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6 December 1988

University gains Sydney campus

A new concept in computer staff training was announced to finance-industry leaders and government representatives at a function at the Queen Victoria Building in Sydney on Wednesday November 23.

Designated the Computations Institute, the tertiary institution — which opens in February 1989 — will provide information systems and computer training for the financial-services industry up to degree level.

The Institute is a joint venture between Australian multi-national, Computations, and The University of Wollongong, and has been founded to counter the predicted shortage of information-systems professionals, with the skills needed in the finance industry.

The Institute is planning to offer these awards:

- *Certificate in Financial Information Technology.*
- *Bachelor Degree in Financial Information Technology.*
- *Graduate Diplomas in Financial Information Technology, and eventually*
- *Masters Degree in Financial Information Technology*
- *Doctorate in Financial Information Technology.*

The Certificate course will be run in Sydney. Two floors of the Computations Building at North Sydney have been made available to the Institute. These facilities will also be available for other University activities such as meetings, seminars and short courses.

At the launch the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ken McKinnon, said:

'The shortage of people with high-level computing skills, particularly in the demanding large-scale insurance, finance and actuarial areas, is so acute that imaginative ways had to be found to escape the training limits imposed

on higher-education institutions by the scarcity of resources.

'Computations was chosen as the joint-venture partner because it was an Australian-owned multi-national; because its characteristics fitted those of Wollongong University — international in outlook, committed to rigorous, demanding standards, self-confident and youthfully energetic.

'We see this venture as allowing some able young people to get a start in the fastest-growing segment of the most-quickly expanding employment sector. The very best will not only be employed by those who sponsor them within this sector, but will also qualify for entry to the Bachelor of Commerce degree with some initial credit and be able to pursue a degree with some initial credit and be able to pursue a degree with a specialisation in this field.

'Wollongong University makes no apology for moving in on Sydney to meet a clear educational need. It intends expanding this concept in alliance with other large companies in industry and commerce which have a similar, strong commitment to rigorous standards and to educational programs which yield both specific professional skills and broad conceptual understanding. The cross-fertilisation between the University and employers will enhance mutual understanding of the educational process.'

Professor McKinnon concluded by saying that in a lifetime of involvement in education in Australia and abroad, he had embarked here on one of the most exciting projects with which he had been associated. He complimented the Computations Board on their vision, energy and professionalism.

Home Stay for overseas students

Do you have anything that could be converted into a spare room?

- Think of the advantages to your family of a mature, considerate and appreciative long-term guest in your home.
- Picture your children being quietly occupied while you prepare dinner!

- Imagine yourself arriving home to the savoury aroma of an Asian meal in preparation.
- Consider the cultural and linguistic advantages for your children.

A number of postgraduate students, here for a year or more, are hoping to live with Australian families to increase their understanding of our culture and language.

Payment is negotiable but \$85-\$100 per week is probably a guide.

Do give the matter serious consideration. Talk to us if you are at all interested.

Robyn Wilks, on 3351, 3478 or 3216 will handle enquiries.

New opportunities for student-exchange and study abroad



With Judy Tilson, welcome visitor from The University of North Carolina (on the right), are Trish Tindall, The University of Wollongong's Study Abroad Co-ordinator in the International Office, and Jim Langridge, University Deputy Secretary and Business Manager

A student-exchange agreement with the University of North Carolina, at Chapel Hill, is one of several agreements being negotiated as a result of marketing initiatives in the United States. These programs provide a valuable opportunity for selected students to participate in cultural exchange and contribute towards international goodwill — as well as being of great benefit to each institution.

As part of this new program, Judy Tilson, Study Abroad Officer in the Office of International Programs at the University of North Carolina, has just spent several days at The University of Wollongong finalising the exchange agreement and investigating the opportunities for Study Abroad at The University of Wollongong. Her time was largely spent touring the faculties and speaking to individual members of the academic staff and her administrative counterparts. She was able to return to Chapel Hill with fond memories of the campus and the Wollongong area and with much information about the University.

An information session for prospective exchange students provided a valuable opportunity for her to talk about life as an exchange student at North Carolina, a University with a very high reputation.

More information about this exciting new phase of development will be released early in the New Year.

Three senior appointments

Offers of appointment as a Professor in Education, within the Faculty of Education, have been accepted by Dr K.G. Gannicott (Ken) and Dr R.D. Linke (Russell).

Dr Gannicott, who is presently a Senior Lecturer in the University of New South Wales, Australian Defence Force Academy, intends taking up his appointment in April 1989. He will be located in the School of Policy and Technology Studies.

Dr Linke, who is presently a Counsellor with the National Board of Employment, Education and Training in Canberra, intends taking up his appointment in September 1989. He will be located in the School of Learning Studies. Dr Linke will also assume the appointment of Dean, Faculty of Education.

Dr Chris Cook, meanwhile, has accepted an offer of appointment as Professor of Electrical Engineering in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. It is anticipated that the appointment will be taken up in early 1989.

Dr Cook is currently Managing Director of the Automation and Engineering Applications Centre.

Electrical Engineer wins Trainee of the Year Award

Mark Elrick, a student enrolled in the BE in Electrical Engineering course within the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, was awarded the 1988 Bill Burgess Trainee of the Year Award at the recent BHP Illawarra Technical Society's annual dinner.

A past dux and captain of Heathcote High School, Mark joined BHP and began his degree traineeship with the Department in 1982. Since that time he has worked on a variety of projects at BHP while studying part-time. This year, the last of his seven-year, part-time program, has

been spent working on his thesis project entitled 'An Adaptive Speed Controller', under the supervision of Dr M.A. Magdy.

The November 1988 issue of the *Kembla News* reported that 'an impressive list of academic achievements and a solid work performance helped Mark achieve this year's award'.

Our congratulations are extended to Mark on winning this 'much coveted' award.

Researching thermal stress

The installation of a climate chamber in the Human Movement and Sports Science laboratories is the centrepiece of a research program investigating the exercise responses to both hot and cold conditions. The chamber was partly funded from a University Research Grant obtained by Associate Professor Frank Pyke to study the acclimatisation of individuals to hot-dry and hot-humid environments. Very few climate chambers exist for this purpose in Australia.

The chamber, measuring 5 x 3 x 2.5 metres, can be controlled at ambient temperatures between 0 – 50 deg C. 'Subjects' exercising on bicycle ergometers or treadmills can be monitored via a wall panel to instruments located in an adjacent data-collection room. The subject can be viewed through two large windows and communicated with through an intercom system.

A research group from Human Movement and Sports Science and Psychology is developing a multi-disciplinary approach, involving measurement of physiological, biochemical, psychological and mechanical variables, to study the correlates of fatigue experienced during prolonged work in the heat. The investigations are aimed at comparing the heat conditions. This work follows on the investigations of Dr Pyke and Mr Harry Fuller related to the effects of hot, humid conditions on lung ventilation. This work, funded by the Northern Territory Department

of Mines and Energy, was completed as a means of determining radiological limits in uranium mines.

The chamber will also be used in student laboratories to provide a better understanding of the responses to exercise in hostile climates. This knowledge has application in many industrial, sporting and leisure environments in which thermal stress has an effect on the quality of human performance.

The University of Wollongong Departments of Chemistry and Physics Lecture Series

Speaker: Dr Hubert van den Bergh, Laboratory of Chemical Technology, Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland.

Thursday December 8 – Room 18.118 – 11.30 am – *In situ processing with lasers in microelectronics.*

Friday December 9 – Room 18.118 – 11.30 am – *The Cage Effect.*

Thursday December 15 – Room 18.206 – 11.30 am – *Infrared photochemistry.*

Friday December 16 – Room 18.206 – 11.30 am – *Temperature jump methods in gas kinetics, and laser measurements of atmospheric pollution.*

Also in the Department of Biology on Monday December 5 at 8 pm in Room 35.G19 – *Cancer phototherapy and detection.*

Any inquiries, contact John Carver, 27 0340.

'A Sense of Place'

Liz Jeneid: Project Artist at the Wollongong City Gallery – 16 February to 19 March, 1989, 85 Burelli Street, Wollongong, Tuesday to Friday, 10 am to 5 pm, Saturday to Sunday, noon to 4 pm.

The exhibition deals with the artist's reactions to 'place' and will include sculpture, paper and textile collages, woodcuts and poetry.

Liz Jeneid is Lecturer in Textiles and Visual Arts Strand Co-ordinator in the School of Creative Arts.

University helps handicapped children

The Centre for Teaching Development has made a video for the nearby Para Meadows School in Wollongong. The school is one of those in the Special Purposes category, catering for children with developmental delay and learning disabilities.

It is now the biggest special-education facility of its kind in New South Wales. Its current enrolment is 190 pupils ranging from four to 18 years old. It draws children from Scarborough in the north to Macquarie rivulet, near Dapto, in the south.

The school is more than extremely well appointed. It offers many specific facilities, including extensive play areas, a heated hydrotherapy pool, an assembly hall and therapy area, a library and toy library, a senior students' lounge, an industrial arts centre, a home science room and a canteen.

The recently released video, master-minded and filmed by Rick Caladine in the Centre for Teaching Development in The University of Wollongong, illustrates the way in which the school is administered and run and shows pupils not only in their own school environment but with their peers from other schools in the Illawarra. It also has interviews with parents, none poignant but all forward-looking and positive, and full of praise for the school, its staff and its facilities.



In 'harness' in the climate room is Helen Williams, whose exercise responses are being measured by Dr Karen Chad. In the adjacent data-collection room is Associate Professor Frank Pyke (see 'Research thermal stress' on facing page)

Para Meadows is clearly a very good school indeed. It is funded by the NSW Department of Education. The School Parents and Citizens Association raises funding for the swimming pool, the mobility track and therapeutic spa.

The school caters for all children who are developmentally disabled or whose IQ falls below 50 in a standardised test. Many of the children are suffering from multiple handicaps — are deaf, blind, or have epilepsy.

Further information about the video, and about the school and its activities, is available from the headmaster, Mr John Hobson, Para Meadows School, Porter Street, Wollongong. The telephone number is 29 1922.

Graduation and Reunion Dinner

The Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering held a Graduation and Reunion Dinner on Saturday, October 15. The idea for the dinner had evolved from discussions within the Department regarding 'Planning for the Year 2000'. As it was to be the first such event, it was decided to invite graduates from the years 1963 to 1975 (the years when the University was a College of the University of New South Wales). The 'freshest' graduates (13 October 1988) were also invited as honoured guests.

Approximately 100 students graduated during this period, with a selection of degrees from Bachelor of Science (Technology), Bachelor of Science (Engineering), Bachelor of Engineering, Master of Engineering Science, Master of Engineering and Doctor of Philosophy. Of these 100 graduates, only one was a female, Cecilia Larkin (nee Abdipranoto), who graduated in 1975 and who was one of the 'locals' present at the dinner.

Ted Locke, currently Chief Engineer, BHP Steel International Group, Sheet and Coil Products Division, one of the three graduates from 1963, was another of the 'locals' present at the dinner, but it was pleasing to see how many of those who attended came from out of the district. From Melbourne came Robert Attwater (1971), Malcolm Graham (1973) and Raymond Osterberg (1975), while Bill Parkins (1974 and University Medal winner) travelled from Canberra.

Although everyone has changed over the years, soon fellow ex-students were recalling faces that had been familiar perhaps 20 or more years ago. It was usually

continues overleaf

easier to remember the face than the name that belonged to the face, particularly if the hair line had receded, or perhaps now covered the lower part of the face. If the noise level was any guide, there was a lot of reminiscing and catching up on activities being done from the moment the first guests arrived until the last were chased away. About 20 of the guests were taken on a tour of the Department before dinner. There was some interest shown in the new building, particularly how much better it was than the old facilities, but the tour came alive as it passed through the old laboratories and rooms which the Department used to occupy. Some of the rooms had changed completely and yet they almost returned to their original status in the minds of those present as people contributed their own memories to the general discussion. The security staff were a bit worried for a while about this strange group of people wandering around campus!

As guest speaker, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ken McKinnon, encouraged the graduates to organise future events of this type. Professor McKinnon expanded on this theme using the example of Harvard University, where graduates hold 25, 20, 15, 10 and five-year reunions. Competition is keen between the graduates each year to raise more money than the previous year's graduates — money which is donated to the University. There was a ripple of laughter when he mentioned that a sum of \$54 million was raised the year he had been present during one of those reunions.

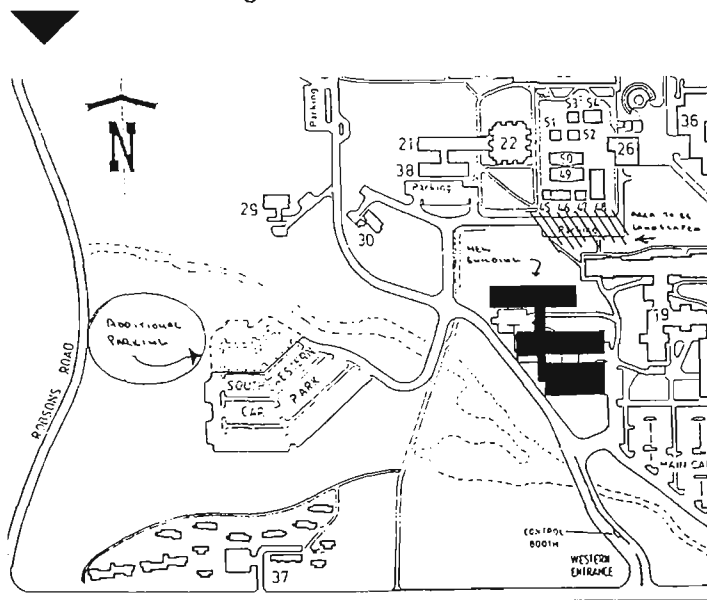
Malcolm Graham (1973), Mayor of Richmond, Victoria, on behalf of the graduates present, thanked the staff for organising the function. He felt that given a little help from the Department, the graduates would be willing to organise any future reunions. Whether or not they could raise donations of the order of the Harvard graduates mentioned by Professor McKinnon — well, that was another matter entirely.

As the evening was such a success for those who attended, plans are being made by the Department for its second reunion dinner to be held in 1990 for graduates from the first years of The University of Wollongong (probably the years 1976–1980).

New general purpose Academic Building

Welcome advice has recently been received that Commonwealth Government funding of \$8.3 million has been approved for a new general-purpose Academic Building (see also article on back page).

The new building will be located west-south-west of



Building 19 (see plan) and it is expected that construction will begin in Session 1, 1989.

As a consequence of the location of the new building and associated landscaping, the car parking areas immediately west and north of Building 19 will not be available once construction is under way.

To help offset this loss, however, the South Western Car Park is currently being extended. Approximately 90 additional car spaces will be provided.

Cognitive Science Convener to attend prestigious Japan workshop on Neurosciences

Associate Professor Peter Burton of the Chemistry Department has been invited to participate in a Frontier Workshop on Neurosciences to be held in Wako, Japan, on 8–10 February 1989. The workshop is designed to prepare the RIKEN Neurosciences Laboratory by the participants, to consider collaborations with other organisations and to interview non-Japanese researchers who have expressed interest in participating in the Neurosciences segment of Japan's Frontier Research Program.

The contact with RIKEN arose from interest in the international co-operative program, and sponsorship of Professor Burton's participation in it, by the Australian Department of Industry Technology and Commerce.

The Frontier Program is designed to foster open and flexibly organised international co-operation and is based on a 15-year plan of research divided into three phases. The three scientific areas targeted are 'Bio-Homeostasis' related to aging, 'Frontier Materials' related to quantum and bio-electronic materials, and 'Brain Mechanisms of Mind and Behaviour'. The last area is planned to encompass three laboratories, one for Neural Systems, one for Neural Information Processing, and one for Neural Networks.

The Japanese Parliament has allocated substantial funds to the Frontier Program to date, with 1.1 billion yen in 1986, and 1.5 billion yen in 1987 and 1988. The Brain Mechanisms area became fully funded this year. The Neurosciences Workshop is timed so that specific recommendations on the appropriate laboratory facilities can be finalised before completion of the buildings under way for the program.

Peter Burton is busily revising the introductory Japanese language course he took at the University this year.

Wollongong Golf Win

Teams from Wollongong had success recently in a Universities Golf Day held at the Bonnie Doon Club in Sydney.

The event was hosted by the University of New South Wales and included teams from Sydney University, Macquarie University and the University of Technology.

One of the Wollongong teams (Richard Webb - Civil and Mining Engineering, Ian Kirby - Mechanical Engineering, Barry Lake - Administration and Ron Kinnell - recently retired from Administration) won the trophy for the best scratch score and the other team (Peter Walker, Tony Cheetham, Alan Jurd and Ron Swan all from the Maintenance Section) were very close runners up in the net event.

It was the first time Wollongong has been invited to the event and in view of the success, the organisers have suggested it may be the last.

Final judging of 1988 Creative Design Competition

This year 12 design groups of first-year Mechanical Engineering and Chemical Engineering students (plus one Creative Arts student) have been working on various design problems for the whole of Session II.

Preliminary judging has been carried out and the four groups listed below have qualified as finalists in the Department's Annual Creative Design Competition and were to present their designs on Friday December 2 at a meeting in the Pentagon at The University of Wollongong at 7.30 pm. (too late unfortunately for the results to be included in this issue of *Campus News*).

Group 1: B. Fraser, D. Miletich, T. Rodwell and T. Smithers. Design submitted: A pump for refilling an automatic gear-box and differential.

Group 5: A Beck, D. Estell and I. Langridge. Design submitted: Safety ball-joint tow-bar.

Group 6: C. Bessi, M. Malone, F. Risi and A. Spence. Design submitted: The boot buddy — a device to assist the elderly in changing flat tyres.

Group 9: L. Dent, S. Johnston, T. Kotevski, R. Russo and S. Vetsikas. Design submitted: The incapacitated person's lift — a device for use in hospitals and nursing homes to assist in lifting incapacitated people into a bath, bed or chair.

The four judges were:

Dr Paul Cooper, Lecturer, Department of Mechanical Engineering, The University of Wollongong.

Mrs Sharon Nightingale, Lecturer, Department of Metallurgy and Materials Engineering, The University of Wollongong.

Mr Warwick Powis, Chief Mechanical Engineer, BHP Steel International — Slab and Plate Products Division.

Mr Bill Seedhouse, Senior Apprentice Administrator, BHP Steel International, Port Kembla.

Dr R.T. Whewey
Deputy Head

Department of Mechanical Engineering

while much heritage protection has already been achieved there are still items which are the subject of conflicting community interests.

Illawarra Conservation, read together with the Illawarra Heritage Committee's 1983 publication, *Illawarra Heritage*, demonstrates a dramatic increase in the Illawarra community's understanding of and desire for recognition and conservation of the region's heritage. In Kevin Mills' book we find that contributions include a much broader cross-section of those people who are in a position to control the future development of the region. Authors, including some from this University, whose association with local government spans environmental management and heritage advice plus planning and landscape design, discuss the problems brought about by our use of the environment and progress being made through the channel of local government towards increased conservation of the natural and social character of the Illawarra. State government participation in conservation is discussed. There are academics whose articles introduce the reader to the region's unique social and natural history. There is also in this latest publication inclusion of a wider range of community interests and views about conservation which reflect the formation since 1983 of many community-based conservation groups.

All too often, people who lack understanding and knowledge about the Illawarra present the region and its people as an extension of Sydney or an industrial monotony. In doing so they miss the spectacular and diverse natural beauty and social history of the area.

This light and easily-read work helps to correct that misunderstanding. If it achieves circulation beyond the City of Wollongong it will help to portray the Illawarra as a distinct entity which differs from other areas in Australia, not only in natural features but also in its multicultural urban history and community cohesion and aspirations.

The book is not only retrospective, however. It looks to the future and makes practical and positive suggestions as to the way in which individuals and groups can participate in the investigation and protection of the environment of the Illawarra.

Dr Roslyn Muston

Books and Reading

Illawarra Conservation: The investigation and protection of the natural and human environment in the Illawarra Region of New South Wales.

Ed. Kevin Mills. South Coast Conservation Society, National Parks Association (Illawarra Branch), Illawarra Environment and Heritage Committee. 1988. 81pp. Rrp \$10; copies available University Co-op Bookshop.

The aim of this soft-cover publication is to discuss the principles of conservation and heritage as they relate to the features of the Illawarra rather than to list all those features which are considered to be of conservation significance. This work presents an opportunity for the preparation of a third, (the first is *Illawarra Heritage*) which does give people access to the sources of information which list those characteristics of the Illawarra considered worthy of conservation — such as books and reports which describe the region's natural and social history and the wealth of art displayed in the exhibition entitled 'Illawarra Landscapes'.

Many of the more popular natural and built characteristics of the Illawarra, however, can be found in most sections of the publication where they are used by the various authors as examples which demonstrate that

Friends Final Fling for 1988

Sunday December 18

University Oval No. 1, 10 am to 4 pm

*Town v Gown Cricket Match with celebrity guest players Bob Holland and Murray Bennett

*Friends of the University Christmas Party and farewell to Executive Officer, Giles Pickford

If you want a seat in the marquee then RSVP to Muriel Murada on 27 0082

To Let

Person required to share house in Farmborough Heights as from mid-December — \$70 per week. Phone Mary ext 3727.

To Let

Keiraville, 5 bedroom furnished house, double garage, large private yard. 6 months from end of December. References required. Phone 28 6774 ah.

To Let

3 bedroom, furnished house in Figtree area, for period mid-February to mid-May 1989. Phone 28 3993 (after 5 pm).

For sale

Two bedroom, two storey historical terrace house, Campbell Street, Wollongong. Excellent condition. \$150,000 ono. Phone 27 3758 any time.

Wanted

Appliances, furniture, for setting up home. Fridge/freezer, washing machine, vacuum cleaner in working order. Ironing board, bed etc in good condition. Phone 27 0711.



Indicative of the University's commitment to EEO is this scooter, purchased for runabout use on campus. Be warned Wayne Gardner. In the saddle here is Craig Wallace, a Bachelor of Arts student

EEO news...

It's Arrived

The University now has an electric scooter for loan to students, staff or visitors to the University.

Funding was generously provided by the University administration – a further demonstration of the University's commitment to improving facilities for the disabled. The purchase of the scooter follows closely on the purchase of a \$35,000 Garaventa chair lift installed by the University Union to assist access to the upper floor of the Union building.

The idea to purchase a scooter grew from comments made at a gathering of interested students and staff who met to discuss facilities at the University for persons with disability. It was noted that several students had been forced to abandon their studies as they were unable to cope with the large amount of walking required in the course of a day's attendance at lectures. A number of students in manually operated wheelchairs also expressed interest in the scooter and felt they, too, would benefit from it.

Technical staff of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, as well as a student with restricted mobility, painstakingly tested a number of models to determine the best one for the University's needs and the selected scooter is the Fortress Scientific. Craig Wallace, a first-year Bachelor of Arts student, is pictured on this page. Well done and thank you, everybody, for your help.

The most suitable location to house the scooter is still being determined. In the meantime it is located in the EEO Unit, and queries as to its use should be directed to Faye Franklin on ext 3030. Please pass the word that it is available for loan.

Best wishes to all the University community for Christmas.

Peg, Faye and Debbie
EEO Unit

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 Kim Harriss (ext 3201). Intending applicants are reminded that all research applications must be forwarded through the Office of Research and Post-graduate Studies.

Wellcome Trust Senior Fellowships in Medical Science

The Trustees of the Wellcome Trust invite applications for two five-year senior research fellowships to be held in Australia in biomedical science starting in 1990. Australian nationals who are either medically qualified or science graduates, aged probably between 32 and 38, who wish to make their career in Australia and undertake research in an Australian academic institution, are eligible.

The salary offered will be according to age and experience and on appropriate Australian academic scales with up to \$A10,000 per annum ancillary support.

Applications close with the University on January 17.

Barley Research Council

The Barley Research Council invites applications for grants and travel/conferences funds to conduct research relating to the Barley industry.

Applications close with the University February 1.

CSIRO Institute of Natural Resources and Environment

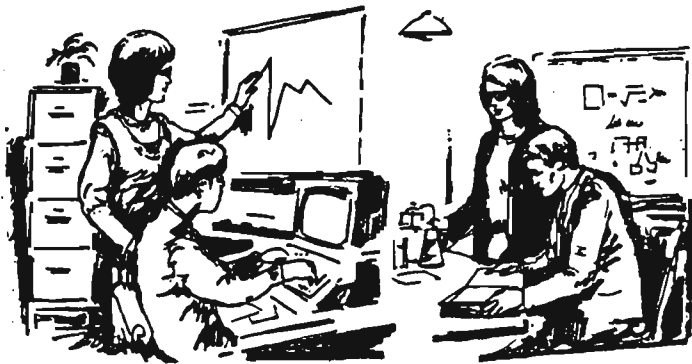
Applications are invited for grants of up to \$6,000 pa for up to three years to students in receipt of an award to cover stipend/living allowance to support postgraduate research projects in the fields of:

Atmospheric Research, Environmental Mechanics, Fisheries, Water Resources, Wildlife and Ecology.

Applications close with the University on December 17.

Previously Reported in Campus News

ATERB Grants	December 16
ASRRF Grants	December 17
Chicken Meat Research	December 17
Wheat Research Joint Projects	December 17
Canadian Faculty Awards	January 17
Rolls Royce-Qantas Award for Engineering Excellence	January 17
ATERB Medal	January 17
Wheat Research Grants	January 18
Amy R. Hughes Scholarship	February 1
Antarctic Research Grants	February 14
IDP Research Funding	Any time
Utah Foundation	Any time
Criminology Research	Any time
Pig Research Council – Support for Eminent Visitors	Any time
MERA Project Grants	Any time
Clive and Vera Ramaciotti Travel Grants	Any time
James N. Kirby Foundation	Any time
Telecom Research Laboratories	Any time
NSW State Cancer Council Travel Grants-in-aid	Any time
Internal Closing	



Staff Roundup

Retirement Preparation Seminars

Retirement Preparation seminars have been conducted for State Superannuation Fund Members (now incorporated under the administration of the newly established State Authorities Superannuation Board) in Sydney and some country locations since 1973.

Each seminar extends over two days and sessions cover both social and financial aspects of retirement. Topics covered include health, investment, roll-over option, taxation, estate matters and superannuation.

A number of seminars have been scheduled during January 1989, to be conducted at the Board's office, 1 Margaret Street, Sydney. Seminars have also been scheduled for the following country centres:

Newcastle – January 4-5

Wollongong – January 19-20

Lismore – January 24-25

Fund members who have been identified as being within two years of normal retirement age have been contacted in writing by the Board and invited to nominate to attend a seminar.

Any Fund member who is contemplating retirement in the near future, including early voluntary retirement or ill-health retirement, who has not been contacted by the Board, is invited to nominate by writing to the Secretary, State Authorities Superannuation Board, PO Box C358, Clarence Street, Sydney 2000, or by telephoning the Seminar Booking Officer on (02) 238 2599.

Special leave to attend is available for other than teaching staff (subject to employer convenience) and officers should ensure that leave has been approved.

It is emphasised that nomination to attend a Retirement Preparation Seminar does not commit a Fund member to retire at a particular time. Arrangements for retirement should be made with individual Departments once firm plans have been finalised.

Superannuation Update

All superannuation schemes were affected by the May Economic Statement. The four main elements which have affected the University are:

1. a tax of 15 per cent has been levied from 1 July 1988 on the earnings of superannuation funds. This tax does not cover income from assets accrued to meet pensions in payment;
2. employer contributions to funded superannuation schemes, in respect of benefits accrued after 30 June 1988, have been taxed from 1 July 1988, at 15 per cent, but tax payable by employees on benefits from such funds is being reduced by 15 per cent after a phasing-in period;

3. a new system and 'reasonable benefit limits' is to be phased in from 1 July 1990, in order to restrict the tax concessions available to higher-paid workers; and
4. public sector funds, such as those operated by the State Authorities Superannuation Board, previously exempted under the provisions of Section 23(jaa) and the (Commonwealth) Income Tax Assessment Act, 1936, are to be made subject to the new taxes and to the provisions and the Occupational Superannuation Standards Act, 1987.

Any inquiries to B. Smith, ext 3930.

Time Management and Conflict Resolution Seminars

The Time Management and Conflict Resolution seminars, which were scheduled for December 1988, have had to be postponed to early 1989 due to the unavailability of the speakers.

It is hoped at this stage that Time Management will be run in February and Conflict Resolution in March.

Pay Periods

Close-off dates for pay periods ending December 22 and 5 January 1989. It is important that all members of your Department are made aware of these dates to avoid any delays in payment.

Pay Ending December 22:

All variations and overtime forms December 9, 4 pm.

All part-time teaching and casual timesheets
December 16, 4 pm.

Pay Ending 5 January 1989

All variations and overtime forms December 16, 4 pm.

All part-time teaching and casual timesheets
December 22, 4 pm.

Pay day for period ending December 22 will not be brought forward. It will be paid on December 22.

Seminars

Department of Civil and Mining Engineering

Date and time: Friday December 9, 10 am to 1.30 pm

Venue: Department of Civil and Mining Engineering.

Speaker: Dr Susan Hough, 2630 Applications Engineer, Tektronix Inc, USA.

Topic: *Signal Analysis with the TEK 2630 Fourier Analyzer.*

For more information contact Dr Richard Kohoutek, Department of Civil and Mining Engineering, (042) 27 0385 or 27 0040.

School of Creative Arts – Diary of Events

Saturday December 10

Messiah by G.F. Handel, University Singers, Wollongong Town Hall, 8 pm.

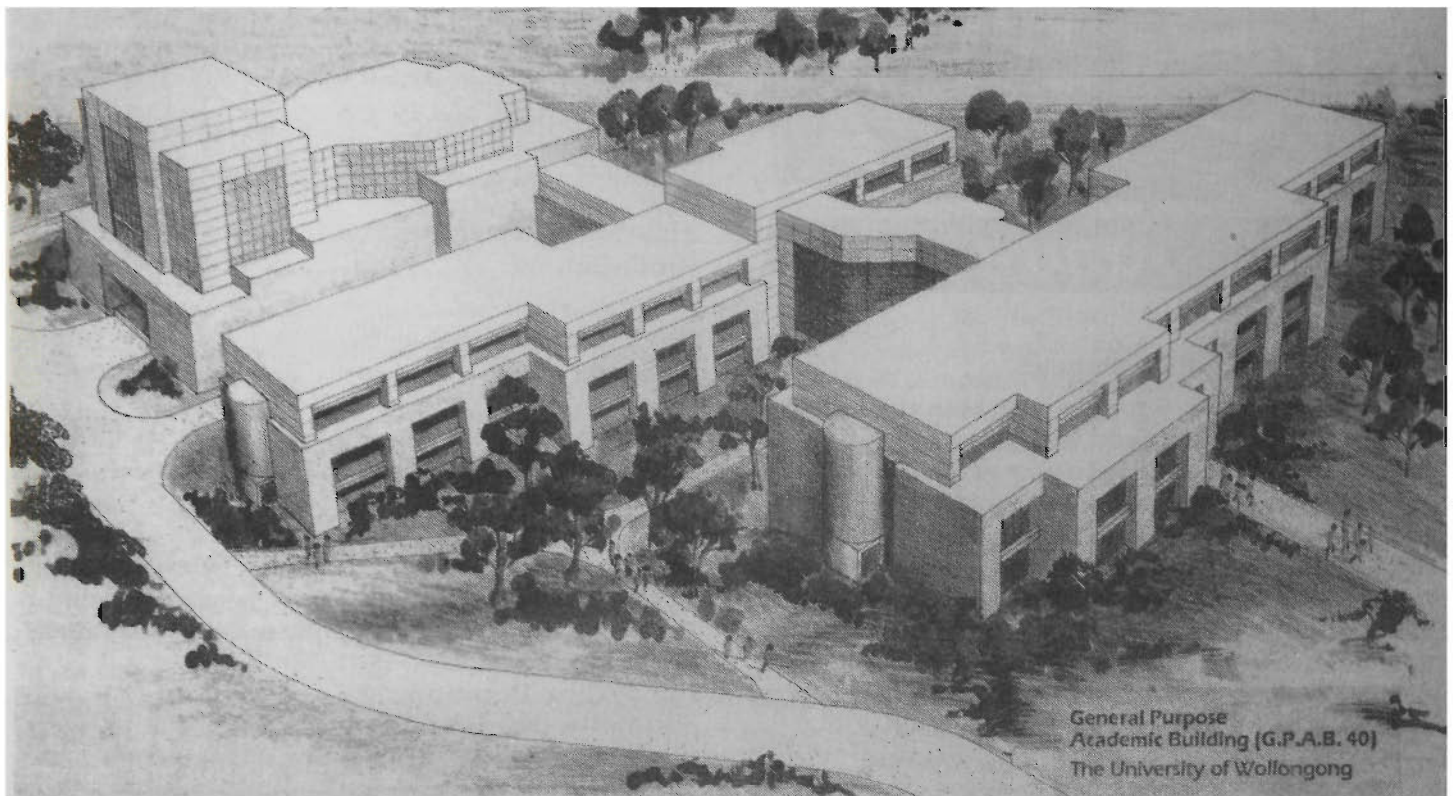
Festival of Australian Writers, School of Creative Arts, Monday 16 to Friday 27 January 1989

'Campus News' and the vacation

This issue of *Campus News* will be the last for 1988.

The first issue for 1989 will close for press at noon on Monday February 27 and will appear on March 7.

Expansion continues — general-purpose academic building approved for University



The Commonwealth Government has given the go-ahead for a new General Purpose Academic Building for The University of Wollongong. The building will cost \$8,679,000 with \$1,851,000 being allocated for 1989. Both of the above amounts are at June 1988 price levels.

The building is being designed to meet the University's need for additional academic offices and common teaching areas with some specific-use facilities included. It is intended that initially the main user of office and specific-use facilities will be the Faculty of Commerce. Additional space will be available for allocation to other parts of the University. In all, a total of approximately 3900 sq.m. of usable floor area will be included in an efficient and economical building.

The building will comprise three interconnecting structures. Two of them, Blocks A and B, will be of three storeys, virtually identical in design (mirror reversed) and include in total some 144 offices, a 70-seat lecture room, 12 other teaching rooms, seven laboratories with a technical workshop, and a faculty resource room.

The third structure, Block C, will comprise a 400-seat multi-purpose lecture theatre. The addition of a large stage and backstage facility will allow the theatre to be used for a number of purposes as well as give the School of Creative Arts valuable and much-needed work space.

The academic office and common teaching areas will be 'general purpose' in character and function. This will allow for maximum physical and servicing flexibility to cater for a wide range of potential users and the need to incorporate future communications and teaching technologies. Teaching and office environments will be comfortable and efficient.

The site is the area to the south-west of the Social Science building and east of the Ring Road. The form and scale of the building will be consistent with its location in the campus environment. While it will have a unique

identity, the design will reflect the principles of the Site Development Plan with respect to access, height, orientation, colour, materials and relationship to landscaped precincts.

The building will form the southern hard edge to the future Precinct G landscaped square which will incorporate that area to the north where the remaining section of the former Institute car park is located. This car park will be removed over the coming vacation as a first stage of the development of this 'square'.

The exterior finishes to the building will develop the existing theme by using a combination of the 'University brick' and painted compressed fibre cement panels with expressed joints. By utilising this facade treatment, it is intended that the impact and scale of three-storey development will be reduced and a combination of materials and shapes appropriate to the different elements contained within the building will be established.

Because of the urgent need for additional space, an early decision was taken to begin the planning and design well before funding was approved. Consequently, the design is sufficiently well advanced to allow the project to be submitted to tender towards the end of February 1989, with a view to construction starting during March.

It is planned that construction will be phased to allow the completion of the building in two stages. The present schedule provides for Block A, the northern academic block, to be completed by February 1990, with the other two components, Block B and the lecture theatre, to be completed by the end of 1991. These dates, however, are subject to review during both the final design and contract negotiation stages.

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