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BULLETIN

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

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Commencement of new courses draws near

The new higher education facility being developed at Ourimbah is to offer at least three courses in its initial intake next month.

The courses that will be offered include the Bachelor of Business, the Master of Business and the Associate Diploma of Police Studies. A decision on a fourth course, the Open Foundation, will be made when final enrolment numbers are known.

The facility is being developed by the University and the Hunter Institute through a \$700,000 seeding fund from the Department of Employment, Education and Training and will operate from three portable classroom/buildings and several existing buildings on the site bounded by Brush Road.

The Deputy Principal of the Hunter Institute, Dr Les Eastcott, who has been assigned responsibility for the development of the Central Coast campus, said that Central Coast residents had responded very favourably to the opportunity to enrol in the courses on offer.

The Bachelor of Business includes strands of marketing, personnel resource management and tourism and hospitality management, and offers have been made to 21 people with a further 10 offers to be made after results of the Australian Scholastic Aptitude Test results and supporting evidence of scholastic records are assessed.

Dr Eastcott said that 19 people had applied to study in the Master of Business Administration (postgraduate) course but that no firm offers had been made at this stage although it was expected that this would take place in the near future.

He said that the Associate Diploma of Police Studies (a course for police officers only) had attracted a large number of applicants and that 41 places had been offered, enough to conduct two classes.

He said that the Open Foundation program which allows mature-age people (people over the age of 21) to study for matriculation and enables them to be eligible to enrol in University courses, has attracted a substantial number of people although final numbers will not be known until a few days after the closing date on July 7. The strands to be offered in the Open Foundation course are English Literature, Philosophical Methods and Business Statistics.

Dr Eastcott said that permanent buildings are proposed for construction in 1990 with the first building on the site to be a multi-purpose building which can be used for lecture rooms, meeting rooms, etc.

'The existing buildings on the site are being renovated to be used for a general office, the Campus Manager's Office, accommodation for visiting academics, a Library, a Technical Officer's area a computer laboratory and a student recreation area,' said Dr Eastcott.

'We are very pleased that we have established a good relationship with Wyong Shire Council which has been very helpful in the establishment of the new facility,' he said.

An announcement will be made in the near future on the appointment of a Campus Manager and also clerical assistance for the Ourimbah campus.

Dr Eastcott said that the Hunter Institute, the University of Newcastle and the New South Wales Department of TAFE have had important discussions on the development of joint facilities and

it is expected that in 1990 the Department of TAFE will also provide teaching space and is considering the provision of a limited education presence at the campus.

Give our team your support

The University's practice for the ABC TV series, *University Challenge*, will come to a head shortly — and you are invited to give our team a boost.

Two teams of students selected from those who volunteered to be considered will take part in the final trial game in Lecture Theatre B01 on July 13 at 1 pm. The teams, each comprising four students, will compete against each other.

The trial will be the culmination of a series of trials conducted since last April.

The ABC will record the 1989 *University Challenge* contests in Hobart in late September. The corporation will cover fares and accommodation for members of the 12 teams chosen to appear.

To evaluate Newcastle University's team, an ABC producer and program officer will visit the campus on July 21 and conduct a test game based on *University Challenge*.

Please come to the last practice on July 13. You will be able to pit your knowledge against that of each of our eight contestants. Moreover, you will be giving support and showing that you hope our team will go to Hobart and achieve fame for the University.

² University 'active' in merger talks

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) of the University of Newcastle, Professor Michael Carter, has rejected as a travesty a claim by the Hunter Institute of Higher Education that the University had been unwilling to discuss amalgamation with the Institute.

(The Hunter Institute Council has requested a deferment of the proclamation date for amalgamation. In a press release issued on June 16, it was stated that sections of the Institute were concerned about lack of willingness by the University.)

Professor Carter said that the University was very active and positive in accommodating the interests of the advanced education teachers at HIHE and other interested groups.

Discussions on amalgamation are proceeding constructively through working parties established to deal with:

- Educational Profile
- Academic Structures
- Administrative Structures
- Industrial Relations
- Legislation, and
- Student Services.

Professor Carter challenged the Hunter Institute to deny this.

The Educational Profile Working Group has provided a series of working papers which have been circulated, discussed and approved throughout all three institutions. The Academic Structures and Administrative Structures Working Parties have recently circulated draft proposals which are receiving general support and approval of all the constituent institutions. Industrial Relations matters are currently being discussed in detail with the appropriate trade unions. Detailed discussions of Student Services are well advanced. The Legislation Working Group, now that Parliamentary Legislation is completed, has turned its attention to preparing draft By-laws and rules for submission to the Interim Council: this work is well advanced.

The levels of joint contribution from the Conservatorium, the Institute and the University on all their working groups has been high and full co-operation has appeared to have been evident from all the constituent members.

It is not sensible to expect that all matters will be resolved easily, nor is it appropriate to

suppose that they could all be resolved in advance of the establishment of the amalgamated University. It is essential that the amalgamated University, its Council and Academic Senate have the full authority of an autonomous institution in planning the academic and institutional future that will develop.

'The University is determined that, as an outcome of amalgamation, there will be a University of national and international esteem, and it looks to the Institute for a spirit of co-operation to achieve this essential objective,' Professor Carter said.

'The people of the Hunter will not be satisfied with anything less. Nor would the community be deceived by posturing presumably designed to promote erroneous allegations that the University has everything to gain from amalgamation and the Institute everything to lose. (Many University academics had come to precisely the opposite conclusion, and with good cause). It is for the leadership of the Institute and the University to ensure a fair and constructive outcome from amalgamation negotiations in order that the Region may have a University befitting its significance to the Nation.'

Professor Carter concluded that the University of Newcastle would continue to strive towards that end in good faith, but would not allow its proper interests to be undermined by any cynical manoeuvring for positions which would deprive the Council of the new institution from exercising its responsibility for shaping policies.

Administrative Structures Report

The Administrative Structures Working Group has now finalised its report on the Central Administration for the consolidated University of Newcastle.

Supplies of the report have been distributed to general staff, general staff associations, Deans, Directors, Heads of School, Heads of Department, and units. Further copies are available from Mr P. H. Farley, Acting Secretary of the University, Mrs M. Bray, Registrar's Office, Hunter Institute, or Mr C. Palmer at the Conservatorium of Music.

The report will be considered by the Amalgamation Implementation Committee shortly.

Vive La France

Plans have been completed for a one-day conference at the University to mark the bicentenary of the French Revolution.

The History Club, the Departments of History, Modern Languages and Philosophy and the Board of Language and Literature Studies will hold the conference in Lecture Theatre V01 on July 21. It will run from 10 am to 5 pm.

The conference will address the question:

The French Revolution 1789: Cause for Celebration?

The following addresses will be given by distinguished visitors:

Professor Eugene Kamenka, of the History of Ideas Unit, The Australian National University — *The French Revolution 200 Years Later*, 10 am.

Dr Alastair MacLachlan, of the Department of History, The University of Sydney — *The Myth of the French Revolution Revisited*, 11 am.

At noon, a panel discussion will be held. The following lectures and papers will be presented between 2.30 and 5 pm:

Professor Ken Dutton — *Some Cultural Side-effects of the Revolution*. Ms Margaret Sampson — *The Impact of the French Revolution on British and Australian Historiography?*

Associate Professor John Ramsland — *To make them honest robust men: The Agricultural Colony at Mettray for French juvenile delinquents, 1840-1937* (presented with slides).

Associate Professor Lionel Fredman — *Thomas Jefferson — Francophile*.

Associate Professor Norman Talbot — *English Bards and French Revolutions*.

Ms Alicia Walker — *The Marxist Debate on the Causes of the French Revolution*.

Mr Robert Mackie — *Candide, Emile, and their Children*.

Mr Mike Cannon — *The Reaction to the Revolution on a French Rural Community* (illustrated).



● A presentation on a machine which helps to meet the study needs of visually impaired students was held before the Council meeting on June 22. Pictured are Mr Steve Watkins, SRC Vice-President, the Chancellor, Justice Elizabeth Evatt, Dr Don Parkes and Ms Alethea Taylor (EEO Unit).

COUNCIL

The Chancellor, Justice Elizabeth Evatt, welcomed a new member, Ms Alison Kinder, when the Council met in the Great Hall on June 22. Ms Kinder had been elected by students.

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Council approved in principal the introduction of a Bachelor of Information Science Degree Course in 1990.

The degree, which offers specialised study in one of the disciplines Information Systems, Statistics or Computer Science, was included in the academic program submitted to the Federal Government for approval in 1990 and 1991.

Council was told that a Board of Studies in Information Science was working on the development of undergraduate courses. It was proposed that, in due course, a Faculty of Information Science would be established within the School of Economics and Information Sciences.

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Council was told that construction of the Joint Computing Teaching Building and the commencement of work on the construction of No. 3 oval had been delayed by the continual wet weather.

At the new University campus at Ourimbah, the conversion of two dwellings for teaching purposes and the construction of

roads, car parking and a septic system had been commenced.

★

Council approved a report on strategies and actions for achieving change in the University's Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity structure.

The report, prepared by the Advisory Committee on Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity, was referred to Senate and other University bodies with the request that Senate report to Council on how the proposals could be implemented.

The Chancellor thanked the ACAAEO for providing the program of priorities for structural change.

The Chairperson of the Committee, Dr T. Callcott, thanked Mr L. Hennessy, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration) and the staff of the EEO Unit for their contributions to the set of strategies and actions.

Introducing the report, Dr Callcott said the University had had some success in EEO and AA, such as instituting a number of important policies, for example sexual harassment and non-discriminatory language, introducing a grievance resolution scheme, providing greater opportunities for female general staff training and development and initiating post-doctoral re-entry fellowships for women.

Nevertheless, he said, what had been lacking had been a

willingness in the University to commit itself to structural change, which would be the basis of widespread reform of practices.

The meeting might be the last to be held by the present Council and there was no more appropriate time to have a critical look at the EEO Management Plan. Following amalgamation, the University would be the third largest employer in the Newcastle Region, after the BHP and Comsteel. The University should be a pacesetter, not a follower, Dr Callcott said.

The Council agreed to five main strategies in order of priority:

- Improvement in the representation of women in academic positions, and, especially, at more senior levels.
- Improvement in the representation of women in general staffing positions, and, especially, at more senior levels.
- Improved support for aborigines on campus.
- Improvement in support for people with disabilities, and
- Structures for the future.

In addition, actions necessary for implementation of the strategies were approved.

Council also noted a proposal that the role of the Director of Affirmative Action be re-organised to provide for the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) to be Director of Affirmative Action for academic staff and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration) to continue to be Director of Affirmative Action for administrative staff.

The proposals suggested to improve support for people with disabilities include the establishment of a separate budget allocation of at least \$45,000 a year for three years for works and facilities, involvement of appropriate persons in planning new buildings and modifying existing buildings and the creation of a Campus Action Group.

The ACAAEO identified a Kurzweil machine as an item of equipment with the highest priority. The machine converts printed text in English to speech and costs about \$19,000. The committee recommended that one be installed in the Library.

At a special presentation on the needs of people with visual disabilities given to members of Council before the meeting, the University Librarian, Mr W. Linklater, said he had been informed that one student was blind and four

More over the page

4 students were partially blind.

He said at present there was no point asking for help to convert text to speech because the Library did not have any suitable equipment. However, if the Kurzweil machine could be installed, those who were visually impaired would have access to the same materials that other students had access to.

Dr Don Parkes said a Kurzweil machine would give some school students an opportunity to go to University. At present, visually impaired school students believed that they would find university too hard.

Ms Alethea Taylor, of the EEO Unit, said only the University of Newcastle and James Cook University, out of all the universities, did not make provision for people with disabilities. The University would change to being a pacesetter for other universities if it installed the machine in the Library, she said.

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The Vice-Chancellor reported that the Principal of the Hunter Institute, the Principal of Newcastle Conservatorium of Music and he had met with the Minister for Education's advisors that morning.

He said Dr Metherell wished to establish the Interim Council before the Councils of the University and the Hunter Institute and the governing committee of the Conservatorium were dissolved and to provide for the Councils to operate simultaneously. Dr Metherell planned to name the 15 members of the Interim Council and to authorise the Interim Council to meet in July.

The advisors said the Councils of the University and the Hunter Institute could continue to meet until the Interim Council advised Dr Metherell to dissolve the Councils.

The Chancellor and some members of the Council said they were surprised, confused and concerned by the plan for the Councils to operate simultaneously rather than for the existing bodies to be dissolved and succeeded by the Interim Council. They wondered what the powers of the Councils and the functions of the Interim Council would be. While the method used by the Minister had been used to set up the University of Western Sydney, the amalgamation situation in Newcastle was different and the process seemed unworkable, they said.

When the Chancellor concluded the meeting, she said it was not known whether the Council would meet again. She thanked 'each and everyone' for their patience. Working for the Council had been personally rewarding and she was sorry that the group might not meet again.

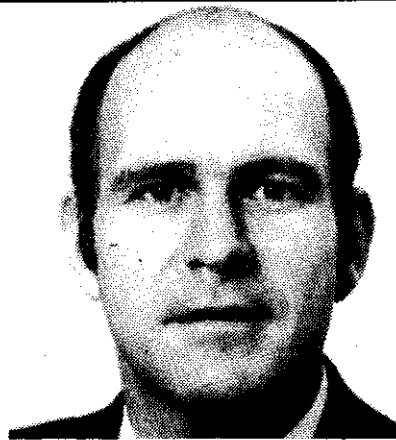
A member said members of Council thanked the Chancellor and this comment was met with acclamation.

Council decided, as a matter of urgency, to seek from Dr Metherell a clear statement in writing as to when the legislation amalgamating the institutions would be proclaimed and which provisions of the legislation would commence on the date of proclamation.

Council endorsed the advice given by the Vice-Chancellor to Dr Metherell that the date of the proclamation of the legislation in its entirety should be August 1.

Council also expressed its view that delays in the establishment of a Council with full powers to govern the amalgamated University would create a difficult situation.

BOOK RELEASE



● Professor Barry Gordon

Professor Barry Gordon, Associate Professor in Economics, in his new book, *The Economic Problem in Biblical and Patristic Thought*, talks of the problem of scarcity.

In his 144-page book, just published by E.J. Brill, of Leiden, in The Netherlands, Professor Gordon says economic thought began well before the emergence of economics as a distinct discipline. 'Through antiquity and beyond', he says, 'many major thinkers wrestled with the problem of scarcity, the problem which most contemporary economists identify

as central to issues of economic organisation and activity'.

Professor Gordon writes that serious regard for the problem is present in much of the literature which long pre-dates even the beginnings of the emergence of Economics as a discipline.

This book is about some of that early literature, and it involves a survey of thought extending from 800 BC to 400 AD.

The author begins with a study of the treatment of scarcity by the Yahwist, one of the first contributors to the Old Testament.

The analysis is organised sequentially in terms of the appearance of different, general solutions to the economic problem.

Professor Gordon finds that with the New Testament, there is a radical change of perspective. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus proposes his Solution by Seeking the Kingdom. This is taken up by his disciple St. Paul, although, because of the different context in which he taught, Paul is obliged to substitute the concept of 'the Household' for that of 'the Kingdom'. In contrast to Paul and some of the other writers, James and Luke contend that the economic life of a follower of Jesus must be characterised by disinvestment, poverty, and dependence on others.

Professor Gordon says his study, which concludes with an analysis of the thought of St. Augustine, of Hippo, has been many years in preparation, having been commenced when he was a Visiting Fellow at Oxford University.

The Economic Problem in Biblical and Patristic Thought sells for \$US35.

Professor Gordon has contributed numerous papers to leading European and American journals and is the author of several books, including *Non-Ricardian Political Economy*, *Economic Analysis before Adam Smith* and *Political Economy in Parliament*.

He and American Professor Roman Ohrenstein, who is presently a visitor in the Department of Economics, are co-authors of a forthcoming book on economic thought in Talmudic literature.

ADMIN NOTES

This is an instant Admin Notes produced (under some duress) to meet the publication deadline.

Student accommodation

Having observed the 'lively' debate at the recent Council meeting, John Armstrong suggested that this item should be featured in *Admin Notes*.

After a long debate Council approved the expenditure of \$4.1 million on student accommodation, as recommended by the University and Institute Joint Committee on Student Residential Accommodation and subject to the finalisation of certain matters to be referred to the Project Advisory Group (consisting of student representatives of the University and Institute and the future wardens of the two new Houses/Halls involved). These funds, made up of Government, University and Institute funds, will produce some 120 self-catering units as a new development on what we call Site B, and add some 33 units and a common room to the existing International House development, bringing that to a total of 81 units. The so-called Site B is the large block of existing University land between Edwards Hall and the Institute.

With the nearly 300 beds available in Edwards Hall, these developments will bring the on-campus accommodation capacity to some 500. But that is a long way short of what is needed for an institution which will shortly have an enrolment of some 12,000 students. So, we have already opened up negotiations with DEET on further additions of student accommodation which can be offered at rates that students and/or their families can afford.

While Council debated the detail of the new accommodation provision, it supported enthusiastically the concept of developing and managing student residential accommodation as *residential communities*.

These residential centres will be self-catering, in accordance with Commonwealth Government policy and the strong preference of students, as expressed in separate surveys conducted by both the University and the Institute. They will be developed as communities with some 120-150 places, each with their own common room and

part-time Warden who would also undertake academic duties for the University.

Those who are sport-minded are especially enthusiastic about the concept of quasi-college communities as they can see the prospect of intra-varsity sporting competitions among the three Halls/Houses. These additions to our accommodation capacity not only provide us with more facilities to offer students but will add, over time, to the sense of a university community. In the longer term — and hopefully not too much longer — we could be looking at some 1,000 students being accommodated on campus, producing quite a considerable university town.

Full-Fee overseas students income

Income from the first entry of full-fee overseas students has been distributed in accordance with the formula agreed by the Vice-Chancellor after receiving advice from the Budget Sub-Committee and Planning and Resources Committee. After unavoidable costs have been taken out (including the DEET-regulated capital component), this means that 50 per cent of the remainder goes to academic purposes especially the academic departments involved in producing the income; the other 50 per cent goes to University financing of the new student residential accommodation.

Even with the relatively small numbers involved this year, this income has been a welcome addition to University and School budgets.

Administrative structures

Notwithstanding the obvious stresses and strains associated with amalgamation, the Administrative Structures Working Group presses on inexorably with the preparation of integrated administrative structures. The final report will be presented and released shortly. It will be made available widely, including academic departments.

EEO and AA

At its recent meeting, Council endorsed a new and much sharpened set of strategies and priorities for equal employment opportunity and affirmative action. These had been recommended by the Council's Advisory Committee on Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity in response to a 'challenge' issued by the Chancellor to

produce EEO and AA programs⁵ which could produce recognisable outcomes in a reasonable time.

A presentation of these new strategies and priorities will be made in the next *Bulletin*.

Clerical/Keyboard integration

Obviously, the July 1 objective which I set earlier will not be achieved. However, negotiations with the Staff Associations are still proceeding.

Academic staffing package

As a result of Budget Sub-Committee and Planning and Resources Committee consideration of the considerable student overload this year (as a result of a higher-than-expected re-enrolment rate), those Directors of Schools coping with overload have been invited to bring forward proposals to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) for additional priority positions.

The staffing standards applied have been those proposed by the Planning and Resources Committee and endorsed by the Senate last year.

**Mr Lance Hennessy,
Deputy Vice-Chancellor
(Administration)**

Alliance Francaise of Newcastle *invites you to a*

Bastille Day Dinner

on
Friday, July 14
7.30 pm for 8 pm

French Revolution Restaurant

Terminus Hotel

(opposite the Newcastle Railway
Station)

Four course meal by French chef

\$35 (adult)

\$12 (child)

Entertainment by musical duo

Rapport

Linda Barcan (vocalist)

and Romeo Donolato

(accordionist)

**Dress: semi-formal or you are
invited to come dressed in the
spirit of the occasion.**

**Enquiries: Nicolette Cannon
(Extension 370)**

JUNE SENATE

The Vice-Chancellor, in his report to Senate on June 28, reported on these and other matters:

Small grants

The Chairman of the Australian Research Council, Professor D. Aitken, had announced that there would be additional funding to University staff for small grants next year. The allocation would be \$430,289 — about \$80,000 more than had been expected.

Restructuring

The Department of Employment, Education and Training had stated that the proposals of the Federal Government's Task Force on Amalgamations amounting to \$12.1 million as supplementary funding for the restructuring of the amalgamated University had been confirmed.

The details are: \$5.9 million for a new Administration Building and new link roads, \$4.3 million for a new Science Building, \$700,000 for the development of the new University campus at Ourimbah, \$1 million for early staff retirements and \$0.9 million from reserve funds.

Professor Morgan said the University had put in a bid for an administrative computer, a new PABX telephone system and re-organisation of the Administration. These were represented by the allocation from Reserve Funds.

Visit to Korea and Japan

The Vice-Chancellor was a member of the delegation representing the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee and the Australian Committee of Directors and Principals which visited universities in Japan early in June. Four Vice-Chancellors were included in the group.

Professor Morgan said he had taken the opportunity to visit Korea, where he learnt that a large number of university students welcomed any opportunity to study at universities in Australia.

The delegation was warmly received in Japan and members had had discussions with national university bodies, which were surprised by the strong commitment of Australian universities to Japanese studies.

While there was little prospect of Japanese students studying for degrees in Australia, the

response to the proposal that students study courses in the English language for up to 12 months was favourable.

Professor Morgan added that he was impressed when he was presented with information on Japanese universities 'beautifully printed in English as well as Japanese'. This University should impress overseas visitors by following the example.

In reply to a member of Senate, he said he would again write to the Japan Foundation hoping that it would be able to respond favourably to the University's request for funds to support the establishment of a Chair in Japanese.

New committees

Senate appointed the Central Coast Campus Planning and Resources Committee to be responsible for academic and physical planning regarding the new campus at Ourimbah.

The committee will comprise the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), the Deputy Chairman of Senate, Associate Professor J. Ramsland and Mr W. Linklater (representing Senate) and two representatives of the Academic Board of the Hunter Institute, Dr L. Eastcott, who is responsible for the development of the new campus, and an Administration representative. A representative of the group from the Central Coast that worked for the establishment of the new campus will attend meetings of the committee.

Senate also appointed an Overseas Students' Committee to be responsible for the overall guidance of the recruitment of overseas students and the work of the proposed Office for Overseas Students.

The committee will comprise the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), the Deputy Chairman of Senate, the Dean of Students, Dr Eastcott, the Academic Registrar, Mr J. Todd, Professors F. Clarke and B. Maitland (representing Senate) and two representatives of the Academic Board of the Hunter Institute.

Additional Staff

Senate was told that the Planning and Resources Committee had considered the teaching overload situation faced by some Departments across the University. Account had been taken of recent advertisements for new Chairs in Mathematics, Computer Science, Information Science, Sociology

and the ongoing consideration of Chairs in Social Work, Psychology, Aviation, English and Japanese.

The committee had asked the Vice-Chancellor to make financial resources available to the Directors of Schools for the following additional staff: School of Humanities (three positions); School of Economics and Information Systems (seven positions); School of Engineering and Architecture (one position) and School of Science and Mathematics (six positions).

Foreign Languages

The committee established by the Planning and Resources Committee to consider the future of foreign languages in the University recommended that a Review Committee be established to consider future developments in teaching and research in the modern languages, including French, German, Japanese and other Asian languages.

The committee said the review should take account *inter alia* of the following aspects: the study of language/literature with a 'traditional' university approach, languages as 'service' courses in, for example, predominantly science or commerce degrees, languages as part of the study of culture and institutions, the place of short-term (intensive) language courses in the University and the potential for Francophone studies.

The Review Committee expected to take a broad view and make recommendations as to the orientation, level and organisation of foreign language/literature teaching in the future and any associated research implications.

Senate endorsed the proposal and appointed the following people to the Review Committee: the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), the Deputy Chairman of Senate, the Dean of Arts, the Head of School of Education (Hunter Institute), an External Scholar in Modern European Languages and an External Scholar in Asian Languages/Studies.

International conference on bulk materials handling

The University hosted around 200 engineers from nine countries for the 3rd International Conference on Bulk Materials, Storage, Handling and Transportation from June 27 to 29.

The conference was sponsored by the National Committee on Bulk Materials Handling of the Mechanical College of The Institution of Engineers, Australia, and the University.

Around 60 papers were presented at the conference, held in the Great Hall. An exhibition of equipment was also held in the Foyer of the Great Hall.

The handling of bulk solid materials is a major activity of a vast number and variety of industries throughout the world. The conference reviewed the current state-of-the-art with respect to research and development and provided a forum for the exchange of ideas and experiences.

On the Tuesday conference delegates were welcomed by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Keith Morgan.

The conference was opened by the Minister for Primary Industries and Energy, Mr John Kerin, MHR. Following Mr Kerin's speech, the keynote address was given by Mr J.H. Planner, a Director of Planner West and Partners, Consulting Engineers. His topic was *Newcastle — a Pioneer of Australia's Bulk Materials Port Systems*.

The Conference Dinner was held in Newcastle City Hall on the Wednesday night.

Professor Alan Roberts, Professor of Industrial Engineering at the University and Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, was presented with the A.G.M. Michell Award in recognition of his contribution to engineering and his distinguished academic career. The award is made by the College of Mechanical Engineers.

The papers delivered at the conference provided a large amount of information on belt conveyors, feeders and mechanical conveying, material flow characteristics, pneumatic conveying, silo and bin design, stockpiles, system design, wear and tribology inventory and waste collection and disposal.

History of Education conference

The first weekend in July will see some very special visitors attending the annual ANZHEs Conference in the Education Building at the University from July 7 to 9.

A total of 33 papers will be presented over the two-and-a-half days of the conference.

Among the presenters from far afield are Professor Joan Burstyn, well-known historian in women's education, from the University of Syracuse, New York; Margaret Gillett, Macdonald Professor of Education at McGill University; and Dr Maggie Winzer, from the University of Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada, whose special interest is the education of exceptional and gifted children. From Massey University in New Zealand, Dr Roger Openshaw and Dr Janet Solear will also be presenting papers.

The theme of the conference is *Education: the Past, the Present and the Future*, and a good many of the presentations take up the theme and examine issues that are extremely relevant to important policy issues in education today. A large number of the papers also focus on the history of women's education and administrative developments at the tertiary level. A focus on biography is also present and well summed up by the title of Dr Noeline Kyle's paper *Telling Lives or Lively Telling! The Changing Art of Biography*.

Program details are available from the Department of Education (Extensions 503 or 277). Special enquiries can be directed to Dr Allyson Holbrook, or Associate Professor John Ramsland (Conference Convenors).

The daily rate for attendance is \$10, though on Saturday a special lunch is provided at an extra cost of \$5.

Orchestra's link with Hunter community

The first major concert of the Hunter Orchestra's Second Season was sponsored by Alcan to mark the 20th anniversary of the commissioning of the company's aluminium smelter at Kurri Kurri.

The Alcan 20th Birthday Concert was presented by the orchestra in the Great Hall on July 2.

Professor David Frost, Chairman of the orchestra, said that following a request by Alcan for Wagner's *Tristan and Isolde* and the war-whoops of the *Ride of the Valkyries*, he said.

Daryll Poulsen returned to show Newcastle his mastery of the horn in Strauss's *Horn Concerto* and the Birthday Concert concluded in an atmosphere of haggis and heather, with Mendelssohn's *Scottish Symphony*.

The Rose Window Appeal Concert would be a second major event for the Hunter Valley, Professor Frost said.

The concert would be held in Christ Church Cathedral (at 8 pm on July 7) to support the restoration fund for the rose window in the Cathedral, damaged over the years by structural movement.

The Cathedral's former organist, Mr Michael Dudman, will perform two organ concertos, by Handel and Guilman.

The Hunter Orchestra's main offering will be Beethoven's *Symphony No.4*.

Because July marks the 200th anniversary of the French Revolution, the concert will begin with an overture by the French composer Berlioz and conclude with his rousing setting of the French national anthem, *La Marseillaise*, where the University Choir and the NBN Children's Choir will join Orchestra and soloists.

Tickets for both concerts can be purchased at the Civic Theatre, the English Department and Charlestown Information Booth.

**Support
University
Challenge
by coming
along to B01 on
July 13, 1 pm**

The Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee met at Griffith University. This is a report of the main matters discussed.

New Member

The University of Western Sydney is to become the 24th member of the AVCC, following a decision taken at the meeting. The UWS, which is based at campuses at Werrington, Nepean and Hawkesbury, west of Sydney, will become the second associate member of the organisation. This category of membership is designed for institutions in the process of development.

Research Funding and Policy

Infrastructure funding

The AVCC has called for substantial funding next year to be distributed to colleges; colleges now amalgamated with universities; and universities and institutes of technology to build up their research infrastructure. The call comes as part of the AVCC's advice to the Federal Government on the method of allocating \$25 million of research infrastructure money next year. The \$25 million was announced in the May Science and Technology Statement and the Australian Research Council, in formal consultation with the Higher Education Council, will advise the Government on the distribution. The AVCC's position was put to a meeting of the AVCC/HEC Task Force in Brisbane on Wednesday, June 21.

Under the AVCC's proposal, half the \$25 million would go to universities via a system of block grants based on the TIRE (Total Identifiable Research Expenditure) and the postgraduate research load of each university. The formula would be weighted 70 per cent on TIRE and 30 per cent on the postgraduate research load. The remaining \$12.5 million would be distributed to colleges; colleges amalgamated with universities; institutes and universities of technology and special initiatives.

Clawback

The AVCC has also called on the Government to extract the clawback from institutions across the system — not just from the pre-1987 universities, as at present. The AVCC believes that if the clawback is to continue, it should be applied differently, taking into

account the relative funding of the institutions. It has suggested that a threshold should be set below which institutions would not suffer a clawback, and this threshold could be the worst-funded pre-1987 university.

Priorities

The AVCC is concerned that the Federal Government adopt a long-term approach to research priorities. Vice-Chancellors suggested that the approach adopted by the Australian Research Council in determining priorities had to be looked at closely. They were particularly concerned about what appeared to be an annual call by the ARC for new priority areas and stressed that it was essential for any priority areas to be accorded a long-term commitment or the exercise would be useless.

The AVCC has reiterated its support for research priority areas submitted to the ARC last year and welcomed the ARC's inclusion of biotechnology, marine sciences and materials sciences in its priority areas. The AVCC has called again for the inclusion of the following research fields in the ARC's priorities:

- Culture and language.
- Human factors and work systems.
- Information and communication, technology and control systems.
- Natural resources and the environment.
- Population and health sciences.

Costing of research

The AVCC has set up a working party to investigate how much institutions should charge external clients, such as industry and government departments, for research projects. The costing of research group will be led by Professor John Lovering, Vice-Chancellor of Flinders University. He and the AVCC Chairman, Professor Brian Wilson, will also consult with research granting bodies.

Accounting Review

The problems of attracting staff to areas such as accounting continues. The AVCC Chairman, Professor Wilson, reported that he had met representatives of the Institute of Chartered Accountants to discuss the difficulties in attracting staff to university departments because of the high salaries paid in the private sector.

The AVCC Executive will meet the committee inquiring into accounting education in Canberra

in August. The committee, headed by Emeritus Professor Russell Mathews, the former director of the Centre for Research on Federal Financial Relations at the Australian National University, has been set up by the Government to carry out a discipline review following concern about staff shortages.

Overseas Students

The AVCC has agreed to adopt a national approach to the refunding of fees to full-cost overseas students who drop out of courses. At present institutions have a range of policies but the move for a common approach has been prompted by AIDAB in negotiations over the new scholarship programs.

Academic and Research Network

The AVCC has agreed to proceed with the development of a major computerised network linking universities and colleges across Australia. It is likely the network will also include CSIRO and other users. Known as AARNet, it will have international links and will be a significant national resource for research, teaching and administration. The network is being established as a joint activity by AVCC and the college sector but the Federal Government is being asked to support the network as a major new piece of academic infrastructure.

Academic Standards Panels

The AVCC's project for assessing honours courses in universities has been operating for 18 months. Panels have been established in physics, psychology, history, economics and computer science. The reaction from staff has been positive with many academics commenting on the value of the program in demonstrating public accountability, in providing a co-ordinating mechanism by which departments can become familiar with the programs of other departments, in initiating debate in departments about their objectives and philosophy and in raising consciousness about the need for well-documented procedures for maintaining quality and standards.

Award Restructuring

The AVCC will continue to monitor developments in award restructuring in the general workforce and their implication for accreditation of university and college courses and credit transfer

between institutions and levels of study.

China

The AVCC has expressed concern about the welfare of Chinese students studying in Australia, with some Vice-Chancellors indicating that they had a number of requests for financial assistance from students. The Government has indicated that it will assess these claims for financial assistance on a case-by-case basis. The AVCC is also concerned that there may be a delay in issuing visas and this may make it impossible for students to begin study in 1989, the last year of the subsidised program and delay commencement to 1990 when full-fees will be payable. The AVCC has indicated Government that transitional arrangements may need to be made so students will not be disadvantaged.

Accommodation

The AVCC, the Australian Committee of Directors and Principals, and the International Development Program will jointly fund the construction of a new building to house the three secretariats in Canberra. The building will be available for occupation early next year and costs will be offset by renting space to other tenants.

University Subsidiary Companies

A survey of universities has shown that subsidiary companies set up to market research and teaching are operating responsibly. This follows concern expressed recently by the New South Wales Auditor-General. The AVCC survey showed that accountability requirements are being met by these companies.

Choir's concert on a grand scale

The University Choir is currently preparing for one of the most exciting ventures in its 12-year history.

On August 26, in the Great Hall, the Choir will present Verdi's *Requiem*, with four of Australia's most prominent opera singers as soloists.

Myer Fredman, conductor for the Australian Opera, will conduct the performance. The soloists are all famous on the concert platform: Rita Hunter (soprano), Margreta Elkins (mezzo-

VERDI REQUIEM

performed by

NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY CHOIR and ORCHESTRA

Musical Director: Peter Brock



CONDUCTOR: Myer Fredman†

Principal of The Opera School, N.S.W. Conservatorium and Music Consultant to The Australian Opera

SOLOISTS: Rita Hunter (Soprano)* Margreta Elkins (Mezzo)*

Kenneth Collins (Tenor)* Grant Dickson (Bass)†

*Appearing by arrangement with The Australian Opera

† Appearing by arrangement with The N.S.W. Conservatorium of Music

**SATURDAY, 26th AUGUST, 1989 at 8 P.M.
GREAT HALL, UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE**

Tickets: \$16 and \$10 Conc. from Civic Theatre, Lathams Garden City, University Union, MacDonald Bros, Maitland and at the Door. (Booking fee where applicable). Enquiries — 52 3009.

Sponsored by: • TUBEMAKERS OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED
• AUSTRALIAN AIRLINES • NEWCASTLE AMBASSADOR
• Ernst and Whinney and • WT Partnership, Quantity Surveyors.



This project has been made possible with assistance from the New South Wales Government through the Ministry for the Arts.

soprano), Kenneth Collins (tenor) and Grant Dickson (bass). They are international singers with the very special ability and technical excellence required for a work of such beauty and genius.

The Verdi *Requiem* is regarded as one of the greatest works in the choral repertoire.

The concert will be presented on a grand scale, with an orchestra of 65 and a choir of 100. Preparations for the costly event have been under way for the past 12 months.

Tickets will soon be on sale at the Civic Theatre, Lathams Garden City, the University Union

and MacDonald Bros., Maitland. They cost \$16 (adults) and \$10 (concession).

**Browse and buy
Thousands of
Second-hand books
The Book Fair
July 22 to 29
Great Hall**

STAFF HOUSE REPORT

Mr Richard J. Bamford has been appointed to succeed 'Sandy' Sanderson in the bar at the Staff House.

Mr Bamford has had considerable experience in the hotel industry, operating the Albion Hotel in Newcastle for six years and the Burton Family Hotel in Glebe for three years. Prior to accepting this position Richard was the Relieving State Manager for the Australian Hotelier's Association for two years. He has just purchased a new home in Birmingham Gardens.

When you are next in the Staff House Richard would like to meet you in the air-conditioned bar.

A farewell for Sandy was held on his last day of service (June 30), after 10 years' of service.

A presentation was made to Sandy, and flowers were presented to his wife, Margaret. Our caterer, Mr Dallas Gold, provided the eats for the function, with music by Mr Greg Markham on piano.

Major refurbishment of the kitchen is currently being undertaken, with a new steam convection oven and hot plates about to be installed, and two refrigerators being replaced.

Members are likely to notice further upgrading of food and services offered with these improvements. Staff members, postgraduate students and those whose duties bring them into contact with the University are eligible for membership and are urged to join. This is done by seeing Richard in the Bar area.

Members who pay their dues annually are reminded that fees are now due with the end of the financial year.

Enquiries may be addressed to the under signed at Extension 641.

Aub Everett,
Honorary Secretary

New book on weathering


A two-volume, multi-author work, *Weathering: its Products and Deposits*, has recently been released. The work is characterised by the widespread of nationalities contributing reviews and articles and the topics covered.

Professor W.F. Pickering, of this University, a member of the Advisory Editorial Board, contributed a 50-page chapter, *The Competing Roles of Dissolution, Sorption and Complex Formation in Element Mobilisation*.

Professor Pickering also contributed a chapter to an earlier international compilation, organised by the same Greek publishing company, entitled *Leaching and*


Diffusion in Rocks and their Weathering Products. His association with the inter-disciplinary fields covered by the work arose from the wide acceptance of the research work in environmental chemistry carried out by his Newcastle group and several reviews and book chapters written in the past decade. Earlier in his career, Professor Pickering was the sole author of three text books on Analytical Chemistry, but in the 1970s recognised the important role that his field of specialisation could play in environmental monitoring and environmental science.

Book details: *Weathering: its Products and Deposits* — Volume I, *Processes*; Volume II, *Products-Deposits-Geotechnics*. Theophrastus Publications, Athens, Greece (1989) 1134 pages.



The Hunter Orchestra

Conductor - Ulric Burstein



Sunday 2nd July
3.00 p.m. Great Hall, University of Newcastle

ALCAN
**ALCAN KURRI KURRI
20TH BIRTHDAY CONCERT**

Prelude and Love Death from "Tristan and Isolde"	Wagner
Horn Concerto	Strauss
Soloist — Darryl Poulsen	
Ride of the Valkyries	Wagner
Symphony No. 3 (The Scottish)	Mendelssohn
Adults	\$12.00
Concession	\$ 6.00

Friday 7th July
8.00 p.m. Christ Church Cathedral

ROSE WINDOW
**ROSE WINDOW
APPEAL CONCERT**

Roman Carnival Overture	Berlioz
Organ Concerto No. 6	Handel
Organ Symphony	Guilmant
Soloist — Michael Dudman	
Symphony No. 4	Beethoven
La Marseillaise	de Lisle, Berlioz
Adults	\$20.00
Concession	\$15.00



Tickets at Civic Theatre, English Dept. University and
Charlestown Square Information Booth. Booking fee may apply.

Inquiries — 63 2237

The Hunter Orchestra is assisted by grants from
The Australia Council and The N.S.W. Ministry for the Arts.



'No smoking' areas in the University

The Vice-Chancellor made the following statement outlining the University's policy on smoking in 1987. We print it again for the benefit of new arrivals on campus.

Professor K. Morgan said areas inside the University had been designated 'prohibited areas' and 'consensus areas'.

Smoking was prohibited in the following areas:

- In confined areas of general access, for example the Auchmuty Library, lifts, lecture theatres, departmental offices, seminar rooms and toilets.
- In lunch rooms and rest rooms.
- In areas frequently visited by members of the public.
- In areas where it constitutes an immediate hazard, e.g. flammable liquid stores, and in University vehicles.

Professor Morgan said offices shared by two or more persons and offices occupied by one person were viewed as 'consensus areas'.

In offices shared by two or more persons, one being a smoker, that person should ascertain whether smoking is acceptable to all non-smokers in the same office. If unanimous agreement cannot be reached the office shall be declared a non-smoking area.

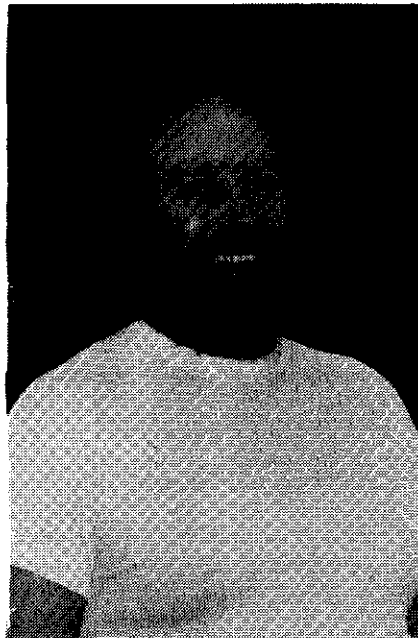
If an employee is the sole occupant of an office, the designation of that office as a smoking or non-smoking area should be left to the employee.

Professor Morgan said the University assumed that the normal atmospheric environment was that of the non-smoker.

Consequently, while it was the policy of the University to respect the rights of all individuals, where the exercise of these rights led to conflict of opinion and practice over smoking, the rights of the non-smoker must prevail.

Within this policy, it was expected that in all matters of conflict, the best endeavours of individuals and officers of the University would be used to resolve them and if possible find mutually acceptable solutions.

Simon returns



● Simon

New Lecturer in Computing Science, Simon, has taken up his position after having left the University for about 18 months.

Simon is, of course, well-known for having discarded such community mores as wearing long pants and shoes.

He was a Lecturer at this University on two previous occasions. At the end of 1987 he took up an appointment with Griffith University as a Lecturer in Artificial Intelligence. He described the discipline as an aspect of computing which tried to get computers to exhibit some of the properties of human intelligence.

Simon was an instructor in massage for the WEA and a presenter for the University's radio

station, 2NUR, before he left Newcastle. He says he would be surprised if he were asked to teach massage again, as his methods were too controversial, and it seemed that ABC-FM was now catering for those who had listened to his music program, *Easy Classics*.

A resident of Toukley, Simon loves both his waterfront position and the beauty of the Shortland campus.

Artworks from Antiquity



100 ceramic items produced in Apulia, in the South East of Italy and Greece during the 4th century before the birth of Christ.

Friday, July 14,
12.30 to 2.30 pm; and
5.30 to 7.30 pm.

Saturday, Sunday, July 15 and 16,
1 to 5 pm and

Monday, Tuesday, July 17 and 18,
11.30 am to 2.30 pm.

Venue — Green Room and Foyer, Great Hall

An invitation to join AWEUN

The priorities of the Association of Women Employees at the University of Newcastle (AWEUN) are:

- to ensure that the strategies of the EEO Management Plan (passed by Council in 1985) are brought into operation.
- to ensure that the University meets its commitment to the Federal Affirmative Action program.
- to promote the interests of women in all areas of university employment and to provide opportunities for them to meet.
- to raise awareness and help change attitudes concerning discrimination by way of films, meetings, forums and activities for all staff.

AWEUN's major avenue for fulfilling these aims is through its representation on the University Council's Advisory Committee on Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity.

If you are interested in joining AWEUN or finding out more about it, please contact Di Rigney at Extension 634. Annual membership from July 1 costs \$5.



Boost for Women in Management

The Women in Management Award is an annual award of the Australian Institute of Management that has been given since 1985. The award is open to all women from voluntary organisations, public and private sectors, academic life and service industries in the Hunter.

The award is given by the AIM in recognition of achievement through leadership, communication, organisation or administration in a chosen career, or vocation. Other significant fields are entrepreneurship, effective interpersonal skills, positive personality and an involvement and commitment to the community.

The winner of the 1989 Women in Management award will receive prizes worth \$2,500. The St. George Building Society will contribute \$1,000 and the Australian Institute of Management \$1,000.

A panel will judge the winner. The judges are Mr Warwick Player, of the St. George Building Society, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Keith Morgan, and Mrs Fay McGuigan of Wyndham Estate Wines.

The name of the winner will be announced at a gala dinner at Queens Wharf on September 13.

Pictured at the launching of the award at The Brewery on June 29 (from left): Professor Morgan

(President of the Australian Institute of Management), Dr Joan Cooper (Women in Management, AIM), Mrs Fay McGuigan and Mr Warwick Player (Divisional Manager, St. George Building Society).

Nomination forms can be obtained from any branch of the St. George Building Society. Closing date for the receipt of nomination forms is August 14.

China crisis talks postponed

The *China Crisis In Perspective* conference, which was to have been held at this University on July 14, has been postponed until August 11.

The Department of History agreed to the postponement so that one of the guest speakers, Mr Geremie Barmé, of the Department of History at the Australian National University, could visit Hong Kong.

Correction

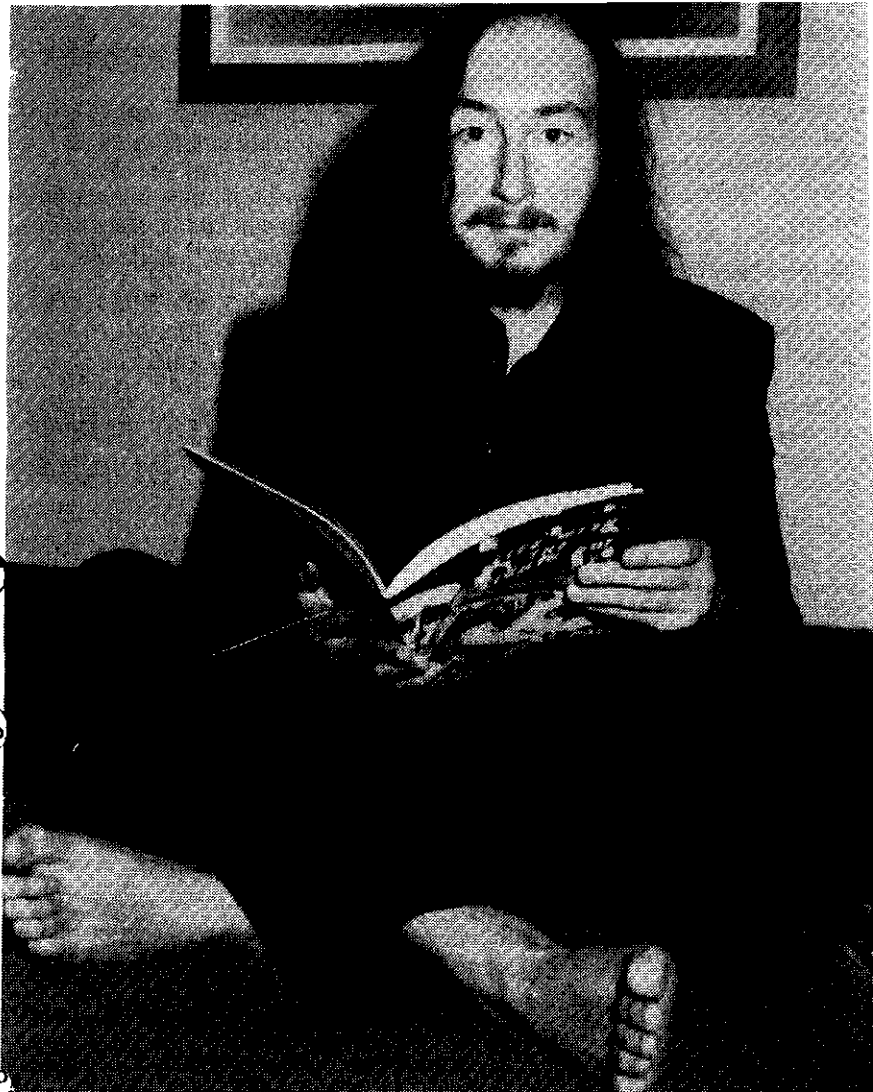
In the last Bulletin, it was stated that Lesley Everard, a student in the Faculty of Medicine, was the only successful candidate in the Commonwealth Foundation Bursary Scheme.

In fact, Lesley and Peter Shannon (Medicine) were awarded bursaries. Lesley Everard will work for an elective period in Tanzania and Peter Shannon will use his bursary to work in Zambia.

Staff Association's Executive



The Staff Association of the University has 290 members and membership is increasing. Pictured following the annual elections are staff members who serve on the Executive (from left): Mr Jock McQualter, Dr Geoff Samuel, Dr Peter Hempenstall, Dr Marea Mitchell, Mrs Lynne Turner (Secretary), Professor Frank Bates, Mr John Burgess, Mr Robert Mackle (President), Ms Margaret Sampson and Dr Howard Dick.



● Nicholas Patey

Nicholas Patey — young poet

Friends and students met in the Commonwealth Hotel, Cooks Hill, on July 2 to wish Nicholas Patey good luck in his new role as the author of a book.

Nicholas, who holds a BA degree with honours in this University and is enrolled in the Faculty of Arts as an MA degree student, wrote *Life With the Lights Out*, which comprises 16 of his poems and has been published by Cooks Hill Books and Records.

The collection is divided into three parts — *Life With the Lights Out*, *Crossword Puzzles and Songs of Ignorance and Expedience* — and illustrated by Jane Musgrove Caveney and Ian Johnstone.

The book is available from Cooks Hill Books and Records, Darby Street, Newcastle, and Nicholas Patey (Room 121, English Department) and sells for \$4.

At the launching, Nicholas Patey sang original songs and accompanied himself on the guitar.

1989 HSC Review

During the mid-year break, the University was again host to Hunter Region Year 12 Science students who attended the 1989 HSC review.

Reviews in HSC Physics have been conducted for the past four years by the Newcastle and District Association of Science Teachers (NADAST), under the direction of Mr Jeff Bromage, of Gateshead High School, in conjunction with the Physics Department. The program grew in 1988 with the introduction of a Year 11 review whose aim is to consolidate the core material before the commencement of the all-important HSC year.

Reviews of Chemistry and Biology were also developed by NADAST in 1988, when they were presented independently of the Physics program.

This year, the Year 12 Review was organised such that

the most popular science subjects, Physics, Chemistry, Biology and General Science, were presented in the same week, running over two days each. The Year 11 Review will be presented later in the year.

The Physics Department has a strong commitment to assist with studies in a subject which many find difficult. Most academic and technical staff members of the Department have been involved in presenting the HSC reviews, which emphasise the use of demonstrations to aid in the understanding of basic concepts. This has been on a voluntary basis, in addition to normal duties. The opportunity to receive instruction from physicists with a greater depth of experience in the subject than HSC students would normally have encountered has undoubtedly aided the students who participated and their response has been very positive.

The donation provided to the Physics Department by NADAST is used to fund prizes and awards for outstanding achievement in first year Physics undergraduate degree courses.

F.W. Menk,
Department of Physics

Help for asthmatics

The University Health Service offers an Asthma Management Course for students and staff with asthma.

A preliminary meeting will be held in the Health Service in the Basement of the Union Building on July 20 at 1 pm to discuss the course and arrange a convenient time for each session.

The course will consist of four weekly two-hour sessions, commencing in the week July 23 to 29.

The course will be presented by Ms Juliana Hazell, a nurse with the Health Service who has extensive knowledge about and experience of asthma and its management. A respiratory physician from the Medical Faculty has been invited to Session 3 to discuss interpretation of peak flow records, action plans, management of a severe attack, as well as any concerns you might have.

For more information please get in touch with Ms Juliana Hazell (Extension 763).

Presentation to top students in sport

The annual dinner for the presentation of University Blues and Sports Union Colours will be held on **July 28** in the

University Union, commencing at 6.45 pm for 7.15 pm. Mr Brian O'Shea, Rugby Co-ordinator for the Australian Institute of Sport, will be the guest speaker.

Bookings for the dinner close on July 19.

Further information regarding the dinner may be obtained from the Sport and Recreation Office.

Department well represented at international conferences

The Department of Chemistry will be well represented at a series of international conferences to be held in Queensland during the next few months.

Dr G A Lawrance (Senior Lecturer), Dr M Maeder (Lecturer) and Mr P Bernhardt (PHD student) will attend the XXVIIth International Conference on Co-ordination Chemistry on the Gold Coast from July 2 to 7. Dr Lawrance and Mr Bernhardt will present a paper *Diammac, a new hexa-amine ligand. An overview of some unusual co-ordination chemistry* and Dr Maeder will present *Solvation of metal ions in mixed solvents. A Chemometrical approach.*

Also, a former Honours student in the Department, Mr R. Berthon, will present his Honours project work (*New metalloboranes of the early transition metals*), done under the supervision of Dr R. Burns (Lecturer).

Prior to the conference, Dr Lawrance and Mr Bernhardt presented two research papers at the XIVth International Symposium on Macrocyclic Chemistry held in Townsville from June 24 to 28 — *Iron (III) and Chromium(III) complexes of the sexadentate ligand 6,13-diamino-6,13-dimethyl-1,4,8,11-tetraazacyclotetra-*

decane and Metal-Directed Syntheses of Binucleating Macrocycles: Dicopper(II) Complexes with N- or N,S-Donors. Dr Lawrance also delivered an invited lecture, *Metal-directed syntheses of binucleating ('Spiro-bicyclam') Macrocycles.*

Later, Dr Maeder and Honours student, Mr R. Williams, will attend the Chemistry International and 10th Australian Symposium on Analytical Chemistry in Brisbane from August 28 to September 2. Dr Maeder will present a research paper *Deconvolution of overlapped chromatograms by evolving factor analysis and, in conjunction with Mr Williams, Estimation of electrolytic manganese dioxide battery activity using factor analysis of XRD spectra.*

Education for the ageing

Hunter Regional Council of Adult Education will hold a public meeting to consider the Provision of Education for the Ageing at the Deaf Centre, Corner Denison and Samdoun Streets, Hamilton, on July 19 at 10.30 am

It is anticipated that as a result of discussions at the meeting, a plan of action will be adopted which will eventuate in the enhancement of the educational provision to people who are ageing in the Newcastle and Lake Macquarie areas.

The plan will address the needs of residents of nursing homes and retirement villages, as well as those who remain independent and active in the broader community.

Light refreshments will be served.

Convocation annual general meeting

The annual general meeting of Convocation of the University of Newcastle will be held in the **Staff House** on

Thursday, July 20 at

7.30 pm.

Supper will be provided at the end of the meeting.

Exam Results

The Secretary's Office has announced that **Final Examination Results for Semester I subjects will be mailed out to candidates on Friday, July 7.**

Judge for guest speaker of AIIA

The Newcastle Group of the Australian Institute of International Affairs will meet in the Staff House on August 11 at 6 for 6.30 pm.

Mr Justice Enderby will speak on *The Problem of Language in International Affairs: Is an International Language a Practical Solution or Merely a Dream? A Judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales and a former Attorney-General in the Whitlam ministry, Judge Enderby has been long active in the Institute and is a former Branch President. He is a keen student of Esperanto and attended their Fourth Pacific Conference.*

Meet the women employees of the HIHE

AWEUN has organised an informal lunchtime meeting to provide an opportunity for women on both campuses to get together.

The function will be held on

Friday, July 14

at

12.15 pm

in the

Auchmuty Room

of the University Union. Bring your lunch. We'll supply the drinks.

For further information please contact Di Rigney at Extension 634.

Freedom of information

What is Freedom of Information?

On July 1 the New South Wales Freedom of Information Act took effect.

The University will be subjected to the legislation, as are the other universities in the State. There are several important areas of concern shared by all tertiary institutions, and discussions are presently taking place to develop a joint approach on documentation common to all universities.

The Freedom of Information Act has three purposes:

- obtain access to documents held by public bodies such as State Government Departments, universities, local government etc.
- amend any documents about your personal affairs if you believe they are not correct, and
- appeal against a decision not to give access to documents or amend your personal records.

The New South Wales State Government's commitment to the spirit of Freedom of Information is best seen in Section 5 (3)(b) of the Act, viz:

It is the intention of Parliament that ... this Act shall be exercised ... so as to facilitate and encourage, promptly and at the lowest reasonable cost, the disclosure of information.'

Why has Freedom of Information been introduced?

Pressure for the introduction of Freedom of Information has arisen because of the size, cost and pervasiveness of government — not just in Australia, but throughout the world. Sweden has had Freedom of Information since 1766; it has been in operation in the Commonwealth and the State of Victoria since 1982.

By providing 'an identifiable gateway into the bureaucracy' Freedom of Information allows an individual's rights to be heard in a world rapidly becoming dehumanised. It is based on the three essential principles of participatory government — openness, accountability and responsibility.

What sort of information is available?

You can ask for:

- personal information such as records relating to your examination results, health, superannuation benefits etc., and

- non-personal information, such as government policy documents, instruction and procedure manuals, legal advice etc.

Information can be in the form of files, certificates, computer printouts, and tape and video recordings.

What are the costs involved in a Freedom of Information request?

There are two types of charge — application fees and processing fees. A \$30 fee covers your application to see personal or non-personal information. Processing fees are set at \$30 an hour, but you are allowed up to 20 hours of free processing time for information about your personal affairs. In certain circumstances a 50 per cent reduction in fees may be claimed.

The members of staff involved in the administration of the Freedom of Information Act are:

Principal Officer, The Vice-Chancellor, Professor K.J. Morgan. Manager and Decision-Maker, The Secretary, Mr P.D. Alexander. Administrative Assistant, Ms Jeannie Curran.

If you would like more information about Freedom of Information, please contact Ms Curran, Secretary's Division, Extension 711 (LG46 McMullin Building).

LIBRARY ROUND-UP

New edition of the Oxford English Dictionary

The second edition of the *Oxford English Dictionary*, published in March, 1989, is now in our Reference Collection at 423/100/Ref. It amalgamates the text of the first edition, published in 12 volumes in 1933; the *Supplement*, published in four volumes between 1972 and 1986; and approximately 5,000 new words, or new senses of existing words, which have gained currency since the relevant volume of the *Supplement* was published.

There are 22,000 pages, over 500,000 words and 2.4 million illustrative quotations. As Anthony Burgess says: 'One of the glories of the *Oxford English Dictionary* is the mass of illustrative quotations which supports definition. It is the reason why the *Oxford English Dictionary* is so big.'

The first *Oxford English Dictionary* took 75 years to com-

plete with four editorial teams and over 800 unpaid readers sending in quotations. Its third editor, James Murray, wrote after 25 years' hard labour: 'I wonder sometimes whether anybody will ever realise the work that the Dictionary costs ... but ... it pleases me at any practicable amount of work, to get at the facts, and force them to yield their secret ... turn to the articles *pelican* and *penguin*, and try to realise what these articles cost. I could have written two books with less labour: or read the note at the end of *Partish*, or try to estimate the brain work that is put into *Pass* which came near driving me mad, before I could see my way through it; ...'.

Thanks to new technology, the new edition has taken only six years under the editorship of John Simpson and Edmund Weiner, with 23 assistants. Their major task was the integration of the existing published works, facilitated by the transfer of the text to magnetic tape. This has enabled publication of the older edition without the supplements on CD-ROM at a cost of 500 pounds per copy. It is intended to publish the new edition in this format in three or four years.

The advantage of CD-ROM is that not only are the headwords indexed but also the italicised rubrics like adverb, indecent, Ant and Cleo; the words used in the definition (call up 'apple' and you will get all its synonyms and varieties, turnover and pavlova, all the compounds that include the word, 283 pippins and fritters altogether); and words used in the etymological section.

Access to the 1.8 million quotations by author, title of work, date and word by word groups in the text is even more valuable.

The new edition of the *Oxford English Dictionary* will be an essential reference work for the new words of our own era from AIDS to Rubik's cube. Anthony Burgess pays tribute to the *Oxford English Dictionary* and its staff in the following words: 'The work goes on forever; the *Oxford English Dictionary* is an epic achievement, but the final line cannot be written. — In an age of destruction that always catches the headlines, a small army of men and women have drudged to conserve. It is heroism, but there is nothing sensational about it. It is quietly, or harmlessly, honourable, and I am here to honour it.'

Jim Cleary and Elizabeth Guilford

Diary of Events

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, July 10 to 12, Noon to 2 pm

Auditions for the 1989 University Revue in the Helmore Room. Needed: writers, actors, musicians, publicity, helpers!! Anyone can audition — no preparation needed.

Tuesday, July 11, Noon to 2 pm

Entertainment in the Bar featuring the *Witchdoctors* (R&B band).

1 pm

Mathematics informal lunchtime seminar. Professor Graham Goodwin will speak on *Developments within the CICS*. Venue: V111 Mathematics.

Wednesday, July 12, Noon to 2 pm

Entertainment in the Bar featuring *The Goddards*.

6.30 to 9.30 pm

Entertainment in the Bar featuring local band *The Slots*.

Thursday, July 13, Noon to 2 pm

Movie: *Cry Freedom* in the Bar. Donation: 50cents.

Friday, July 14, 1 pm

Film Buffs' Club presents *His Girl Friday* (comedy). Admission: free.

Country Muster Concert with Jean Stafford, Greg Hayes and the Black Angel Band at the Waratah-Mayfield RSL Club. Tickets are available at the Club for \$10 each. (All proceeds to the 2NUR Building Appeal.)

Tuesday, July 18, 1 pm

Mathematics informal lunchtime seminar. David Bennett will speak on *Belt Cleaners for the Mining Industry*. Venue: V111 Mathematics Building.

1 to 2 pm

Short Back and Sides — Wollongong University Travelling Revue Troup in the Courtyard. Admission: free.

Wednesday, July 19, Noon to 2 pm

German feature film: *Fliehendes Pferd* plus *Deutschlandspiegel*. Films have English subtitles. Venue: A132, McMullin Building.

Noon to 2 pm

Entertainment in the Southern Cross Lounge. Admission: free.

6.30 to 9.30 pm

Entertainment in the Bar featuring local band *The Hipslingers*.

Thursday, July 20, Noon to 2 pm

Movie: *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* in the Bar. Donation: 50cents.

Friday, July 21, 10 am to 5 pm

To mark the Bicentenary, a one-day conference on *The French Revolution 1789: Cause for Celebration?* will be held. Venue: Lecture Theatre V01. Enquiries, Extension 363.

Autonomy Day celebrations

Advertisements

For Sale

Mac Hard Disc — HD20 in excellent condition. Asking price: \$1,000 or near offer. Please telephone Simon at 67 1189.

1981 Nissan Bluebird GX. This car is very reliable and includes radio cassette plus velour seats (NKB957). This car *must be sold* in the next two weeks. I am hoping for \$5,500 — make me an offer I can't refuse. Please telephone Extension 404 or 59 6244.

Wanted — Loving Home

We are three loveable, adorable, fat'n sassy pussycats who have been desexed, are extremely healthy and wonderful with children and we are about 12 months old. Please telephone Howard Bridgman at Extensions 644 or 654.

German films

German feature films, newsreels (*Deutschlandspiegel*) and documentaries will be screened again every second Wednesday from Noon until 2 pm in Audio-visual Room, A132, McMullin Building.

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

Second Semester

July 19, *Fliehendes Pferd** plus *Deutschlandspiegel*.

August 2, *System ohne Schatten** plus *Deutschlandspiegel*.

August 16, *Ende einer Dienstfahrt** plus *Deutschlandspiegel*.

August 30, *Katzelmacher** plus *Deutschlandspiegel*.

September 13, *Der junge Törless** plus *Deutschlandspiegel*.

October 11, *Die Moral der Ruth Halbfass** plus *Deutschlandspiegel*.

* English subtitles.

Chekhov's 'gentle, delightful' play

The Department of Drama's production of *Three Sisters*, by Anton Chekhov, will run nightly in the Drama Theatre from July 11 to 22.

The play, set in Imperial Russia in 1901, is recognised as one of the supreme achievements of modern theatrical writing. It's about the lives of the Prozorov family — the sisters, Olga, Masha and Irina and their brother, Andrey — in a provincial town some 500 miles from Moscow. They resent their provincial backwater and look forward with eager anticipation to their return to the bright lights, gaiety and sophistication of Moscow.

Probably no playwright has captured so accurately the mood of provincial frustration, boredom and desperation as Chekhov. No playwright has, at the same time, been able to inject so much humour and irony into this prevailing mood.

Three Sisters is a gentle, thought-provoking, delightful play which demands understanding and sensitivity of its performers.

The production is directed by Professor Victor Emeljanow and designed by Mr Tom Bannerman. The lighting design is so essential for the evocation of the play's shifting moods has been designed by the Department's guest, Mr Mark Carpenter, who has written the standard Australian resource book on lighting, *Basic Stage Lighting*.

Seats are still available at the reasonable prices of \$8 and \$5 concession. These may be obtained by telephoning the Department at Extension 705.

Browse and buy — Thousands of Second-hand books —
The Book Fair — July 22 to 29 — Great Hall