

AVCC CHIEF WARNS ON OVER-SPECIALISATION

The Federal Government's plans to produce more specialist graduates carries risks for the future of higher education in this country, declares the chairman of the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee, Professor John Scott.

Professor Scott, who is Vice-Chancellor of La Trobe University, made the comment in Perth after the first meeting for 1988 of the AVCC – the national body representing 20 Australian universities.

Professor Scott warned that the government's Green Paper on higher education placed too much emphasis on the need for specialisation in university courses. He said that business had already indicated that it needed generalists as much as graduates in technological areas.

'What Australia really needs to solve its management and economic problems are people who are lateral thinkers,' he said.

The government's plans to produce more specialists also face problems of unpredictability in the labour market.

'We have seen time and again in Australia that attempts at manpower planning are often a complete failure,' Professor Scott said. 'In teacher education, engineering and geology, the bureaucrats who have tried to predict the output needed have discovered just how imprecise manpower planning can be.'

Professor Scott said the issue of the type of graduates to be produced by Australian universities would be an important one for the AVCC as it developed its response to the Green Paper.

The AVCC was concerned that the government was adopting a short-term solution to the nation's economic and structural problems by attempting to increase the output of graduates in technological fields. 'In many ways it is a "quick-fix" solution to Australia's problems but the government should not lose sight of the need for a longer-term view of the role of the universities'.

The meeting of the AVCC agreed to changes in the committee's emphasis and organisation to help meet the challenges posed by the Green Paper. Professor Scott said that with the removal of the Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission and its independent advice, it was essential for the AVCC to adopt a stronger advisory role in higher education. 'I believe that the AVCC has a role to play in giving responsible advice to the government about the needs of the university sector,' Professor Scott said. 'We want to work with the government and to offer it constructive advice from the considerable pool of

expertise available from the Vice-Chancellors and their staffs.'

He said that the government's decision to abolish CTEC meant there was now a vacuum in the decision-making and advisory process in Canberra. 'It is not clear who will be making the decisions about what the universities teach, how they teach and who they teach,' he said. 'There is a lack of detail on this issue in the Green Paper and we fear that it will be the bureaucrats, not the government or the universities, who will determine these crucial issues.'

Professor Scott said that in the past it has been CTEC which had been central in determining, with the universities, how the institutions should operate. 'With the demise of CTEC we believe that the universities, particularly through the national body, the AVCC, have the responsibility to develop an additional source of advice.'

INTRODUCTION TO UNIVERSITY PROGRAM

Some 650 students – as compared with 400 last year -- have enrolled for Orientation days on Thursday and Friday February 25 and 26.

The program, organised by the Counselling Centre and academic groups, is as follows:

Thursday February 25

- 9.00 Official welcome from Vice-Chancellor and Deans of Faculties
- 9.30 Organisation into faculty groups and introduction to group members
- 10.00 Tour of campus
- 10.30 University Study: personal motivation and organisation
- 11.30 University Study: study strengths and weaknesses
- 12.30 Lunch and entertainment provided by Union/SRC
- 1.30 University Study: assignments
- 2.30 University Study: reading
- 3.30 Health and Fitness - Sports Association

Friday February 26

- 9.00 Introduction to Student Services
- 9.30 Introduction to Departments – Academic Advisers and Administrative Officers
- 11.00 University Study: lectures and notetaking
- 12.30 Lunch and entertainment provided by Union and SRC
- 1.30 University Study: tutorials, seminars and practicals
- 2.30 University Study: preparing for exams
- 3.30 Friends of University Graduates Group welcome to Wollongong

University study components will take place in small groups. A library tour is also organised for each group.

General Notices

MERITORIOUS SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS ENROL AT THE UNIVERSITY

The University's first meritorious scholarship holders start this year. One scholarship has been awarded to each faculty. The awards have attracted high-quality applicants.

Scholarships include free accommodation at a University residence, payment of all charges and fees, provision for coaching in subjects of the student's choice up to 30 hours and a living allowance of \$1,100. Provided satisfactory progress is maintained, the package will continue during the course of the student's degree program.

Winners for this year, based on their Trial HSC results, are:

- Cathrein (sic) Chapman, Faculty of Mathematical Sciences, Figtree, NSW;
- Jason McVicar, Faculty of Commerce, Gwynneville, NSW;
- Peter John Maguire, Faculty of Science, Bayldon, NSW;
- Sarah Jane Moore, Faculty of Arts, Hobart, Tasmania;
- Amanda Louise Jordan, Faculty of Education, Warialda, NSW;
- Grant Farr, Faculty of Engineering, West Wollongong, NSW.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

The following University staff members are Justices of the Peace and are willing to offer their services in this capacity within the University.

Mr H. Alla	Student Administration
Mrs J. Bitter	Finance
Mrs M. Johnston	Planning and Marking
E. Hilton	Planning and Marketing
A. Morgan	Planning and Marketing
Mr B. Lake	Buildings and Grounds
Mr J.W. Langridge	Deputy University Secretary
Mr W. Mahoney	Academic Services
Mr K.E. Turnbull	Buildings and Grounds
Mr R. Walker	Personnel Services
Mr P.G. Wood	Academic Services
Mrs L. Woodley	Planning and Marketing
Mr W. Funnell	Accountancy and Legal Studies
Mr J. Hazell	Education
Mr J. Henderson	Education
Dr N. Kyle	Education
Mrs D. McGavin	Education
Mr W. Mowbray	Education
Dr M. Hough	Industrial and Administrative Studies
Mr J. Hartley	STS

Staff in the Student Administration area have indicated their interest in being appointed as Justices of the Peace and the necessary action to appoint them is proceeding.

The Oaths Act, 1900, authorises any person, in lieu of making an affidavit, to make a declaration before a justice of the peace or other person authorised to take and receive an affidavit.

Such declarations are known as statutory declarations to distinguish them from other types of declarations known to the law.

Section 20 of the Interpretation Act, 1897, provides that the expression 'statutory declaration' used in an Act shall, unless the contrary intention appears, mean a declaration to be made in lieu of an oath.

PAPERS TO BE PRESENTED BY STAFF OF SCHOOL OF INDUSTRIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STUDIES

Four staff of the School of Industrial and Administrative Studies will present papers at two International Technology and Organisation Conferences in 1988. Mr R.C. MacGregor and Mr R.J. Clarke will present at the First International European Conference on Information Systems in Organisations, to be held in Greece in May. Mr MacGregor and Dr K. King will present at the International Conference on Ergonomics of Advanced Manufacturing and Hybrid Automated Systems to be held in Louisville, Kentucky in August 1988. Mr T.A. Williams is a member of the Scientific Advisory Board for this Conference and has been asked to present an invited paper.

LIBRARY OFFERS NEW DATA BASES

The Library has been operating online remote data base searches since 1982, when Dialog was first offered. Since then, it has gradually added Ausinet, an Australian system, Medline through the National Library and Australis (mainly CSIRO data bases). During 1988 it will be possible to search CAS (Chemical Abstracts direct) and STN (Scientific and Technical Information Network) as well as BRS and Data-Star. In the Australian area, the Library will be adding another National Library service, the Australian Government Publications data base.

In the past data base time and citation costs have been recovered, and the Library has absorbed the costs of telecommunications and staff time. From March 1988 the Library will be forced to pass on the telecommunication costs.

... AND ONLINE INFORMATION SEARCHES

Better access to information is a major aim of the Library for 1988. To improve the online information data base searching service, a microcomputer has been installed in the Library.

Software for formatting search strategies is being evaluated by Library staff with the help of Katie Blake from Enterprise Information Management.

Academic staff who are interested in improving their access to commercial data bases, should contact the Online Services Librarian (Mary Tow) on ext 3548.

... AND ORIENTATION TOURS

As well as participating in the Counselling Centre's orientation program, the Library is offering the following:

· Guided tours - Monday February 29 to Friday March 4, every hour on the half-hour, 8.30 am - 5.30 pm daily. Tours take about 30 minutes; please book at the Information Desk.

· Learning to use the online catalogue (OPAC) - Monday March 7 to Thursday March 31, every half-hour, 8.30 am - 5.30 pm daily Monday - Friday. These are small group sessions taking half an hour; advance bookings should be made at the Information Desk.

SMALLER THAN HUMAN HAIR SENSORS

Australia is well placed to compete, on the international scene, in the development of new electrochemical sensors. Devices with industrial, environmental and medical monitoring applications are currently under investigation in various laboratories throughout the country.

Scientists from around the world converged on Wollongong University for a workshop in February to pursue the development of microelectrodes, crucial for instant toxic gas detection or identifying dangerous blood-glucose levels in diabetics.

Professor Alan Bond of Deakin University has been involved in the development of new microelectrode sensors over the past several years and Dr Peter Lay at Sydney University has also been involved in work of this nature. At Lucas Heights Research Laboratories, Dr Mark Florence and Dr Graeme Batley have been involved in the development of modified-membrane-coated electrodes and polymer coated electrodes have been developed by Dr Gordon Wallace's group at Wollongong University. At the University of New South Wales Dr Peter Alexander is involved in the development of novel potentiometric sensors.

The 45 researchers attending the workshop spent three days exchanging theories on reducing electrodes to a size 20 to 100 times smaller in diameter than a human hair.

Chemistry lecturer Gordon Wallace, who co-ordinated the three-day workshop, said 12 university researchers had been relentlessly working on the project with financial support from industry and health officials.

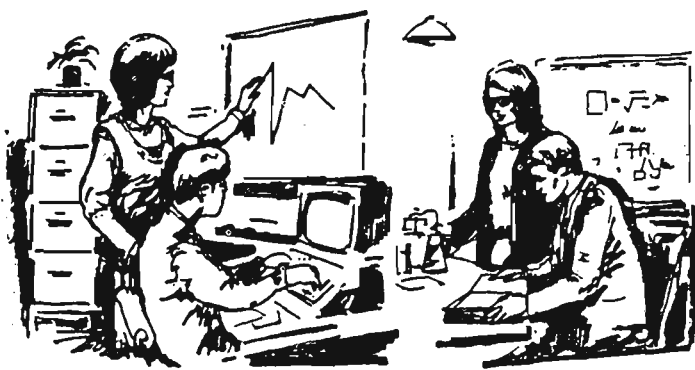
Dr Wallace believes a skin-implant system for diabetes and biological drug control could be on the market within two years.

The system would give instant glucose-level readings and would replace lengthy laboratory tests.

Already Perth company Chemtronics has released a portable instrument capable of testing industrial chemicals.

The machine detects chemical types through particles placed on an electrode which is housed at the base of a wired glass tube attached to the reader.

Dr Wallace said the machine was an important breakthrough for conducting chemical tests on-site, again replacing the need for exhaustive laboratory analysis.



Staff Roundup

ACADEMIC SUPERANNUATION ARRANGEMENTS FROM 1/12/87

- All those academics who are currently contributing to the State Public Service Superannuation Scheme (SPSSS), state Superannuation Fund (SSF) or Professorial Scheme will not be eligible to join the new Superannuation Scheme for Australian Universities (SSAU).
 - Existing members of staff (i.e. those on duty prior to 1/12/87) in superannuable categories (including limited term employees with a term of not less than two years) who are not contributing to any of the above superannuation schemes will be given a once only option to join SSAU. This option will remain valid for three months from 29/1/88. Permanent full-time academics appointed prior to 1/12/87 (not including limited term academics) also have the option to join SPSSS, before 31/3/88. This scheme will be closed to new members on 31/3/88.
 - The Professorial Superannuation Scheme was closed to new members as of 1/12/87.
 - The University has been a member of SSAU since 1/12/87. All new academic appointments since 1/12/87 must join SSAU as a condition of their appointment.
 - Any new academic staff joining the University after 1/12/87 who are currently members of SPSSS or SSF may -
 - be able to seek exemption from SSAU and remain in SPSSS or SSF;
 - preserve their benefits with SPSSS or SSF and join SSAY;
 - transfer their withdrawal benefits to SSAU and join SSAU.
- Inquiries to Barbara Smith, ext 3914 (Wednesday to Friday).

SUPERVISORS OF CASUAL STAFF

To assist Supervisors of casual staff in monitoring the casual staff payments a report is generated each fortnight by the Salaries Section, showing those casuals whose authority has reached 75 per cent of the commitment value.

This report, sent to departments, provides a number of useful details but most importantly highlights the amount which is still available for the casual employee.

The action(s) required by the Supervisor on receipt of the 'Casual Authorities 75% Expired Report' then is:

- If there is no intention to extend the period of employment:* Ensure that the casual employee does not work beyond those hours that have been committed. The report indicates the amount of money remaining for the employee.
- If the department wishes to extend the period of employment:* Submit a new authority for the desired extension and quote the order number of the previous authority.
- If the employee will not be working for any further period and there are hours remaining on the authority:* Send a written request to Mr Ted Ross, Budgets Officer, to cancel the authority. This will have the effect of releasing those funds for the department's use.

Inquiries to Bob Hogarth, ext 3930.

ACADEMIC STAFF VACANCIES

The AVCC and other universities often send details of vacant academic positions. These circulars can be viewed at the Personnel Services Branch (Administration Building).

STAFF PERSONAL FILES

All University staff have a file which records their careers at the University. The file contains copies of letters sent to the individual, salary increases and other status changes. Staff wishing to inspect their files may do so simply by making an appointment at the Personnel Services Branch. Personal files can only be viewed in the presence of a member of the Personnel Services Branch. Photocopies of the file may not be taken.

STAFF CHANGES

New Starters

Ms R. Cooper, Clerk, Financial Services
 Ms H. Stanton, Research Assistant, Health Sciences
 Ms S. Bryce, Clerk, Personnel Services
 Ms A. Tholen, Research Assistant, Biology
 Dr H. Pringle, Lecturer, History and Politics
 Dr A.B. Sim, Lecturer, Management
 Dr K.E. Chad, Lecturer, Health Sciences
 Dr J.A. Carver, Lecturer, Chemistry
 Dr S. Russell, Lecturer, Science and Technology Studies
 Dr M.L. Shoer, Lecturer, Health Sciences
 Ms A.S. Elliott, Lecturer, Education
 Miss M. Packham, Apprentice Gardener, Buildings and Grounds
 Mr M.C. Farrington, Internal Auditor, Vice-Chancellor's Unit
 Mr M. Coleman, Lecturer, Health Sciences
 Ms J. Marshall, Lecturer, Health Sciences
 Ms L.B. Newman, Lecturer, Health Sciences
 Dr P.G. Thomas, Lecturer, Health Sciences
 Miss J.E. Edwards, Apprentice Painter, Buildings and Grounds
 Mr R.J. Randall, Lecturer, Aboriginal Education Unit
 Ms S.J. Copland, Draftsperson, Buildings and Grounds
 Mr A. Pincombe, Research Assistant, Civil & Mining Engineering/Computer Services
 Mr R.E. Robertson, Senior Administrative Officer (Business Services), Financial Services
 Ms J.M. Cooper, Lecturer, Health Sciences
 Ms E. Vasta, Lecturer, Sociology
 Mr J.M. Brown, Lecturer, Health Sciences
 Mr E.J. Wilson, Lecturer, Economics
 Mr N. Hindmarsh, Senior Administrative Officer, Financial Services
 Dr S. Srinivasan, Lecturer, Psychology
 Mr K. McGregor, Garden Labourer, Buildings and Grounds
 Ms S. Wurth, Laboratory Assistant, Geology
 Ms E. Christie, Office Assistant, Academic Services
 Dr D.F. Brown, Lecturer, Psychology
 Mr S. Zhang, Senior Research Assistant, Civil and Mining Engineering
 Mrs S. Smithers, Secretary, Personnel
 Ms R.L. Wilkes, Administrative Officer, Students Services (Accommodation Officer Campus East)
 Dr J.E. Fernandez-Pol, Lecturer, Economics
 Mr G.L. Hill, Professional Officer, Mechanical Engineering
 Miss E. Mariani, Administrative Trainee, University Secretary's Division
 Ms S. Short, Lecturer, Sociology

Transfer/Promotions

Mr A. Zelinsky, Lecturer, Computing Science
 Ms M.M. Greenwell, Lecturer, Accountancy and Legal Studies
 Ms M.L. Gerry, Lecturer, Health Sciences
 Ms M.A. Lynch, Senior Lecturer, Health Sciences
 Mr D. Davis, Senior Lecturer, English
 Dr B.L. Martin, Lecturer, Science and Technology Studies
 Mr H.J. De Bruin, Machine Operator, ADPU
 Dr B.F. Kiernan, Senior Lecturer, History and Politics
 Dr I.S. Jawahir, Lecturer, Mechanical Engineering
 Mr A. Coote, Teaching Fellow, Accountancy and Legal Studies

Staff Returned

Mr R. Goldingay, Professional Officer, Biology
 Ms K.J. Gilmore, Technical Officer, Uniadvice
 Ms S.N. Dingle, Research Assistant, Psychology

Departures

Ms H. Kamenos, Senior Administrative Officer, Personnel Services
 Ms K.C. Barry, Lecturer, Health Sciences
 Mrs S.E. Hopkins, Teaching Fellow, Economics
 Mr L.J. Beatty, Professional Officer, Civil and Mining Engineering
 Ms C.A. Gleave, Research Officer.

Research Funds

The sources of research funds given below are available to members of academic staff. Further information including application forms may be obtained from Annette Read (ext 3386) or Ian Strahan (ext 3079). Intending applicants are reminded that all research applications must be forwarded through the Office of Research and Post-graduate Studies.

POLICY CHANGES TO THE AUSTRALIAN FULBRIGHT PROGRAM

The Board of the Australian-American Education Foundation has decided to discontinue its practice of calling for projects proposals from Australian institutions and advertising these in the United States. Instead American scholars will be invited to apply, not in response to detailed project descriptions submitted to the Foundation, but on the basis of their academic or professional excellence and interest in Australia. Applicants will be expected to have made contact with an Australian institution and indicate this on their application.

The Board has also decided that the objectives of the program would be more effectively met if a higher proportion of the awards, to both Americans and Australians were focused on study of the general area of US-Australian relations. Specific priority areas to which up to 60 per cent of available funds in 1989 and 1990 will be allocated are as follows:

1. Pacific Basin Issues
2. International Trade Issues
3. Development in Higher Education Policies
4. Impact of New Technologies and Research Development

Institutions with a particular interest in hosting an American scholar in any of the priority areas are invited to make that known to the foundation. Departments interested in receiving a particular US visitor should advise them to lodge an application in the US.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED IN CAMPUS NEWS

	Internal Closing
Mahvi Cultural Scholarships	March 7
Research into Primary Production Grants	March 14
Comparative Anatomy Postdoctoral F'ships	March 15
Elizabeth and Frederick White Research Conference	March 17
US Public Health Postdoctoral F'ships	March 17
Research into European Integration	March 17
Pure and Applied Science in Engineering Research Scholarships	March 21
Rutherford Scholarship	March 21
Field Sciences Research Facility	March 31
CSIRO/University of Wollongong Collaborative	March 31
Australian Water Research Advisory Council F'ships	March 31
Australian Water Research Advisory Council Programs	April 13
Research into Primary Production F'ships	April 15
Rudi Lemberg Travelling F'ships	April 16
Clive and Vera Ramaciotti - Travel Grants	Any time
Earthwatch	Any time
Criminology Research	Any time
Pig Research Council - Support for Eminent Visitors	Any time
MERA Project Grants	Any time

MIKE NOCK TRIO

The Wollongong Chamber Jazz Society opens its season on Sunday February 28 with what many Australian critics regard as the finest jazz trio in Australian jazz, The Mike Nock Trio.

The Mike Nock Trio's repertoire includes a mixture of original compositions and ever-green jazz standards.

Since his early days in Sydney with the Three-Out Trio (1961-1962) Mike Nock has gone on the forge an international reputation

as being, 'Among the very best of his generation of jazz musicians' (*Buffalo Evening News, USA*).

Further information from Bronwyn Vickers (048)851538. For tickets phone 296144.

EEO news....

CONGRATS FROM THE PREMIER

Both your EEO Co-ordinators attended the Premier's EEO Award presentations in Sydney on Friday February 12. No, we did not receive an award. We were, however, congratulated in the Premier's speech for our work in encouraging employment and providing improved access for the disabled on campus. More specifically, we were mentioned in regard to our recent employment of two staff members with developmental disabilities. We were the first government body in the Illawarra to offer employment to intellectually handicapped people and, in doing so, have acted as a role model for the community. Many other government agencies have now followed our lead and are having considerable success with their new employees.

If anyone else on campus thinks they might have a position suitable for a developmentally disabled person, the EEO Unit would be pleased to discuss the proposal with you. Both supervisors of our present staff are very pleased with the performance and attitude of their new employees, so much so that one of these people recently became a permanent member of staff. (We all need to remember that it is only when we focus on our abilities, rather than our disabilities, that we can fulfil our potential).

We in the EEO Unit would like to remind you of the brochure we have available, entitled *Resources for People with a Disability*. It fully describes the University's policy, explains the facilities and resources we have available on campus, gives the names of faculty contact persons, and provides a colour-coded map of the university buildings and grounds, indicating access routes, lifts, reserved parking and other amenities. Please contact us if you would like any further information.

Peg MacLeod
EEO Co-ordinator

Advertisements

FOR DIY HOME IMPROVERS

Excellent workshop bench, 134 x 54 cm, with two vices—one for wood working and one for metal working. \$60. Tel. 286691.

FULLY FURNISHED HOUSE FOR LEASE APRIL 1 TO JULY 7

This three-month lease may be of interest to visiting academics or new staff at the University. The ultra modern tri-level house is 100 metres from the beach at Thirroul, has 3/4 bedrooms, main with ensuite, large living space, modern kitchen, large garage, water views, private block. The house will be leased complete with furniture, crockery, linen and so on. Contact Jim Jackson, Department of Accountancy and Legal Studies, ext 3629 or 673705.

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Tutor/postgraduate student urgently requires s.c. flat/unit to \$80. Unfurnished. Please contact Helen tel. 746566 or 835621 (am or evening).

HOME FOR LEASE

Three bedroom, fully furnished home, three minutes walk to campus, available for lease from July 1988 to January 1989. Contact Ted Booth, ext 3878.

FOR SALE

Mazda 626 Super Deluxe 1982, 5 speed, 4-door sedan, 2000cc, excellent condition, white, 86,000 klm, 1 owner, LPG792. Features elect. opd. sun-roof, central locking, radio-cassette, folding back seats, map reading lights. Price \$7950, includes regn. to Feb 1989. Phone John Ryan 287108.

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Urgently require accommodation - either solo or share - for the period late February to mid-June (ie first semester). I am a male senior lecturer, non-smoker, into quiet living, and the owner of a cat which can live happily outdoors. Please contact Laurance Splitter asap on (02) 8698254, or leave message on 270615 (Philosophy Department).

TO LET

Town House - Mangerton Gardens - 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 3 toilets. Woodlawn Ave, Mangerton. Rent \$150 per week. Phone 847910.