were having attending on the third Friday, Council decided to meet on the second Friday in the month.

Following a query raised by Emeritus Professor L. Short, the Vice-Chancellor agreed to discuss with the Librarian the possibility of the University waiving the obligation on graduates of universities other than this University to join Convocation before being allowed to borrow material from the Auchmuty Library.

University's top performers

University Medals have been won by seven students of the University who completed their undergraduate degrees last year.

University Medals, the highest awards for performance, are awarded to undergraduate students whose records show that they have achieved outstanding results including first class honours.

Medals will be awarded at the next conferring of degrees ceremony to two students in each of Chemical Engineering and Medicine and one student in Computer Engineering, Mathematics and Architecture.

They are: Mr Kevin Patrick Galvin (Chemical Engineering) of Kotara South, Ms Catherine Margaret Harris (Chemical Engineering) of New Lambton Heights, Mr Ronald Allen Eley (Computer Engineering) of Adamstown Heights, Mr Gary Harold Buckland (Medicine) of Ettalong Beach, Mr Andrew Paul Sindrome (Medicine) of Gladstone, Mr Richard Paul Cooper (Mathematics) of Rankin Park and Mr Brendan Richard Smith (Architecture) of Garden Suburb.
Move to WA from academe

Dr Tony Cantoni has left this University and taken up a post in Perth, Western Australia, because he wants to see computer systems he designs being applied in industry.

Dr Cantoni is now Manager of Research and Development, Computer Systems Engineering, for a company formed by the University of Western Australia and Telecom as well as a Visiting Professor at the University of Western Australia.

'My interest in seeing industrial applications of computer systems, as opposed to theoretical research, got the better of me', he said.

Born in Italy, Dr Cantoni obtained a BE and PhD degrees from the University of Western Australia in the early 70s. His doctoral degree was on hybrid computing, or the pairing of analogue computers with digital computers. (An interesting fact is that digital computers have since this time completely replaced analogue computers).

He came to Newcastle from the ANU in February, 1973, when Professor Brian Anderson was Head of the Department of Electrical Engineering. He was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1975 and to Associate Professor in 1979.

In 1983 Dr Cantoni and Professor Graeme Goodwin were appointed Professors in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. The Chair in Computer Engineering was the first established in an Australian University.

Dr Cantoni described himself as a 'technical workaholic' and said he had found it exciting to be closely associated with a rapidly developing university department which has achieved international recognition.

Brian Anderson chose a good staff for the Department and because of their work our direction changed. A feature of the Department that evolved has been the balance achieved among teaching, research and industrial interaction.

He said that although his academic work on Signal Processing had been well supported by colleagues, he had often had to struggle in the computing area. This situation he attributed to the difficulties faced by Australian researchers when looking for highly qualified people in the area. Until recently few universities emphasised computer engineering. Nevertheless, the Department had a good record based on strong support from the ARGS and other funding bodies and the interaction achieved with Australian industry.

'Our Computer Engineering course was the first to be accredited by the Institution of Engineers, Australia', he said. 'We are producing several young academics now and, with special effort to attract Australian postgraduates, the Department should continue to develop.

He expressed his concern at the University's concentration on high student enrolments.

In Engineering, enrolments were continually increasing and this was proving detrimental to the Faculty because of the low quality of students being admitted.

'The University will be seen as second-class by students from outside this Region and, possibly, we will lose some outstanding students to universities which do more to encourage outstanding performance'.

Following the decision to increase enrolments in Electrical and Computer Engineering to 105 in 1987, he would hesitate to recommend to academics that they become lecturers in the Department, although it was definitely at the top in this country as a research department.

'I am not apologising for seeming to be elitist and looking for high quality students rather than average students. Universities are places for the best possible intellectual work and we should be very serious about standards'.

Early elections for Council

Elections will be held shortly to fill two additional places and a casual vacancy on the Council.

With the amendment of the University's Act by the New South Wales Parliament last year, changes were made in the membership of the Council, including the number of members elected by members of Convocation and the number elected by the academic staff.

As a result of an increase in the number of Convocation members from six to seven and the resignation of Convocation member, Mrs Elizabeth Morrison, an election will be held for two members of Council.

Nominations have been called and the closing date is 3 March. An election will be held on 15 April.

The number of members of Council elected by the academic staff has been increased from two to three.

Nominations for election to the additional position will close on 25 February and an election will be held on 2 April.
German Consul Spoke to Several Staff Members

Our photograph shows Consul Kroger (left) with Karen Risager, Dr Hilary Purves, Assoc. Professor Alfred Barthofer and Mr Stowell.

During a visit to the University last year, Consul Hermann Kroger, recently appointed Acting Consul-General for the Federal Republic of Germany, presented the German Section of the Department of Modern Languages with a number of books and teaching materials.

At lunch Consul Kroger had the opportunity of meeting about twenty members of the University who have contacts with German-speaking universities and spoke briefly about his experience in helping to establish links between Canadian universities and universities in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Mr John Stowell, Head of the Department of Modern Languages, is convenor of a committee currently exploring the possibility of establishing a special relationship between this University and a comparable institution in Germany. He would be pleased to hear from any member of the University with an interest in this matter who has not yet been contacted.

Change from terms to semesters

Senate has endorsed the introduction of a two semester academic year in 1988. The proposal, if approved, would replace the present three term academic year.

Senate on 28 January referred the proposal to Faculty Boards for comments on matter of detail in time for a report back to Senate for its meeting in March.

Senate gave consideration to the effect of the four term school year introduced in secondary schools and the request of the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee that universities continue to make provision for the AVCC common weeks.

As well as recommending the adoption of a two semester academic year, Senate recommended that from 1988:

- Semester one consist of thirteen or fourteen weeks and conclude three weeks before the beginning of the school winter holidays.
- There be a mid-year recess, if possible, of five weeks duration, with examinations being conducted in the first three weeks.
- Semester two consist of fourteen or thirteen weeks and commence on the Monday after the end of the school Winter holidays. There be a recess in Semester one to coincide with the Easter School holidays and including the re-scheduled AVCC common week, and a recess in Semester two to coincide with the Spring school holidays and including the re-scheduled AVCC common week.
- The admission and enrolment of students continue to be prior to the beginning of Semester one, and the review of progress continue to be at the end of Semester two.

Flinders' new Vice-Chancellor

The appointment of an eminent scientist, Professor J.F. Lovering, as the next Vice-Chancellor of Flinders University of South Australia was announced last month.

Professor Lovering, 56, is currently Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) and Professor of Geology in the University of Melbourne. He is a Master of Science of the University of Sydney and a Doctor of Philosophy in Geochemistry of the California Institute of Technology. Professor Lovering will also be a Professor of Geology in the University, and he hopes to maintain some research activities after taking up office.

German films in 1987

German feature films, newsreels and documentaries will be screened again this year in the German Section of the Department of Modern Languages.

The theatre for screenings is the Audio Visual Room (A132) in the McMullin Building. The hours of screening is Noon to 2 pm.

Anybody interested in German films is most welcome to attend. Admission is free. If there is enough interest, the films will also be screened in the evening at a mutually convenient time.

Term 1
- 25 February, Malmbo
- 11 March, Der Haushälter
- 25 March, Der Doppelgänger
- 8 April, Ete und Ali
- 22 April, Blonder Tango/Geschichten aus dem Wienerwald

Term 2
- 27 May, Besuch bei van Gogh
- 10 June, Der Rocker
- 24 June, Rabenmütter
- 22 July, Bockshorn
- 5 August, Karambolage
Need for innovative law school says Professor

Professor Frank Bates, who recently took up his appointment to the Chair of Law, said he felt that a new, innovative law school should be established in Australia.

The demand in Australia for training as lawyers was strong and unceasing — so strong that a new school could be established without it poaching students from the other law schools.

Professor Bates was commenting on the University's continuing representations (so far unsuccessful) for the Federal Government to provide funds for a law school.

"As Dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Tasmania, I was forced to set up an admissions committee to handle the great number of applications for enrolment in Law from not only Australians but people from overseas."

Professor Bates and his wife have moved into a home at New Lambton Heights close to the University. He didn't have any personal links with Newcastle, but was born in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, from which the city got both its name and many former workers for the mines and the heavy industries.

Professor Bates, before coming to this University to fill the Chair which had been vacant since the resignation of Professor Kevin Lindgren, was a Reader in Law at the University of Tasmania.

He graduated Bachelor of Laws (LLB) in 1966 and Master of Laws (LLM) from the University of Sheffield in 1969. Prior to coming to Australia, he held positions as Lecturer in Law at St. Albans College (1966-68), the Dundee College of Technology (1968-69) and the Trent Polytechnic (1970).

He recently completed a term as Senior Fulbright Scholar and Visiting Professor of Law at the Northwestern School of Law, Lewis and Clark College, Portland, Oregon. A previous visit in 1976 was spent as a Visiting Scholar at the Faculty of Law, University of Western Ontario, Canada.

Discussing his decision to come to Newcastle, Professor Bates said he needed a new challenge after having been at the University of Tasmania for the past seventeen years. The Department of Law offered a lot of opportunity for innovation.

'Law courses are becoming too similar and it is important that we should endeavour to find an individual approach. In the United States, even though the law is a very status-conscious profession, students are searching for a law school with an individual philosophy which suits their aspirations.'

Professor Bates has a particular interest in Social Security Law and his proposed course will comprise studies of the history and philosophy of the subject as well as an analysis of social welfare legislation, including the Social Security Act (1947) as amended.

He said he felt that people working in the social welfare field would be interested in his course, which had worked well at the University of Tasmania but suffered because students were often located too far from Hobart.

Turning to his research efforts, he said he had worked mainly on family law, evidence, social security law and comparative law.

As for the Department of Law's teaching and research efforts, he said that they were extremely solid.

Professor Bates has been very active during his life on the sporting field. He used to play cricket in Hobart until he suffered a shoulder injury. He recently resigned as Vice-President of the Southern Suburban Cricket Association in Hobart.

In Tasmania he maintained an interest in technical education that he had developed in Dundee and Trent. Before coming to Newcastle he held the position of Governor on the Board of the Hobart Technical College.

ADMINISTRATION CHARGE UNDER REVIEW

The Commonwealth Education Minister, Senator Susan Ryan, has said that the Government would consider the need for changes to the higher education administration charge in its Budget deliberations later this year.

Senator Ryan was speaking after attending the first meeting of the Higher Education Administration Charge Monitoring Committee at Parliament House, Canberra.

Senator Ryan said there had been much misinformed comment about the impact of the charge and that the Committee would be able to assess accurately whether any categories of people were being deterred from continuing their education.

The Committee will report by the end of March, in time for any significant findings to be considered in our Budget deliberations, she said.

Previously, the Minister announced further categories of students to be exempted from the $250 administration charge.

Senator Ryan said part-time students who have been receiving unemployment benefits for three months or more prior to enrolment would be exempted from the charge. Certain categories of social security and repatriation pensioners would also join the exempt list.

'All students in receipt of Austudy, ABSTUDY and Postgraduate Awards Scheme benefits will receive an additional $250 to cover the charge. The Overseas Student Charge applying to subsidised overseas students will be reduced by the amount of the charge.'
This year's Mathematics Summer School concentrated on the relevance of mathematics and computing to cosmology, biology and astronomy.

The third day started with Dr W. Wood's lecture on cosmology. Dr McElwain and Simon demonstrated a programme which describes how the cicada population changes from generation to generation. Afternoons were spent by students in workshops. Professor W. Britteny, of the Department of Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science, said the schools were held in order that students who had just completed Year 11 could be shown how the 'real' world and the 'intellectual' world.

The school, held at the University of Newcastle, was the 19th arranged by the Department of Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science.

Old brewery restoration to include Supernova

The long-awaited permanent home for the Supernova Science and Technology Centre will become a reality when work is commenced on the Newcastle Regional Museum project. In a brief but exciting ceremony on 20 January, work was commenced on the establishment of a museum for the Newcastle Region.

The old Castlemaine Brewery in Wood Street, Newcastle West, is being restored to provide exhibition space for Supernova, a regional engineering display, social and natural history displays and a theatrette. The work is expected to cost $4.67 million.

To commence the project the Lord Mayor of Newcastle, Alderman John McNaughton, wielded a crowbar to prise a few old, steel tiles from the brewery floor.

The original parts of the Castlemaine brewery were built 111 years ago. Extensions were made in the 1880s, at the start of the First World War, and in 1919, 1938 and 1962. Beer production ceased several years ago and the brewery was bought in 1985 by Newcastle City Council for $1 million.

Alderman McNaughton, speaking at the ceremony marking the commencement of work on the refurbishment of the brewery, said the museum project was a very exciting one. Newcastle needed to have societal things done. For years there had been librarians and an art gallery, but the region lacked a museum.

"I know we have had difficulties in funding the project, but in the fullness of time the money applied for in Government grants will come forward and the Council will be able to use it for the benefit of other purposes. I feel pride in being part of a project of this nature and I hope to see it come to fruition in 1988, the bicentenary year."

The ceremony was attended by Federal and State MPs, representatives of local government, the Bicentennial Authority, business and trade union representatives and members of the Board of Trustees, one of whom is the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Keith Morgan.

The Supernova Science and Technology Centre is derived from an exhibition put on at Newcastle Show in 1980 by Professor Tim Roberts, of the Department of Biological Sciences, who wanted a tangible way of teaching people the basic principles of science.

A working group was formed at the University in 1981 and the idea of a hands-on science centre was supported by the Positive Initiatives Committee in 1982.

Credit Union Scholarship and Prizes

Applications are invited from undergraduate students for The Universities Credit Union's annual scholarships.

The scholarship, valued at $500, is open to students who have enrolled in the second or later years of any undergraduate degree course.

The scholarship is tenable for one year but a holder of the scholarship may be eligible to be awarded the scholarship for a second or subsequent year.

Applicants for the scholarship must be members of The Universities Credit Union of more than one year's standing, or members of the family of such members.

Applications for the scholarship close on 27 February.

The Credit Union also donates annual prizes to undergraduate students at the University of Newcastle. Three prizes, each valued at $100, are awarded for proficiency in: Commercial Electronic Data Processing, Information Systems and Introductory Quantitative Methods.

Further information regarding the Credit Union scholarship and prizes is available from Alison Morgan at 68 5502.
From part-time classes to Lectureship

Jo Bentley, who began her tertiary education as a part-time student at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, has taken up her appointment as Lecturer in Law.

After leaving school in Essex in England, she worked as a secretary in London for two years. After emigrating to New Zealand she got a job as a secretary to the Registrar at Victoria University and commenced part-time Commerce and Administration classes.

Jo Bentley returned to England where Nottingham University allowed her to matriculate because of her previous undergraduate studies. In 1980 she gained her BA(Law) degree, with honours, from Nottingham and then completed a qualifying course with the Law Society of England and Wales.

Practising as a solicitor for the next three years, her main work was in criminal and family law.

Jo Bentley's husband, Les Cooper, is an Australian and he and she came to live here about three years ago. Les is Principal of Kendall Grange Special School for behaviour disordered children. Last year Les completed a part-time Bachelor of Educational Studies degree at this University. They have a two year old son, Thomas, and Jo is also stepmother to Les’s three children, the youngest of whom, Adam, still lives at home and is in Year 12 at Kotara High School.

Since her appointment on 1 January, she has been preparing lectures on the Business Organisations and possibly other subjects.

Dr Hughes to fill Chair

Dr Barry Hughes has been appointed to the Chair of Economics at this University.

Dr Hughes has had extensive experience as an economic adviser and consultant to government. From 1976-79 he was Economic Adviser to the Premier of South Australia and since 1983 has been Economic Consultant to the Federal Treasurer, Mr Paul Keating.

Dr Hughes, who is 44, is a graduate from the London School of Economics and holds an AM and PhD from Princeton University. In 1963, he was the Sir Edward Stern Scholar of the University of London and from 1963-67 a Fulbright Scholar in the USA. His appointments prior to coming to Australia included a lecturing post as Instructor in Economics at Princeton University (1965-67) and Research Officer at the National Institute of Economics and Social Research UK (1967-68). He was appointed a Lecturer in Economics at Flinders University in 1968, promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1972 and Reader in 1976.

From 1975-76 he was Director of the Institute of Labour Studies at Flinders University. He was Associate Editor, The Australian Economic Review, from 1982-85 and has been Economic Adviser to the Committee for Economic Development of Australia since 1982.

Dr. Hughes expects to take up his appointment in early March.

She will also be involved in the teaching of the Law of Contract.

Jo is enrolled externally as an LLM student with the University of Sydney and is carrying our research on the concept of intention in criminal law.

New bus service links Charlestown and Uni.

Bus services to the University will include a new service on a route direct from Charlestown, beginning on the day First Term begins (23 February).

The bus service, No 238, will run between Charlestown, Myall Road, (Garden Suburb), Rankin Park Hospital, Howe Street (Lambton) and the University.

The Urban Transit Authority has approved the bus service from Charlestown following representations made over a long period by the Academic Advisory Group at the University.

Buses operate between Swansea, Belmont, Redhead, Valentine, Eleebana and Warners Bay and Charlestown.

People travelling to the University from these points can catch the No238 bus.

Assoc. Professor C. Kesey, a spokesman for the group, said it was the first addition to the University’s public transport services since the commencement of the No236 (between Newcastle, Bar Beach, Adamstown, Lambton and the University) about three years ago.

Ten buses will run on No238 every day from Monday to Friday. The travelling time between Charlestown and the University is approximately twenty-four minutes.

The timetable is:

Depart Charlestown — 8.20 am, 9.20, 10.20, 11.20, 12.20 pm, 1:20, 2.20, 3.20, 4.20 and 5.20. Depart Myall Road — 8.25 am, 9.25, 10.25, 11.25, 12.25 pm, 1.25, 2.25, 3.25 and 4.25. Depart Rankin Park Hospital — 8.33 am, 9.33, 10.33, 11.33, 12.33 pm, 1.33, 2.33, 3.03 and 4.03. Depart Howe Street — 8.36 am, 9.36, 10.36, 11.36, 12.36 pm, 1.36, 2.36, 3.06, 4.06 and 5.06. Arrive University — 8.44 am, 9.44, 10.44, 11.44, 12.44 pm, 1.44, 2.44, 3.14, 4.14 and 5.14.

Depart University — 8.51 am, 9.51, 10.51, 11.51, 12.51 pm, 1.51, 2.21, 3.21, 4.21 and 5.21. Depart Howe Street — 9.00 am, 10.00, 11.00, 12 pm, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, 4.30 and 5.30. Depart Rankin Park Hospital — 9.02 am, 10.02, 11.02, 12.02 pm, 1.02, 2.02, 3.22, 4.32 and 5.32. Depart Myall Road — 9.10 am, 10.10, 11.10, 12.10 pm, 1.10, 2.10, 2.40, 3.40, 4.40 and 5.40. Arrives Charlestown — 9.15 am, 10.15, 11.15, 12.15 pm, 1.15, 2.15, 2.45, 3.45, 4.45 and 5.45.
Arrivals and Departures

Appointments
Mrs Josephine E. Bentley, Lecturer, Department of Law.
Mrs Muchelle J. Bivard, Stenographer, Department of Community Programmes.
Ms Katherine Beland, Office Assistant/Typist, Department of Chemistry.
Mr Kenneth J. Burgess, Lecturer, Department of Economics.
Professor Frank L. Clarke, Professor in Accounting, Department of Commerce.
Mrs Joanie L. Curran, Tutor, Department of Classics.
Dr Kai Hahlweg, Research Associate, Department of Biological Sciences.
Ms Katherine M. Elcombe, Word Processor, Staff Office.
Dr Julianne M. Forrest, Senior Lecturer, Department of Computer Engineering.
Professor Keith Morgan, Vice-Chancellor.

Retirements
Dr Alan R. Bancroft, Associate Professor, Faculty of Education.
Mr Eric Betz, Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering.
Professor Donald W. George, Vice-Chancellor.
Mr John A. Keats, Professor, Department of Psychology.
Dr Noel L. Rutherford, Associate Professor, Department of History.

Social factors in drug dependence

A national centre for the Study of Alcohol and Drug Dependence has recently been established at the University of New South Wales.

Mrs Diane L. Turner, Clerk, Bursar's Division.
Mrs Judith R. Wood, Stenographer, Faculty of Medicine.

Resignations
Dr Peter Bowden, Senior Lecturer, Department of Management.
Mrs Lynette J. Jeffery, Stenographer, Faculty of Medicine.
Ms Denise A. Finnegan, Word Processor Operator, Department of Education.
Mrs Ramute O. Gakas, Technical Officer, Department of Biological Sciences.
Dr Marie-Anne Hockings, Aboriginal Student Liaison Officer, Faculty of Medicine.
Miss Pamela H. Kristensen, Word Processor Operator, Staff Office.
Miss Ann N. McCabe, Stenographer, Faculty of Medicine.

Squash teams reach district semi-six

Six of the University Squash Club's teams reached the semi-finals of the 1986 Spring competition conducted by the Newcastle Squash Rackets Association.

Congratulations to the Men's No 1 team, who won their grand final against Edgeworth by three rubbers to one. The team is Mark Cargan, Kerry Sculltie, Anthony Burke, Tim Ley and Alex Samad.

The Men's No 10 team and the Women's No 5 team lost their closely-fought grand finals to Lake Macquarie and International teams respectively.

The Uni Women lost the evening by one game, although they scored more points than their opponents.

The Men's Nos 9, 11 and 13 teams all worked their way to the semi-finals of their respective grades. Congratulations.

Congratulations also to the Lake Macquarie Club which accounted for three of the four defeats of our men's teams.

Campus broadcasting enters 10th year

There will be cheers for 2NUR-FM at a cabaret in the Union on 13 March.

The Society of Friends of the stereo radio station will hold the cabaret to celebrate the commencement of the station's tenth year.

The evening's programme includes a three-course meal, musical presentations by the band Furnace and a talk by the Vice-Principal, Professor Ken Dutton.

Tickets cost $14 each and can be obtained at the 2NUR-FM studio.

Mrs Rosemary Webster has taken up her duties as research assistant at the Institute. In 1986 she completed her BA (Psychology Honours) here with a research project in this area. Funds for expendables and mirror equipment have been credited to the Institute.

The total value of the support is approximately $40,000. Additional collaborative studies could arise from this project.
Advertisements

For Sale

Tascam Portastudio 244 as new, $1,200 and Roland Rhytm composer TR707 as new, $1,100 (must sell). Telephone 43 3216.

Unusual large family home in Valentine. Features include: six bedrooms, study, two bathrooms, two kitchens, family room, formal entertaining rooms and large inground pool, $115,000 o.n.o. (Or will exchange for smaller home.) Telephone 46 8551.

The following items are all in good condition: large wooden cot, McLaren lie-back buggy with accessories, Steelcraft three in one, bouncinette and baby pal. Telephone 57 1552 after 5.30 pm.

Set of pine colonial style bunks, with wire sprung bases and foam mattresses in excellent condition, $120. Telephone Ian Webster at Extension 591.

Sony 18" UHF/VHF colour television, $220. HMV 22" VHF only colour television, $185. Telephone Machelle at Extension 522 or 87 1169.

1974 Peugeot which is very sound and reliable, $3,200 or near offer. Telephone 59 1626.

Blue Honda lead scooter in excellent condition. Approximately 8,000 kms on the clock, $750 or near offer. Telephone Linden at 58 4366.

Sharp VHS video recorder (only six months old) in excellent condition. Features include, auto play and remote control. Sacrificed at $500 or near offer. Telephone Ext. 701 or 61 4987.

Spanish-style guitar and case, $40 or near offer. Telephone Linden at 58 4366.

1985 Mazda 626 hatchback (bright red). Features include, airconditioning, rust-proofed, radio/cassette player, 27,000 kms, one owner and is in excellent condition, $16,000 or near offer. Telephone 46 9041 (after 6 pm).

1975 Ford Escort Sedan in good condition (eleven months registration), $2,800. Please telephone 61 4313.

For sale by tender

One Adler Model 1040 Electronic Memory Typewriter, 8K memory, detachable keyboard.

For further information telephone Peter Myors at 685 372.

Tenders should be forwarded in a sealed envelope marked Tender for Typewriter, and addressed to the Purchasing Officer, University of Newcastle, 2308. Tenders close 11.30 am, 20 February.

Position Wanted - typing

Jenny Stuart, 4 Aries Way, Elermore Vale, telephone 51 4187, and Lesley Williamson, 39 Lees Street, Charlestown, telephone 43 4393, are available for typing theses, reports, occasional papers etc.

Positions Vacant — Physics Laboratories


The present remuneration is up to $41.73 per three-hour session, with multiple sessions being available.

Applicants should preferably have a degree, with a substantial background in physics.

Further information may be obtained from the Physics Department Secretary (telephone 68 5235) to whom applications should be made in writing, incorporating details of qualifications, and any relevant experience.

Accommodation Wanted

Large four bedroom house (short or long term lease). If you are able to assist telephone Dr. Suchard, Department of Management, Extension 726.

To receive Diploma in Media Studies

Mr Bede Jordan, of the Central Audio-Visual Services Unit, will receive his Graduate Diploma in Media from the Australian Film, Television and Radio School on 13 March.

Mr Jordan carried out a study of the role of television in adult education to meet the school's requirements for the diploma. He worked on the award part-time at the University and Newcastle CAE, which operate in co-operation with the Australian Film, Television and Radio School.

Dinner follows 35 years' service

To honour Eric Betz, who retired last year after 35 years' association with the University and the Newcastle University College, a farewell dinner will be held by the Faculty of Engineering in the Staff House on 27 February at 7 pm.

Those who wish to attend — colleagues, friends, students, graduates and others — are asked to contact the Secretary, Mrs Marcia Couper, at Extension 528 or Extension 395.
What a week! What a Year!

Marilyn Hey

The programme for Orientation Week will be a prototype for all activities in the Union this year.

Marilyn Hey, the Union's Activities Officer, hopes that students will be pleased with the wide range of entertainment, both cultural and recreational, which the Union will provide. She promises that there will be plenty of things to do, see, hear and be involved in.

The weekly programme combines rock, folk, jazz, drama, do-it-yourself entertainment, movies, debating and dancing and is structured to feature particular styles on particular nights each week.

Marilyn says that on Tuesdays at lunchtime interesting local bands and theatrical groups will be presented, while on Tuesday nights established rock groups, some coming from outside Newcastle, will appear in Stan's Bar.

Because students will probably like Tuesday night to be followed by "a quiet one" Wednesday night will be for jazz and folk groups. James Morrison, the phenomenal trumpeter and trombonist from Sydney, will bring his jazz group to the Union to finish the week. Dave Kelly's group, Churinga, will present blues and folk music.

Newcastle University students apparently have a strong liking for good films. That being the case, Thursdays will be for film screenings and an interesting selection of movies has been ordered. "Hannah and Her Sisters," "The Colour Purple" and "The Gods Must Be Crazy" are included in the first term schedule.

For the first time there will be a do-it-yourself entertainment spot on the programme. Marilyn says that on Thursday nights students and societies will be able to present "live" contributions in the Bar. Encouragement will be given to instrumentalists, bands and debaters. In addition theatre sports, involving improvised dialogue by performers and interaction with the audience, will be held.

The Union will hire films from the Archives of the National Library, Canberra, in order to run the Film Buffs Club in the Coffee Lounge on Fridays at 1 pm.

Turning to special appearances, Marilyn says the Footloose Comedy Theatre, the revue company that put on productions at Newcastle Workers' Club in the long vacation, will prepare a new revue and stage it at the end of second term, with additional performances on other campuses in New South Wales.

A party night will be held on 30 April to mark the end of first term. Autonomy Day in July and Recovery Day after the examinations in November will be other special occasions.

This year's Orientation Week programme, designed to give Freshers an opportunity to meet each other and re-acquainting students an opportunity to be re-united, is:

23 February
1-2 pm: GrandwanaLand, featuring the didgeridoo playing of Charlie McMahon in the Courtyard.
8-11 pm: The Frets (Anthony and Rick with their madcap music) in the Bar. Admission, free.

24 February
1-2 pm: Good Company (local band) in the Courtyard.
8-11 pm: The Frets (Anthony and Rick with their madcap music) in the Bar. Admission, free.

25 February
1-2 pm: Footloose Comedy Theatre in the Courtyard.
6-11 pm: Union and SRC New Students' barbecue and with Witchdoctors (rhythm and blues) in the Bar. Admission, free.

26 February
Donation of Stubs per movie.

OVERSEAS STUDENTS' SEC.
REQUIRED

The newly established Hunter Committee for Overseas Students is looking for a voluntary secretary.

The person appointed secretary will be asked to assist with general secretarial tasks (minute-taking, simple administration) of the committee.

The secretary will become a member of the executive and the position will be open for re-election at the annual general meeting in July-August. The time commitment will be approximately one meeting per month.

It will provide a rewarding opportunity for anyone interested in overseas students to spend time with them and enjoy their company.

Inquiries: Michael Sar, telephone 5588, or Maureen Mead, telephone 334772.