The new officers of Newcastle University Students' Association (NUSA) are very satisfied with the number of students who voted in the elections for the 1989 executive. The tally of voters — more than 1,000 — was the highest for many years and, possibly, ever.

That is more than 18 per cent of the campus electorate, compared with the average response for elections conducted at Australian universities of live to 10 per cent,' Ms Allison Kinder, the new President of the NUSA, said.

Ms Kinder explained that students felt persuaded to vote this year by the importance of amalgamation and certain other issues. Moreover, the unusually large field of candidates (17 for six positions on the executive) resulted in more than-usual interest and intensive campaigning.

Ms Kinder, who hopes to complete a BSc pass degree this year, has assumed office as leader of the students' body. She would normally take up duties in February, but the Past President, Glenn Beatty, resigned on October 1.

She is the first woman to be elected President since Ms Margaret Kavanagh held the position in 1982 and 1983.

Ms Melissa Jones has commenced in the position of Women's Officer, which was filled by Ms Kinder.

Other SRC positions filled in the elections: Treasurer, Mr Sebastian Diesell; Honorary Secretary, Mr Frank de Vitas; Intercampus Liaison Officer, Mr Milton Okopoulos and Media Officer, Ms Vanessa Bates and Ms Natalie Downing. They will assume their positions when those who currently hold office resign early next year.

Ms Kinder spent part of her early life in England and attended Nepean High School.

She described her successful team of candidates as a group not connected with a political party. 'It was time for consultations to be started with students about their concerns and what they want, rather than students being told.

'I ran for President because although I acted as Women's Officer and Science Rep I felt my chances of having important campus and student issues raised were pretty limited.' She mentioned amalgamation as the most important issue she would be attacking on behalf of her electors. 'I don't oppose it automatically, but insist that we do nothing to downgrade the University, which has built-up a first rate reputation.

'A great deal of work has to be done to ensure that degrees have the same emphasis as now. Also, will the tripartite system of student services — the SRC, the Union and the Sports Union — survive instead of adopting the Hunter Institute's guild system?' Ms Kinder said the University had achieved a first rate name overseas and although it might have to compromise with the legislation to give effect to amalgamation it should not compromise with the name of the amalgamated university, which should be the existing name.

The new SRC officers planned to respond to the strong interest in the elections by providing a mechanism for consultations, including an Information Centre and links with the Union and sporting clubs.

'We are part of a network of student bodies at universities in New South Wales which is trying to deal with an anti-education state government,' Ms Kinder said.

Not only has secondary education been attacked, but the Liberal Party has proposals for...
The University who will shortly

The SRC executive proposed to speak out when necessary about the 'raw deal' overseas students were receiving. Racism was one of the main reasons concern was felt for these students.

Ms Kinder expressed satisfaction because the new executive was broadly representative of faculties of the University.

Student job seekers can obtain advice

The Careers and Student Employment Office is well geared to help those students of the University who will shortly venture out of the campus and into the workaday world.

According to Ms Helen Parker, the Careers and Student Employment Officer, employment is at its highest level for some years and companies are continually phoning her to hire graduates.

She says that if students have not done so already they should commence their searches for work early and get as much advice as they can from her office.

As soon as possible they should complete their resumés, assess their career goals and apply for jobs which suit their academic specialities.

We follow the demand for university graduates closely,' Ms Parker says, 'obtaining updates of all the surveys of jobs advertised in newspapers in New South Wales.'

The C&SEO offers students who are looking for employment a number of other services such as information on the divers job areas available, how to target the jobs which best suit their study areas or seem most satisfying, how to prepare resumés and what to do and what not to do whilst being interviewed for a job.

Ms Parker says her office also organises 'employer visits'. In other words, recruiters from government departments and companies turn up on the campus and give talks on the jobs they have available, their company's requirements and the courses and other training that they provide.

'Students gain considerably from listening to these people. They learn more about career categories and training opportunities.'

The Careers and Student Employment Officer says that job opportunities are increased if graduates can put together resumés which make them employable outside 'traditional' areas.

'We can help them to show their versatility as educated, thinking people who don't have limited job options.

'We show that their degrees, their love of learning and their abilities as team workers make them very good prospects as employees.'

Ms Parker says that there is a range of other career services available from the C&SEO.

Students looking for part-time or vacation work or work experience are welcome to call in to see what's available.

'We can tell them about the local companies which offer work experience positions exclusively to this University at the end of the academic year.

'We have a data-base in connection with students who are looking for part-time work in many categories — from unskilled jobs to tutoring freshers.

'As people ring us offering part-time jobs, we use the data-base to match up the most suitable students,' she says.

Newsweek

Accountants' results hailed

The outstanding performance of UN Commerce graduates in professional examinations conducted by The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Australia last year has brought national kudos to the University.

The candidates completed their academic qualifications at the University in 1986 and participated in the Institute's Professional Year Programme last year.

Two achievements by the UN graduates marked the summary of the results:

- They achieved the best success rate of graduates from the universities in Australia, and
- They obtained the top pass rates in three of the examination modules (Audit and EDP, Taxation and Profession Practice) and came a close second in the other module (Accounting).

The Newcastle graduates' pass rate in Audit and EDP was 83.8 per cent, in Taxation 85.7 per cent and in Professional Practice 94.1 per cent. In Accounting their pass rate was 77.1 per cent, compared with 78.6 per cent for graduates from the University of Melbourne.

It is the policy of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia not to announce publicly the results of the professional year examinations. Instead, the Institute restricts distribution to tertiary institutions and members of the Institute.

However, in the best traditions of investigative journalism Campus Bulletin made a search and was successful in obtaining the results.

Change in Head of Department

Assoc. Professor R.C. Jones is Acting Head of the Department of Biological Sciences from October 4 until October 28.
Nominations called for awards

Convocation is seeking nominations for the Convocation Medal and the Newton-John Award.

The Gold Medal is awarded annually to a graduate of the University with the most outstanding record of professional excellence that can be found. The graduate can be working anywhere in the world.

The Selection Committee will look at the curriculum vitae of possible grantees, but in particular will be seeking a discovery, a new understanding or a new development, which has significantly advanced some particular field.

The recipient of the 1988 Convocation Medal will be announced at the 1989 annual general meeting of Convocation.

Any graduate who would like to be considered, or any person who would like to suggest a name for the 1988 award, is invited to forward all relevant information to the Convocation Officer, C/- the University, by October 31. All information received is strictly confidential to the Selection Committee.

The Newton-John Award recognises graduates of the University who have made a substantial contribution, by way of innovation or creativity in any field, towards enhancing the quality of life in the community.

The award was instituted in 1974 with selection being based on the following criteria:

- Graduates of the University of Newcastle or graduates of the University of New South Wales or the University of New England who spent at least three years as students of the Newcastle University College are eligible to be nominated for the award;
- The award is given for innovation or creativity in any field with the emphasis on (a) originality, (b) lasting value or aesthetic value or benefit to the community.

Nominations should be submitted to the Convocation Officer, C/- the University, by October 30.

For further information please contact the Convocation Officer at Extension 370.

Student broadens his cricket education

Paul Weekes, a 19-year-old London cricketer, wanted to play on although the English competition had finished.

His wish came true when University Cricket Club opened its doors to him for the Australian summer.

The club had farewelled Chris Rudd, who returned to England after playing a season for Derbyshire and a season for University on an alternate basis for the last three years.

Peter Tate, a spokesman for the cricket club, said Rudd had proved a definite asset and an approach was made to Middlesex to try to find a replacement.

'We wanted students to have an opportunity to learn from cricketers who have played in the English County competition,' he said.

The result was that Paul Weekes was recommended by Mike Gatting, captain of Middlesex (and former captain of England), to come to Australia to broaden his cricket education.

Paul said he used to take part in the MCC's coaching clinic, called the Young Professionals, and now played for Middlesex's Second XI. His club had had a good season, the highlight being the win against Worcestershire in the NatWest One-day Competition Final.

Paul's airfare was paid by one of Middlesex's sponsors, Seaxe Pty. Ltd. Until he finds a job, the Cricket Club is providing him with accommodation.

An off-spin bowler who likes to bat at four or five, he was chosen to play in University's Firsts.

Soon after he arrived he told Campus Bulletin: 'I am excited and hope I do well in Newcastle.'

Advertisements

Guitar lessons offered for young beginners. Please telephone 524625 or Extension 569 for further details.
LETTERS

Dear Sir,

It will be by now very obvious that work is proceeding at a reasonable pace on the construction of the new Motorway 23, past the University grounds.

Work has now commenced on the construction of the first of two very large major roundabouts, in this case the one to be sited at the intersection of Blue Gum Road and Moore Street.

Given the severe congestion presently experienced in the afternoon when leaving via the main gate after 5 pm, and the further congestion to be caused by these roadworks, there can be no doubt that traffic arrangements in this area will be a nightmare for some time to come.

We understand that the construction of the new bridge over the Motorway in the grounds of the Central Research Laboratories, at the rear of Materials Engineering, has been completed.

A logical solution to this traffic problem is to create an opening through the rear fence of the University and carry out the small amount of paving necessary to link the campus road network with that of the CRL.

It is requested that the University departments responsible for these necessary improvements undertake the work before the chaos starts at the University entrance, not after.


Dear Sir,

On that 26th of September, which we will have occasion to regret, I attended the larger part of the Council meeting which ratified the agreement between the University and HIHE. It was a curious, though rather depressing, experience. Here was a gathering of about twenty persons, all, one assumes, reasonably well educated and experienced in the social rituals in which we attempt to make reasoned decisions, and yet manifestly unable to do so on this occasion. There was a lot of meandering talk, a fair deal of grumbling about the perceived threat to the Council's autonomy, but not the slightest concerted attempt to assert this autonomy in what has perhaps been the most important decision of the Council's history. It was deeply ironical that there was, from the Chair, a series of reminders about the ultimate supremacy of Council-in-accordance-with-the-Act, in the very meeting in which a document was thrust upon it to which it had not made the slightest contribution, which it could not even alter, and which puts the very mechanisms into place which make of Council's autonomy, at any case in amalgamation matters, a mere legal fiction.

Professor Aric Brand, Department of Sociology

Dear Sir,

As Dorrit Nesmith was sent (and accepted) an invitation to the first performance of Twelfth Night, I was a little surprised to see her at the last performance and even more surprised that she judged it an appropriate occasion for a review.

We were unlucky with the weather on that day and after battling against the elements through Act 1, we made the decision to transfer the performance to the studio. This was the only occasion on which the performance was moved, as our intention had been to cancel altogether if the weather should prove particularly unkind. However, this was the last performance, we had a sizeable and sympathetic audience, and we could not offer them another opportunity to see the play.

Before moving indoors, we explained that we had not rehearsed the production in the studio, that we had made no provision (in terms of lighting, seating or the arrangement of a performing area) for transferring it, and that the actors would have to improvise the blocking, which had been designed for an area on two levels with four exits. Under such circumstances a paying audience would certainly have been offered their money back (ours had not paid for their seats!), on the grounds that we could not present them with anything like the kind of performance we had rehearsed. Had Ms Nesmith been courteous enough to consult me, I would have suggested that to review Twelfth Night in these circumstances was entirely inappropriate.

As it is, her review makes no acknowledgement whatsoever of the difficulties under which the actors were performing and her determination, regardless, to find opportunity for 'odious comparisons' comes across with all ill grace.

Jane Goodall, Department of Drama

ACC General Secretary is Morpeth Lecturer

The Rev. David Gill, who recently became General Secretary of the Australian Council of Churches, is to deliver this year's Morpeth Lecture.

Rev. Gill will give the lecture in Theatre V01 in the Mathematics Building on October 20 at 8 pm. His topic is Ecumenism and the Transformation of the Church.

David Gill is an ordained minister of the Uniting Church. He was one of the chief planners of the 1975 Assembly of the World Council of Churches, held at Nairobi, entitled Jesus Christ Fides and Unitas. That Assembly paid great attention to social justice, racism, the need to conserve the Earth's resources in the interests of justice and the future of the planet, and the promotion of Christian unity and the unity of the human race.

For 12 years he was on the staff of the World Council of Churches based in Geneva.

David Gill holds the degree of BA (University of Sydney), BTh (Melbourne College of Divinity) and Master of Sacred Theology (Hertford Seminary Foundation, Connecticut, USA).

He edited the official report of the 1983 Assembly of the World Council of Churches held at Vancouver. Its title was Gathered for Life.

His other publications include Violence, Non-Violence and the Struggle for Social Justice, which appeared during the struggle for liberation and independence in Zimbabwe.

The annual Morpeth Lectures provide an opportunity for clergy and concerned lay people of all denominations to hear speakers of international standing speak on issues of importance to all Christian people.
What is Affirmative Action?

Affirmative Action is a means by which equal employment opportunity for women in the workplace is achieved. Although the concept of Affirmative Action is not new, it was only introduced into legislation in 1986 via the Affirmative Action (Equal Employment Opportunity for Women) Act.

Its prime objective is to remove discrimination against women in employment ensuring that females get an equal chance in the job market based on their skills and suitability for specific jobs.

Affirmative Action also aims to improve opportunities and conditions of employment for women at all levels and to reduce the occupational segregation of women.

It does not act as reverse discrimination against men in any way and it should be noted that no quota system is required.

In fact, larger organisations involved with Affirmative Action from the outset have found that it takes good business sense because it means appointing the right person for the job and providing training, promotion opportunities and employment benefits based on skill and merit regardless of gender.

Who does it Affect and When?

All businesses with over 100 employees in all industries and in the public as well as private sectors, are bound by Affirmative Action legislation.

Regardless of the program starting dates set down in the legislation, all managers should be thinking about Affirmative Action now. The legislation states that Affirmative Action programs must commence/have commenced as follows:

- February 1, 1987 for organisations with 1,000 or more employees;
- February 1, 1988 for organisations with between 500 and 999 employees;
- February 1, 1989 for organisations with between 100 and 499 employees.

Reports on the processes and progress of Affirmative Action programs are to be prepared annually and forwarded to the Affirmative Action Agency.

The first report for all organisations is due within three months after the end of the period to which the report relates.

For example, the initial report for organisations between 500 and 999 employees should cover issues relating to the period February 1, 1988 to January 31, 1989 and reports lodged with the Agency by May 1, 1989.

What does the Legislation say?

The Act requires that ‘appropriate action is taken to eliminate discrimination by the relevant employers against women in relation to employment matters; and measures are taken by the relevant employer to promote equal opportunity for women in relation to employment matters’.

Employers should remember that under the Act, full-time, part-time, casual and temporary staff employed under a contract of service are covered by the legislation. In addition, staff employed under a contract for services, such as insurance and other agents (natural persons, not incorporated companies), are also covered.

The Affirmative Action Agency guidelines have also pointed out that Australians who are temporarily transferred overseas for any period should still be covered under the organisation’s Affirmative Action program, even while overseas.

The definition of relevant employer under the Act is a little complicated. If, for example, a subsidiary company employs less than 100 people but the employing level of subsidiaries together with a parent or holding company is more than 100, then the company is a relevant employer and is bound by the legislation.

- the recruitment procedure, and selection criteria, for appointment or engagement of persons as employees;
- the promotion and transfer of employees;
- training and staff development for employees;
- conditions of service of employees.

How do you develop an Affirmative Action Program?

There are eight steps involved in developing a program:

- Issue a policy statement — This statement should come from the Chief Executive and be circulated to all employees. It should include a clear statement indicating the management commitment to the program; name the senior manager responsible for the overall co-ordination of the program and any other Affirmative Action officers; and outline the organisation’s program, highlighting key aims and intentions.
- Delegate responsibility for the program — A person with sufficient status and authority should be appointed as Affirmative Action Co-ordinator to handle the overall management of the program. In addition, the Agency recommends an Affirmative Action Officer is also appointed to be responsible for the detailed implementation of the program.
- Consult with unions — All trade unions having members in the organisation should be consulted.
- Consult with employees — All employees in the organisation should be consulted, especially female employees. Existing organisational structures such as unions, briefing sessions, training programs, quality circles, and existing committees can be used to facilitate this process.

- Collect statistics under specific classifications — This is probably the area which worries employers the most. Statistics are required on the employment history of employees, on the occupations within the organisation and the distribution of men and women across these occupations. This is to locate where women are and are not presently working in order to identify the basic employment patterns within the specific workforce.

- Examine policies and practices on discriminatory terminology and/or practice — This identifies any discriminatory practices or lack of equal opportunity in respect of women.

- Set objectives and make forward estimates to remedy any problem areas — The objectives should be qualitative and forward estimates quantitative. They should address any discriminatory problems that arose from the statistical analysis and review of employment practices, determine where new opportunities can be opened up for women and set targets which the organisation will try to meet over a specific period of time.

- Monitor and evaluate the program — To assess the achievement of objectives and forward estimates.

The annual report on the processes and progress of the Affirmative Action program must be submitted to the Director of Affirmative Action Agency.

The report will be available to the public and may be tabled in Parliament. However, if the detailed analysis of the development and implementation of the Affirmative Action program is confidential, a separate confidential report can be lodged. For example, if information contained in the report would be of commercial value to competitors, then a separate private report should be submitted. If the information required is not of a confidential nature then only one public report need be prepared and lodged.

Subsequent interpretation of the Act has recommended that organisations comprised of subsidiary companies prepare separate reports for each subsidiary and file each report together with a covering statement from the holding or parent company. The structure, size and nature of the organisation will, to a great extent, indicate the best way to report on programs. The objective is that the report should reflect all that is ‘unique’ to your organisation.

**What happens if you don’t comply?**

Should an organisation fail to provide a public report that satisfies requirements under the Act, or fail to provide further information to the Director of Affirmative Action upon such request, they may be named in Federal Parliament as having not met these requirements.

The sanction is one involving loss of public goodwill and tarnishing of the corporate image. An organisation named in this way would also be vulnerable to discrimination complaints by its employees under relevant state legislation.

**Affirmative Action** legislation is based on the premise that it is insufficient to make specific acts of discrimination unlawful. It requires further steps to try to overcome the effects of past discrimination and ensure that future discrimination does not occur.

The process is time-consuming in the initial stages and may seem a little intricate but the legislation is flexible and allows organisations to develop programs that are sensitive to their needs and circumstances. The information presented above is not a sufficient basis for decision-making in the Affirmative Action arena on its own. Rather, it needs to be used in conjunction with information about the specific situation in each organisation. Careful consideration should be given to planning, training, communication methods, statistical data gathering, and setting goals and targets in order to set up and operate a practical and effective Affirmative Action program.

**XXV congress of AULLA**

The 25th congress of the Australasian Universities Language and Literature Association (AULLA) will be held at Macquarie University from February 5 to 10, 1989.

The congress will feature a special program entitled *Discourse, Text, Medium*, which will be devoted to new interdisciplinary developments in the study of language, literature, film, television and theatre.

In addition there will be the following individual sections: American Literature, Anglo-Irish Literature, Australian Literature, Children's Literature, Classics, Drama and Theatre Studies, East Asian Studies, English Literature, Film and Television Studies, French, German, Italian, Linguistics and Stylistics, Literary Theory, Literature and History, Medieval Studies, New and Post-Colonial Literatures in English, New Zealand Literature, Semitic Studies, Slavonic Studies, and Spanish and South American Studies. There will also be a section on the use of computers in teaching and research in language and literature.

Postgraduate students are welcome to attend and to offer papers.

Registration forms can be obtained from the Conference Secretary, Mr Gerry Cohen, School of Modern Languages, Macquarie University, NSW, 2109 or telephone (02) 80 57026.

**Credit Union Week**

The Universities Credit Union will celebrate Credit Union Week from Monday, October 17 to Friday, October 21. The Credit Union has invited interested persons to visit its office in the Union to find out about the organisation's various services.

A spokesperson said the Credit Union was a unique and caring organisation, with one aim — to give the best possible financial help it could.
Contributing to the Bicentenary

Dr Alan Barcan's history of formal education in New South Wales since 1788 has been released during the Bicentenary.

Two Centuries of Education in New South Wales is Dr Barcan's third academic contribution to the Bicentenary. Earlier ones were a chapter in Australians: A Historical Library and an article in the bicentennial issue of Education Research and Perspectives (a journal published by the Faculty of Education, University of Western Australia).

Two Centuries of Education in New South Wales has been published by the New South Wales University Press and sells for $24.95.

Four great themes underlie this book — the changing balance between state and church education; the rise and fall of the humanist-realist tradition; the transition from education for a pioneering society to one for a modern technological society; and the uncertainty of standards and values in the post-permissive and pluralist society.

Dr Barcan begins with the initial establishment of convict schools, which were soon followed by a system of elementary schools controlled by the Church of England.

Then, in the 1830s, came a period when four competing systems of elementary schools existed side by side — Anglican, Catholic, Presbyterian and Unitarian.

The beginnings of higher and advanced education for the middle and upper classes are also surveyed.

After 1848, the four sets of denominational schools were joined by a steadily growing number of state elementary schools, which were initially concentrated in rural districts.

The book recounts the struggle for 'free, compulsory and secular' education which followed the Public Schools Act of 1867. The victory of this movement in 1868 saw the creation of a distinctive Catholic system staffed by religious orders.

The reforms of 1904-16, associated with the rise of the professional classes and the growth of democracy, brought into existence state secondary schools and stimulated university expansion. An 'educational ladder' stretching from primary to high schools and on to the university, teachers college or technical colleges characterised New South Wales education from 1911 until the 1950s.

The latter portion of the book discusses the crisis of liberal education in the 1950s, the great expansion of secondary education, and the period of confusion over curriculum and teaching methods which followed the collapse of the humanist-realist curriculum in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Similarly, the disintegration of liberal humanist education in the universities and the blurred distinction between higher and advanced education are analysed as part of the emergence of 'tertiary' education.

While Dr Barcan sets education in its economic, social, political and ideological context, he does not neglect the role of outstanding individuals. Moreover, he recognises that at times education has its own purpose and logic — it is not simply a social construct.

The book provides a wide survey of education, including the administrative structure, the curriculum, teaching methods, educational theory, private and church schools, the education of girls, education in rural areas, the education of Aboriginals, education in the home, and the growing influence of the Commonwealth Government.

Dr Barcan is an Honorary Associate in the Department of Education.)
POSITIONS VACANT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified permanent members of staff for the following position:

Stenographer — Department of Economics
(Position No. N144/88)

A person with sound secretarial experience and organisational skills is required to act as Secretary to the Head of Department and staff.

**Essential:** Shorthand and typing skills.

**Desirable:** A knowledge of word processing.

Commencing salary will be up to $392.75 per week depending upon qualifications and experience. Applicants should indicate the shorthand and typing speeds they can obtain under test conditions.

For further information please contact Professor Barry Hughes, telephone 68 8768.


**General information** — applications, quoting position, should be lodged with the Staff Office, University of Newcastle and should include all relevant information.

Equality of employment opportunity is University policy.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified members of staff for the following new positions created as a result of the introduction of ‘school funding’ in 1989:

Senior School Accountant — Bursar’s Division
(Position No. N145/88)

The occupant will be responsible to the Assistant Bursar (Budget and Supply) for the administration of the budgetary, financial and accounting operations of all schools within the University. The occupant will be assisted in this task by the services of a number of School Accountants and support staff.

**Duties:** Supervision of School Accountants and support staff; act as relief School Accountant as required; assist the Assistant Bursar in budget and financial reporting matters; co-ordinate research grant applications as necessary; act as the University’s nominated Responsible Officer for major research granting bodies.

**Essential:** Qualified accountant with experience in computerised accounting systems.

**Desirable:** Experience in research grant administration and in departmental financial reporting; staff supervision experience.

**Salary:** Commencing salary will be in the range $34,558 to $38,083 per annum depending on qualifications and experience.

**Closing date:** October 28, 1988. For further information concerning duties can be obtained from Mr Brian Penfold at Extension 351.

School Accountants — Bursar’s Division
(Position No. N146/88)

Each occupant will be responsible to the Senior School Accountant for the administration of the budgetary, financial and accounting operations of designated schools within the University.

**Duties:** Assistance to the Directors of Schools in preparing budget submissions; research grant administration; authorise funding for all expenditure; monitor and report allocations and expenditure as required; attend and advise meetings as required by Directors of Schools.

**Essential:** Formal accounting qualifications and experience in computerised accounting systems.

**Desirable:** Experience in research grant administration and in departmental financial reporting.

**Salary:** Commencing salary will be in the range of $30,178 to $31,138 per annum depending on qualifications and experience.

**Applications close:** October 28, 1988. Further information can be obtained from Mr Brian Penfold at Extension 351.

For Sale

370 cf two-door refrigerator in good condition, $200 or near offer; four burner new pine gas barbecue (needs to be assembled), $300 or near offer. Please telephone 66 4847 after 6 pm.

Boat trailer in good condition to suit 12’ aluminium or fibreglass boat, $100. Please telephone 58 2240.
The Insanity of Mary Girard

REVIEW by: DORRIT NESMITH

American history books praise Stephen Girard as a brilliant banker and patriot who helped finance the war of independence. Most fail to mention his wife, Mary, who — according to the Drama Department's most recent lunch hour offering — he cruelly and unjustly committed to a Philadelphia Hospital (of which he was a generous patron).

The Insanity of Mary Girard studies a woman victimised by a society that makes a husband his wife's legal guardian. His position is ordained by God and she must follow the divine injunction to obey, if she defies his rule, he has both the right and the duty to discipline her, and if the discipline takes the form of physical and/or emotional abuse, the assumption is that she must have provoked him.

Cast into this colonial Bedlam, Mary retraces the path that led her there. Her taunting fellow inmates lay aside their madness to portray those 'outside' who have instigated Mary's fall or who will influence her future destruction.

The actors are at their best when playing these outsiders: a hospital warden (whose accent, unfortunately, slips from Geordie to Scottish), a sympathetic but power less administrator, Mary's mother (who resents her daughter's plight from poverty), the most recent of Girard's many mistresses, and the superstitious, simpleminded woman who will someday reluctantly nurse Mary's infant through its brief life. And we meet Girard himself, icily unforgiving of Mary's infidelity, impervious to humane argument.

The actors should know, however, that 'madness' is not always signalled by eye rolling, fabric plucking and wild laughter. These symptoms, in fact, have become facile theatrical cliches which bear little resemblance to the behaviour seen in the wards of a real mental hospital. Director Bronwyn Hendry could have taken more advantage of the fear, the manipulation, the wheedling and the anger, as well as the utterly motionless apathy, to be found there.

Teresa Leopold, as Mary, has a richly eloquent voice, but her lovely face and elegant body are curiously expressionless. Simple changes of posture could have conveyed a range of moods from hauteur to defeat, but these were never utilised and her characterisation was thereby limited.

Though the play is set in 1790, the sets and costumes reflect the timelessness of the central theme: women's traditional powerlessness in the eyes of the law and of society. We can congratulate ourselves on some progress in these last two centuries but playwright Lanie Robertson is clearly trying to tell us that we haven't come far enough.

PSA executive positions filled

Ms Greta Davies is the new Secretary of the University's Sub-division of the PSA.

Ms Davies, Administrative Assistant in the Centre for Industrial Control Sciences, succeeds Mrs Joan Allridge, who resigned.

Mr Jim Cleary, Senior Librarian (Reader Services) in the Auchmuty Library, has been elected Assistant Secretary.

Ms Roslyn Cameron, Assistant EEO Co-ordinator, has been elected to fill a vacancy on the Management Committee.

Art and technology — a joint venture

Art and Technology will join forces at the Technology Centre in an exhibition from October 14 to November 11.

The exhibition is co-ordinated as a joint venture between Hunter Technology and the local company, Oz Art Brokers.

The exhibition has attracted works from noted local and Sydney artists and will feature some unusual pieces of art and technology, including holograms, computer art-graphics, neon-figures, an electronic display and even a 'hi-tech' kite designed by well-known Australian kite maker, Peter Travis.

PUBLIC DEBATE

A public debate will be held on Friday, October 28 in Lecture Theatre E01 at 8 pm.

TOPIC:

That creation is a better scientific model than evolution for explaining the origin of higher lifeforms on Earth.

Chair, Professor Frank Clarke, Department of Commerce.

The two teams are —

Pro: Ron Gibbins, Greg Hanington, David Malcolm.

Con: Charles Colin, Ian Plimer and Barry Price.

There will be a question and answer session after the debate.

At the close, a light supper will be provided by the Skeptics and the Physics Society.

Entrepreneurial network starts

Hunter Technology is about to launch a series of forums that will help promote and foster an entrepreneurial network in the region.

This month the first Enterprise Forum will be held at the Technology Centre in the University's grounds and has been designed to provide a regular meeting place to promote and stimulate enterprise in the Hunter.

The first Enterprise Forum will be launched by guest speaker, Mr Richard Owens on Thursday, October 27. The luncheon, starting at Noon, will be followed by his speech entitled It Takes A Little Bit More Than Luck. Mr Owens established the Shoey's supermarkets and is now the Managing Director of Coles Myer Food Group.

The fee for the forum is $25 and this includes lunch. Please telephone 62 0948 by November 25 if you wish to attend.
Minister's initiative on research funds

Professor Bob Smith, Chairman of the National Board of Employment, Education and Training (NBEET), has been asked to head a committee to develop a national higher education research policy.

Mr John Dawkins, the Minister for Employment, Education and Training, said that the committee would comprise Professor Smith, other members of the NBEET and its councils, and senior academics.

Mr Dawkins said the formation of the committee followed consultations with the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Conference and the Australian Conference of Directors and Principals in Advanced Education.

'I propose to ask the NBEET to evaluate the impact of the transfer of funds from universities to the Australian Research Council (ARC), including the balance between nationally allocated research funding and allocations by institutions of research funding based on research management plans, in the context of the allocation of resources for the next triennium.

'It is my intention to include in the higher education funding legislation the appropriation of the total amounts announced in the White Paper.

'However, decisions on the allocation of the 1990 and 1991 funds and any further transfers in the 1992-94 triennium will be made following the development of the national research policy for higher education. The impact of the transfer will of course be carefully monitored during 1989,' Mr Dawkins said.

The Chairman of the AVCC, Professor John Scott, said that the AVCC was pleased to see a positive response from the Minister to concerns held by the vice-chancellors over the future direction of research policy and funding.

'The national inquiry into research would give the university system an opportunity to present its views on the future of Australian research and on the concerns which had been expressed about the operations of the Australian Research Council.

'There had been concerns that the excellent system of assessment of applications and allocations of funds which had been built up over recent years would be damaged by ill-conceived decisions.

'We are particularly pleased that the Minister has agreed also to review the clawback to the Australian Research Council in 1990 and 1991,' he said. 'The AVCC has argued that the transfer of these funds from our operating grants ($20 million in 1989; $40 million in 1990 and $65 million in 1991) would be very damaging to our infrastructure for research.

'We now have the opportunity, through the review, to prove this to the Minister and convince him that the Government should provide additional money to fund its new initiatives.'

Diploma in Education, 1989

Applications from graduates and final year students are invited for admission to the Diploma in Education course at the University in 1989.

Applications may be submitted to the University at any time between now and Monday, January 2, 1989.

Note that the undergraduate re-enrolment form is not the correct form and applications are not made through UCAC. Applicants do not have to wait until 1988 results are available.

The course will be along the lines of that operating this year, with method studies in the following areas:


People aiming to be secondary teachers may take one or two methods, the choice depending on their desire, their qualifications and the timetable.

Application forms are available from and should be submitted to the Student Administration Office.

Further information (and application forms) may be obtained from Mr Peter Day, Faculty Secretary, Faculty of Education, Room W329, or telephone 68 5417, or Trevor Cook, Course Co-ordinator, Room W344, or telephone 68 5462.

Optimising the effect of flight instructors

The flight instructor is the greatest single factor affecting a student pilot's learning, according to the authors of a new book.

Assoc. Professor Ross Telfer, Director of the Institute of Aviation at this University, and Professor John Biggs, of the University of Hong Kong, show in the book how instructors can optimise their positive effect on students.

The Psychology of Flight Training has just been released by Iowa State University Press and sells for (US)$19.95.

Described as 'a new, easily understood mould of the bush' of teaching others to fly' by Emeritus Professor Stan Roscoe (retired from New Mexico State University), the book grew out of Professor Telfer's and Professor Bigg's innovative flight instructor education course of 1977. Lacking precedents to work from, they made a few flying lessons their starting point.

In the book they look at the major elements of flight instruction, the major teaching skills needed and the role of educational psychology in the teaching process.

They focus on how we learn and remember, how we are motivated to learn and the importance of positive self-concept in our learning.
Staff positions available at Edwards Hall

Seven residential staff positions will be available at Edwards Hall next year. The Board of Trustees has called for applications from suitably qualified men or women. The positions are part-time and available at Deputy Warden (one position) and Subwarden (six positions) levels.

One of the residential staff members will be located in the self-catering units, while the remaining six will be located in Burnet and Cutler Houses. Applicants should hold a primary degree and be proceeding to a higher degree, or be a member of the academic staff of the University. However, the Board reserves the right to appoint any other person it considers fit, to make appointments by invitation, to make less appointments than are vacancies.

Residential staff provide academic and other assistance to members of the Hall, in addition to performing a number of minor administrative tasks. The Deputy Warden provides major administrative assistance to the Warden in student matters.

The duties, terms and conditions of appointment, remuneration and residential fees of the Deputy Warden and of Wardens may be obtained from the Warden to whom applications should be forwarded.

Applications should include a curriculum vitae and, in particular, details of previous experience.

Applications will close on Monday, October 31. The Board proposes to make appointments in early December.

Change in schedule for TV ‘challenge’

The ABC's University Challenge TV programme is no longer shown at 10 pm on Mondays.

Due to the ABC changing the programming schedule, the series will be shown at 8 pm on Thursdays.

There will be a three-week break before the rescheduling comes in.

The next programme, Murdoch University vs James Cook University, will be shown on October 27.

Chance to assess safety data base

The Occupational Health and Safety Committee has obtained a chemical materials safety data base for evaluation by interested members of staff.

The data base, which is on compact disc, will be available from October 12 until October 24 in the Auchmuly Library.

Ms Janet Brice, in the Medical Library, has obtained the disc and has the facilities (IBM PC and compact disc player) to use and demonstrate the system.

All members of the Chemical Safety Committee, academic and technical staff in the Chemistry Department, members of the OH&S Committee and other interested members of staff are invited to participate (and to offer opinions).

To organise demonstrations, please get in touch with Mr E. Jacobs at Extension 446, or the Secretary, Department of Chemistry, at Extension 426.

Staff House’s agm

The annual general meeting of the Staff House will be held on Wednesday, October 19, in the main dining room of the Staff House at 1.30 pm.

The agenda includes the minutes of the previous annual general meeting, the Treasurer's Report, the President's Report and the election of the Committee for 1988/89.

The committee positions to be filled are: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and four committee members.

THE 1988 DICK GIBSON MEMORIAL LECTURE
will be given by
The Honourable
Virginia Chadwick, MLC

Friday, November 4, 8 pm
in Lecture Theatre K202,
Medical Sciences Building.

The Minister will be speaking on the role of the Department of Family and Community Services in relation to ageing people and her special responsibility as Minister Assisting the Premier on the Aged.

The fee for attendance is $5 per person, $3 concession, which includes supper. Proceeds from the lecture will go to the R.M. Gibson Travelling Fellowship.

For further enquiries please contact the Department of Community Programmes at 68 5600.

Staff member’s contribution

Professor Arie Brand, Associate Professor of Sociology, has added one more essay to his list of publications.

An essay on Weber has been included in the book, Creating Culture, a collection of profiles of key thinkers in the study of culture.

Foucault, Levi-Strauss, Freud, Marx, Weber and the other key thinkers examined in the book have been strategic in refining techniques of cultural analysis. Each essay addresses the politics of culture as well as its aesthetics.

The Editor says Creating Culture introduces the reader to the breadth of contemporary cultural analysis and recounts the history of a field central to the social and human sciences.

‘In so do doing, this collection provides ample evidence that the study of cultures has reached well beyond the boundaries of anthropology to become a central focus of critical thought,’ she says.

The book is edited by Diane J. Austin-Broos and released by Allen and Unwin, Australia. It sells in soft cover for $24.
Diary of Events

Monday, October 17, 11 am

Noon
Department of Geology seminar entitled The exhalites of the Blackwoods Open Cut: a unique opportunity to study such lithologies in proximity to the Broken Hill lode. Speaker: Mr Tony Wiggins. Venue: CG04, Geology Building.

7.45 pm
Make/Do Theatre's Poetry in the Pub at the Grand Hotel, Bolton Street, Newcastle. This month’s guests will be Amnesy International. Enquiries: Bill Iden at 67 9372.

Tuesday, October 18, 11.15 am

Noon

1 pm

1 pm

Wednesday, October 19, Noon
Department of Geology seminar entitled Structural Analysis of a Deformed Accretion - Subduction Complex Sequence, Nowendoc, New South Wales. Speaker: Mr Martin Hand. Venue: CG04, Geology Building.

Thursday, October 20, Noon

8 to 7.30 pm
Free public seminar entitled Lifestyle and Health. Speaker: Professor Saxon White. Venue: Case Study Theatre, Level 2, David Maddison Building.

8 pm

Friday, October 21, 1 pm
Film Buffs’ Club will be screening Big Business (Laurel and Hardy, 1929), Donald’s Crime (Donald Duck) and The Day the Earth Stood Still (Michael Rennie and Hugh Marlowe, 1951) in the Common Room. Admission: free.

Saturday, October 22, 1 pm

Monday, October 24, Noon

Tuesday, October 25, 1 pm

Wednesday, October 26, Noon

2 pm

7.30 pm

Thursday, October 27, Noon
Movie: Piccolo (short) and Phantom of the Opera in the Common Room. Donation: 50 cents.

7 pm
LAST DAY RAGE featuring the Witchdoctors.

Friday, October 28, 8 pm
Public debate on Creation vs Evolution — That creation is a better scientific model than evolution for explaining the origin of humans on Earth. Venue: Lecture Theatre E01.

ADVERTISEMENTS

For Sale
Tamlya Hornet — remote control scale model car, $190 (for $100 battery pack and control unit). Please telephone 33 7368 or Extension 527.

1980 VC Holden Commodore sedan in very good condition throughout (Chardonnay in colour) with air-conditioning, $7,000 or near offer. Please telephone 52 7953.

1 Mark Richards 6’ Tri Fin surfboard, $200. 1 Egan 6’ Swallowtail single fin surfboard, $100. Please telephone 52 7441.

Fiat 124 Station Wagon — great engine (registered until August, 1989) — a real steal at $1,300 (hold four people, gear, surfboards etc.). 1988 Bambora Big Toy Windsurfing (6.2m2) plus speed sail, harness, bag, etc., $1,100 (special deal if you want both!). Please telephone 56 1539 before 9 am or after 6 pm or you can leave a note in Caldwell folder in the Commerce Department.

For Rent
Very comfortable two bedroom brick terrace home in quiet area — needs minding. Suit person without children or pets who would appreciate and care for it. It is fully furnished with lots of extras — microwave, dishwasher, washing machine, good stereo system, cozy open fireplace, ceiling fans and plenty of built-ins. Lovely private courtyard for entertaining with lots of bird life. Available from early December until December, 1989. Please telephone 26 6816 or after hours at 69 2049.

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