

CAMPUS NEWS

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1978

Sir Mark to speak here on March 17

Emeritus Professor Sir Mark Oliphant will speak on the future of science and technology in Australia in his public lecture at the University on Friday, March 17.

Sir Mark's address will be the highlight of Visitor's Day, which is being held in conjunction with the Festival of Wollongong.

The lecture will begin at 8 p.m. in Pentagon Lecture Theatre No. 1.

Admission is by ticket available from the Information Office, room 116, first floor Administration Building. The tickets are free.

Sir Mark, 76, is a distinguished physicist of world standing and the former Governor of South Australia.

His career embraces more than forty years of research into the fundamental nature of matter.

He was educated at the University of Adelaide and Trinity College, Cambridge.

He arrived at Cambridge in 1927 as an 1851 Exhibitioner and worked with Lord Rutherford at the Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge.

His reputation was established with the discovery of the nuclear reactions between nuclei of atoms of heavy hydrogen or deuterium.

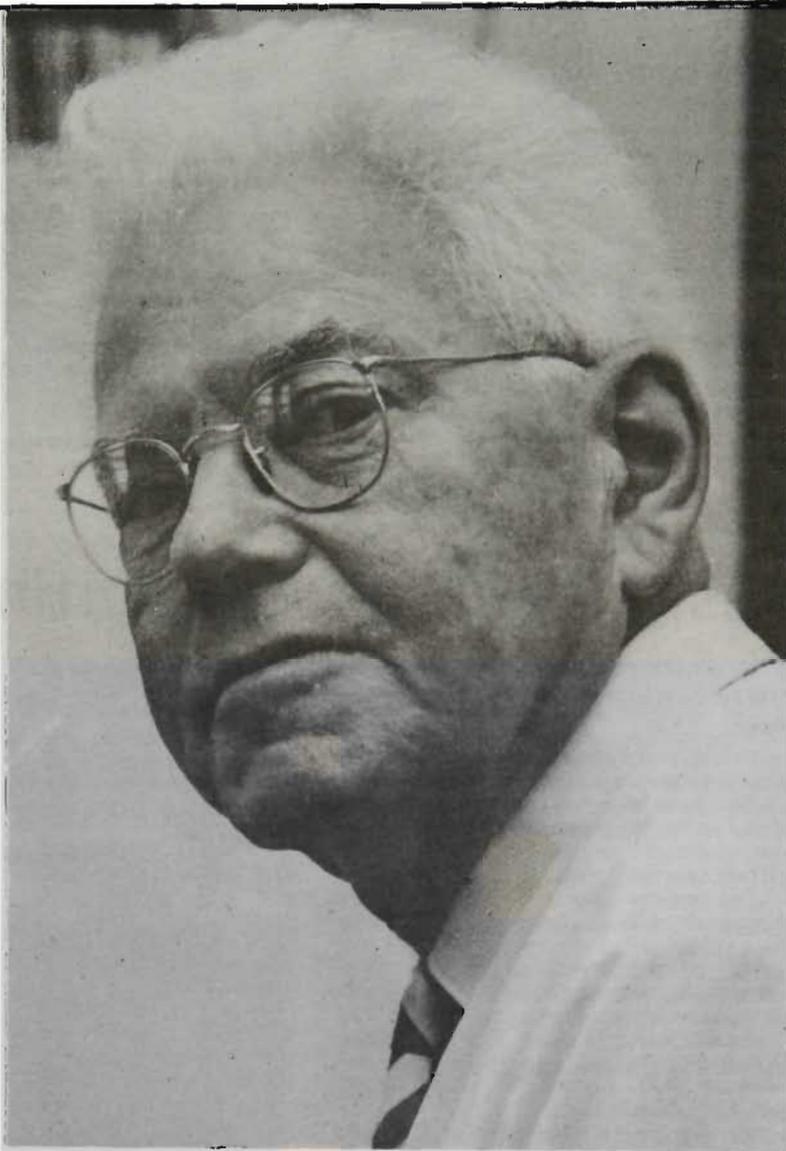
These reactions led to the discovery of a new form of hydrogen three times as heavy as ordinary hydrogen, called tritium, and a new form of helium also of mass 3. This led eventually to the development of the hydrogen bomb.

Later, he was deeply involved in the development of radar and the atomic bomb, and in the growing movement among scientists to concern themselves with the social consequences of their discoveries.

In 1947, he was invited, along with Florey, Hancock, and Firth, to be an academic adviser to the interim council of the new Australian National University.

He became the A.N.U.'s first director of the Research School of Physical Sciences.

Sir Mark became the first president of the Australian Academy of Science. He was Governor of South Australia from 1971 to 1976.



EMERITUS Professor Sir Mark Oliphant.

New enrolments top 1000 mark for first time

For the first time, the University had enrolled more than 1000 new students, Acting Registrar, Mr. B.C. Moldrich, said on March 8.

A total of 1149 new undergraduate students had been enrolled, 278 more than last year's figure.

Mr. Moldrich said that significant increases had been recorded in enrolments for the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees.

In Arts, 560 new students had been enrolled, 144 more than last year's figure.

In Science, 194 new students had been enrolled, 64 more than last year's figure.

The figures for new enrolments in the other degrees were: Bachelor of Commerce 194 (157 last year), Bachelor of Engineering 131 (112), and Bachelor of Metallurgy 23 (37).

Within the Engineering degree, there had been a trend in enrolments towards the Mechanical Engineering strand.

Mr. Moldrich said that at this stage re-enrolments appeared to be slightly down on last year's total of 1345.

"But we are very happy with our ability to attract an increasing number of new students to the University," he said.

He said that the overall student-load figure was running well in excess of 2000 EFTS and should reach the Tertiary Education Commission target figure of 2120 EFTS.



WARDEN of International House, Dr. Tom Lambert, addressing students at the Orientation Week dinner on February 22. On the left is Mrs. Lambert and on the right is Mr. N.Q. Thoi, the Dean of Students.

Residential college waiting list

International House, the University's affiliated residential college was temporarily overfull and had a waiting list, the Warden, Dr. T.A. Lambert, said last week.

He said that the total residential capacity, including live-in staff, was about 220.

"We have welcomed the largest number of returning students ever and the largest-ever contingent of new students, of whom 110 are new first years," Dr. Lambert said.

The college also had its highest-ever number of girls in residence--about forty percent.

As part of International House's Orientation Week programme, Dr. Lambert welcomed students at a dinner on February 22.

Guests were: Mr. and Mrs. E.M. Carr, Professor and Mrs. L.M. Birt, Associate Professor R.W. Upfold, Mr. A.J. Barker, and Ms. J. MacDonald.

Mr. Carr is president of the Y.M.C.A. of Wollongong, which owns International House.

Professor Birt is Vice-Chancellor of the University of Wollongong and a member of the Y.M.C.A.'s board of directors.

Associate Professor Upfold is a member of the University's Department of Civil Engineering and a member of the Y.M.C.A.'s board of directors. He also represented Mr. T.K. Duncan, chairman of the Council of International House.

Mr. Barker is the University's Information Officer and Ms. MacDonald is secretary of the University's Students' Representative Council.

Dr. Lambert said that he had received approval from the Council of International House to present a feasibility study for the construction of a heated swimming pool.

He said that he was confident the pool would be built this year.

"It is important that the pool be heated to offer year-round use to residents," Dr. Lambert said.

"The probable dimensions will be eight metres by twenty metres."

Ron makes no bones about his skeletons

Ron Perram is responsible for quite a few skeletons around the University.

In fact, more than twenty have passed through his hands.

Ron, 63, worked at the University for ten years until his retirement as a professional officer in biology in June, 1974.

Now living in the coastal resort of Urunga on the Bellinger River, Ron returned to the University for two weeks in February.

His task was to "articulate" the skeletons of a number of animals for the Department of Biology for use in teaching and research.

It was a task he had done many times as a professional officer. "Everything from a turtle to a wallaby," Ron said.

The animals whose skeletons he had to prepare for mounting this time comprised two bandicoots, two platypuses, and a domestic cat.

Ron said that he had built up the skill for this work "in spare time in my job".

"It was needed," he said.

"I did not have a good education myself, but I did this as something which might help future education."

He said that the animals were either deep frozen or freshly killed.

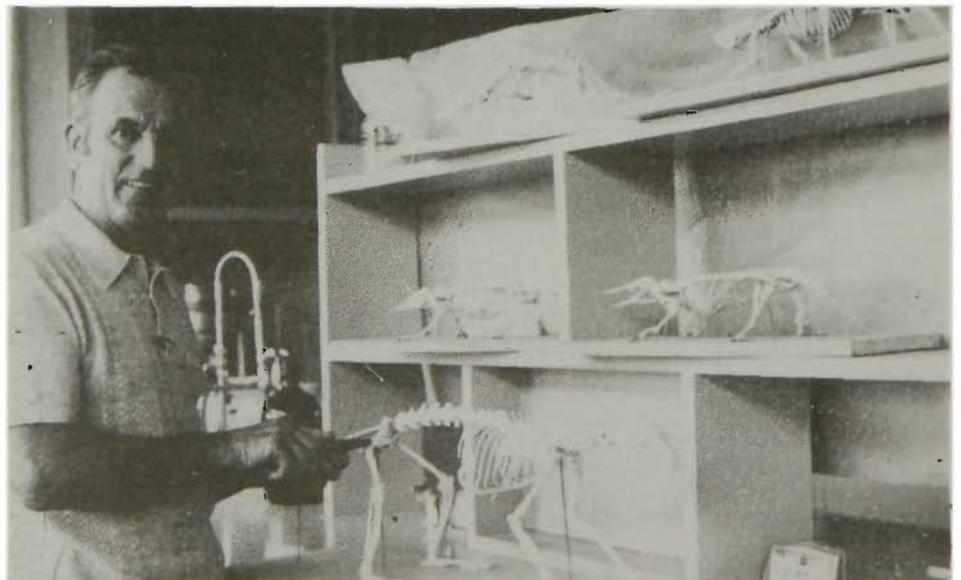
"After cutting away flesh and tissue, the animals are boiled.

"The boiling softens remaining tissue which is cleaned away from the skeleton.

"But I retain the cartilage, which has been removed in bought skeletons."

Ron said that he found the work "natural" because he had been born in the bush.

"And in those days you had to kill to live," he said.



MR. Ron Perram with skeletons he mounted in the Department of Biology in February. On the top shelf are bandicoot skeletons; on the middle shelf are platypus skeletons; and on the bench is a domestic cat skeleton.

UNIVERSITY

PROGRAMME



FESTIVAL OF

WOLLONGONG

THE CITY BETWEEN THE MOUNTAINS AND THE SEA

The first Festival of Wollongong will be held from March 11 to 19, and the University of Wollongong will be involved in a number of ways.

The main thrust of the University's participation will be a Visitors' Day on Friday, March 17.

A Working Party, set up to advise the Vice-Chancellor, Professor L.M. Birt, is organising the University's involvement.

Activities have been planned in keeping with the University's status as a tertiary educational and cultural institution.

Students and staff are invited to participate in any of the activities, including the guided tours.

At the moment, the programme of activities is:

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

Public Questions Forum. The University's Public Questions Forum will hold its inaugural forum at 12.30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 15, under the fig trees near the University Union. (If rain is falling, the venue will be the Union Hall.) The topic is: "Marihuana—Legal or Not?"

Hear Professor F.R. Crowley, dean, Faculty of Arts, University of New South Wales, and Lorna Cartwright, pharmacist, co-authors of a recently published book advocating the legalisation of marihuana, debate the topic with Dr. Neil Adams, lecturer, Department of Psychology, University of Wollongong, and Dr. Claire Spague, one of the founders of Group Recovery Organisation of the World, who will speak in opposition. (The book, *A Citizen's Guide to Marihuana in Australia*, is available from the University Co-operative Bookshop for \$2.50.)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, AND THURSDAY, MARCH 16

Drama Theatre Workshop. Union Common Room, 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. The workshop will allow participants to develop, personally and socially, through physical, emotional and imaginative experiences in the different facets of drama. By developing the powers of imagination and observation, the actor has greater access to awareness of the physical environment of the play and is able to establish a clearer intention of the action of the play.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17—VISITORS' DAY

Campus Tours. The University will be open to the public from 10 a.m. until late in the evening. Guided, supervised tours will leave the Administration Building's main entrance on the hour from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The tours will show visitors the buildings, the grounds, and a range of activities within the Faculties of Engineering, Humanities, Mathematics, Science, and Social Sciences. These tours will follow a predetermined route. All academic departments and units

have been invited to participate. Tours will finish at the University Union where a Visitors' Day Information Centre will be set up.

Free Bus Service. Throughout Visitors' Day, the University will operate a free bus service for members of the public between the Festival of Wollongong Office, 38 Burelli Street (opposite the Tourist Information Office) and the University and return.

The bus will leave the Festival office twenty minutes before each campus tour is scheduled to start and stop to pick up passengers outside David Jones Ltd., Crown Street.

Jazz Concert. Conservatorium Jazz Quartet, Union Common Room, 12 noon to 2 p.m. Graham Wilson (guitar), Joe Epps (trombone), Tom Phillips (bass), and Mike Harris (percussion).

Music Recitals. Wollongong Conservatorium Artists. Union Common Room. 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

High Schools' Bands Concert. Local high schools. Brass bands and choral works, Union Common Room. 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Public Lecture. The highlight of Visitors' Day. Emeritus Professor Sir Mark Oliphant, a distinguished Australian physicist and former Governor of South Australia, will speak on "The future of science and technology in Australia", Pentagon Lecture Theatre No. 1, 8 p.m.

Admission is by ticket available from the Information Office, room 116, first floor, Administration Building, 29 7311, exts. 388 and 375. The tickets are free.

Town-Gown Rage. Dance from 8.30 p.m. to 1 a.m. to "Mother Goose" and "The Angels", University Union Hall. Tickets \$3 each, available from: University Union Office; the S.R.C. Office; the Cashier's Office (ground floor, Administration Building); Information Office (room 116, first floor, Administration Building); Festival of Wollongong Office, 38 Burelli Street; and Booking Office, David Jones Ltd., Crown Street.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Essay Writing Competition. The University is conducting an essay competition in conjunction with the Festival.

The competition, for Year 11 and 12 students, was organised through principals and English teachers and entries had to be submitted through schools to reach the University by March 3. Students were asked to write essays of up to 1000 words on the topic: "The Illawarra Region in the Year 2000: What Should It Be Like?"

The University Co-operative Bookshop has donated books to the value of \$50 for first and second prizes.

Sir Mark Oliphant will present the prizes to the placegetters at the Public Lecture on March 17. The winning essays will be published in *The Illawarra Mercury*.

Clubs and Societies Displays. The Uni-

versity's clubs and societies have been invited to set up displays depicting their activities during the Festival Week.

Science Fiction & Fantasy Workshop. Pentagon Lecture Theatre No. 5, March 10 and 11. An invitation is extended to people who read and enjoy science fiction and fantasy and who would now like to give themselves permission to write in these areas. Writers, amateur and professional, are equally welcome.

The workshop will begin at 9 a.m. and continue until 5 p.m. or 6 p.m. each day. Participants should bring their own refreshments.

Further details are available from Dr. Don Diespecker, Department of Psychology, University of Wollongong (ext. 390).

University Co-operative Bookshop. Visitors are welcome to inspect the Bookshop, where a sale of books at reasonable prices will begin on Friday, March 17.

Transcendental Meditation. The International Transcendental Meditation Society will hold an introductory lecture in Pentagon Lecture Theatre No. 1 on Friday, March 17, 12.30 p.m. to 1.30 p.m.

During the afternoon of March 17, transcendental meditation literature will be on display in the Union Building foyer.

Illawarra Astronomical Society Display. Open to the public daily from March 13 to 17 in the Pentagon foyer. It will include replicas of Apollo lunar and command modules. The display will include many kinds of telescopes, including a special "Maksutov" which can be operated using a videotape. Videotapes of the 1976 total solar eclipse will be shown continuously. Lunchtime films will be screened throughout the Festival week starting at 12.30 p.m., in lecture theatre adjoining the foyer. Titles include: "Apollo/Skylab", "Viking Mission to Mars", "Voyager Spacecraft", and an award-winning documentary "Universe", which shows "black holes", pulsars and quasars.

Any inquiries about Festival matters should be directed to Information Office staff: Tony Barker, Tom Moore, Beatrice Henderson. Rooms 115 and 116, first floor, Administration Building. Telephone: 297311 exts. 375 and 388.

W. I. E. lecture

As part of Wollongong Institute of Education's contribution to the Festival of Wollongong, the first of the 1978 series of Institute lectures has been arranged for March 15 at 8.15 p.m. in the Music Auditorium.

Professor W. Bassett, Professor of Education, University of Queensland, will deliver the lecture, which is entitled, "The School as a Community".

Admission is by ticket and tickets are available from the Director's secretary, Mrs. Owen (telephone: 29 2111).

Praise for Raymond Southall's book of critical essays

London newspaper and periodical reviewers have enthusiastically received Raymond Southall's collection of critical essays, *Literature, the Individual and Society*.

Professor Southall is chairman of the University's Department of English.

Published by Lawrence & Wishart last year, his book deals with English writers of the eighteenth and nineteenth century.

As the prologue, in its opening sentence explains, "This book is based upon lectures delivered at various times and in the normal course of teaching at the Universities of Sheffield and Wollongong."

It begins with a consideration of the misanthropy of Swift and the squeamishness of Smollett and ends with a sympathetic account of the frustrations and deep unrest of George Eliot's heroines.

Some of the London reviewers' comments are given below.

This is a collection that raises important questions about literature through a concrete examination of particular texts.

Whether you agree or disagree with what Raymond Southall says (and I suspect that, like me, you'll do both at different times), his book will certainly stimulate your interest.

Most important, it will probably send you off to read or to reread the books he writes about. I hope that Lawrence and Wishart have already asked him to start work on a volume on late 19th and 20th-century works! [Jeremy Hawthorn, *Morning Star*]

It is not necessary for the reader to share Mr. Southall's own political opinions, or even his literary assumptions to find this a stimulating essay in the literary and social history of the period. It questions many preconceptions about familiar works, and, in the spirit of Dr. Leavis, Mr. Southall keeps his eyes firmly on the actual words of his texts. [Shirley Toulson, *Times Literary Supplement*]

Raymond Southall is a very good critic; a sharply aware intellect; a man who does his best to impress on the reader the finest features of a particular piece of writing.

Southall is well worth reading; he shows how literature and society interact in the personality of the individual and he is that rare sort of critic who directs the reader back to the creative writer. [Alan Bold, *Tribune*]

What makes this book so challenging is that the reader is constantly torn between disagreement with some of Southall's interpretations and genuine gratitude for his revelations of aspects of the reader's favourites Raymond Southall's prose is a sheer delight. But a final warning to all those 'individuals in society' who are preoccupied with changing this society: there emanates from the author's treatment of the great writers of the past an irresistible temptation to reread them all. The reviewer who fell for this temptation is most grateful to the author for the experience. [Bridget Nicolson, *Labour Monthly*]



PROFESSOR R.G.T. Southall

Professor Southall, who has about fifty publications to his credit, became internationally known when his book, *The Courtly Maker*, appeared in the United Kingdom and the United States in 1964.

The book was perhaps too well received, for it threatened, as Professor Southall said, "to place me as a scholar rather than as a critic."

This reputation was consolidated by his contribution to the Muir and Thomson edition of *The Collected Poems of Sir Thomas Wyatt*, for which he provided the transcripts of the major manuscripts of the poems.

Professor Southall said, "When Joost Daalder, who was to become the editor of the Oxford Standard Authors edition of Wyatt, came from New Zealand to England to discuss his work on Wyatt with me, I was convinced my fate was sealed.

"My next book, an edition of Alexander Pope, despite the fact that well over half of it was devoted to critical exposition and judgement, was also probably a mistake, since it further suggested that my interests were scholarly.

"It was published in 1973 by Collins and again by Maurice and Evans some two years later.

"Until this time, my critical work proper had only appeared in the journals and in collections compiled in the States and in England by other people."

In 1974, Lawrence & Wishart published the first collection of Professor Southall's critical essays under the title, *Literature and the Rise of Capitalism*.

"I was pleased to hear it praised by Nigel Alexander, Professor of English at Goldsmith College, London, in an address

to the International Shakespeare Congress in Washington in 1976," Professor Southall said, "and then was left despondent by the discovery that it was not available in the U.S.

"It still isn't available in the States, but it is under consideration by Aufbau-Verlag (D.D.R.) for translation and publication in Germany."

Professor Southall said that after arriving in Wollongong in 1974, he experienced a "fallow period".

"Eventually, I began to accept the isolation and to work upon my second collection of critical essays.

It was published in March last year under the title, *Literature, the Individual and Society*."

Professor Southall said that, when duties permitted, he continued to pursue his critical interests.

He said, "Since returning to Australia in the middle of last year, I have heard that I'm to have a lengthy essay on the traditional popular ballads published in the next issue of *Gulliver*, a German-English Year Book published in West Berlin.

"A short essay of mine of the art of translation is to appear in the U.K. in the next issue of *Kingfisher*.

"A fairly substantial essay I have written on the poetry and culture of T.S. Eliot may be appearing towards the end of this year, or the beginning of 1979, in *Radical Reader II*, an Australian publication.

"At present I'm compiling a collection of essays from various contributors for a book to be entitled, *Human Drama*.

"In addition to which, I'm supposed to be writing on twentieth-century literature for Lawrence and Wishart."

Dr. Healy on world council

Dr. A.M. Healy, senior lecturer in history at the University of Wollongong, was recently elected a trustee and a member of the International Council of the Association for World Education.

Dr. Healy, the only Australian member, said that the International Council had its headquarters in Connecticut in the United States.

He said: "This association aims primarily to combat the provincial biases and cultural bigotry built in the national education systems around the world.

"The current president of the association is Professor Aage Rosendaal Nielsen, who is Rector of a Danish university.

"The International Council at the moment includes members from Ethiopia, Italy, U.S.A., India, Columbia, Malta, Denmark, Turkey, and Canada."

How the top team developed its 'Tell-Time'

Frazer Davey, a member of the winning Creative Design Competition group, describes below how he and his fellow team members developed their design.

He said: "The problem was to design a device or toy to help out children between the ages of five and eight years to learn to read the time.

"The device we ended up with, the TELL-TIME, achieves this result quite well.

"When given the problem, the actual concept of what we were going to build came up fairly quickly.

"We decided from the start that the hands were going to be synchronized; and, then, after tossing around a fair few ideas, we decided to use the discs for showing the time.

"This, then became the crux of the problem. It took about six weeks to decide on and work out our gears, ratios, and how to synchronize the discs to the hands.

"There were many problems in this part, but, eventually, we came up with a system of four gears and two discs which made our design highly simple.

"After we got these working, we designed the rest to look good and to be fairly strong, and added extra touches to it as after-thoughts.

"We often had trouble getting together as one of our members lives at Nowra, but with a bit of patience we worked everything out.

"We feel more confident about our design after winning the competition, so we have decided to try the clock as a marketable proposition."



WINNERS of the 1977 Creative Design Competition with their TELL-TIME design. From left: Peter Cardillo, Jarvis Fletcher, Laurence Goodsell, and Frazer Davey.

A problem in time

Time became highly important for first-year Mechanical Engineering students at the University last year.

From July to November, thirty-two students working in four-man teams wrestled with a creative-design problem.

They were asked to develop a working model of "an educational device or toy to enable a child to evaluate and conceive the concepts involved in learning to tell the time as displayed by the hands of a conventional wall clock."

The model had to be suitable for children in the five to eight age group.

Three groups were selected to present their models for final judging in the Lecture Theatre on December 2.

The judges were: Professor S.A. Marshall, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, University of Wollongong; Ms. L. Armour, deputy headmistress, Oak Flats Primary School; Mr. B. Healy, manager of Circle Electrix; and Mr. F. Rose, senior testing metallurgist, John Lysaght (Aust.) Ltd.

Two perpetual trophies were presented: the "Department of Mechanical Engineering Creative Design Competition Prize" and the "Engineering Society Award".

The Creative Design Competition Prize was awarded to the group comprising Peter Cardillo, Frazer Davey, Jarvis Fletcher, and Laurence Goodsell.

The Engineering Society Award went to the group comprising David Hamlyn, Gabriel Meena, and Terence Rudkin.

A Creative Design Competition has been held annually at the University since 1970.

Dr. R.T. Wheway, a senior lecturer in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, and Mr. R.J. Davey, a design engineer at Australian Iron and Steel, are the joint organisers of the competition, which is a strand of the mechanical engineering subject, Design 1.

Dr. Wheway said that the competition was an attempt to confront students, at the earliest possible stage of their course, with "real-life" problems for which no solution existed at present.

He said that last year's competition differed from previous competitions in that each of the eight design groups worked on the same problem.

University acts as agent for Bangkok institute

The University Council has approved the signing of a "Relationship Document" between the University and the Asian Institute of Technology in Bangkok, Thailand.

Under the relationship, the University is the Institute's agent in Australia for the processing of applications and the administration of appointees to the Institute.

The appointments are for Australian academic and senior non-academic staff to positions supported by Australian Government funds.

The Institute, established in 1959 on a 120-hectare campus, is forty-two kilometres north of Bangkok. It is an international, autonomous, postgraduate engineering institution governed by an international board of trustees.

Students from twenty Asian countries and an international faculty are involved in advanced education in engineering, science, and allied fields. The Institute's plant and laboratories are well equipped.

Support comes from twenty governments throughout the world and many international organisations. Two Australians serve on the Institute's board of trustees.

The Australian Government, under an aid grant of \$2 million, provides funds for Australian faculty positions.

The University of Wollongong's Academic Appointments Officer, Mr. Ross Walker, is responsible for liaison with the Institute and visited the Institute last year.

During his visit, he met with the President, Dr. R.B. Banks, an American; the Vice-President and Provost, Professor Hiro Shi-igai, a Japanese; the Chief Administrative Officer, Mr. D.W. Sloper, an Australian; and faculty staff from many countries.

Mr. Walker said that he was favourably impressed by the Institute campus, with its modern buildings, landscaped grounds, ornamental ponds, and canals stocked with carp.

He said: "Modern facilities and equipment are available and amenities include a centre which provides for residential accommodation, facilities for conferences, dining room and snack bar, golf course and swimming pool.

"Some 400 postgraduate students are currently undertaking courses and the Institute."

2 Points salient about U.S.

Two features were conspicuous about the American scientific scene, Professor Duncan Brown said recently.

Professor Brown, chairman of the Department of Biology, returned late last year from Yale University where he was on study leave as a Visiting Research Associate in the Department of Chemistry.

He said that the first feature was that, in spite of cut-backs in recent years, research grants were still one to two orders of magnitude greater than could be expected from Australian sources.

The second feature was that many "post-docs" were employed on these research grants, largely as assistants.

"While post-doctoral appointments seem, on the surface at least, not to be too difficult to obtain, long-term staff appointments to research institutes and universities are at a premium.

"There is an obvious feeling of insecurity among post-doctoral appointees generally."

Professor Brown said that American universities generally seemed to be less aloof and more closely involved with the community at large than universities in Australia or Britain.

This involvement took many forms, including the attention given in many universities to the performing arts and the availability to the public of the associated performances.

"Music seems to be strong in most American universities and drama is strong in many," he said.

Professor Brown said that Yale University was distinguished, among other things, by several outstanding libraries, art galleries and a museum.

He said: "The quality of the Sterling Library, the university's main library, reflects the university's age as well as a benefaction, but the Beinecke Rare Book Library, The Yale Center for British Art, the Peabody Museum and various university buildings were made possible only by gifts of enormous proportions and mostly from individuals.

"For example, the Yale Center for British Art, which was officially opened in April, 1977, was a gift equivalent to some \$55 million from one man, Paul Mellon, an industrialist.

"It is an expensive, thoughtfully-designed building in the centre of New Haven.

"The collection which, I understand was accumulated personally by the donor, is perhaps the second-largest collection of British art in the world and, apparently, the largest outside London. It is a source of great interest to the general public as well as to the Yale community.

"Similarly, the Beinecke Rare Book Library holds one of the world's outstanding collections of rare books housed in a modern building which is as intrinsically interesting (architecturally) as the collection.

"The Peabody Museum is small, remarkably well organized and presented and houses again, one of the world's outstanding collections, this time of dinosaur skeletons the acquisition of which was largely the work of museum staff."

Professor Brown said that these and other semi-public buildings and institutes within Yale helped the University to maintain a

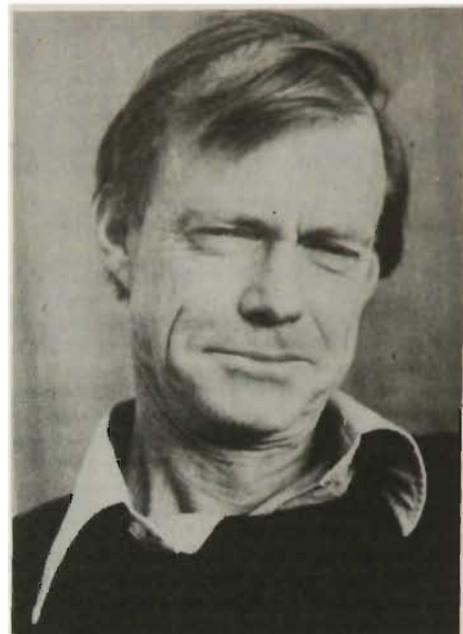
degree of public interest, admiration and respect which, whether justified or not, would otherwise be very difficult to achieve.

"They were made possible in the first place because Yale's history is relatively long; it has always been independent of government support and, by inference, of government control; and its standards, especially in the humanities, have been consistently high.

"It attracts loyalty and affection from its alumni who, on a less dramatic scale than the examples I have quoted, continue to contribute significantly to the running expenses of the University.

"It has also attracted criticism and pressure from the alumni when they have objected to some aspects of student behaviour or the activities of members of the Yale community generally as, for example, during the Vietnam war.

"Independence is not always what it seems."



PROFESSOR Duncan Brown.

Insights into an Irish campus

By Associate Professor Colm Kiernan

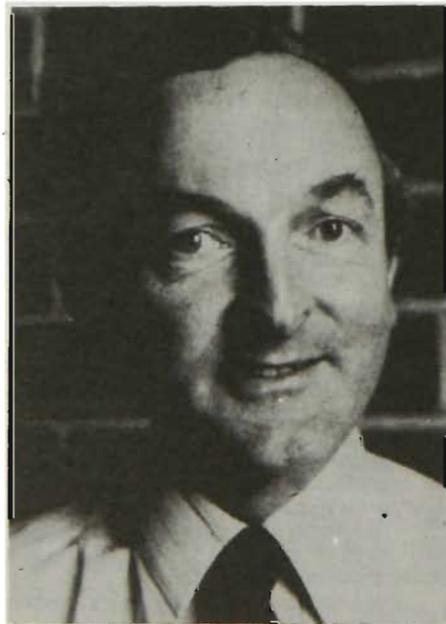
During 1977, I lectured in French history at University College Dublin.

This is the largest of four Colleges of the National University of Ireland, which exists only through its four Colleges.

University College Dublin, which has more than 10,000 students, was established in 1854.

The first Vice-Chancellor, or "Rector", was Cardinal Newman, whose *Idea of a University* was based on his experiences there.

He established the University in 1854 at St. Stephens Green, in what is now called "Newman House". It remained there until 1909, when it was renamed "University College Dublin" and was moved to Earlsford Terrace.



ASSOCIATE Professor Colm Kiernan.

During the 1960s, it was moved again, bit by bit, to a new campus, at Belfield, five kilometres from the centre of the city of Dublin, where it now stands. The buildings have won a prize for design.

Established on eight hectares of land, the University has no parking problems, which is appreciated by students and staff, most of whom travel by car.

The History department has 600 students in first year and more than 1000 students in all. I taught French history at second- and third-year levels.

In teaching method, the chief difference between Wollongong and University College Dublin is in the Dublin emphasis on the oral presentation of written work, which is then marked.

The student has to present his paper in as lively a manner as possible and then withstand criticism from his peers.

The same method, when tried at Wollongong, is more painful for all concerned. Presumably, this is because the background and previous education of Australian students renders them unwilling to perform in public, to their own disadvantage.

It is the custom in Ireland to involve a lecturer for no more than one-third of a year-long course. This means that there are three lecturers in each full subject.

Each lecturer is involved in teaching at more levels and in a greater variety of subjects than is the custom here. There are more visiting lecturers.

Working conditions are similar in Ireland and Wollongong. Contact hours in Arts are the same as here. Arts staff have their own coffee room, in which is included a bar.

For a student or staff member who would like a change, a year in Ireland is recommended. After a winter in Europe, he or she will be eager for all that Wollongong has to offer!

Counselling: A self-appraisal

This is the first in an eight-part series of articles about counselling, the counsellors, and the Counselling Centre at the University of Wollongong.

The articles were transcribed last year from a tape-recording of a wide-ranging discussion between Counselling Centre staff.

The material was edited and arranged for publication in CAMPUS NEWS.

The Counselling Centre staff is: Monica Manton (senior counsellor); Michael Bræn (counsellor); and Marion Allen (secretary).

PART I: HOW ARE WE SEEN?

Monica: Can we just go back to what you were saying before, about how you think some people on campus perceive the Counselling Centre?

Michael: Well, you only get a very limited sample anyway of what the people think about the Counselling Centre; but, it seems to me, that some of them see counselling as the kind of thing that anybody can do; and I think that lots and lots of people do it. We are far from the only people to do counselling on campus.

Monica: And that is a very good thing?

Michael: And that's excellent; that's fantastic.

Monica: Yes, true.

Michael: There's lots of people on campus doing lots of creative listening. Then, we might be seen as the people who have had the hardest knocks in our lives and, therefore, are the most considerate, or kind, or understanding; but we might also be the most stupid to have received so many knocks, and, therefore, the last people who should go near anybody who's got a problem.

Monica: I wasn't aware that anybody saw us as people who have had a lot of hard knocks, and, therefore, in a prime position.

Michael: Well, I've heard this suggested — not about us — but that this is what counsellors should be: counsellors should be people who've had the rough trip and have understanding of these things.

Marion: I've never heard that point of view before. The point of view I've heard is that counsellors are the people who know all the answers and solve all the problems. People don't realise counsellors are only human beings.

Monica: Do they see us as super people?

Marion: No, just as people — the title of counsellor; that is, if someone comes in and has a problem, he thinks the counsellor has the answer and he can go away and everything is solved.

Monica: I do find this in my work. When you have someone come in who says, "Do something for me; patch it up quick", and it takes a lot of effort to get the idea across that this is not my function.

Michael: I think that there are some situations where that is true. People come along to the counsellor, and the counsellor says, "What you do in that situation, is, you go to Student Records, get a piece of paper — X, write Y on it, and hand it to Mr. Z."

Monica: These are the practical types of issues?

Michael: Yes. But, in a sense, what people are saying is that, if they expect that we are the ones who have answers, they are seeing us like academic staff, that you can go to a book, or to a staff member and ask for the answer. So, in some senses, our image is clothed with academic qualities, because we work in an academic place.

Monica: As you say, in some instances there is an answer, technically speaking, or there are a couple of alternative answers that they can choose from, but in many instances there simply is not an answer. You cannot make the choices for the person. You can help them to see what the choices might be, or you can help them to clarify what they are feeling about a certain situation, but the ultimate responsibility is theirs, as to what happens.

Michael: Exactly.

Marion: So many people don't realize that; they don't realize they can be steered in the right direction, but, ultimately, it's up to them. They think the counsellor is going to say, "Well, if you do this — that will happen.", and they think that is O.K. Someone else has said it, so, if it doesn't work, they then say, "Well, the counsellor said I should do it, so it's not my fault."

Monica: It's not my responsibility, I didn't make the choice in the first place?

Marion: Yes.

Monica: I wonder if this is not a hang-over from counselling or advice-giving of past times, where you got a lot of your counselling from your parish priest or from your grandfather, or whatever.

Michael: Or from your teacher?

Monica: Yes — where it was like this: "You do this, son, and you'll be fine.", and we are still put in that kind of mould very often.

Michael: This suggests problems are of the mind, intellectual problems. That, "If only I could see this, I could work out the answer."

Monica: Right.

Michael: And, I think, we tend to look for academic answers, because we think we are intelligent people, or something like that; and, even though we know, psychologically and philosophically, that nothing is in your mind before it's in your senses — and your senses have an enormous effect on what comes into your mind — we still go looking for intellectual answers.

Monica: And, sometimes, *other people's* intellectual answers, which really have no bearing on your senses and your perceptions, and so on ultimately.

Michael: And then you are into other things; one often tries to get people to take responsibility for one's decisions.

Monica: Right.

Michael: "I would like somebody to make this decision for me please. Thank you very much."

Monica: "And then I can blame you, if it doesn't work out?"

Michael: Yes. But, on the other hand, "I can't have the satisfaction if it does work out well, because it's their decision, not mine." And then, I think the other thing too, is a lot of people say "Oh, I'm too intelligent to have problems." or "Maybe, this is madness, but I couldn't be smart and mad at the same time, and I couldn't be at the University if I was mad." or something like that; or say that "It's a reflection on my intelligence to have problems.", which

is, in fact, the opposite of what most studies show: that most people who have the kinds of problems that upset their studies are highly intelligent people.

Monica: True, they are the people who ask questions and they don't just ask questions about academic issues; they ask questions about themselves and about who they are, and so on.

Michael: Yes, which is an intelligent thing to do.

Monica: Absolutely.

Michael: But, it may be a scary thing, or it may be a hateful thing to yourself, or it may bring about sadness, or it may bring about some other feeling which is uncomfortable.

Monica: Part of what you are saying brings up the issue of these people who say, "I'm too intelligent." or "I ought to know better." or "I'm a rational human being and I ought to be able to solve this problem for myself." Also, I think, quite often with people I see, who have left it for a very long time, the issue becomes, "I ought not to be so weak that I can't pull up my own socks; or stand up for myself; I shouldn't need somebody else's help."

Michael: Yes.

Monica: And, this is where, if you see the counsellor as someone who helps you and literally lifts you out of the situation, then you feel, "I ought to be able to do this for myself"; but, if you see the counsellor as someone with whom you can discuss, or work through what you yourself are going through, and the ultimate "lifting out", if you like, is your own, then there isn't this stigma of, "I ought to be able to do it myself."

Michael: Marion, you must see that too, when the people first come in, do you? Do they say, "Well, I should be able to get out of it on my own, but I'm going to see the counsellor." or what?

Marion: I see surprisingly little here actually. There aren't that many who will sit and talk. Usually, they come in, and say, "I have an appointment." I say, "O.K." and ask them to sit down. I tick their names off on the appointment sheet, and they sit and wait and then go in, and that's it.

Monica: You have had though, haven't you, people saying, "I only really need ten minutes; it's a very, very simple matter I want to clear up.", and, ultimately, it's turned out not to be so?

Marion: Oh, yes, for sure. Usually it's "Can I have a minute with Monica or Michael?" and I say, "A minute?", and they say, "Oh, sure, it will only take a minute, I just need to ask them something.", and then it might turn into an hour. Usually, it does.

Michael: This is another one of those things, where they say, "I can't take up your time with this." or, "I don't want to burden you with this sort of thing." I suppose, if it were taking up our time, or, if it were burdening us, we wouldn't be very good counsellors. It would be taking our time from something else, that we hadn't budgeted for.

Monica: Well, part of our function is to have the time.

Michael: Right, and we are paid to have the time; we are paid to set that aside. But, for myself, I'm almost the opposite of that, "Well, I must work this out for myself."

Continued Page 8.

Wallaby coaches Rugby

The University Rugby Club has obtained the services of Don McDeed, a Wallaby tourist to South Africa and New Zealand in the late 1960s.

He also played county games in England. Since retiring from international football, he has maintained his interest in the code, coaching Manly Colts in 1974 and Sydney Western Suburbs in 1975.

As an international, Don played hooker. His coaching and guidance will be invaluable to the club's forward packs in loose and set play.

Orientation Week produced an influx of new players and saw the return of last year's grand-final club members.

The club hopes to sign-on more players to help the club attain the grand final this year.

Anyone who has not been approached and wishes to play, should make himself known at training which presently is on Mondays and Wednesdays at 6.30 p.m.

The time is subject to change. Watch the Union notice boards for information about training times and match dates.

Simon Drew

Squash numbers on the increase

The 1978 winter squash competition has seen a tremendous increase in the number of squash players in the University Squash Club.

And this does not include the incoming first year students who want to play competition.

The club has thirteen men's teams in divisions Illawarra 2, A4, B1, B2, B4 (two), C1, B2 (two), C3, C4 and C6 (two), as well as five women's teams in Divisions 6, 8, 9 and 10 (two).

Because of the court-time available for competition, a peak has been reached in the number of teams the club can have.

People interested in playing in the next competition starting in July, are asked to read the squash notice-board on the squash-courts balcony.

A notice calling for names for this competition will be placed on the board.

Players have missed out on this competition due to their failure to read the notice-board so be early when names are called: first in will be served first.

Competition squash is not just for experienced players; the club also caters for beginners.

Most of the experienced players are willing to help other players to improve their games and to advise on tactics and rules.

Squash is a way of meeting people not just in the University but also in the Wollongong district itself.

University home nights for competition squash are Tuesday and Wednesday; nights can vary when playing other teams at their courts.

Anyone requiring information about competition squash should contact: Annette Worthy, Dept. of Mathematics, Room 146, Ext. 272, or Steve Davies, 1/8 College Place, Gwynneville, or Tony Kos (telephone: 743773).

Last season a big success for women's hockey

The University Women's Hockey Club had a most successful season last year, reaching the Division 3 grand final in the Illawarra competition.

An application has been made to promote the team to Division 2 this year.

The club is thankful to coach, John Chapman, for his time, patience and effort and hopes to have another successful year with John as coach.

The team's success was also due to players' enthusiasm and attendance at training and competition games.

Best player for the season was Sue Hickey, the team's right inner.

Congratulations go to the club's 1977-78 umpire, Annette Worthy, for gaining her State A umpires badge.

Social games were played against the Nowra Naval College, Berrima and various universities at Scan's (U.N.S.W.).

The club hopes to send a team to intervarsity, which will be held at A.N.U. in the May break.

There will also be social games against the combined universities of New Zealand in May.

The Illawarra women's competition starts in April and is played on Saturday afternoons.

Training is held on Fridays at 3.30 p.m. and/or Sundays at the University hockey field (eastern entrance).

Anyone interested in joining the women's hockey team should contact either Sarah McDonald, 1/119 Gipps St., Gwynneville (bus: 284177) or Eileen Coggan, 1/67 Grey St., Keiraville, or Annette Worthy, Dept. of Mathematics, Room 146 (ext. 272), or go to training on any Friday.

E. Coggan,

Concession fares

S. & J. Horrell, bus proprietors, have informed the University that a concession fare is now available to students travelling to and from the University.

The concessions began on February 27 and are: University-Highway 20c; University-Wollongong 30c.

Union fees support

University academic staff have expressed support for the collection of student union fees by universities.

FAUSA general secretary, Mr. Leslie Wallis, announced this after a FAUSA Council meeting in Melbourne last month.

Mr. Wallis said FAUSA believed that it was in the interests of Australian universities that there should be a strong and independent union of students on every university campus.

Superannuation

The Superannuation Board has notified the University of new entry arrangements and benefits.

The new system dispenses with contributor medical classifications, although it will still be necessary for new entrants to satisfy a basic medical standard in order to have benefit cover.

All entrants to the State Superannuation Fund on and from January 13, 1978, will have break-down cover at Fund entry equal to eighty percent of the normal retirement benefit.

This initial cover will increase by two percent a year to reach 100 percent after ten years' Fund membership.

Further particulars are available from the Staff Office.

HOW ARE WE SEEN?

Continued from Page 7.

Having been in counselling for a while, I've seen that so few solutions were arrived at by one person thinking on his own, that I am much more eager, or interested, or aware of going to somebody else to talk it out with them, if only to get them to be a sounding board, and tell me what I am really saying, because I do become unobjective in my own case, naturally.

Monica: Yes, right.

Michael: That's what being subjective is.

Monica: What — being stuck within your own sort of fences and not seeing outside of it?

FOOTNOTE. The next article in this series will discuss "What Counselling Is".

CAMPUS NEWS

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