UNIVERSITY'S COMMISSION

The University has begun work on a commission for the State Government aimed at stimulating greater use of technological opportunities by industries in the Newcastle Region.

A Regional Project Committee has been established to direct the study. The University's representatives are the Vice-Chancellor, Professor G.J. Jameson, and a nominee from TUNRA Ltd. The Committee also includes representatives of industrial, union, commercial and professional organisations and is chaired by Mr. Alex Young, Chairman of the Hunter Development Board.

The Universities of New England and Wollongong have also been invited to undertake studies of ways in which they can stimulate industrial development in their regions.

The Hunter Region Project Committee will report to a Project Steering Committee Co-chaired by Professor L. Birt, Vice-Chancellor of the University of New South Wales.

The aim of the study will be "the establishment of mechanisms to stimulate the transfer of technology and relevant skills from universities and other research and educational institutions, to industry."

Particular attention is to be given to identifying the technological strengths and weaknesses of traditional and high technology industries and the potential for creating new industries. The resources and shortcomings of industry and professional associations, State and other government research institutions, the University, the CAE and TAFE are to be examined to suggest ways of satisfying the existing and projected technology development requirements of industry.

Further, the potential of such mechanisms as technology.

We Want Your Ideas

Do you have an idea which a company might see as marketable? Have you ever thought of setting up a business yourself, to commercialise a concept you may have come across in your work?

If so, Professor Graeme Jameson would be pleased to hear from you.

Professor Jameson says that there could be people in the University -- academics, support staff, or students -- whose ideas could be suitable for development by local industries.

As a member of the Regional Project Committee, Professor Jameson is investigating ways in which the University can assist the region to improve productivity and especially to create new jobs.

The Committee will also be making recommendations to the State Government about actions which could be taken to support initiatives for "technology transfer" from the University to the community.

Although there is much emphasis these days on "high technology", Professor Jameson feels that any kind of advanced work could lead to job creation. Thus he would be very pleased to hear from anyone with a new idea, whether in education or electronics, health care or hydraulics.

Professor Jameson can be found in the Department of Chemical Engineering, Extension 469.

INSIDE: Field station opened
parks, technology information centres, special training centres and industrial consulting in the regional context, is to be evaluated.

In a letter to the Vice Chancellor, the Minister for Technology, Mr. Hills, said the commissioned studies were an initiative of the Cabinet's Committee on Technology. He asked for a final report by April 30, 1984.

The Positive Initiatives Committee of Council has considered the Government's commission and prepared a report on ways in which the University may participate in the implementation of the Government's policy on technology development.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

On December 9, a report is to be presented to Council on the Seminar on Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action held at Macquarie University on September 27 and 28, 1983. The report by Lionel Farrell, Assistant Secretary - Legal, will include extensive details of the topics presented and is being sent to Council for the information of its members by the Advisory Committee on Equal Opportunity.

Discrimination

The seminar was told that discrimination may be intentional or unintentional. Effect, rather than Intention, is the criterion which determines whether or not discrimination has occurred.

Affirmative Action as suggested to universities and colleges envisages the Institutions researching the experiences of their own staff and examining their employment procedures with a view to eliminating those which directly or indirectly discriminate against women and minority groups. Affirmative Action programmes are not attacks on academic freedom or institutional autonomy. Affirmative Action is the application of the tools of analytical research and enquiry which are the rationale of academic institutions.

Legislation

This report notes that tertiary institutions already operate within a body of State legislation and comply with a certain number of Federal regulatory procedures. These are seen as a necessary framework. Among this legislation is the New South Wales Anti-Discrimination Act, which makes it unlawful to discriminate against a person on the grounds of race, sex, marital status, physical impairment, intellectual impairment and homosexuality.

Part IIA of the Act, administered by the Director of Equal Opportunity in Public Employment, will have to be complied with by universities and colleges in setting up their Management Plans following the announcement to this effect by the Premier.

The aim of a management plan is to identify discrimination within the organisation and to set out a timetable and strategies for its elimination, to change the employment environment within the organisation so that it is fair, it is, therefore, necessary for each organisation to carry out its own research in order to ascertain the shape, form and contours of its discrimination. Each Management Plan will be tailored to the organisation itself. In its implementation, a Management Plan calls for 'targets' or goals to be set. These should not be confused with 'quotas' which are to be found in United States legislation.

Employment Practices

The seminar was told that overt and covert (or systemic) discrimination exists against women in universities and colleges. The data available indicates that these women are in a worse position than in the outside workforce. The problems in this area have been exacerbated in recent years by the financial cuts to education. Another related aspect of the problem is the low participation by women in decision-making structures within higher education institutions.

It was claimed that employment patterns in education are only explainable on the grounds of discrimination.

Co-ordinator

In her address to the seminar, the Director of Equal Opportunity in Public Employment, Alison Ziller, gave a detailed outline of the criteria relating to the appointment of Equal Opportunity Co-ordinators, the measure of freedom they should have in their work to succeed and the sort of support staff they require. For the work of co-ordinators and the formulation of a Management Plan to succeed, there needed to be a sense of commitment and priority from the top of the university. The support of Vice-Chancellors was vital for the smooth passage towards a Management Plan and the cooperation of all staff.

Mr. Farrell's report points out that Equal Employment Opportunity is a very topical subject and that, reluctantly or willingly, but in either case without delay, universities will have to deal with issues in this area.
OBITUARY

Frank Zabrana, one of the old identities from Newcastle University College days, died after a brief illness on November 7.

Frank was born in 1920 at Svéboh in Czechoslovakia, and lived there through the turbulent pre-war and wartime devastation of his country. During this time Frank worked for an English-Czechoslovakian Bank in Prague and Prostějov as a clerk. After studying journalism and photography at the University of Prague, he left Czechoslovakia in 1948 to see life on the other side of the Iron Curtain. He travelled extensively throughout Europe, living for periods in Germany, Luxembourg, Belgium and Holland and studying at the University College of Stuttgart and the University of Amsterdam.

Frank then moved to Brazil. He worked in Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo before coming to Australia in 1951. Whilst he was working for a Sydney photographic firm, he saw an advertisement for the position of Laboratory Attendant at Newcastle University College at Tighes Hill. He successfully applied and his long association with the Department of Metallurgy began in 1956.

His duties as Laboratory Attendant included typing (since there were no departmental secretaries) and translations, but it was obvious that his first love was in photography. Divisional secretaries arrived with the first divisional heads in 1959, and the increasing demands of research, including many new instruments such as electron microscopes, meant his duties evolved towards photography, and after some reluctance on the part of the University of New South Wales he was regarded as a photographic assistant in 1961 and finally (by this University) to photographer in 1972.

Frank bestowed infinite care and patience over any photograph, making sure that all the details required were carefully emphasised. But he always seemed to be happiest in photographing people, and as his skills became known he was called on to photograph many staff members from the Vice-Chancellor downwards, as well as many University functions and presentations. His work was always meticulous and his portrait work shrewdly posed. He was moreover a charming and urbane character, widely known and loved by the older members of the University. He retired in 1981 to exploit his hobby, photography, but his retirement was to be cruelly cut short.

His funeral on November 10 was attended by large groups of both the Czech and University communities and our deepest sympathy is extended to his wife Marlon, and their daughter Jane.

E.O.H

$123,062 NERDDC GRANT

Mr. Murray

Council to the University for a project designed to assist with evaluating the impact on the environment of emissions from power stations and power-consuming industries.

Mr. Murray will receive $123,062 in connection with a project entitled Effects of SO2, NOx and their combination on agriculturally and ecologically important plants in Australia.

A further $83,500 goes directly to Mr. Murray from the following State organisations and private companies: Alcan Australia Limited, the Electricity Commission of New South Wales, the Environment Protection Authority of Victoria, the State Pollution Control Commission, Tomago Aluminium and the Queensland Electricity Generating Board.

Professor Terry Wall, Assoc. Professor in Chemical Engineering, has been awarded the other NERDDC grant -- $68,806 for a project entitled Ash Formation and Laboratory Simulation of Ash Foulins during Coal Combustion.

An interesting feature of Mr. Murray's project will be that he will attempt to simulate at the University the conditions under which the plants are exposed to the pollutants. He will erect open-top fumigation chambers near the Auchmuty Sports Centre.

The research project has developed from his work, begun
in 1979, on the detrimental effects of SO$_2$ on plants, which involved experimentally replicating the conditions under which plants are exposed to atmospheric pollutants around power-consuming industries.

He says he is mainly interested in providing a rational basis for the evaluation of possible conflicts of land use in areas which are important ecologically and agriculturally.

The plants on which the work will largely concentrate are grapevines, eucalypts, lucern, clover, rye grass and other pasture and fodder crops, and native grasses.

"Previously we worked separately on SO$_2$ or HF", he says. "However, under realistic conditions the two are often mixed and there have been some suggestions that, under some circumstances, more harm can be done when they are mixed than when they separated."

In the fumigation chambers the plants will be exposed to low concentrations of SO$_2$ and HF for several months. Growth, fruiting and biochemical changes will be measured, with particular emphasis on the changes related to agricultural productivity, and quality.

Work on the study, which is expected to take three years to complete, has already begun. Early next year work will get under way on the erection of the fumigation chambers and a proofed fence.

Mr. Murray says that the readiness of organisations besides NERDOC to support the project indicated that they agreed the project is necessary. He has written to other organisations in energy producing areas of Australia asking for suggestions about plants which might be tested.

Nobody has previously worked on the impact of low concentrations of SO$_2$ and HF under real conditions in Australia and this has hindered the work of assessing the environmental impact of major energy-related development proposals. Naturally our findings will be of considerable interest to farmers, engineers and other groups in places such as the Hunter Valley, the La Trobe Valley in Victoria, Gladstone in Queensland, and other areas with major energy-related developments.

The research team will include research assistants Marlaa Lwinski, Elizabeth Kirshaw and Colin Freund.

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**New PSA Chairman's Views**

Mr. Farrell

For a variety of reasons the morale of University staff, both non-academic and academic, has not been the highest over the past few years. This is the view of Mr. Lionel Farrell, Assistant Secretary (Legal), who is Chairman-elect of the University Sub-division of the Public Service Association.

Mr. Farrell told the News that under the leadership of Dr. Don Wright and his colleagues in the Staff Association there are signs that things may be looking up for academic staff.

However, there is a broad impression, he says, that an equal sensitivity on the part of the University's Executive to the interests and concerns of general staff has been lacking.

"I give very high priority to actions which will remove this impression, because I believe that the improvement in staff morale which would follow can only work to the advantage of the University.

"Better communication is one step in this direction", Mr. Farrell says, "I think of communication as a two way exchange. On my side, I will see that the members of the Association are kept as informed as possible of issues and developments. Equally, I hope no member of the Association will hesitate to contact the Association if he or she has a problem in which the Association can help.

Mr. Farrell points out that the Association exists for its members. "I intend to give them all the support we can. Equally, I hope they will take a more active interest in the affairs of the Association."

He notes that in his opinion the coming year will be an unusually important one for the University in its staff relations. Not least of all it will see the appointment of an Equal Opportunity Co-ordinator and the start of a Management Plan. The impact on structures and attitudes within the University will be considerable.

"With full co-operation between the management of the University and those representing its staff, both general and academic, we can ensure the changes that will occur are brought about in a spirit of goodwill", he adds.

The PSA's Returning Officer will report that Mr. Farrell was the only candidate for election as Chairman at the Sub-division's annual general meeting in the Drama Theatre on December 2.
Butterflies are Free -

Gardener, Norm Scully, believes he's lucky because his job in the outdoors enables him to mix his hobby with his employment.

At his home at Toronto, New Zealand, Norm spends about three hours a day working on his butterfly collection, which now comprises around 3,000 specimens.

On his holidays he expands his collection -- and provides his family with enjoyable holidays -- by visiting Queensland, where there are plenty of butterflies.

However, he owes a lot of his success with his unusual diversion to his position at the University. "As I always carry small cellophane bags in my pocket, I have a constant supply for my collection."

As a child in Maitland he was always interested in butterflies, because of their delicate structure and vivid colours. However, it was not until 1977 that he became a lepidopterist, or butterfly collector.

Although his approach is solely that of a hobbyist, he has an impressive collection of Australian butterflies, his examples of the fritillary species being rare.

Lepidopterists have to be very patient individuals. Drying the butterflies after they are caught takes as long as four weeks and then they have to be transferred to special drawers. Norm Scully's collection comprises approximately 30 drawers.

Collecting butterflies is a private hobby, in that rarely are they put on exhibition. However, Norm has a desire to establish a small centre, or museum, at a suitable time in the future.

Not only does Norm find his holidays highly productive as far as butterflies are concerned, but they afford him and his family an opportunity to see mountains, rain forests and other places that they might not normally see.

CONFEREECE

The University is to be host to a prestigious national conference next week.

The Eighth Australasian Fluid Mechanics Conference will run in the Engineering Complex from Monday, November 28 to Friday, December 2, and embody 13 sessions.

More than 180 academic researchers will come to Newcastle for the conference, as well as representing Australian and New Zealand universities, they will represent universities in Canada, France, Hong Kong, India, Israel, Japan, The Netherlands, China, Singapore, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States.

A large contingent of postgraduate students from universities will take part and video presentations will be included in the conference for the first time.

Professor R. Antonia, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, is Chairman of the Organising Committee. Others on the Committee are: Dr. L. Browne, Dr. J. Chambers, Dr. W. Field, Professor G. Jameson, Dr. S. McElwain, Mr. N. Holley, Dr. J. Raper and Dr. D. Wood.

The subject areas to be covered by the papers include atmospheric turbulence, industrial aerodynamics, oceanography, hydraulics, numerical fluid and geophysical fluid dynamics, bubbly flows, jets and wind engineering.

The official opening will be performed by the Vice-Principal, Professor Ken Dutton. It will take place on November 28 at 9.40 am. The opening will be followed by the delivery of an address on atmospheric modelling by Professor J.L. Lumley, of Cornell University, New York, United States of America. At a reception in the Great Hall at 6.30 pm the visitors will be welcomed.

The conference will also provide a tour of the Hunter Valley vineyards for the visitors on November 30 ending with the conference dinner at Rothbury Estate.

Looking About Us

Mr. Scully with a small part of his collection.
Field station opened

The Las Gibbs Field Station was officially opened at the site adjacent to Boolambayte Creek on November 19.

Establishment of the joint facility by the University and Newcastle College of Advanced Education was the culmination of nine years of co-operative effort to find a suitable site and develop the basic facilities for use as a field study camp site in close proximity to the Myall Lakes National Park.

The joint committee that Mr. Gibbs chaired until his retirement from the University Council in May, 1982, had a number of meetings with various Ministers for Lands, the National Parks and Wildlife Service and officers of the Great Lakes Shire Council before the present site, which is leased from the Harris family, was found.

A representative of the joint owners, Mrs. Scott-Orr, attended the opening ceremony and was welcomed by the Vice-Chancellor. About 60 people representing both Institutions and others, including the District Forester of the New South Wales Forestry Commission, who had assisted in the establishment of the Field Station, attended.

The field station is situated on a 16 hectares property on Boolambayte Creek. The property backs onto the Bulahdelah State Forest and is within easy walking distance of Myall Lakes National Park. Boolambayte Creek is navigable in small boats from Boolambayte Lake to the property. The station is about one-and-a-half hours drive from Newcastle.

The adjacent State Forest and the National Park provide opportunities for field studies in Botany, Zoology, Ecology, as well as plant and wildlife illustration. Aquatic studies can be carried out in Boolambayte Creek or on Myall Lakes.

The State Forest is predominantly eucalypt woodlands, with patches of dense forest in the gullies. The fairly broad flood plain of the creek has communities of paperbark (Melaleuca quinquenervia) and she oak (Casuarina), with some eucalypt stands on higher ground. Dense thickets of Melaleuca nodosa and tea tree occur on the edge of the flood plain and the lower slopes.

At the site, there is a kitchen area, store and large sheltered area for eating and working. Water is provided by a large tank and N.P. and W.S. style pit toilets have been installed.

There are adequate cooking and eating utensils, mattresses, tables and chairs, etc. for groups of up to about 20.

No dormitory accommodation has been provided and groups must supply their own tents.

Power is not available but gas lamps and a stove are provided.

A Management Committee consisting of three representatives of each institution has been appointed to oversee the use of the facility. The University's representatives are: Professor B. Boettcher, Dr. J. Turner and Dr. B. Conroy who has been nominated as Manager of the Station.

The use of the station is open to Departments within the

UNION NEWS

The University Union re-roofing project is progressing on schedule and it is anticipated that work will be completed by the end of January, 1984. In addition to the main roofing contract, the service loading bays will be covered to provide all weather access.

The barbecue area in the Camilla Courtyard will also be covered to allow year-round use of this facility.

The main dining room, kitchen and bar will be closed during January to facilitate repairs, re-painting and re-roofing.

The Southern Cross Lounge will remain open from 10 am until 6 pm during January and will provide services for coffee, fast food, sandwiches and the usual Bistro menu. The Seahorse Bar will be open from noon until 6.30 pm.

Access to other Union services, i.e. Bookshop, Travel Office, will be maintained as far as practical during the project. The Board apologises for any inconvenience, which will be kept to a minimum.

The service roadway on the western side of the Union will remain closed during the project to allow material deliveries and storage and prevent damage or injury to vehicles and persons in that area.

Further information regarding the roof project is on the noticeboard in the Union.

Philosophy Club

End of Year Party
(the night of ARTS Examiners' meeting)

Date: DECEMBER 13

Place: STAFF HOUSE

Time: 7 pm

Cost: $1

(Wine and cheese etc. to celebrate or commiserate.)

All are welcome to attend.
University and the CAE for student excursions and research projects and to other groups and individuals for purposes which do not conflict with the aims of the station. Enquiries should be directed to Dr. B. Conroy, C/- Department of Biological Sciences, Extension 574.

Assessment of Training

As a result of an invitation extended by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor D.W. George, to the General Medical Council of Great Britain, a delegation consisting of Professor R.M. Acheson, Dr. J. Anderson, Professor J.H. Peacock and Professor I. Roddie, accompanied by Mr. R. Beers, Deputy Registrar of the GMC, visited the University's Faculty of Medicine from October 31 to November 16.

Members of the delegation were asked to assess whether the undergraduate training in medicine provided by the Faculty leading to the award of the degree of B.Med. (University of Newcastle, N.S.W.) was of a sufficient quality as to enable the degree to be recognised for full registration in the United Kingdom under Section 19 of the Medical Act, 1983.

The report on the delegation's visit will be considered by the Overseas Sub-Committee (F) in February, 1984, and by the Overseas Committee of the General Medical Council in May, 1984. The decision arrived at will be communicated to the University of Newcastle shortly afterwards.

Professor Peacock said before the delegation left Newcastle that he and other members of the delegation would like to express their gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor, the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Professor G.W. Kellerman, and the Faculty Secretary, Mr. J. Birch, for the arrangements made for their visit. They were also very appreciative of the kindness, courtesy, friendliness and hospitality extended to them by everyone with whom they have come in contact.

In this group at the opening of the Les Gibbs Field Station at Myall Lakes, Mr. Gibbs is the only one without a hat. Putting names to the hats (left to right): The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Don George, Mr. Don Morris (University), the Manager of the Station, Dr. B. Conroy (University), Dr. D. Parsons (CAE), Professor B. Boettcher (University), the Principal of the CAE, Dr. E. Richardson and Mr. K. McDonald (CAE). Photo: Instructional Media Unit, CAE.
On Leave from Toledo

Toledo and Founder and Associate Director of the Center for Economic Education at the University. He holds a Ph.D. in the University of Pittsburgh, United States.

Professor Yankovic's teaching interests include the principles of economics, introduction to economic issues, economic history of the United States, history of economic thought, contemporary economic thought and introduction to social science for adults with non-standard qualifications.


To assist his study in economic education he has received a considerable grant from the United States National Science Foundation. Further, he is a Trustee of the Ohio Council on Economic Education, a member of the Task Force on Economic Education for the Toledo Public Schools, the Free Enterprise Committee and the Toledo Area Chamber of Commerce and active in the community in a number of other ways.

Professor Yankovic, who is 44, mentioned that his sister, Dr. Jane Morrison, is a member of the academic staff of the University of New South Wales. This was the reason for his choice of Australia rather than other countries for his study leave.

He pointed to the industrial nature of Toledo as a similarity between his previous and present places of abode, "You have steel and manufacturing. We have glass and automobile factories. You are on the Pacific coastline. We are on the shores of Lake Erie". Another similarity was the fact that his University changed from being a municipal university to a State University in 1965, the year in which the University of Newcastle became autonomous.

When Professor Yankovic is not writing the textbook or conducting seminars in the Department of Economics he plans to be exploring Australia, mainly the outdoors. Having established himself in a house at Shoal Bay, he is already implementing his plan.

Staff Association

The Hon. Justice Michael Kirby will be retiring from the Council because he has been elected as the new Chancellor of Macquarie University. The Vice-Chancellor told Senate that Justice Kirby would be the speaker at the University Dinner in Edwards Hall on December 9.

The Deputy Chairman, Professor M. Carter, reported that the annual meetings with school principals and representatives of industry, commerce and local government had been held in October. Arising from the meeting with the schools principals, a Joint Working Party was being established on teaching computing in schools.

SENATE NEWS

Dr. D. Wright, President of the Staff Association, has announced that members of the Association can be provided with counselling on retirement and investment. Information on the service can be obtained by telephoning either Extension 261 or Extension 610.
The University of New South Wales

A history of the University of New South Wales' first 20 years has just been released. One of the chapters records the establishment of Newcastle and Wollongong branches of the University. The University of New South Wales: The Baxter Years, written by A.H. Willis, is available in hardback from the publishers, New South Wales University Press or the Co-operative Bookshop for $19.95. In this issue and the next issue of the NEWS we publish the section dealing with Newcastle University College.

As the second largest city in the State, and one with fine technical college facilities appropriate to the training of professional engineers, Newcastle was expected to offer degree courses as early as 1950, but in spite of considerable publicity the response was disappointing and only 16 students indicated their willingness to enrol.

In 1951 the University Council decided to establish a university college within the Newcastle Technical College in the suburb of Tighes Hill. The facilities of which were made available for teaching and research. An opening ceremony was held on December 3 and Mr. Ralph Basden, the Principal of the Technical College, was appointed the first Warden of the University College. The enrollments in the next academic year were not large -- five full-time degree and 27 conversion-course students in addition to 338 diploma-course students -- and the Council noted the situation with regret. In its annual report, remarking that "unless numbers increase considerably it may be difficult to justify the continuation of day courses".

The University College, in surveying the enrollments that might ensue, Prominent among the leaders in the movement was the Bishop of Newcastle, the Right Reverend F. de Witt Batthy, to whom technology had no place in a university. At that time only the University of Sydney could establish a college in Newcastle, but hope was dashed in 1943 when the Professorial Board of that University resolved: "It is not desirable from the academic point of view to set up more University Colleges in centres other than Sydney which teach the complete syllabus of the University qualifying for a Sydney degree".

The Newcastle University College, offering only science and technology, was warmly received by the industries -- iron and steel, shipbuilding, coal and related commercial activities -- on which the prosperity of Newcastle was founded; but it was too little to satisfy the aspirations of the band of citizens, now calling itself the Newcastle University Establishment Group, whose avowed aim was the establishment of an autonomous University of Newcastle concerned principally with courses of the traditional arts type. The University of Technology had no power to provide such courses.

The College enrollments in 1953 showed no improvement. Towards the end of 1953 the Vice-Chancellor saw an opportunity to provide arts courses within the College. The University College of Armidale in northern New South Wales, a college of the University of Sydney, was to become the autonomous University of New England on February 1, 1954. Professor Baxter put it to the Council on November 9, 1953, and to the Professorial Board the next day, that the University College should offer degree courses in arts and economics to satisfy the new University, which would prescribe the syllabuses, be the examining authority and award the degrees. The students, however would be registered students of the University of Technology and staff teaching them would be selected and employed by that University. It was an unusual arrangement for Australia but one by no means uncommon overseas. At the request of the University, the New South Wales Government provided for the arrangement in the Act incorporating the new University, whose first Vice-Chancellor, Dr. R.B. Medgwick, expressed enthusiasm for the affiliation.

This development split the Newcastle University Establishment Group into two. There were those who, correctly as events turned out, saw the new charter of the University College as the first step towards the kind of university they wanted for Newcastle. There were others who thought that a University of Technology could not possibly nurture a faculty of arts, especially a university which at that time was not itself autonomous and whose staff were all employed under the Public Service Act. The latter group continued to press for a separate institution devoted solely to arts, but their voice became continually weaker as the success of the new arrangement became evident. The autonomy of the University of Technology just a few months later confirmed the argument of Public Service control, and the success of the University's work at Newcastle won many over to supporting the arrangement.

(Permission to publish extracts from The University of Newcastle: The Baxter Years has been granted by New South Wales University Press).

more next issue
Departing Impressions

Bangladeshi Ashim K. Ghosh, 30, leaves the University on November 27 after completing work on a Ph.D in Chemistry. Ashim's personal situation changed quite dramatically whilst he was a member of the University. On his arrival he was a bachelor. He went back home and returned with a wife, and now the Ghoshes have an 18-month old daughter, Jayeeta. He sets down for THE NEWS his feelings about the University of Newcastle and the differences between life here and at a university in Bangladesh.

I have a pain in my heart because I am leaving the Newcastle University campus. Although my university education is to continue at the University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, which has given me a postdoctoral scholarship, I will never forget living in Australia. It was great.

When I arrived three years ago, my first impression was that the density of the population was very low compared to the extremely high density of the population in my country.

I was charmed to see the natural scenery of the campus and this beauty never faded in my mind. Because I made warm friendships, I always felt happy.

I also participated in the life of the University of Newcastle's Indian Sub-Continent Students' Association, which has been formed to assist students like me and to develop an understanding of our culture. Personally, I am very pleased that UNISSA functions on the campus.

I am a graduate of the University of Rajshahl, which has more than 6,000 students and also a beautiful campus.

I think that the students of Newcastle University are lucky to have everything they need for a good education. The University has just the right environment for study and the academic year is properly planned.

Colleges in most of the developing countries lack proper facilities and everywhere you see signs of poverty. The students and teachers are frustrated because of the political unrest. At my University every political party and group has a student front and campus life can be chaotic.

Whilst at university I enjoyed working as the local correspondent for the Daily Ittefaq. Although I would have loved to become a journalist I was also interested in undertaking research as a chemist.

At Newcastle I have studied various methods of characterising zeolite acidity using a number of modern techniques.

Terrace Vale Vineyard has agreed to conduct a wine tasting in the Staff House on November 30 at 5 pm at a cost of $1 per person.

The winemakers, Mr. Alain Le Prince, will be in attendance to present several of the vineyards' newer releases, along with some of their older wines.

Members are asked to bring no more than one guest and also to let Sandy know if they will be attending so that some indication of members can be given to the vineyard.
Reflections

Having almost completed an active six years and eight months as a student member on the Council, Mr. Stephen Date was offered an opportunity to look back and write down his reflections and experiences. As he stood on the first occasion against the then SRC President, his success was a surprise to many. Mr. Date's platform now looks quite interesting -- the eradication of mosquitoes, the purchase of a pipe organ for the Great Hall and the improvement of drainage on campus. He presented written submissions on two of the issues to the Council and succeeded in having mosquito-levaeating-fish placed in creeks at the University.

The nervousness I felt at my first meeting was quickly overcome. It was fairly historic -- Sir Bede Callaghan had just become Chancellor, replacing Sir Allistair McMullin, and it was Justice Michael Kirby's first meeting.

Many from the Council of 1977 are no longer members -- Dr. K. White, Dr. P. Kirton, Mr. J. Ellis, Professor R. Keats, Mr. E. Buckman, Dr. B. Belcher, Dr. D. Finlay, Mr. R. Manywaters, Mr. L. Gibb and Mr. J. Oliver.

The Council governed the University following "The Dismissal" and had to "tighten the belt", beginning a period of savage spending cuts. The Council provided an education for me in University administration. I wrote letters to officers of the University in connection with many questions in the meetings of the Council.

Out of my own pocket, I published a regular report for students about what Council was doing. It survived for about a year until costs rose too high. My other interests were the creation of an arts centre on campus, the provision of a sick bay at Edwards Hall, improving the unsatisfactory Progress By-Laws, pushing for greater publicity for the University in the media and an increase in student representation on Senate. I succeeded in obtaining a Representatives' Office.

Michael Zammit and I joined forces to try and stop Edwards Hall rent rises -- without success. It's a beautiful Hall -- why not encourage students to use it? High rents drive students into less-occupiable dwellings.

The period 1978 to 1980 was a difficult time on Council because of the Classics tutorship case, the dispute in the Commerce Department and the investigations of the two working parties on University expenditure.

Students were very active in the Classics tutorship case, which concerned a tutorship being frozen, as they were in the campaign to prevent Drama from being merged with English. Drama is now one of the healthiest Departments in the Arts Faculty. For my part, I circularised students to let them know what was going on.

When the proposed amalgamation was announced in April, 1981, I was worried by the likelihood of the number of Government appointees on the "new" Council being increased. I am determined to preserve the right of members of the University to elect the members of the Council. We should be wary of ending up with too many appointees and giving "big government" a monopoly.

I am opposed to amalgamation. Students should have the right to choose from the different approaches to learning that are offered in the University and the CAE. Likewise, each institution should have the right to pursue its own autonomous and unique lifestyle, without being hamstrung by orders from above!

Recent events which interest me include the move to open up the hidden files kept by the University in connection with members of staff. This is long overdue. Likewise, while I am pleased to see that an Equal Opportunity Co-ordinator is to be appointed, I am disturbed that the position is not a full-time one.

I was influential in the graduation regulations being changed so that women graduates could have the right to choose from mortar boards or Canterbury caps, having a red 'phone placed in the front drive waiting shed and having two bus tracks gravelled and tar-sealed.

I should give praise to some members of our Council who left their mark: Dr. Frank Purdue, for his dedication to, and love for, our University; Les Gibbs, former Chairman of the CAE Council after whom the field station is named; Justice Michael Kirby, for his ability to tidy-up even the clumsiest wordings into legal language; Geoff Curthoys, our doyen of staff representatives and champion of the underdog and Alan Tweedie, former Vice-Principal, who had a kind heart well-camouflaged with a Royal Navy manner.

I finally got some new buses added to the University service. It took four years of (often sarcastic) letters to the Minister, Mr. Cox, before it was done. I hold the University close to my heart and make no secret of my feeling that it is a world-leader, or has the potential to be one. Perhaps it is time for all levels of the University students (staff, Convocation, Council members and administrators) to put more into it, so that our University can indeed "look ahead" to a bright and prosperous future.
Short Course - Melbourne

During the week November 7 to 11 Professor Graham Goodwin and Dr. David Hill, of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, presented a short course on Modern Control Theory at the Aeronautical Research Laboratories (ARL) in Melbourne.

The course consisted of 35 hours of lectures and tutorials and was attended by approximately 50 people. The majority of the attendees were from ARL, but several came from the Government Aircraft Factories and the Defence Research Centre, Salisbury.

The course covered modeling, classical control, multi-input multi-output control, parameter estimation and stochastic systems and was illustrated by aircraft applications.

Funding for the course was provided by the Department of Defence.

Advertisements

For Sale

one 6'x7' Aluminium Frame Sliding Door and Screen, one 4'x4' Aluminium Frame Sliding Window, three Colonial-style Wall Lights (Bronze), one 6' Buffet (one side glass sliding door) (light colour), one Single bowl stainless steel sink, one Vertical LP Gas Clothes Dryer. Any persons who are interested in the abovementioned are requested to telephone Elaine at Extension 426.

For Rent

Elevated split-level, largely brick home in New Lambton Heights (just). Features include: three bedrooms, study, sunroom, large lounge, dining room, wood-panelled kitchen, two bathrooms, double carport. This home is also fully-furnished has pot belly and open fires and is situated in interesting grounds with lots of trees plus it has city and ocean views. This home is available for 12 months commencing February 1, 1983. For further information please telephone Extension 316 or 52 6481.

Holiday Rental

Bed and breakfast accommodation at reasonable rates in private homes is sought for postgraduate students who will be attending the University from January 9 to 21, 1984. If you are willing to help please telephone the Department of Geology at Extension 229.

Wanted to Buy

One Hills Rotary Clothes Line in good condition, if you are able to assist please telephone Extension 438.

For Tender

The following surplus and obsolete equipment is offered for sale by tender:

three Nashua Photocopiers, one Gestetner 460 Duplicator, three National Cash Registers, three Manual Imperial Typewriters, one Electric Smith Corona Typewriter, two Sony 3/4" U-matic VCR's, one 3M Microfiche Reader-Printer, one National Intercom System and six padded stools.

Christmas Gifts

Cards, calendars, stationery, wrapping paper, books, tea towels and other individually designed goods and Australiana -- ideas for Christmas and overseas mailing -- available from Jan Ebbeck at Extension 262.

All proceeds assist the National Trust in its conservation and advisory work.

University News, the campus newspaper, is the main organ of communication on the campus. It is published on a two-weekly basis in the Secretary's Division for the Editor, The Secretary to the University. Stories and items should reach John Armstrong or Linda Aurelius, C/- Room G60 in the McMullin Building by 5 pm on the Thursday before the publication date.