AMALGAMATION

At the invitation of the Executives of the Academic Staff Associations of the University and the Newcastle College of Advanced Education, Mr. Ron Parry, Chairman of the New South Wales Higher Education Board, and Professor Jim Hagan, Chairman of the Department of History in the University of Wollongong and a member of that University's Council and the New South Wales Higher Education Board, held a meeting with the staffs of the University and the College on November 9.

Mr. Parry said that the State Minister, Mr. Mulock, the Higher Education Board, and he, personally, were opposed to the amalgamation of the University and the College in Newcastle; however, the Federal Minister for Education, Senator Baume, had told the New South Wales Minister for Education that amalgamation was not negotiable and funds for the continuation of new institutions at a cost of $11.5 million, had to be approved by the Federal Minister. As the institutions must have funds, the New South Wales Government would probably give an undertaking that it would legislate early next year to effect an amalgamation.

Given such events, it could be expected that the appointed day for amalgamation would be in June or July next year.

Turning to the question of the form of amalgamation, Mr. Parry said that as the Minister had informed the HEB that, from the Government's point of view there was much to be said for consistency in the legislation, Mr. Mulock did not expect legislation very much different from the legislation which had authorised the amalgamation in Wollongong.

The HEB had offered its views to the Minister on the points of difference in the plans for amalgamation of the University and the CAE. Mr. Parry believed that after the appointed day for amalgamation there would be a very quick settling down of the intensity of staff and public rancour.

The tone of the HEB's approach to the two plans for amalgamation was one of reconciliation. However, if the Minister had to make decisions they would probably be in respect of the composition of the new Council and the rights of the CAE staff when they were transferred.

Although the HEB continued to make recommendations to the Minister concerning funding for universities which included advanced education sections, procedures were being changed and the Board was in a sense withdrawing from accreditation of courses. Mature CAEs in New South Wales were on their way towards self-accreditation, while an agreement had been reached on this matter between the Board and the University of Wollongong.

Mr. Parry expressed the view that the reputation of a university rests on the people in it.

If a university was like the University of Newcastle, that is placed in an area with a big population and embracing an advanced education section, it would be asked to do different things from, say, Macquarie University. Certainly, such a university did not have to forego its scholarly reputation.

Professor Jim Hagan speaking about the amalgamation of his University and Wollongong Institute of Education, which took effect last May, said that it was important that the University of Wollongong had been able to set up its own course approvals committee. A single institution which could plan both university and CAE offerings was in the stronger position.

So far amalgamation had had no great effect on the academic life of the University of Wollongong. The burden of amalgamation had fallen on the minority of staff who shouldered the internal administration.

SUPERNOVA

At a meeting between 1 pm and 2 pm on November 17 in the Drama Theatre, progress towards the establishment of a "hands on" science-technology centre, Supernova, will be discussed.

Slides of similar centres across the world will be shown to give an impression of what is possible in Newcastle. People who are excited by Supernova and who will be willing to share in its development are particularly invited.

The meeting will be followed by a public meeting in the Great Hall on November 30.

INSIDE: $473,000 - GRANTS

Volume 8 No. 20 October 14 to October 28, 1982.
I write with a question.

In April, 1981 the 'Razor Gang' recommended that NCAE amalgamate with Newcastle University. Now at the end of 1981 was to result in termination of funds to the College. Now at the end of 1982 both institutions have their funding in a special account which can only be released on the authority of Senator Baume when he receives written assurances from Mr. Mulock that an amalgamation has been achieved.

My question: how did the University of Newcastle get from a position where its funding was not threatened to one where it is?

ROBERT MACKIE,
Education Department.

Dear Sir,

I write concerning a reference to the Department of History that appeared on page 9 of your last issue (Vol. 8, No. 19) in the article entitled 'Aborigines' Leader'.

Mr. Smith, a member of the National Aboriginal Conference, is reported as having said that a survey of aboriginal culture in the Hunter region is to be arranged by aboriginal co-operatives and groups in the areas concerned "... in association with the Department of History at this University". This statement must not be allowed to imply that this Department has been consulted on the projected scheme or has agreed to participate in it.

No such consultation has taken place and therefore no decision concerning the Department's attitude to the project has been taken.

JOHN BACH,
Head, History Department.

Those of us who are vitally interested in the immediate future of the University of Newcastle, and Higher Education in Australia in general, should take note of the recent exchange in the NEWS between Mr. J. Avery and Prof. J. Keats and Assoc. Prof. D. Parkes concerning the establishment of a Research Institute of Behavioural and Regional Sciences.

The Executive of APSUN is not convinced of the efficacy of the Institute(s) for the development of Postgraduate programmes. How is an adequate form and level of supervision of Postgraduates to be ensured within the Institute's operations? How original is the work of the Postgraduates who choose to work in the Institute(s) going to be? Or, are they to be exploited as underpaid, or even unpaid, research assistants? Will the operations of the Institute, and the mythical research funds that it is supposed to generate, compensate for the income lost by Postgraduates who are no longer getting any part-time teaching? Will the published research findings, papers, etc., be fully acknowledged as the joint effort of Postgraduates and Staff working on a particular project, or will only the recipient(s) of the Grant be the acknowledged author? In short, how is the Institute going to be of greater benefit to Postgraduates working on one of its projects than the current ad hoc Research Grant arrangements?

Professor Keats and Assoc. Professor Parkes have still not provided answers to the questions raised in Mr. Avery's letter and in other quarters. Such questions include: How is the organisational structure of the Institute to be conceived? They do give us some general idea of the Managerial structure of the Institute, but what of the type of ancillary and clerical staff envisaged? What is it about the structure that will ensure that further funding for research purposes within the University will be generated? Will the arrangements prove to be significantly better than those already existing within the University? How was the mysterious cost estimate of $125,000 for the initial funding of the Institute determined? Would it be possible for these calculations to be made public in a detailed budget document? How can such an outlay of 'risk capital' be contemplated, much less justified, whilst a large number of positions (only junior positions it would seem) are still being frozen and part-time teaching funds are being cut due to the financial straits that the University finds itself in?

The proponents of the Institute(s) have not given reasoned arguments and detailed costs to answer any of these questions. Surely, in an institution which is supposed to pride itself on such an approach to problems, we should be able to expect a better answer to reasonable criticism than the a resort to dictionary definitions and rhetoric about fears of 'bureaucracy' than that offered by the two Professors.

We believe that the risks that those who have come out in support of the Institutes are willing to take under the present conditions of economic stringency within the University have not been justified by reasoned, sound, economic and administrative arrangements.

John Cowley,
on behalf of the APSUN EXECUTIVE.

CREDIT UNION

The University office of the Credit union is now fully computerised.

By having their balances updated instantly, members will be provided with a more efficient service.

The computer terminal makes the processing of 'whole of pay' accounts much easier and more accurate.

At the first Board meeting after the annual general meeting, Mr. Peter Wildblood was re-elected Chairman and Mr. Maurie Edmonds was elected Deputy Chairman.
A record amount in research funds has been pledged to the staff of the University for research in 1983 by the National Health and Medical Research Council.

Support has been given by the Council for 18 new projects valued at $473,165 and 10 continuing projects worth $335,936.

Further support for staff research projects has come from the National Energy Research, Development and Demonstration Council (NERDDC) which has announced approval for grants totalling $149,165 for two projects.

University staff attracted from the Australian Research Grants Committee for 1983 a total of 35 projects valued at $449,165 (the NEWS of September 30 had the details).

The new NH & MRC grants for 1983 are as follows:

Professor R.D. Barry - $39,471, for a project, Characterisation of Human Paramyxovirus.

Dr. K.M. Bowen and Professor R.C. Burton - $23,219, for a project, Xenogeneic and Allogeneic Endocrine Pancreas Transplantation.

Professor R.C. Burton - $6,712, for a project, T-Cell Monitoring Allergic Autoimmune and Neoplastic Diseases.

Dr. G.A. Butcher and Professor R.L. Clancy - $45,007, for a project, In Vitro Studies on Human and Rodent Malaria.

Dr. S.L. Carney - $11,966, for a project, Effect of Commonly Used Pharmacological Agents on Distal Nephron Water Transmitters.

Dr. J.W. Heath - $26,561, for a project, Factors Determining Myelination: A Novel Approach in Vivo.

Dr. V.J. McPherson and Professor R.L. Clancy - $27,850, for a project, In Vitro Assay of Endothelial Cell Injury.

Professor J.S. Robinson - $29,080, for a project, Gluconeogenesis Before and After Birth in Experimental Postnatal Growth Retardation.

Dr. J.A. Rostas - $25,741, for a project, The Effect of Steroid Hormones on Synaptic Plasticity.

Dr. J.A. Rostas - $24,062, for a project, Specific Cell Surface Markers for Skeletal Muscle.

Professor R.W. Sanson-Fisher and Dr. A.L. Reid - $24,968, for a project, Detection of Psychiatric Disturbance by General Practitioners.

Dr. N.A. Saunders and Dr. M.J. Menzies - $21,221, for a project, Dopamine and Ventilation in Man.

Dr. R. Smith and Dr. J. Falconer - $25,181, for a project, Cerebro Spinal Fluid B-Endorphin and Metenkephalin During Pain and Stress.

Dr. G.A. Tannock and Assoc. Professor R.D. Barry - $26,735, for a project, Cold-Adapted Mutants of Influenza as A Possible Vaccine Master Strains.

The continuing NH & MRC grants are:

Dr. R.G. Adler and M. Hayes - $20,919, for a project, Antenatal Prediction of Difficulties in Maternal-Infant Relationship.

Professor R.C. Burton - $26,959, for a project, T-Cell Monitoring in Allergic Autoimmune and Neoplastic Diseases.

Dr. P.B. Dunkley - $30,194, for a project, Phosphorylation of Synaptosomal Protein and CNS Neurotransmission.

Dr. B. Fenelon and D.B. Dunlop - $22,313, for a project, Assessment of Stereoscopic Vision Using Random Dot Tests.

Inspecting a laboratory burner model, which forms part of the NERDDC study for which a grant of $126,265 has been approved, are Dr. John Truelove, Senior Research Fellow, and Tarig Mahmud, Ph.D. student in the Department of Chemical Engineering.
NEW PRESIDENT COMMENTS

For Dr. Don Wright, newly elected President of the Staff Association, the most immediate matter to be concluded in the Industrial Agreement for Academic Staff.

Dr. Wright says the Vice-Chancellor was asked by the Council to go ahead with discussions with representatives of the staff aimed at drafting an agreement, and the document could be concluded at the Council's meeting in December.

The draft Industrial Agreement embraces a range of conditions of employment for academic staff, including probationary appointments, fares and removal expenses, contractual entitlements, payment for outside work and an anti-discrimination clause.

A Senior Lecturer in History, Dr. Wright was elected President of the Staff Association after Dr. David Dockrill had resigned. Professor Rey Keats has agreed to become Acting Secretary until the annual meeting in March.

Dr. Wright says the Executive of the SA received Dr. Dockrill's resignation with great regret. The period of Dr. Dockrill's Presidency had been an enormously troubled time, one during which the Association had been confronted at once by the great issues of amalgamation, the Award, and the Academic Plan, while not being relieved of the need to deal with the usual "run of the mill issues".

Dr. Dockrill had set high standards of personal endeavour, integrity and generosity which any successor would be tested to emulate.

The manner in which Dr. Dockrill handled the amalgamation debate in recent months, especially in his dealings with the politicians and Minister Mulock, had been superb. No one in the University could have done it better and the whole academic community owed him an enormous debt of gratitude.
**Alcoholism runs in Families**

Research and clinicians generally agreed that alcoholism runs in families.

According to Dr. Robert Adler, Senior Lecturer in Child Psychiatry at the University, who spoke on Children of Alcoholics to the Congress of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatry in Perth recently, it seemed likely that the appearance of alcoholism in adulthood was determined by the interaction of sociocultural, genetic and environmental factors.

only reported among the daughters of alcoholics: a greater risk of marrying an alcoholic themselves, 50 per cent lifetime expectancy for affective disorder, and an increased incidence of alcoholism, albeit less than the incidence among their brothers.

"Many studies have described the high frequency of marital discord and breakdown among the families of alcoholics", he said.

Clearly, the most predictable harmful effect of having an alcoholic parent was the increased risk, particularly among sons, of developing alcoholism later in life.

The extent of other psychopathology among boys, the effects on girls, the impact of maternal versus paternal alcoholism and the relative contributions of alcoholism, poverty and family disharmony must await further clarification.

However, it would seem that there was some evidence to support an increased incidence of behavioural, school and antisocial problems among the children of alcoholics. They also experienced increased marital breakdown among their parents and possibly in their own marriages.

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**SPORT**

Teams representing the University, the CAR and the Technical College competed for the Inter-Tertiary Golf Shield at Steel Works Golf Links on October 29.

University, splendidly led Alan Flowers and Bill Westerveld, with a nett score of 275 by a double century in the first day of the match with five wickets down for 376. Johnston is only the third Newcastle batsman to score a double century in the last 10 seasons.

In all, he hit 34 fours and five sixes, adding 82 in 61 minutes with Bill Wileman, who scored 30, and 72 in 43 minutes with Geoff Evans, who made 36.

Johnston took 105 minutes to reach his first century, sharing a third wicket stand of 193 with Wilfred Schultz, who scored 52. His next 50 took 64 minutes and his second 100 runs was posted in 247 minutes.

Johnston is a former Sydney and New South Wales player who joined University at the start of this season. He was granted associate membership by the Sports Union to allow him to play with the Cricket Club.

The seventh consecutive Indoor Soccer competition will be conducted in the Auchmuty Sports Centre from the end of this month until next February. The Amenities Office handles arrangements for the competition and Ray Barttz and Bill Westerveld are sponsors.

The seventh consecutive Indoor Soccer competition will be conducted in the Auchmuty Sports Centre from the end of this month until next February. The Amenities Office handles arrangements for the competition and Ray Barttz and Bill Westerveld are sponsors. The Northern Soccer Federation provides referees. Indoor soccer is played by teams comprising five players each and the forthcoming competition has attracted entries from 112 teams.
An unusual forum Health Services for the Elderly, What are the Priorities? is planned for Thursday, November 18, at Newcastle City Hall.

Most seminars and conferences concerned with the ageing consist of professionals discussing what they feel is the priority need. The forum in the City Hall is intended to bring together a representative gathering of elderly people, their relatives and friends and health professionals, especially involved with the provision of services for the elderly. Together they will examine health services provided in this region as they are and as they should be, and seek to establish priorities which genuinely reflect needs and wants of the consumers of those services.

Almost every organisation concerned with the ageing is spent at least one representative, but the majority of those attending will be elderly people. To ensure that they have ample opportunities to express their points of view, the morning session has been given over to group discussions of problems such as hospital care, community services, the confused elderly and nursing homes and the role of the private practitioner. Short papers on these questions will precede the discussion and there will be a consumer view presented.

Dr. Geoffrey Olsen, appointed in 1981 by the New South Wales Minister for Health as a Ministerial Adviser to work in the special position of Project Manager for the Newcastle Region, has agreed to be guest speaker. One volume of Dr. Olsen's Report is devoted largely to the aged and he has gone on to stress the need for significant changes in geriatric services. The changes include the appointment of a Professor of Geriatrics in the Faculty of Medicine at this University and the creation of a purpose-built geriatric centre at Westmead Hospital, which would act as the academic centre for this specialty.

Dr. Olsen also recommends changes in the roles of other hospitals in the region, the provision of nursing home beds and to a lesser extent community care facilities. In his reports, Dr. Olsen continually stressed the need for wide and general discussion of the issues relating to the care of the aged. This forum will provide such an opportunity. The response to the forum has been so overwhelming that the afternoon session, which will feature reports from the discussion groups and Dr. Olsen's address, has been moved to the University of Newcastle, City Campus, to enable as many of the people who might otherwise have been disappointed to attend.

The forum is being jointly sponsored by the Australian Association of Gerontology and the Department of Community Programmes. Professor M. Carter will chair the seminar.

Much of the organisation has been the work of Margaret Henry, of the Department of History. Margaret is researching the history and provision of services for the elderly. It is the second seminar on ageing with which she has been associated this year. In February, Margaret helped to organise the Regional Conference of the Australian Association of Gerontology in Newcastle. Margaret was recently elected to the New South Wales Executive of the A.A.G. and helped to establish a local chapter of that organisation, the first to be founded outside a capital city.

Energy Conservation

An opportunity to study energy conservation at universities on the West Coast of the United States in a climate similar to Newcastle will be taken by Mr. Maurie Edmonds, Assistant Planner.

Mr. Edmonds leaves for the US on November 11 to undertake a three-week special project assignment which has been approved by sources. The proposed trip consists of inspections of energy conservation measures being taken by Loyola Marymount University, Occidental College and the University of California, Los Angeles, California State University, Long Beach, the University of San Diego, the University of California, San Diego, and the University of California, Riverside.

Mr. Edmonds pointed out to the Council that with the savage increases in electricity and fuel bills recently and the forecast of further such increases the University's annual cost of energy (electricity, fuel oil and gas) may rise from less than $450,000 to in excess of $1 million in a very short time.

The university, he said, had been very active in the energy conservation field since early 1979, achieving a reduction in energy consumption of approximately 35 per cent representing savings of approximately $595,000 to December 31 this year, and that all possible avenues of energy conservation must continue to be explored.

$100 WIN

The first suggestion prize of $100 has been won by Dr. Tim Roberts, of the Department of Biological Sciences.

The Vice-Chancellor, who personally offered the prize, announced the selection of the winner. The Vice-Chancellor's prize recognises the best suggestion submitted to the Positive Initiatives Committee, which recommended that Dr. Roberts' idea for a science and technology centre to be called Supernova was the best.
Professor Robinson chose the title Born Too Small for his inaugural lecture on October 25, because it highlights one of the major clinical problems in reproduction today.

Born Too Small, Professor Robinson said, describes those infants who are born small-for-dates and present different problems from those born too soon (premature). Infants born too small are more likely to suffer from asphyxia before birth, or even die before birth. After birth these children often continue to be disadvantaged; intellectual and physical handicap are potential outcomes. Babies who were handicapped by growth failure before birth (in utero growth retardation) may have hearing defects and their interpersonal skills may be affected.

Professor Robinson, Foundation Professor of Reproductive Medicine, said that although it is recognised that pregnancy involves the extremes of the reproductive years, or self-abuse with drugs, tobacco, alcohol or narcotic, or maternal malnutrition, may result in failure of the growth of the fetus, too often no explanation for an infant being born too soon can be found.

Detailed study of the growth of the human fetus is difficult due to its inaccessibleability in utero, but in recent years ultrasound has been widely used to study life before birth. This technique has enabled longitudinal studies of fetal growth and investigation of fetal activity.

Professor Robinson emphasised that prevention is better than cure, but that it will involve different processes which will enable the fetus to survive life after birth. The small-for-dates fetus can escape its hazardous environment by inducing its own premature delivery. This process probably occurs over a number of days or even weeks and includes premature maturatation of organs, the lung being the best example. However, at the same time these processes may put the fetus at further risk as the switch from fetal to adult haemoglobin which also occurs early, can make oxygen supply to the fetus even more difficult.

In his concluding remarks Professor Robinson emphasised that prevention is better than cure, but that it will involve many different members of our community to ensure that pregnancy occurs in the most favourable circumstances.

Education at school and at home may reduce the number of teenage pregnancies, and may also lead to a healthier life style. In particular, self-abuse by drugs, even those considered socially acceptable by the majority, tobacco and alcohol, should be avoided before and certainly during pregnancy.

Good nutrition was also emphasised, while undernutrition is not as large a problem in Australia as in many other parts of the world. Overnutrition and selective nutritional deficit each may be associated with, or cause, abnormal fetal growth.

When the problem of growth failure is recognised early, the problem of growth failure is recognised early, then careful clinical management is required and even despite this all too often these children will require additional support long after birth, Professor Robinson added.
Mr. Logan

Mr. John Logan, who was admitted to a degree following study in this University's predecessor, Newcastle University College, recently returned to Newcastle and is working in the Department of Economics as a Visiting Fellow.

Mr. Logan is on study leave from the Australian National University, where he is a Senior Lecturer in Economics.

He will be at his Alma Mater he will spend until the end of January working primarily on research into the effect of transactions and costs on market structures, in particular the medical market.

Mr. Logan's father's occupation (he was a mining surveyor) meant that young John lived something of a nomadic life. He was born at Helensburg on the New South Wales South Coast and went to Singleton High School. Working as a Cadet at the Commonwealth Steel Plant at Mayfield, he studied Industrial Chemistry part-time at Newcastle University College in 1958 and 1959. The next year he transferred to part-time Economics and gained employment with the Hunter Valley County Council.

Mr. Logan was enrolled as an undergraduate at the University College until 1964. Then he was a postgraduate student at ANU and, in 1968, became a member of the academic staff.

"I have rather vivid recollections of my student days at the College at Tighes Hill", he said. "Professor Warren Hogan was Professor of Economics and Head of the Division of Commerce. Some of the Lecturers in the Division were Ron Gibbons, Bill Sheehan and Barry Gordon. Bernie Twohill and I were fellow undergraduates".

Mr. Logan is accompanied in Newcastle by his wife Phyl, but his two teenage children are staying in Canberra where they attend school.

ALMA MATER

VISITORS TO GEOLOGY

Twenty-one geologists from developing countries this month visited the Department of Geology at the University. The received instruction on local coal measures and mining techniques from Assoc. Professor C.F.K. Diessel and saw practical coal exploration and mining work.

The overseas geologists are presently spending 12 weeks in Australia at the invitation of the Australian Development Assistance Bureau, which asked the Western Australian School of Mines in Kalgoorlie and WAIT AID Ltd., on offshoot of the Western Australian Institute of Technology, to organise the course.

As well as attending lectures and seeing practical work, the participants are travelling within Australia to examine the geology of mining and exploration sites in order to make an assessment of techniques that may be used in mineral exploration.

They are receiving the major part of their instruction and practical work at the WA School of Mines, with some tuition being organised in Perth and elsewhere in association with field visits.

The course includes examination of geology and exploration methods in the Collie, Capel and Pinjarra areas of the south west, iron ore deposits in the Pilbara and the gold and nickel areas of the Eastern Goldfields.

As well, participants will travel to the Eastern States to examine coal and metalliferous mining areas in New South Wales.

Course instructors and supervisors have been drawn from tertiary institutions, government departments and the mining and exploration industry and are recognised as specialists in their field.

The candidates for the course all hold a degree or equivalent qualification in geology and work in the exploration field in their home countries.

The participants were selected representing 16 countries including, Zimbabwe, Swaziland, Malaysia, Lesotho, Philippines, Burma, India, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Ghana, Zambia, Tanzania and Nigeria.

Our photograph by Jan Walker shows some of the visitors with (back row) Mr. K. Quartermaine, of the WA School of Mines, and Professor Diessel.
Sunday Night Opera

Interested in opera? If so you can see four opera films featuring the Hamburg Opera Company at the University.

The Department of Community Programmes will put on the opera films in the Drama Theatre on Sunday nights commencing on November 21.

In 1974 the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany presented a Festival of Opera Films at the University. There have been many requests for another screening.

On November 21, The Mastersingers of Nuremberg, by Richard Wagner, will be screened.

On December 5, The Magic Flute, by Mozart, will be screened.

On December 19, The Prewuzzer, by Carl Maria von Weber, and Wozzeck, by Alban Berg, will be shown.

PSA News

PSA members from the University and the Newcastle CAE will have an opportunity to make comments on a document which outlines some basic principles for discussions on amalgamation when the two PSAs hold a combined meeting in Lecture Theatre B01 on November 17 at 12.30 pm.

The number of nominations received for election to the Management Committee of the University's Sub-Division of the PSA fell short of the number of vacancies and, consequently, it is expected that further nominations will be called from the floor at the annual general meeting in the Drama Theatre on December 1 at 12.30 pm.

The following nominations have been received: Chairman, David Kay; Secretary, Brian Kelleher; Assistant Secretary, Kay Jackson; Committee, Mary Rabbitt, Mary Stoud, Margaret Davie, Bede Jordan and Garry Jones.

On account of the decision to open the membership books of the Sub-Division for a limited period, members of staff in positions which are covered by the PSA and who wish to apply to join the Association can contact Mr. Brian Kelleher before November 30.

DR. ROBERTS RECEIVES US GRANT

Dr. Tim Roberts, Senior Lecturer in Biological Sciences, will receive $145,000 from the United States to continue research on Early Pregnancy Factor (EPF). This factor is released within hours of fertilisation of the egg and therefore its measurement allows for very early post-fertilisation events to be studied.

Dr. Roberts and two research assistants hope to develop a simpler, faster and more easily standardised system of detecting pregnancy. At present an extremely sensitive and arduous assay based on the properties of the white blood cells is used to detect EPF.

The National Institutes of Health in the United States, which makes very few grants to scientists outside the US, has awarded Dr. Roberts the three-year grant.

Dr. Roberts said one surprising finding to emerge from the Newcastle studies was that fertilisation was not always prevented when women used intra-uterine devices. Therefore the IUD must probably act by preventing implantation into the wall of the uterus of the fertilised and developing egg.

Early Pregnancy Factor is an Australian phenomenon as it was first reported by Dr. Halle Morton, of the University of Queensland in 1974. Since then numerous groups have attempted to study EPF. So far only two in Australia have achieved success, viz. the Queensland and Newcastle groups.

Dr. Roberts said his continued interest in EPF and the fact that this factor is released within hours of fertilisation and presents an extremely sensitive and arduous assay based on the properties of the white blood cells is used to detect EPF.

The grant is the outcome of earlier collaborative studies into EPF by Dr. Roberts, Mrs. Cheng Smart, a Ph.D. student, Professor Robert Clancy, of the Faculty of Medicine and Dr. Ian Fraser, of the University of Sydney. The studies were begun three years ago.

Dr. Roberts said that without the dedication of Mrs. Smart the project would undoubtedly not have reached this stage.

SUPERNOVA

What is it? Come and hear TIM ROBERTS explain.

Venue: ARTS DRAMA THEATRE

Time: 1-2 pm, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

followed by

A PUBLIC MEETING

with actual models on display

VENUE: THE GREAT HALL, UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

TIME: 2-8.30 pm, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30
Applications for enrolment in the Diploma in Education course are invited from students who hope to complete degree requirements at the end of this year. Those hoping to take the Dipl.Ed. course are reminded that submission of a re-registration form following a degree course is not sufficient; a separate application form must be completed. This form is available from, and should be returned to, the Student Administration Office of the Secretary’s Division (Ground Floor, McMullin Building).

It is also possible in some circumstances for candidates who have completed two full-time years of a degree course to enrol for two further years as candidates for the degree and Diploma in Education concurrently.

Information may be obtained from the Faculty Secretary, Faculty of Education, Room AG69 (Extension 296) or (afternoons only) from the Administrative Officer, Department of Education, Room W329 (Extension 417).

All applications are advised to consult the Administration Officer before submitting their completed application forms.

**BOOK FAIR**

A group from The Friends of the University is collecting, sorting and pricing books in anticipation of the University’s first Book Fair.

The group wants buyers to have a wide choice, so they have increased the "air's" offerings to include magazines, sheet music and recordings.

If the venture proves to be as popular as the University of New South Wales' Book Fair, University projects will be enhanced considerably by the funds which the fair produces.

The Book Fair's organizers have appealed for more donations. If you are clearing out your shelves, you may telephone Mrs. Thelma Wright at 69 3355 for collection, or leave them with the Commonwealth Bank on the campus.

Yes, old magazines are eagerly sought.

Sorting and pricing is being done in a room in the Medical Sciences Building. You can give help on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 am until noon every second week. Please telephone 43 9205 (Mrs. Gwen Hamilton) if you prefer Tuesday mornings or 46 9061 (Mrs. Miriam Beveridge) if Wednesday mornings suit best.

In the sorting and pricing room the books are being split-up into various categories for the Fair — children's books, text books, Australian, fiction, etc.

Rarities, such as first editions, old volumes and souvenir issues, will be put to one side and sold at a Slow Auction. Buyers interested in this Connoisseurs' Corner will be able to place bids in registrers of the rare books. The bids will be received up until the final stages of the Book Fair, when the books will be auctioned.

The actual date of the Book Fair still needs to be decided. However, after more donations have been received the date, possibly during next year's Mattara, will be announced. The venue will be the Great Hall of the University.

**Staff House**

Although the Staff House's membership and finances are in a healthy state, the President, Professor Barry Boettcher, believes quite a deal can be done to encourage a wider membership.

Professor Boettcher informed the annual general meeting on November 5 that a number of people still used the club on a regular basis without being members.

The Treasurer, Mr. Peter Day, reported a profit of $6,127 after the payment of income tax.

Professor Boettcher said the Staff House membership fee had remained constant for several years and there appeared to be no need to seek an increase.

Membership stood at about 350, which was a healthy level, despite the continual loss of staff due to retirements and the freezing of positions.

He predicted that the committee would have to give some thought to the changes in numbers if, and when, amalgamation took place, as amalgamation would probably increase membership considerably.

Professor Boettcher said that the committee had almost completed negotiations with the caterer, Mrs. L. Thredgold, for a new contract.

The committee considered that the appointment of Mr. K.A. Sanderson as general day-to-day supervisor had already had a beneficial effect on the running of the Staff House. Elections took place for the committee.

Professor Boettcher and Mr. Day were returned to their respective positions. Mr. Bill Warren was elected Vice-President, Professor Bon Parkes was elected Secretary and Professor Daphne Keats, Dr. David Finlay, Mrs. Elvira Sprogis and Mr. Aubrey Everett were elected as committee members.

Workers sorting and pricing material donated for the Book Fair.
“FRONTIERS”

2NUR-FM, the community radio station on campus, is increasing its University programming.

University NEWS, a 15-minute magazine programme, has been running weekly (Fridays at Noon) since August. The programme highlights current events at the University and features interviews with staff on a range of topical issues.

Subjects covered have included amalgamation, plant cloning, research into a new contraceptive vaccine, graduate employment prospects, silicon chips, tax evasion and Supernova. Visitors to campus have also been interviewed.

University NEWS has also informed the public about events at the University - seminars, workshops, films and lectures which are open to all interested. One of the programme’s main aims is to emphasise that the University is a vital part of the Newcastle community, making a wide range of valuable contributions to the region.

2NUR-FM will expand this function with a new programme, Frontiers, which will concentrate solely on University research. Each week the entire programme will be devoted to the research being undertaken by one staff member. It’s anticipated that contributions will be quite diverse. Planned programmes include research into growth conditions for grape vines in the Hunter, work on gifted children, a computer-assisted examination of the language in Jane Austen’s novels and a study of development in Sri Lanka.

Frontiers will go to air Thursdays at 4.30 pm. The programme is produced and presented by Patricia Rhodes, and the first of the series will be broadcast on November 18.

Advertisements

WANTED TO BUY

Gents 10 speed pushbike in good condition. If you are able to assist please telephone Alison at Extension 767.

PENFRIENDS

Do you want penfriends? Most countries, all ages, male and female. Interested persons are requested to write to Narelle Stokes, C/- German Section, or telephone Extension 346.

For Sale

16K SORCEROR COMPUTER, complete with 12" black and white monitor, development rompac, two cassette recorders, cassette, instruction manuals, programming guide and cables. $800 or near offer. Interested persons are asked to telephone Extension 345.

1979 FORD 1.6 GL ESCORT SEDAN - one owner, Al condition, well shod with five good steel-belted radials. Registered until June, 1983. Laminated windscreen, rustproofed throughout - $4,800 or near offer. Interested persons are requested to telephone 57 2385 after hours.

40 BASS PIANO ACCORDIAN in velvet-lined carrying case. As new, $175 or near offer.

Interested persons are requested to telephone 57 2385 after hours.

1977 FORD CORTINA - one owner, registered until March, 1983, motor in perfect condition. 55,000 KM, tyres as new - $2,500 or near offer. Interested persons are requested to telephone 54 7473.

KUMON PROJECTOR - super 8 S912 GL lens (multi coloured), as new - $240. Interested persons are requested to telephone 54 7473.

1974 KOMBI long registration, semi-camper, loads of extras - $3,100 or near offer. Interested persons are requested to telephone 43 9121.
STAFF

Appointments
Mr. J.R. Buxton, Technical Officer, Faculty of Medicine.

Resignations
Dr. T.M. Caelli, Senior Lecturer, Psychology Department.
Ms A. Robotham, Stenographer, Economics Department.

DIARY OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER 12 TO NOVEMBER 14

Timber Industry and
The Myall weekend educational school at
Smiths Lake Field Station. Historical
examination with fieldwork, of the
timber industry in
the Myall Region. Interested
persons are requested to
telephone Community Programmes, Extension 522.

NOVEMBER 13 TO NOVEMBER 14

The Care of Trees -
weekend school (non-
residential) at Single-
ton. Practical
tree-care instruction
by Peter Hill. In-
terested persons are
requested to
telephone the Department of
Community Programmes at Extension 522.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

10 am
Department of Mathemat-
ics, Statistics and
Computer Science seminar. Guest speaker:
Professor E.A. Bende-
er, Department of
Mathematics, University of California at
San Diego. Topic:
Central and Local
Limit Theorems in
Asymptotic Enumera-
tion. Venue: Room
V126 (Mathematics).

1 pm
Meeting to discuss
the establishment of the
Supernova Science/Technology Centre. Venue:
Drama Theatre.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18

9 am to
3.30 pm
Health Services for
the Elderly seminar
to examine existing
and planned health
services, needs and
priorities. Speakers
include: Dr. Geoff-
rey Olsen. Venue:
City Hall.

NOVEMBER 20 TO NOVEMBER 27

10 am
The Realms of Con-
sciousness - full
day workshops on the
understanding and
control of conscious-
ness, conducted by
John Carr at Nelson
Bay. Interested
persons are requested to
telephone the Department of
Community Programmes at Extension 522.

NOVEMBER 20 TO NOVEMBER 21

The Actor's Craft
weekend (non-residen-
tial) school at the
Civic Playhouse Thea-
tre, conducted by
Aarne Neeme. Inter-
ested persons are re-
tested to telephone
the Department of
Community Programmes at Extension 522.

Advertisements

TO LET

Executive Cape Cod four bed-
room furnished residence with
in-ground pool, plus two car
parking, little ground mainten-
ance. Available from mid-
January, 1983 for 11 months.
Interested persons are re-
tested to telephone 67 2188.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

6 pm
Sunday Night at the
Opera - commence-
ment of a series of
Sunday screenings of
opera films: The
Mastersingers of
Nuremburg, The Magic
Flute, The Freeboot-
er and Wozzeck. Ven-
ue: Drama Theatre.
Interested persons
are requested to tel-
ephone the Department of
Community Programmes of
at Extension 522.

NOVEMBER 22 TO NOVEMBER 26

Introduction to Mic-
roprocessor Systems
course to present
fundamental ideas on
microprocessor tech-
nology and develop
hardware and software
skills. Organised by
the Department of
Electrical and Com-
puter Engineering.
Interested persons
are requested to
telephone Extension
591.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26

9 am
Preparation of Envi-
ronmental Impact
Statements seminar
for people involved
professionally in
planning to examine
Impact Statements
preparation in acc-
cordance with the
Environmental Plan-
ing Assessment Act.
Venue: University.
Interested persons
are requested to tele-
ephone the Department of
Community Programmes of
at Extension 522.

University NEWS is published on a two-weekly basis in the Secretary's Division for the Editor, The Secretary, The University of Newcastle. Stories and items should reach Mr. John Armstrong or Mrs. Linda Aurelius, C/- Room G58(a) or Room G60 in the McMullin Building, by 5 pm on the Thursday before the publication date.