LET'S HELP BUILD THESE HOMES

The Newcastle Convocation Foundation has launched an ambitious $1,000,000 University Village development programme.

A timetable has been set for the progress of the appeal, commencing with approaches to members of Convocation and staff and corporations.

The Vice-Chancellor spoke highly of the Foundation's visionary project at a press conference in the Great Hall on May 16.

Recently Convocation established the Foundation as a new source of funds to support the University. The Foundation is aimed at providing a fund in perpetuity to help the University with projects which cannot be financed from normal sources.

The University Village project involves the erection of six student housing blocks each providing accommodation for 15 students.

The blocks would probably be similar to TUNRA House -- self-serviced with a living room, kitchen, bathroom and laundry.

The Warden of Convocation, Mr. Philip Miller, is heading a Board to administer the Foundation. Other Directors are Sir Bede Callaghan, Hon. Mr. Justice Kirby, Professor D.W. George, Dr. W.G. Jones, Mr. J.A. Lambert, Mr. R.A. Murphy, Emeritus Professor B. Nashar, Mr. B. Reif, Dr. K.

Mr. Derek Boosey, the Executive Officer, has designed the University Village Appeal as part of his efforts to raise the profile of the University and seek funds to support the University.

The Foundation shares the University's concern at the growing shortage of accommodation for students and believes that it is necessary to establish an appeal similar to the Great Hall Appeal of the late sixties to finance the village project.

The proposition is supported by the decline in enrolment of students from those parts of New South Wales more than 40km from the University (more than 13 per cent since 1977).

Students within New South Wales can easily become aware of local conditions and can readily choose to enrol in a university which has an adequate supply of accommodation both on campus and in the surrounding community.

On the other hand an overseas student is ignorant of local accommodation difficulties until he or she actually arrives at the university, by which time it is both too late and too complex to elect to change the institution of study.

Apart from the approaches to graduates, staff and businesses, a dinner for graduates will be held in Canberra on June 10 at which the University's student housing requirements will be outlined.
“it’s off”

Members of the University will probably be aware that the Minister for Education, Senator Susan Ryan, met representatives of the University and the Newcastle College of Advanced Education at her request in Canberra on Wednesday, May 11, 1983. The University was represented by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor George, the Deputy Chairman of Senate, Professor Carter and the President of the Staff Association, Dr. Wright. The CAE representatives were the College Council President, Mrs. Bowman, the Principal, Dr. Richardson and the President of the Lecturers’ Association, Mr. Graham. The Minister was accompanied by the Secretary of the Department of Education and Youth Affairs, Dr. Wilenski and the Chairman of the Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission, Mr. Coughlan, Mr. Alan Morris, MHR Newcastle, was also present for the discussions.

After the meeting the delegation issued the following Joint press release:

“Senator Ryan, Minister for Education today reaffirmed that the Government would not enforce amalgamation on the University of Newcastle and Newcastle College of Advanced Education.

Senator Ryan was keen to see closer co-operation between the two educational establishments in offering courses.

A group of representatives was invited to discuss with the Minister their ideas for closer co-operation between the two institutions. Senator Ryan told the group as far as the Government is concerned, the educational opportunities of students are paramount.

The group included Council, staff, and top administrative members. Members of the group were gratified that educational issues were given greater emphasis than in previous discussions.

Senator Ryan accepted an invitation to visit Newcastle and stated that she would be having further consultations with representatives of the University and CAE on their progress to closer co-operation.

In giving her reassurance over no enforced amalgamation, the Minister made it clear that the primary question was one of increased access to higher education. The Government wished to see more school-leavers go on to full-time education in universities and colleges, with particular emphasis on disadvantaged groups such as Aborigines and women. The case for and against amalgamation had to be judged in terms of these objectives.

Senator Ryan acknowledged during the discussions, which lasted for more than an hour, that increased educational opportunities implied the need for greater financial resources, but held out little immediate hope of additional funds in the present budgetary difficulties facing the Government. The important thing was to ensure the best possible use of present resources.

On the question of the subdivison of funds for 1983, Mr. Coughlan indicated that the advice of the Attorney General’s Department was that an amendment to Section 39A of the States Grants Act would be necessary. This would require the matter to go back to Cabinet and the Parliament. Both institutions stressed the difficulties faced by them in the absence of information on their funding for this year and the importance of having this matter resolved at the earliest possible time.

From comments made by Coughlan, it can be inferred that the CTEC continues to believe that amalgamation is the only way to accomplish the objective of improved access for students, although it was difficult to establish the basis for this claim. The delegation made clear that any renewal of pressure towards amalgamation could jeopardize the desire of both institutions to meet the Government’s wishes for co-operation every way possible, and return the institutions to a state of uncertainty about their future.

In the meantime the visits of the Universities Council to Newcastle and Armidale for discussions on the Triennial Submissions for 1985-87, which should have occurred last week, were postponed at the Council’s request and no new dates have been advised. A one-day visit of the Higher Education Board to Newcastle University will, however, proceed and is due to take place on Tuesday, May 31, 1983.

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seminars

Tuesday, June 7, 8.30 pm

Department of Philosophy seminar entitled: Relational Theory in Anthropology: Eliminating the Subject-Object Dichotomy. Venue: Tony and Linda Allen’s residence, 1/70 Grandview Road, New Lambton Heights.

Thursday, June 9, 1 pm

The Departments of Philosophy, Biological Sciences and History are sponsoring a lecture and discussion entitled: Piltdown Man. Venue: V01. For further information please telephone the Department of Philosophy at Extensions 411 or 583.

Peter Staplan, second-placegetter in last year's Raelec-Scientechnic Electronics competition, lifted his performance this year.

When the prizewinners for the 1983 competition were selected by the Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering, Peter, a Year 12 student at Avondale High School, Cooranbong, took first prize of $150 with his design for a computer telephone dailer.

Peter said his device could be programmed to process up to 300 telephone numbers and should be of assistance to small businessmen and anybody using a catalogue of clients' numbers.

Philip Aubin, of Kotara High School, the second prize winner, was not able to receive the $75 awarded for his invention, a Z80 Raster, because he is in Japan as a Rotary Exchange student. Philip's mother and father, Judith and Phil Aubin, received the prize for him.

David Perry, of Wyong High School, was awarded third prize of $50. The effort that brought David the prize was his computer programme for the Rugby League matches in which "The Eals" (Parramatta) played in the last three years.

The Raelec-Scientechnic Electronics Prizes are arranged by the Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering and sponsored by the manufacturers of high technology equipment after which prizes are named.

Mr. Peter Cockbain, Managing Director of the company, said the purpose of the sponsorship was to foster interest in the work of the Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering, which had a very high reputation, and to recognize the cooperation that existed between the University and local industry. Mr. Cockbain presented a cheque for $2,000 to the department as an expression of his firm's thanks.

Assoc. Professor Graham Goodwin, Head of the Department, recorded the fact that the Raelec-Scientechnic Electronics Prizes were creating a growing interest in electronics and computer engineering among senior school students. The judge, Assoc. Professor Tony Cantonli, had indicated that there was also an improved standard. One of the main criteria for the selection of the top awards was originality.

Our photograph by Peter McLauchlan shows Professor Goodwin (at right) congratulating Peter Staplan.

students from Hong Kong

A letter has been received from the Labour Department, Hong Kong, describing the service it provides to overseas university graduates of Hong Kong origin to find employment upon returning home.

Students graduating at the end of 1983 contemplating using this service should act well in advance of their return home and request to be sent a 'Special Register Application Form'. Request letters should be posted to:

The Special Register, 
Labour Department, 
Sincere Insurance Building, 
Ground Floor, 
4 Hennessy Road, 
HONG KONG.

The letter from the Labour Department can be read at the Careers and Student Employment Office, Room T25.

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR'S
SECOND TERM STAFF MEETING
will be held in the
DRAMA THEATRE
on
TUESDAY, JUNE 21
at
1.05 pm
**dam blockade**

About 25 students and staff of the University were involved in the blockade of the Franklin River Dam site in Tasmania. According to Karenne Jurd and Bryan Crocker, Faculty of Medicine staff members, the Newcastle University group represented about five per cent of those persons from New South Wales whom Tasmanian police arrested.

If plans the construction of the Franklin Dam proceeds according to the Tasmanian Government’s plans, Rock Island Bend (above) will be flooded.

Ms Jurd and Mr. Crocker said that Newcastle Branch of the Tasmanian Wilderness Society had received considerable support from both students and staff of the University. The branch strongly disapproved of the Tasmanian Government’s policy of ‘hydroindustrialisation’, which provided for the building of dams and hydroelectric power stations so that cheap power will attract industries and unemployment will be reduced.

“The irony and sadness of this”, Ms Jurd and Mr. Crocker said, “is that ‘hydroindustrialisation’ has proven a dismal failure. Dam building provides only short-term employment. However, the industries which have been attracted by the power, e.g. Comalco, consume far more electricity than is justified by the wealth they return to the community.”

“Despite the drawbacks of this 60 year-old policy, the Hydro Electric Commission continues to wield enormous influence in Tasmania, receiving half the Tasmanian budget.

“A large sector of the population views the universally-acclaimed beauty of the World Heritage Area not as a source of state pride but as a resource for exploitation”.

The concept of World Heritage — protection of the world’s remaining wilderness areas through international agreement is a by-product of the increasing rarity of wilderness, Ms Jurd and Mr. Crocker said.

They reflected how when Lake Pedder was flooded both Prince Phillip and Sir Garfield Barwick agreed that an environmental tragedy had occurred which they hoped would never be repeated.

“It is our hope that the High Court decides on the side of the wilderness, rather than wantonness”, they added.

**“conversion”**

In recent weeks the University has undergone a “conversion” which few people on the campus have seen.

Natural gas was turned into the University’s underground gas mains for the first time on May 15, replacing the old town gas supply.

Newcastle Gas Company Ltd. carried out the conversion to natural gas with assistance from the Property Division.

Mr. Richard McWinney (Assistant Staff Engineer), of the Property Division, explained that because the gas mains are hidden from view the changeover was obvious only in laboratories at the University and the kitchen of the Union, which are equipped with gas appliances.

According to Mr. McWinney, if a natural gas flame looked the same as a town gas flame the “conversion” would not have been noticed. But, a natural gas flame is light blue in colour and barely visible, whereas town gas, when it burns, is light yellow.

Natural gas originates in Bass Strait and has reached Newcastle as a result of the extension of the main supply pipeline from Sydney.

The University’s gas reticulation system was installed at an early stage of the establishment of buildings at Shortland in 1965.
Enrolments of students as at April 30 totalled 4,435 — an increase of 3.8 per cent over the 4,273 in 1982.

There is a continued trend towards full-time enrolment: 48 per cent in 1981, 51 per cent in 1982 and 58 per cent in 1983.

Male students number 2,794 (63 per cent) female 1,641 (37 per cent), a slight change from the 62:38 ratio of recent years.

Ph.D. enrolments (166) show a decided fall from the 181 in 1982. Twenty-nine graduated this year, compared with the usual 14 to 18 and possibly others are on the point of completing their courses. Research Masters enrolments are down a little, 142 in 1982, and Coursework continues to increase, 200 to 211.

The main increase has taken place in the undergraduate courses accompanied by a shift towards full-time enrolment, shown as follows:

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<th>Year</th>
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<td>1982</td>
<td>1825</td>
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<td>1983</td>
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The greater number of our overseas students (358 compared with 248 in 1982) came from Singapore (108), Malaysia (90), Hong Kong (66), India (27), Indonesia (16) and Bangladesh (10). Others came from Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China (People's Republic), Egypt, Fiji, France, Ghana, Iran, Italy, Japan, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Romania, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Tanzania, Thailand, United Kingdom, United States of America, Vietnam and Western Samoa.

earthwatch

Professor R.V.S. Wright, of the Department of Anthropology, University of Sydney, has been appointed Honorary Director of the Centre for Field Research (CFR).

CFR evaluates proposals for research expeditions that have been submitted for possible EARTHWATCH support in Australia.

It is also the business of CFR to encourage the submission of proposals.

Six recent Australian research expeditions are being currently supported by EARTHWATCH. The topics range from whaling wrecks to rainforests.

"I look upon EARTHWATCH as an important source of additional research support in these hard times", Professor Wright said. "I invite field workers to talk over their tentative proposals with me. The projects we want are those needing volunteer assistance as well as funds".

Professor Wright can be contacted at (02) 692 3509.

employment

The Professionals Information and Placement Service has embarked on its 4th Australia and New Zealand Overseas Recruitment Exercise.

Graduates of outstanding academic achievement are sought to work in the stable, multi-racial society of the Republic of Singapore.

It is thought that students from around the region, namely, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and Hong Kong, would be most attracted by the Singaporean way of life most easily.

Completed application forms should be returned to:

The Singapore High Commission
81 Muga Way
RED HILL A.C.T. 2603

The following printed matter is available from the Careers and Student Employment Office, Room T25.

- Booklet 'Careers in Singapore'
- Booklet 'Teaching in Ngee Ann Polytechnic'
- Application forms.

reunion

Following a most auspicious inauguration in 1982, the Second Annual Surveying Reunion Dinner took place in the Staff House on the evening of April 29 preceding the University's graduation ceremonies on April 30.

Attendance at the dinner totalled 35, and included Surveying graduates, graduates and staff of the Department of Civil Engineering & Surveying, together with a number of eminent members of the Surveying profession.

Mr. J.E. McNaughton, President of the Country Surveyors' Association and member of the Board of Surveyors of New South Wales, spoke to the assembled company on the roles of the Institution of Surveyors and the Board of Surveyors in the profession, and then presented the Board of Surveyors' Gold Medal to Mr. Ian Doust, for his best performance in the Final Year of the Bachelor of Surveying course in 1982.

Mr. Ian Marler, Chairman of the Association of Consulting Surveyors of New South Wales, presented the Association Prize for Land Studies to the Joint Winners, Mr. Ian Doust and Mr. Alex Tarasenko.

Other prominent surveyors present included Mr. D.K. Vincent, Vice-President, Institution of Surveyors, New South Wales, and several members of the Institution Committee.

After the completion of the formalities of the evening, the reunion aspect of the dinner predominated, and the remainder of the evening was passed in a pleasant atmosphere of convivial reminiscence.

The NEWS expresses its great thanks to the Medical Communication Unit in the David Maddison Clinical Sciences Building for having produced the new banner for the front page.
Coming to the University

on Wednesday, June 8
7 pm until 10 pm

COMMON ROOM

The Union

Students: $2, guests $5

chaplains

After many years of entombment in the bowels of the Union Catacombs, the Chaplains have moved to their new office in the Temporary Buildings, opposite Mathematics -- Room 745. The telephone number remains the same, Extension 204.

The Chaplains are available at the following times, and at other times by appointment (home telephone numbers in brackets):

Tuesdays
Tom Binks, Baptist, 12.30 until 4 pm (61 3656). Peter Brock, Catholic, 12.30 until 2 pm (58 2031).

Wednesdays
James Bromley, Anglican, 11 am until 2 pm (68 3378).

Thursdays
Alan Watts, Uniting Church, 11 am until Noon (55 9529). Joy Bartholomew, Presbyterian, 12.30 until 2 pm (55 9132).

wanted

Over the next six months, we would appreciate it if you could save your plastic ice-cream containers for us. They will be very useful in our current research project. Any size or coloured containers, preferably with lids, would be gratefully received. You can leave the containers in Room 212 in Mathematics, or Rooms 612 or 606 in Medicine.

Thanking You.

From Vanuata

Four Vanuatans who have been active since their country gained its independence from the British and French made a brief visit to the University recently.

They took part in the weekly Aboriginal programme on 2NUR-FM (Aboriginal Voices) and were interviewed by a Director of the Aboriginal Co-operative Joan Peters.

The four Vanuatans had attended a world conference of the Bahai faith in Israel and had come to Australia to meet Aboriginal people.

They are Peter Kaitoll, Chairman of the National Spiritual Assembly of Baha'is in Vanuatu (formerly the New Hebrides), Allick Soala, Johnny Nasse, and Tabia Kaitakau.

All are initiated persons and bi-lingual. All agreed that the main object of national independence was to regain culture lost under European administration.

They said that tribal customs and beliefs were still held very strongly in many of the outlying islands.

The surrounds of our University had impressed them very much, and they hoped that when Vanuatu got its first university the design to fit in with the environment would be similar.

Mr. Percy Haslam, former Convocation Scholar, conducted them on a tour of sacred Aboriginal sites in our region.

They later said they had seen more of and learnt more about Aboriginal culture here than any other part of Australia they had visited.

Discussion revealed that the Vanuatans had many things in common with the New South Wales coastal Aborigines.

This was particularly true of their totemic structure and line of property succession.

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PROFESSOR HONOURED

Professor Alan Barcan, Assoc. Professor of Education, has been honoured for his outstanding work in the fields of Social Science Education and the History of Education in Australia.

It was announced while the annual conference of the Australian College of Education was being held at the University of Sydney last week that Professor Barcan had been elected a Fellow of the College.

The conference was opened by the President of the College, Dr. Eva G. Eden, in the presence of the Governor of New South Wales, Sir James Rowland.

Fellowship of the Australian College of Education is a status enjoyed by a small segment of the membership of the College.

At the conference Professor Kevin Collins, Professor of Education at the University of Tasmania, was also admitted as a Fellow. He is a former staff member of this University.

Dr. Max Maddock, of the Department of Education at this University, is a Fellow as are the Vice-Principal, Professor Ken Dutton and Emeritus Professor L.N. Short.

Current research projects Professor Barcan is working on include the revision of a Year 10 History textbook, Modern Australia, which he edited for the Macmillan Company.

He has been asked to compile a list of about 75 titles and comments for inclusion in a volume of the special project, Australia 1788-1988: A Bicentennial History. A 4,000-word essay will be prepared on the literature of Australian Education.

YOU CAN STAY WARM

Following a suggestion made to the Property Division Investigations have indicated that significant savings in electricity consumption could be made by fitting all existing 1000 watt bar radiators with 750 watt elements. It is estimated that this reduction in element capacity will save the University approximately $6,000 per annum, which would more than offset the initial cost of replacement of the elements in the first year.

Experiments have shown that the 750 watt element has little discernible effect on the comfort of the user, the reduction in output being readily offset by the placement of the radiator. The Vice-Chancellor has agreed to the introduction of this conservation measure, and it is proposed to make the necessary changes to 750 watt elements during the next few weeks.

D.D. Morris
seminars

Professor Victor Klee, Professor of Mathematics, University of Washington, Seattle, will be the invited guest speaker at the Annual Meeting of the Australian Mathematical Society to be held at the University of Queensland from May 16 until May 20. Professor Klee will be visiting this campus until Friday, June 3, while he is on campus he is to give two lectures, the first is a general lecture to which all undergraduate students are invited.

Tuesday, May 31, Noon, V107. Topic: Some Geometric Surprises. The second lecture is of special interest to those who are working in combinatory or functional analysis.


Advertisements

POSITIONS WANTED -- TYPING

The following persons would like to type these, reports, occasional papers etc:

Olga Kear 51 3108
Karen McDonald 52 6922
Jan Jeffrey 54 6442
Christine Hills 43 0217
Joan Walsh 43 2977
Julie Johns 63 3579
Josaphan Marsden 68 5650
Elaine Chapman-Smith 59 1894

HOUSE FOR RENT — EDINBURGH

A three-bedroom home near Edinburgh, Scotland, will be available for rent from August 20 until mid-October, 1983. This home is rural, but close to bus terminus and 40 minutes from city centre. Interested persons are requested to telephone Extension 252 for additional information.

FOR SALE

Mallard Ducks — $12 a pair, $16 for three (one drake and two ducks). Interested persons are requested to telephone Extension 616.

Alloy wheels to suit Renault 12/Renault Virage. A set of five wheels complete with nuts are going for the reasonable price of $200. Interested persons are requested to telephone 52 4747.

One set vacant Free Wheeling Hubs suitable for Land Rover models up to Series 2A for the very low price of $50. Interested persons are requested to telephone 52 4747.

SPORT

Purchasers of photographs taken at the Blues Dinner on April 29 are advised that proofs are now available for inspection in the Amenities Office during business hours.

The University of Newcastle was well represented during Inter-Varsity Week, which commenced on May 13.

Our Hockey Clubs (Men's and Women's) enjoyed the hospitality and fellowship of the West Australians. Rugby League was close to home with the Sydneysiders, of Macquarie. Baseballers were bemused by the temperature of the Melbourne weather. Finally, our soccer players compared notes on steelmaking with their Wallongong colleagues!

Pavilion Shop — new stocks are on hand in the Bargain Basement!

work study

The Future of Work is the subject of the third conference to be offered by the Hunter Employm Conference Committee so far this year.

To be held in the Tonella Centre in Newcastle on May 28 between 9.30 am and 4 pm the conference will discuss the likely changes in work and employment structure in the future, with particular reference to the impact of new labour saving technologies.

The speakers will be Claire Gallagher, of the Australian Railways Union, Donald Horne, Social critic and author of various books on the Australian political scene, and Keith Wind-schuttle, author of various books including 'Unemployment'.