Boost in number of scholarships

The University’s total number of applications for research scholarships this year was around 200, a fifty per cent increase on last year.

The scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic merit and the quality of the applicants. The Commonwealth Department of Education decided to boost the number of Commonwealth Postgraduate Research Awards from thirteen to twenty. They have been awarded to Honours I applicants who completed their Bachelor degrees at this and other Australian universities.

In addition, the University offered nine University scholarships, most of which have been taken by highly qualified overseas students who are attracted to the University by its high reputation as a research institution. These scholarships have been won by applicants from Australia, the People’s Republic of China, Brazil, Hong Kong and Singapore.

Mr Peter Farley, the Assistant Secretary who administers the research scholarships, said he was still not satisfied because there are still quite a number of high quality applicants for research scholarships, and no further awards available to offer.

Mr Farley hoped that the high quality of the applicants this year would influence the Commonwealth Department of Education to increase the number of research awards available to the University in future years.

A Commonwealth Postgraduate Research Award is currently worth $8,126 per year and provides additional allowances for dependents.

University of Newcastle Postgraduate Research Scholarships provided by the University are similar to the Commonwealth awards but are available to world-wide competition.

Our photo shows two PhD candidates who are recipients of University Research Scholarships — Mrs Marcia Fernandes from Brazil, of the Department of Linguistics, and Mrs Kelly Williams-Sweeney, of the Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying.

Large student enrolment

Professor Michael Carter said at the Senate meeting on 25 February that early statistics for 1987 showed a 25.4 per cent increase in the number of new enrolments.

On a numerical basis, the growth was as follows: 1,721 new students compared with 1,373 at the same date in February, 1986.

All told, the total enrolment at the University with fees paid at this time was 5,522 as against 5,365 in 1986.

It appeared that a shift had occurred from part-time enrolment to full-time enrolment.

Professor Carter told Senate that the Allocations Committee expected requests for ‘band aid’ assistance because of the pressure exerted by the increased enrolment on teaching staff.

INSIDE: Brian Gilligan wins N-J Award
**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

Dear Sir,

As the Perpetual Motion Machine advocate quoted by David Morrison (Letters, 16 February), I would like to respond to the gross oversimplification of my statements on computer power.

My original point, at the meeting which discussed the options for a new computer, was that figures giving the power of a computer system in MIPS and FLOPS and wizz-bangs are crude indicators which do not tell the full story. All other things being equal, an interconnection of two computers gives much less than twice the power of a single computer. Resources are wasted because of co-ordination problems.

To take a simple example: you can now buy a more-or-less adequate home computer for about $500. Had the University spent its million dollars on 2,000 such machines, we could have had a distributed system with over 100 Megabyte of memory and a power of 200-500 MIPS! A truly impressive system, but with one slight catch: it would not run any of my programs. Nor those of the students in my classes.

It is true that last year's student queues for computer connections were very bad. My observation was that the university working party was very much aware of this situation. Those who made the final decision should be congratulated for not being seduced by a 'solution' which sounded impressive, but which would have made the queues even longer.

Peter Moylan,
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Dear Sir,

I am writing in support of the letters by Richard Dear (News, Nov.10, 1986) and David Morrison (News, Feb. 16, 1987). In 1969 I was one of a minority voting against the acquisition of an ancient monster which would have hamstrung campus computing for the period of its unnatural life had not smaller, more effective, machines been imported to provide more accessible computing for students and staff.

History appears to have repeated itself. Those among us who are striving for more immediate, cost effective, computing have again been devilishly diddled by the forcible amputation of a sizeable fraction of the University equipment grant to buy not one but two monster bytecrackers.

All the World knows that small computing for big jobs is now the in-thing. That is, all the World except our Decision-makers. Doesn't the University motto mention something about 'looking ahead'? I sometimes wonder.

Those of us who traverse the campus to the bank and points east have noticed a large crack appearing in the ground just uphill from the fountain. It runs in a wiggly line towards the Great Hall. This is a sign from on high. Our University is falling apart! I hope that Richard Dear and David Morrison will make haste to leap across to the west, where the small computer movement is alive and well, before the crack widens to a chasm the size of the Grand Canyon.

Yours in small computing built upon the rocks.

Colin Keay.

Dear Sir,

I call to your attention the patronising attitude, intended or unintended, towards women that occurs almost without exception in each issue of the University News.

Men are always referred to as Mr...., Dr...., Professor...., Women are mentioned by first name, surname and title and subsequently referred to by first name only. It is rare for the News to refer to a professional man by his first name.

I would like to see the News adopt a non-sexist stance and start treating women as equally respected and important members of the academic community.

Ms Leslie Jacobi.

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**Vice-Chancellor says 'welcome' to students**

A university degree doesn't come easily, but there are rewards for the hard work involved, the Vice-Chancellor has told students of the University.

Professor Keith Morgan, welcoming freshmen and re-enrolling students in the Union Courtyard during Orientation Week, said the statistics showed that if students got through to the end of first year it was likely they'd get degrees 'at the end of the day'.

Congratulating the students, he said they had defeated the system, in the sense that only a minority of people get to universities, especially in the Hunter Region where fewer people get through secondary school than anywhere else.

'Those of you who are new to the University are, I suspect, rather confused by what you're seeing at the moment,' Professor Morgan said. 'There is an air of disorganised chaos around the place, which I suppose is part of the makeup of universities. It does represent a symbol of the unknown territory which those of you who are new to the University are getting into. It's up to you to make your way through it.'

Other activities at University, he said, were just as important as working hard at studies. He referred to getting the benefit of all the activities around the campus, including those in the Union. If students did get the benefit of these they would get the satisfaction of what education was supposed to offer.

The Vice-Chancellor concluded his welcome in these terms: 'I would like to see you on other occasions. Some of you will want to come and see me. I hope so and I hope things go well for you'.

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Offer to city's smokers to help them quit

Dr Christina Lee, who has been appointed a Lecturer in Psychology, has begun running a quit-smoking programme for residents of Newcastle.

A PhD graduate from the University of Adelaide, Dr Lee has received an allocation from the Senate Research Committee for a project aimed at helping people who prefer the freedom of stopping smoking at their own pace and in their own home.

'Personally I have never indulged in smoking, which directly contributes to the death of 16,000 Australians per year,' she said. 'I believe that people should not only try to stop smoking in their own time but also be able to persevere, even if they lapse and have a cigarette at the pub. One cigarette doesn't mean they have failed'.

Dr Lee believes there will be a big interest in the quit smoking programme she has developed because the Australian Bureau of Statistics showed that 37.6 per cent of men in Newcastle and the Hunter are smokers, with women not far behind.

'Rather than having to attend meetings, or just slog it out on their own, smokers can follow a well-designed sensible plan for quitting smoking at their own pace,' Dr Lee said.

For further information, get in touch with Dr Lee at Extension 652 or Extension 374.

University News, which contains all the campus news that's fit to print, reaches the whole University community, staff and students, and has an extensive off-campus readership, especially newspapers and radio and television stations and members of Convocation.

The Information Office, which produces the News, welcomes suggestions for news stories, letters to the Editor, articles, photographs (or ideas for photographs), advertisements, notes about coming events and other contributions.

No charge is made for ads, which should be concise and clearly printed, with a signature and a phone number.

The next News will be distributed on 16 March. The deadline for copy is 6 March.

The Information Office is in Room G58a and G60 in the McMullin Building and the telephone number is Extension 328.
Award for wetlands management

A University of Newcastle graduate who is an expert on environmental education has been selected to receive Convocation's 1986 Newton-John Award.

Mr Brian Gilligan, Acting Director of the Shortland Wetlands Centre and local teacher, will be presented with the award at a dinner in the Union on 27 March.

He is the first environmental educator to be honoured with the Newton-John Award, although two previous winners came from the teaching profession.

Mr Gilligan was born in Scone where his late father was a farmer. He went to a private school in Lismore. Leaving this University with a BA degree in 1968 (majors in Geography and Geology) he worked as an exploration geologist in Papua New Guinea and Queensland. He has spent most of his life as a teacher in Newcastle, initially at Whitebridge High School and for several years at Raymond Terrace High School.

He was awarded a Diploma in Education in 1971 and received an MA in 1980, his thesis employing research in wetland biogeography.

In 1976, Mr Gilligan was appointed teacher in-charge of the Awabakal Field Studies Centre at Dudley. Recently the Department of Education agreed to the Shortland Wetlands Centre being treated as an annex of the Awabakal Centre and Mr Gilligan was transferred to the Shortland Centre, while another teacher was appointed to work at the Awabakal Centre.

Mr Kevin McDonald, Senior Lecturer in Science at Newcastle CAE, says in support of his nomination of Mr Gilligan:

As a graduate of the University Brian Gilligan has a proven track record as an educational innovator and has made a contribution of lasting value to the Hunter Region in his administration of both the Awabakal Field Studies Centre and the Shortland Wetlands Centre. He has, in addition, contributed significantly to the application of scientific principles and research to the important area of wetlands conservation and management.

The Shortland Wetlands Centre is a flourishing education and research establishment set in the wetlands reserve off Sandgate Road. The centre welcomes visitors (more than 5,000 people and 4,300 school students last year), who obtain information on the wetlands nature reserve by using walking trails, a theatre, a library and educational displays.

As well as filling the honorary position of director of the centre, Mr Gilligan has established a consultancy in natural systems management which has been incorporated into the Centre's operations. The consultancy has become increasingly important as a means of increasing turnover as several organisations ask for advice. To help develop this operation, Mr K. Markwell was recently appointed as Research Officer.

In an interview for the University News Mr Gilligan said the Shortland Wetlands Centre had accomplished a lot partly because of the public’s concern at dwindling natural resources and also because of the growing awareness of the value of rainforests, coastline, estuaries and national parks.

He reacted proudly to his selection as the winner of the Newton-John Award. He said it was a thrilling culmination to his long association with the University, beginning in 1965.

'Of course the award is made not just to me. It is an indication of the acceptance by the University and the public of the areas in which I have been working and reflects credit on a whole range of people associated with environmental education and the centre in particular.'

Mr Gilligan will be the twelfth person to receive a Newton-John Award since Convocation instituted the award as recognition for Newcastle University graduates for innovation or creativity, with originality and lasting value aesthetic value or benefit to the community as the chief criteria.

The award is not a cash grant, or prize, but a work of art executed by an artist from this region.

The panel which selected the winner was the Warden of Convocation, Father James Bromley, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Keith Morgan, the President of the Hunter Branch of the Australian Federation of University Women — NSW, Judy Cowley, and an ABC radio announcer, Libby Sanders.

- Brian Gilligan
When it comes to teaching Japanese to non-Japanese students, the experience for new Lecturer, Tamie Takatsu, is not new.

Tamie began her career by teaching at a school in Tokyo at which foreigners learn Japanese before enrolling at universities in Japan.

Prior to commencing at the school she was a student at the Australian National University in Canberra, where she took an MA in Applied Japanese Linguistics.

Professor K. Ono, Associate Professor of Japanese, who was Miss Takatsu's external examiner for her master's said she was a very good researcher and teacher. The Japanese Section of the Department of Modern Languages was very happy when she accepted her lectureship.

She will teach parts of the Japanese II, III and IV courses and be involved in the activities of the Japanese students' organisation, the Gaijin Club, as Staff Liaison Officer.

The Gaijin Club will hold a party to welcome first year students in the Purdue Room of the Great Hall on 5 March at 1 pm.

Professor Ono said approximately 170 students had enrolled in the Japanese Section's courses this year, approximately the same number as in 1986. Japanese IV would be offered this year for the first time.

The Hunter Tapestry, a gala concert and the Book Fair are some of the chief fund-raising activities the Friends of The University has been organising for this year.

The Friends are strengthening the links between Town and Gown by bringing people to the campus and involving people in the work of the University.

The support group was formed in 1981. The constitution defines its objects as fostering an awareness of the University and its place in the community, and conducting activities, including fund-raising, which promote the interests of the University.

From the proceeds of activities organised by The Friends in the past, two major donations have been made to the University.

In 1984, special books to the value of $4,050 were presented to mark the accession of the 500,000th book to the Auchmuty Library collection.

In 1985, $55,000 was given towards the cost of student housing (The Friends House) associated with Edwards Hall.

On 20 February, the Friends held a reception in the Union to welcome the new Vice-Chancellor, Professor Keith Morgan, and his wife, Hilary.

The Executive Committee has agreed to finance a special bicentenary project, a new tapestry for the Great Hall, to be known as the Hunter Tapestry. To raise funds for the tapestry, a concert will be held in the Great Hall on 5 June.

Members (and especially new members) have been invited to morning tea in the Purdue Room, Great Hall, on Friday, 13 March, at 10.30 am, to discuss the body's programme.

The organisers of the Book Fair commenced preparations back in 1985. They have plans well in hand for the third Book Fair, which will be held in the Great Hall from July 25 to August 3.

The members of The Friends in office are the Lord Mayor, Ald. J. McNaughton, and the Chancellor, Sir Bede Callaghan (Patrons), Mr Ken Gordon (President), Mr Keith Barbour (Vice-President), Mrs Shirley Morris (Secretary), Emeritus Professor Laurie Short (Treasurer), Mrs Wilma Kellerman, Mrs Jean Page, Mrs Thelma Wright, Mrs Del Manning and Mrs Rona Dorman (Committee).

For more information telephone Mrs Morris at 48 8629.
Having begun at Newcastle in 1854, the Great Northern Railway was completed in May, 1889 with the opening of the last Hawkesbury Bridge — then the most spectacular work of engineering in the Australian colonies. The photograph illustrates this milestone engineering achievement when Sydney and Newcastle, and more importantly Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia, were finally linked by rail.

Dennis Rowe's recently completed MA thesis in Economic History, supervised by Dr John Fisher, describes the building of the 484 mile Great Northern Railway from its beginning at Newcastle in 1854 until it linked Sydney with Queensland in 1889.

Construction began slowly. It took twenty-four years for some 400 labourers to build the first 187 miles of track from Newcastle, through the Hunter Valley, and across the Liverpool Plains, reaching Tamworth in 1878.

Then the pace of construction quadrupled. By the mid-1860s an estimated 4,000 men were at work and only a decade was needed to build the remaining 297 miles of track through heavy terrain in New England (1879-1888) and along the Sydney-Newcastle route (1883-1889).

Rowe's thesis draws together the many elements that contributed to the overall scale of railway building in New South Wales and to the quickening pace of construction on the Great Northern Railway. The increasing willingness of Britons to invest in New South Wales was of fundamental importance. Colonial politicians played a more direct role, ensuring that expenditure was allocated to 'favourite' lines. Terrain and imported railway technology also had important implications for the pace of construction.

Within this context, the thesis illuminates the role of labour and contractors.

Conditions in the general labour market in the colonies influenced the supply of railway labour and its cost. The abundance of labour available for railway construction was largely associated with, and explained by, the high degree of labour mobility in between the colonies of Australia and New Zealand. At the same time the supply of labour for railway building in northern New South Wales reflected the effects of regional recessions, fluctuations in construction, pockets of unemployment and poverty throughout Australasia. Much of the workforce employed on the Great Northern Railway had come from lines that had been completed in the other colonies and in other parts of New South Wales.

It is difficult to over-estimate the importance of labour mobility for railway construction. Intercolonial migration was so extensive that it was institutionalised by the New South Wales Parliament in 1876 with the passing of special legislation, enabling railway contractors to recruit their labourers under enforceable indentures from the other colonies.

By the 1880s, labourers from the other colonies accounted probably for about half of the workforce on the Northern Line. The inland pastoral districts, particularly in New South Wales, were another major source of railway labour in the wake of pastoral recession and the drought of 1884. These two main sources of labour were supplemented by diverse others. Selectors and local agricultural workers, some miners, seamen who had jumped ship at Newcastle, and even some Italian worked on the Northern Railway at various times.

Rowe's thesis also argues that if labour supply and mobility were important in railway construction, the railway contractors played an increasingly important role. Delays by the contractors in the earlier years, caused by inexperience and undercapitalisation, became rarer during the second phase of the Great Northern Railway's construction (1879-1889). This was due in no small part to experience gained during the early years of railway building.

After 1878 the increased length and difficulty of each railway contract was generally matched by the accumulated experience and resources of the great contractors of that era. Those contractors who had proved their ability during the 1860s and seventies became indispensable during the years of mammoth railway building (1879-1889). In many cases their efforts were also attended by highly satisfactory profits.

In a wider perspective, railway building was a key part of New South Wales' development in the second half of the nineteenth century, leaving the Colony with a vastly improved transport system and a valuable accretion of business and construction skills in the private and public sectors.

Nevertheless, the major objective in Rowe's thesis has been to illuminate the contribution of railway contractors and labourers to the construction process as a whole.
Blackout prompted intense research

Intensive research into the control of power systems in Sweden became compelling when there was an almost complete blackout of the country in 1983.

Sweden has a strong tradition in power system technology, but, unlike the United States and Japan, had not backed this up with strong teaching and research programmes in the system analysis and control aspects.

Since the serious disturbances in the power network took place, several efforts have been made to develop research into power system analysis.

One research programme has been developed by the Department of Automatic Control at the Lund Institute of Technology. It is based around the establishment of a Guest Professorship. Dr David Hill, Senior Lecturer in Electrical and Computer Engineering at this University, has just returned from an outside studies programme where he occupied this position.

Funded by the Swedish State Power Board and the Southern Sweden Power Supply, the Guest Professorship enabled Dr Hill to investigate the stabilisation of power systems very deeply. The major problems are to devise computer analysis and control schemes to ensure that system frequency and voltages remain stable in the presence of network disturbances. 'The very appealing aspect of the arrangement was the academic freedom allowed to plan and develop the research project', he said. 'The work was aided tremendously by the general strength of the department in the field of control engineering.'

Early in his outside studies programme he worked at the Lund Institute of Technology with Professor Bjorn Wittenmark who is currently attached to the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering as a Visiting Research Fellow. Professor Wittenmark arrived in Newcastle last September and, among other things, will continue collaboration on power system control.

In addition to looking at fundamental mathematical and computing aspects of power systems analysis, Dr Hill had helped with the design and development of ways of stabilising the Swedish national power network. This work was done in close collaboration with industry engineers.

Were there any similarities with the power systems provided in New South Wales? 'The situation here has been relatively stable and we have an excess of generating capacity. However, proposed new transmission interconnections will require power system stabilisation research along these lines'.

Dr Hill said Sweden was an inspiring country from a technological viewpoint. He was also impressed by the fact that the government had a social conscience. In the wake of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster and the serious threat it had posed to humanity, the Swedish Government ordered the closing down of a nuclear power plant close to Denmark. Closure of some other nuclear power stations was being considered.

One observation in Sweden (and other European countries) concerned postgraduate students in engineering. They are paid a salary comparable to what would be earned as a professional engineer.

The gap has widened more recently, but this policy certainly would help prevent the situation in Australian universities where talented graduates 'dropped out' when faced with industry salaries at least three times higher than a postgraduate scholarship.

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OFFER TO HELP TO 'SELL' THE UNIVERSITY

An academic with a career in marketing and industrial relations has been appointed to a position as Senior Lecturer in the Department of Management.

Dr Hazel Suchard, who taught marketing and industrial relations as Senior Lecturer in the Department of Business Economics at the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa, hopes she can help this University to 'market' its expertise in the community.

Dr Suchard believes the University was badly hit by statements made in The Bulletin last September, especially the statement that the University was 'a backwater university'.

The University should make a serious effort to project a new image, she said, one which showed the institutions real strengths and the Hunter Region's fine qualities.

'I am surprised when people say that youngsters should go to university in Sydney. They do not realise that some students spend two to three hours commuting to and from universities in Sydney and that Newcastle University offers equal educational opportunities and time to spend on the beach.'

Dr Suchard, who will lecture on marketing to MBA students and on industrial relations to undergraduates, is interested in forging firm links between the University and the Newcastle business community. She has accepted membership of the committee of the newly-formed Newcastle Chapter of the Australian Institute of Marketing.

Dr Suchard is a graduate of three universities. She took her undergraduate degree at the University of the Witwatersrand and her honours degree at the University of South Africa in Pretoria. She received her Masters and DPhil (Economics) degrees from the University of Pretoria where she began her strong interest in the economics of poverty in South Africa and the establishment of a black middle class.

Dr Suchard has published widely and has presented papers at conferences and universities throughout the world. She was Visiting Professor of Marketing at the College of Business Administration, University of Hawaii at Mauoa in 1983. When she was a Visitor at the New South Wales Institute of Technology in Sydney, she 'fell in love with Australia' and decided to return at the earliest possible opportunity.

Dr Suchard, speaking about her work for her doctorate, said she had transferred to the University of Pretoria in order to pursue her interest in the economics of poverty. The University is an Afrikaans university, i.e. a university where only the Afrikaans language is used and which acts in an advisory capacity to the South African Government.

In the late seventies, many people were interested in the need to establish a black middle class in South Africa and I was able to work on a plan of action to do this and increase the job mobility of blacks so they could advance up the job ladder. In order to do this she drew up a set of hypotheses based on social programmes that had been in operation in the United States.

By 1980 registered black trade unions were operating and in my opinion a black middle class had begun to materialise'.

However, Dr Suchard said, the political upheavals which had taken place since then and the sanctions which had been imposed by overseas countries had led to what she regarded as the destruction of the black middle class.

'Apartheid, the political system operating in South Africa, has been exploited by Marxists. There is no longer simply a straightforward demand for equality with Whites, but now there are several conflicts including those between black ethnic groups, blacks and Indians, rich and poor, different trade union groupings, young and old. Both black unemployment and crime has increased significantly.

'As a result there is nothing worse than being a black person in South Africa today, because black society and law and order in the townships has literally fallen apart, with blacks suffering not only from discrimination and struggling just to make a living, but fearful for their lives'.

Dr Suchard

Won't you join the dance?

Here we extend our invitation, particularly to newcomers on the University campus, to join the Newcastle Colleges Scottish Country Dance Club on Friday nights at the Technical College, Union Hall, Tighes Hill, at 7.30 pm. A warm welcome will be awaiting you.

We started our dancing year with an opening social on 6 February. Let experienced, as well as more advanced, dancers are catered for.

However, if you are a raw beginner, but like the sound of Scottish dance music, we would like to draw your attention to a course of eight beginners classes run by the Scottish Country Dance Society starting Tuesday, 10 March (7.30 pm) at the Warabah Public School, Lambton Road.

For further information telephone the Hon. Secretary, Mrs Nancy Tayler, at 43 5859 or the instructor, Mrs Lorraine Flett at 43 1241.
Exercise for better health

• Remembering the poster from the First World War of Lord Kitchener saying "Your Country Needs You", Saxon White urges men and women to volunteer to take part in his research into the link between exercise and heart disease. He is with Kathy Horton, Laboratory Assistant, who is also involved in the project.

The National Heart Foundation has granted the Faculty of Medicine two grants totalling $66,777 in connection with research into the prevention of heart disease.

In the case of a grant to Professor Saxon White, Professor of Human Physiology, the Foundation has supported his work on blood pressure and sex hormonal changes in men and women during exercise.

His studies, for which he has received a continuing grant of $20,629 from the Foundation, have shown that exercise lowers blood pressure and helps to protect men from heart attack, because during exercise their bodies produce the female sex hormone oestrogen, and helps to protect women from stroke.

Professor White needs the help of fit and healthy male and female volunteers between 30 and 50 and he would be delighted to hear from you at Extension 599.

He said previous work done by Dr Ruby Husain showed that exercise, even slow walking around the campus, lowered arterial pressure in older people and raised the level of sex hormones in the men.

So walking is probably also helpful in reducing the incidence of stroke, particularly in women, in whom blood pressure rises disproportionately as they grow older, he said.

By contrast to men, older women appear to have less protection from heart disease after they reach menopause, when their ovaries stop producing oestrogen, and it may be necessary, Professor White added, to consider administering doses of the hormone to them.

The National Heart Foundation has supported research being undertaken by Dr A.W. (Tony) Quail, Senior Lecturer in Human Physiology, and Dr Peter Moore, Director of Intensive Care at Royal Newcastle Hospital, into how modern anaesthetics affect the flow of blood through the coronary arteries.

Specialists need to know whether the flow is facilitated or compromised by the anaesthetics, because it is the coronary arteries, in particular those in men, which become diseased and obstructed with fatty deposits.

As the anaesthetics are related to narcotics, a question is how they affect the brain, which, through the nerves, will influence the flow of blood.

ORGANISATION EXPERT NEW LECTURER

Looking at the organisation of large institutions and companies and suggesting how administrative changes can be made to meet new needs is Mr Joseph Wallace's special research interest.

Mr Wallace's work in this field has led to his appointment to a lectureship in the Department of Management, where he has begun teaching organisation studies.

Mr Wallace, previously a Lecturer in the Department of Commerce at the University of Queensland, was born in Glasgow in Scotland and is a graduate of the Open University (BA) and Stirling University (MSc).

His subsequent experience in management planning was with British Telecom in Glasgow and London (1965-1975) and as a Lecturer with the Napier College of Commerce and Technology and the Open University (1976-1986).

Mr Wallace recalled that as a young man he followed the popular fashion in Glasgow and played football ('I hate calling it soccer, which is an Americanisation'). He says he is now unfit, but looks forward to using the University's fine sporting facilities so he can return to fitness.

• Joseph Wallace
Company reports record turnover

TUNRA Limited, the University of Newcastle’s research and specialist education consultancy, increased its turnover during its last financial year to $718,000.

There has been a steady increase in income since the company was incorporated in 1969. Most of the 1986-87 income was generated by TUNRA Ltd’s specialist consulting services, particularly in the engineering field and more particularly in bulk materials handling.

However, the company’s other initiatives in specialist courses and intellectual property exploitation also represented growing areas of business.

The net profit for the year was $15,051. The figures were revealed in the annual report by the Directors which has just been released.

The Directors said the operations of the company during the financial year were consistent with those of prior years. The main source of income was from research and consulting services provided to industry and commerce throughout Australia and some other countries.

- TUNRA Fine Particles Services Division, which operates within the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering under the direction of the Head of Department, Professor Graeme Jamieson, continued a major research project in froth flotation. This project is to enter a trial phase soon, involving in-situ testing.

- TUNRA Industrial Electronics Division intends to co-ordinate existing inventions, new product development and industry services in close association with the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Current significant undertakings include a variable-speed AC electric motor drive, awaiting commercialisation and the development of a computer-controlled tracking system for the Australia Telescope (under contract to the CSIRO).

The report records the wide range of TUNRA Ltd’s work, with some examples being:

- The bulk solids handling research group (TBSHRAL) now offers a professional engineering consultation service covering every aspect of bulk materials flow characterisation, storage bin design, transportation system design, plant monitoring and control.

In addition, TBSHRAL designs, manufactures, installs and services a non-intrusive strain-gauge-based weight system for storage bins. TBSHRAL has now installed twenty-six systems throughout Australia for coal, flour, alumina, lime, cement and metallic ores one bins. During the year, preparations were made to promote the TUNRA Bin Weighing System in Malaysia, at an Austrade promotion in Kuala Lumpur.

Technical consultancy services were provided to many of Australia’s major mining companies and public utilities.

- Activities in the area of intellectual property exploitation increased somewhat during the year.

Sales of the SD-4 Stereodigitiser improved with the sale of four units to Canada. TUNRA derives a royalty from sales, most of which have been into the export arena.

Additional development work was completed on the AC-Variable-Speed Electric Motor Drive. Negotiations are continuing with an international manufacturing and marketing organisation to finalise terms of agreement for an exclusive licence to exploit this invention.

TUNRA jointly holds a patent for an early-pregnancy testing method developed at the University. Additional development work is being undertaken by the inventor, Dr Chris O’Neill, now with the IVF unit at Royal North Shore Hospital in Sydney, with support from the National Health and Medical Research Council.

A major agreement was entered into during the year with Western Capital (Limited for the provision of up to $500,000 during the next three years, for the development of a treatment for chronic lung infections. The Broncostat project is being directed by Professor Robert Clancy, Professor of Pathology and Director of the Hunter Immunology Unit.

Lunch with Spike’s brother

The Friends of The University, in conjunction with The Newcastle Herald, will hold the first Lunch with a Writer for 1987 on 12 March.

The speaker will be Patrick Milligan — writer, press artist, experimenter in arts and drama and brother of Spike, the other Milligan. Patrick is at present working on his war memoirs, which chronicle the state of Anglo-German relations. (As a young recruit he entered the end of the Second World War.)

The decree of no fraternisation with the population, mainly women, was ignored and often the only occupants of the barracks were the guards.

Now offering a joint concert of The Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, the Milligan family saga from Burma, where he was born, to India and on to England.

The two Milligan boys, encouraged by their theatrical sargeant-major father, often worked on their own entertainments and would ‘goon’ around the house. This, Patrick says, was the real beginning of that famous show.

He will speak on this and other aspects of his life in the Sea-Witch restaurant at the Top of Town Motel, formerly the Travelpole, at 12.15 pm.

Tickets are $15.50 and are available from Arthur Warner’s Bookshop, or telephone Marie Tietze at 63 2774, or Eileen Bilbie at 22 674.
Arrival of Professor of Economics

The last issue of University News was announced that Dr Barry Hughes (above) had been appointed to fill the Chair of Economics. Since 1983 Dr Hughes, who is 44, has been Economic Consultant to the Federal Treasurer, Mr Paul Keating. He was expected to take up his appointment on the day this issue of the News went to press.

Speaker knows Central Africa

A man with considerable professional interest in Central Africa will be guest speaker at the Newcastle Group of the Australian Institute of International Affairs' first meeting of the new year.

The group, to meet in the Staff House on March 20 at 8 pm, will be addressed by Dr Gavin McDonell, a Sydney-based management and economic consultant.

Dr McDonell is qualified in engineering and economics and travels and reports extensively in the course of his profession. He has completed a series of assignments in East and Central Africa in roads, aviation and energy and has just returned from Ethiopia, describing the situation there as 'very confused and complex'. He has been a consultant to the World Bank and conducted the 1986 inquiry into the New South Wales Electricity Generation.

Dr McDonell will talk in the Staff House on Food, Aid and Trade in Central Africa.

Information Service

Members of staff may not be aware the University receives a variety of political material such as extracts from Hansard, ministerial speeches and media releases. These provide a useful source of information on matters raised in both Canberra and Macquarie Street.

Whilst the bulk of this information is more obviously of use to the University administration, some of it may be of wider interest. For example, material recently received contained parliamentary questions (and answers) on such topics as the Marine Sciences and Technologies Grants Scheme, marine research and wind and solar power research.

It is seen that material of this character may be of use to individual members of staff as bearing upon their special areas of research or study. Any members of staff who would like to be informed in the future of any of this material which relates to their field of special interest are invited to let me know, in writing, at the same time identifying that field in general terms.

In providing this service it is hoped to make greater use of the material received than may have been the case in the past.

Lionel Farrell, Secretary's Division.
DIARY OF EVENTS

Tuesday, March 3, 12.50 pm
Lunchtime concert in the Courtyard featuring The Xmas Hold. Admission: free.
8-11 pm

Wednesday, March 4, 8 pm

Thursday, March 5, Noon
Movie: The Gods Must Be Crazy in the Common Room. Donation: 50 cents.
8-Midnight

Friday, March 6, 2 pm
Film Buffs Club: Gentlemen Prefer Blondes, Common Room. Admission: Free.

Tuesday, March 10, 12.50 pm
Lunchtime Concert in the Courtyard featuring Legato. Admission: free.
8-11 pm

Wednesday, March 11, 8 pm
Entertainment in the Bar featuring Bill and Ben. Admission: free.

Thursday, March 12, Noon
Movie: Silverado in the Common Room. Donation: 50 cents.
8-11 pm

ADVERTISEMENTS

For Sale
Windsurfer in good condition (nearly new sail), $600 or near offer. Telephone 59 3833 or Extension 699.
Karrimor Papoose, designed to wear on back, adjustable aluminium frame (suitable for baby to young child). Telephone 43 8827.
1973 Datsun 180B (manual), $850 or near offer. Telephone 68 5300.
Holden HK Station Wagon in excellent mechanical condition (body needs work). Features include: radio and eight months registration, $1,000. Please contact Chris at 24 060.

Position Wanted — Typing
Occasional papers, reports, assignments or theses done by experienced typist at cheap rates. Telephone 52 6224.

Transport Wanted
Lift to University for 9 am start Monday to Friday from Adamstown Heights area (Princeton Avenue). Telephone Extension 489 or 52 7676 after hours.

Accommodation Wanted
Room required for a visiting research fellow (male non-smoker) from West Germany for ten months from 10 March. Contact the Secretary, Department of Computer Science, Extension 453.

Arrivals and Departures

Appointments
Mr Daryl L. Anderson, Laboratory Craftsman, Faculty of Architecture. Professor Francis A. Bates, Professor of Law.
Mr David J. Berthold, Tutor, Department of Drama.
Mr Henry D.M-H. Chan, Lecturer, Department of History.

A.G.M.

The AWEUN annual general meeting will be held on Friday, 13 March, at 12.30 pm in the Auchmuty Room of the Union where a short film will be screened. All members are welcome. Bring your lunch along.