UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG
CAMPUS NEWS

Number 28 Wednesday, 4 November 1992

Breathing life into polymers

The third in a series of public seminars being conducted by the Graduate Faculty this year is being held in the University Union Function Centre at 6.30 pm on Wednesday, 4 November.

For the series, the University has chosen researchers to present seminars which are open to the community.

The aim is to provide opportunities for people in Wollongong to hear, in lay terms, about the outstanding research being undertaken at the University.

This seminar is being given by the Co-ordinator of the University Research Program 'Intelligent Polymeric Materials', Professor Gordon Wallace.

His topic is 'Breathing Life into Polymers'.

Parking will be available in the multi-storey carpark, accessible via the University's western entrance, about 500m west along Northfields Avenue from the roundabout at the intersection with Irvine Street.

Professor Gordon Wallace

Professor Wallace said the development of materials capable of mimicking the behaviour of skin, bone, muscles, biological cell membranes and even human brain is at present the objective of various projects in laboratories around the world.

'Such materials may be described as intelligent, that is, they are capable of sensing and responding to specific stimuli.

'This is an area in which the Intelligent Polymer Research Laboratory is currently recognised as a pioneer and a world leader.

'The development of intelligent materials has been made possible by a new approach which involves material design from the molecular level.

'This approach has been facilitated by advances in material assembly techniques and characterisation.

'It is now possible to design materials from the molecular level and assemble them in the manner required to give desired behaviour.'

Professor Wallace said that advances in scientific tools which enable processes occurring at material-environment surfaces to be studied have also been critical to the further development of this science.

Armed with these new devices that enhance the researchers' molecular vision, a new world at the "nanoscopic" level is being explored.

'The irony of this revolution is that the materials with the most central role to play are polymers, synthetic materials created by man to make use of their lightweight, mechanical properties and inertness,' he said.

'In fact we have made conventional polymers (plastics) so inert that they are regarded as an environmental hazard. Today, armed with a new approach and vastly improved techniques scientists are building intelligence into polymers.

'This approach produces dynamic materials – not inert – capable of monitoring and responding to environmental conditions.'

Professor Wallace said the next phase was to combine such materials into structures capable of sophisticated behaviour patterns.

'Some workers have referred to this phase of development as the pursuit of artificial life,' he said.

'Given the current rate of progress the question appears to be when, not if such systems will be produced.

'Will scientists breath life into polymers in the 20th Century?'

To assist with catering arrangements, call Lyndal Manton, tel. 214323, if you will be attending this seminar.

An exhibition at the Long Gallery brings together the work of two Master of Creative Arts candidates of the School of Creative Arts.

Torie de Mestre has fostered her philosophy of recycling by adapting found, natural and manufactured cast-off materials.

She said she conveys intrinsic symbolic meaning.

'Concepts of indigenous land and people are firstly idealised as the harmonious relationship between nature and people in the pre-European contact period,' she said.

'Secondly, change enforced by the subjugation by colonial powers is expressed in negative, destructive elements but also by the subsequent adaptation of lifestyle and artistic manifestation.

'Thirdly, I am interested in portraying the relatively recent growth of re-integrated and assimilated arts and the revival of traditional arts.

'They may be deprived of the sacred or secular context but emerge as symbols of political self-determination and a vital reassertion of cultural identity', Jill Chisholm combines poetry, photography, sculpture, reliefs, found objects and paintings to allow the viewer to find 'a text for the story and its symbolic intention by comparing the juxtaposed images'.

Brief News

Did you study at the Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand?

They have just launched their Alumni Association and are initiating functions and reunions outside of New Zealand.

If you have not heard from them contact Sharon Major Victoria University, PO Box 600, Wellington, New Zealand. Fax Wellington 495-5210

The Children's Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, 5 December at 11am on the field west of the Recreation and Sports Centre.

A picnic carnival atmosphere will be created by the usual sausage sizzle, plus free drinks, ice blocks, chips and sweets.

There will be plenty of entertainment – hay rides, fire engine rides, merry-go-round, magic castle, fairy floss and some surprises.

Santa will visit at about 2pm. Tickets are $8 per child.

Nomination forms are available from Lionel Ransley at the Printery or Roger Davey, Financial Services. Helpers are also needed.

The University has obtained $199,000 from DEET specifically for academic women staff development.

The funding will be used to provide teaching relief for academic women to enable them to further their doctoral or research masters programs.

Preference will be given to those members of staff who are nearing completion of their studies, and both full-time and part-time staff members are eligible to apply.

Applications will also be considered from other female staff engaged in academic work.

Applications will close on 20 November and staff wishing to further their post-graduate studies in either Session one or two next year should apply by that date.

Application forms and an information sheet outlining the criteria to be used in the selection may be obtained from the Equal Opportunity Unit.

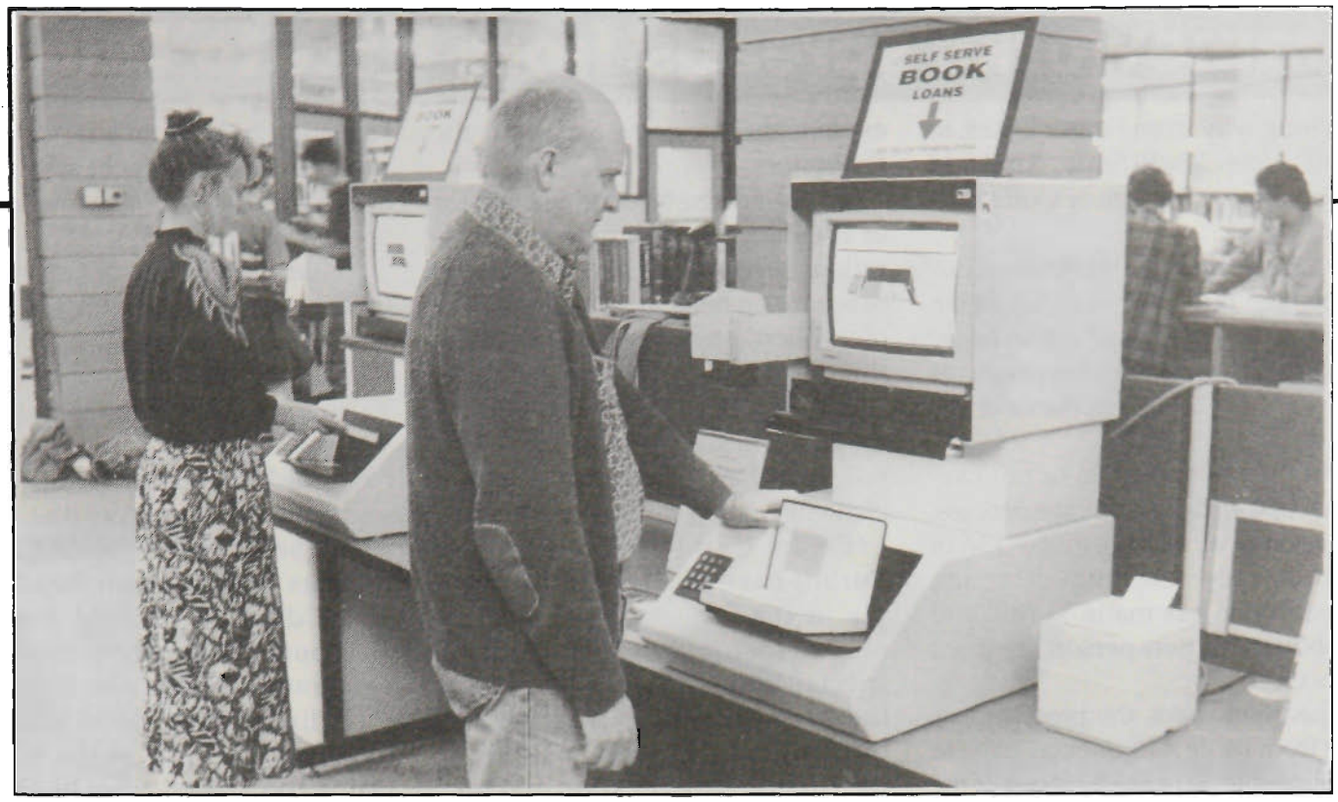
Flame Tree fashion awards

Co-ordinator of the AIDS Council of Illawarra, David Madeddu, expressed his delight and gratitude when presented with a cheque for $3000 by 1991 Welfare Officer of the Student Representative Council Lylea McMahon, and Chairman of the Friends of the University, Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Lauchlan Chipman.

The money was raised by the 1991 Student Representative Council which organised the first Flame Tree Fashion Awards in March last year to promote local designers and raise funds for a local charity.

The Illawarra AIDS Council plans to use the funds for equipment for their new Day Care Centre.

Co-ordinator of the AIDS Council of Illawarra, David Madeddu, 1991 Welfare Officer of the Student Representative Council, Lylea McMahon, and Chairman of the Friends of the University, Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Lauchlan Chipman.



Self-serve book loans at Library

As part of its continuing efforts to improve services for users, the Library has purchased two self-checkout units.

The units, which are located behind the Information Desk in the foyer of the Library, allow the user to borrow and renew books without going to the Loans Desk.

The units are connected to the Library's automated circulation system and records loans by scanning the barcode on the user's identification card and the barcodes in the books.

Easy-to-follow instructions are displayed on the screen, although Library staff can assist if necessary.

Certain material cannot be borrowed using these units. These include serials, folios, audio visual material and books with computer disks.

These items should be borrowed through the Loans Desk.

The Library is still monitoring use of these units, but reaction to them has been positive.

For further information or comments please contact Information Services Librarian, Craig Grimison, ext. 3550.

New course reflects next phase in University/TAFE relationship

The University of Wollongong and the Wollongong Institute of Technology (TAFE) are committed to establishing articulated programs responsive to the needs of industry and the work force.

These will enable more people to acquire higher quality skills so Australia can become more competitive in the world economy.

The University and TAFE have had a formal agreement since 1989 for articulation of courses and informal arrangements for several years before that.

In 1993 the Faculty of Engineering at the University will introduce a simplified articulation path from the Associate Diploma level offered by TAFE to bachelor degree level.

The path will comprise a Bachelor of Technology course in each of civil engineering, materials engineering and mechanical engineering.

This course is available only to people with a relevant Associate Diploma and who are working in engineering industry.

The course is offered over three years of part-time study.

Successful completion of the course will qualify a person for admission to the Institution of Engineers, Australia as an Engineering Technologist.

Previously, the only path available to institutional recognition for people in the work force, with an Associate Diploma was the five-year part-time course for the degree of Bachelor of Engineering.

Vice-Principal of the Wollongong Institute of Technology, Mr Ray Tolhurst, said: 'The introduction of this course reflects the close co-operation that has existed for three decades between the University of Wollongong, the Institute – previously the Wollongong College of TAFE – and industry, and the unique nature of the north Wollongong education corridor.'

Frameworks spreads from USA to Dubbo

It's a long way from Finger Lakes, in upper New York State, USA, to Dubbo, Wagga Wagga or Coffs Harbour.

But Wollongong University Educationists Jan Turbill and Brian Cambourne are excited about being at teacher development workshops in these NSW centres in the next few months.

And they like the idea of not having to cope with jet lag in the process.

The runaway success in the USA of their literacy teaching program, Frameworks, has made Turbill and Cambourne a two-person frequent flyers club.

In just two years, the program has gone from its developmental stage to being used in 30 of the 52 states of the USA.

The program's originators have been on almost constant call to help explain the program and train the facilitators.

Jim Langridge, Managing Director of The Illawarra Technology Corporation Limited, which markets the program on behalf of the University of Wollongong, said it was ironic that the program's success in the USA – and the consequent demands on the program's originators – had made its Australian marketing a special challenge.

'Brian Cambourne and Jan Turbill have trained a lot of people in the program, but we still needed them to be here, with their special knowledge and vision of the program, in order to present the program comprehensively to the Australian education market,' Mr Langridge said.

Launched officially for Australia last month, Frameworks looks like repeating its phenomenal success in the USA. Development workshops around NSW in the next few months are filling fast.

A clue to the success of the program in attracting the interest of classroom teachers was given by Principal of Warrawong Public School, Dennis Yarrow, at the Australian launch of the program.

He said that Frameworks 'recognises, and operates from that central core of beliefs about learning that all teachers hold in their heads and which drives everything a teacher does, but at the same time encourages a community of learners concept'.

The first workshop was held at the conference facilities at the Western Plains Zoo, Dubbo, from 19-23 October with further workshops to be held in Sydney, Wollongong, Coffs Harbour and Wagga Wagga.

National Health Survey publications

The Library holds several publications in the ABS collection relating to the National Health Survey conducted in 1989-90.

Titles in the series include:- Health Status Indicators (ABS Publication No.4370.0); Diabetes (4371.0); Cardiovascular and Related conditions (4372.0); Asthma and other Respiratory Conditions (4373.0); Musculoskeletal conditions (4374.0); Health Related Actions (4375.0); Consultations with Health Professionals (4376.0); Use of Medications (4377.0); Screening for Breast and Cervical Cancer (4378.0); Children's immunisation (4379.0); Health Risk factors (4380.0); Alcohol consumption (4381.0); Smoking (4382.0); Exercise (4383.0); Accidents (4384.0)

A Users Guide is also available (ABS Number 4363.0) providing complete information about the National Health Survey, its objectives, content and the concepts, methods and procedures used in the collection and compilation of the data are contained in this publication.

A complete overview of the survey can be obtained from the Summary of Results in publication (4364.0)

Library News

New government publications

The following titles have been recently added to the Library's collection:-

Royal Commission into Productivity in the Building Industry in New South Wales. Vol 7- Final Report, F338.4569/1.

RUNESON, G A Review of the research of the Royal Commission into Productivity in the Building Industry . F 331.1199/1

MORRISSEY, M et al Immigration and Industry Restructuring in the Illawarra. F331.62099446/1

For further information on the Library's Government Publications please contact Lorraine Denny, ext. 3544.

New Law CD-ROM

The Law Library has recently acquired a new CD-ROM called LEGALTRAC. This is an enhanced version of the hard-copy resource called Current Law Index.

LEGALTRAC indexes 800 legal publications, including all major law reviews, law association journals, speciality publications and seven legal newspapers.

While it is US-based, it includes major non-US journals. It also includes law related articles from more than 1000 additional business and general interest periodicals.

LEGALTRAC is updated monthly and covers from 1980.

See the Law Library staff for further information and access.

The University's new postal address is: University of Wollongong, Northfields Ave, Wollongong NSW 2522

Di Kelly, Department of Economics and coordinator of the lecture, prize winner Yasmin Rittau, Sir Richard Kirby, Jennie George and prize winners Susan Sainty and Nicole Davidson

Sir Richard Kirby Lecture explores industrial relations

The 14th Sir Richard Kirby lecture in Industrial Relations was held on 19 October.

The guest speaker was Jennie George Assistant Secretary, ACTU, who spoke on *Managed Decentralism and Deregulation : The Key Issue in Industrial Relations.*

The lecture explored the possible future of industrial relations, and in particular the implications for women. A copy of the address is available from Gillian Curtis, ext. 3926.

This lecture is an integral part of the introductory industrial relations course at the University. Previous presenters of the Kirby lecture, have included John Hewson, Brian MacCarthy, Sir Joe Isaacs, Sir Keith Hancock, Brian Noakes and Bill Kelty.

The evening included the awarding of Industrial Relations prizes to:

- Ron Johnson: Eric Derra Young Scholarship, for the most outstanding undergraduate record for a currently enrolled Honours student.
- Susan Sainty and Nichole Davidson: Hilda Kirby Prize for the most outstanding essay by a student in introductory Industrial Relations on the topic of the previous year's Kirby Lecture.
- Yasmin Rittau: Industrial Relations Society of NSW Prize for the most outstanding record in introductory industrial relations at University of Wollongong in 1991 (Ms Rittau won the Hilda Kirby Prize in 1991).

After the lecture Jennie George launched a book by Margaret Gardner (QUT) and Gill Palmer (Professor of Management, University of Wollongong) titled 'Employment Relations: Industrial Relations and Human Resource Management in Australia', (Macmillan, Melbourne 1922).

Professor Gill Palmer with her book Employment Relations: Industrial Relations and Human Resource Management in Australia

Scarp promotion for new poets

Scarp, in conjunction with Five Islands Press, is offering the possibility of first publication to new poets .

Applicants normally will be poets who have not yet published a collection of their work in book form.

No age limit applies, but to be eligible, poets must have had at least eight of their poems published in newspapers or magazines, or broadcast on public radio.

Up to six titles per year will be published under this program. The books will be 32 pages long, A5 size.

They will be high quality productions, printed intitially in runs of 250. Authors will receive royalties at normal rates or better on books sold.

It is intended to run a week-long editing/writing workshop in conjunction with the publishing program.

From 18-20 January, 1993 has been set aside for this.

Poets whose work has been accepted for publication under this program will be required to come to Wollongong for that week, but all expenses including travel and accommodation will be paid.

Ten more places will be made available to those applicants whose work, though not accepted for publication in this round, was felt to be of a high standard.

These writers will be responsible for their own travel and accommodation, but no tuition fees will be charged.

Accommodation will be available at Campus East (University of Wollongong) for approximately $120 for the week.

All books will be published simultaneously at a launch with as much publicity as can be organised.

Participating authors will be expected to attend the launch and to participate in such readings as are arranged.

Australia Council support has been sought for this program. The form the workshops take depends on such support, but the publishing program will proceed in any case.

For further information, write to the address below. If you would like to participate in this scheme, send your manuscript, plus brief biography and list of previous publications to

Scarp/Five Islands Press New Poets
School of Creative Arts,
Northfields Ave, Wollongong 2522.

Include SSAE if you would like your manuscript returned.

For further information, contact Ron Pretty, tel. (042) 21 3867

Regional poetry competition

To be held in conjunction with third regional poetry festival in Wollongong 5-7 June, 1993

1. Poets throughout Australia are invited to enter a VISUAL POETRY FESTIVAL

2. Criteria. To be eligible, there must be a visual aspect to the presentation of the text, beyond the presentation of a poem in a normal typeface.

This may be achieved through handwritten or computer generated calligraphy, through the layout of the text on the page, through the incorporation of graphics however generated, and through the integration of visual and textual elements. Judges will assess the total impact of the piece: the power of the text and of the visual elements, and the effectiveness of the integration of the two.

The decision of the judges will be final and no correspondence will be entered into concerning their decisions.

3. Minimum size : A4. No maximum size is stipulated.

4. Prizes

* First prize: $500 (More if a sponsor can be found)

* Other prizes: 30-40 of the best entries will be hung in an exhibition to be held in conjunction with the 3rd Regional Poets Festival. $20 will be paid for each entry hung in the exhibition. All other entries will be available in folders in the bookshop area.

* 6-8 of the most suitable entries (having regard to viability of reproduction, reduction of size required) will be offered paid publication in the October 1993 issue of Scarp

5. There is no entry fee

6. Address for entries:

Visual Arts Competition
School of Creative Arts, University of Wollongong
Northfields Ave, Wollongong 2522

Entries must reach this address by Friday 15 May,1993

7. If return of entries is required, submission must be accompanied by return postage plus suitable envelope, cylinder.

Proposals sought for women's employment program

The Women's Bureau of the Department of Employment, Education and Training (DEET) is seeking proposals for commissioning of projects under the Women's Research and Employment Initiatives Program.

Priority will be given to practical projects such as:

- Occupational Segregation
- Part-time work and casualisation of workforce
- Training and Skill formation
- Recovery from recession
- Changing industry and work structures
- Integration of work and family responsibilities
- Disadvantaged women in the labour market
- Women in the private sector
- Impacts of Government legislation

If you are interested in submitting a proposal to undertake a consultancy in any of the above areas please contact Manager,Office of Contracts, Peter McNamara, ext. 5939. Deadline is 13 November.

The Office of Contracts is part of the Illawarra Technology Corporation Limited (ITC). It aims to link the needs of the community and industry with the academic skills and resources available at the University. University Policy stipulates that all University Consulting is required to be channelled through the Office of Contracts.

EEO News

The requirement for those sitting on selection committees to have completed the Selection Techniques Training has been in force since 1986.

However, committees have been permitted to be formed with a majority of members having completed acceptable training.

However, it is now the intention to strictly enforce these regulations.

As of 1 March 1993 no one will be permitted to sit on Selection Committees without having been appropriately trained.

In order to ensure anyone who has not yet undertaken this training has the opportunity to do so, the Centre for Staff Development, EEO Unit and Personnel Services have agreed to schedule extra training courses between now and then.

David Blackall, Technical Officer, Graduate School of Journalism, who wrote, produced and directed the documentary

University, SBS collaborate on documentary

A special documentary which presents a community-based approach to youth crime will be broadcast on 26 November on SBS at 7.30 pm on the documentary series *Through Australian Eyes.*

It has been written, produced and directed by David Blackall, in association with the Special Broadcasting Services Television (SBS TV) Sydney; The Law Foundation of NSW; the University of Wollongong and the Australian Film Commission.

Presented in a colourful, multi-layered format reminiscent of a rock clip, this documentary film uses animation to convey a message of community-based reform.

This reform involves early intervention in young peoples' crime patterns and that does not involve the court and its associated degradation ceremonies but rather re-integration ceremonies.

It involves focusing on the evil of the deed rather than the evil of the young person.

The work uses a 'hidden identity' style that is respectful of speakers – youth and adults.

Its 'street feel' coupled with bright music and images conveys a positive but defiant mood.

Speakers on the sound-track have familiar Australian or Aboriginal Australian voices which are saying familiar things. Collectively these utterances represent imperatives.

Called *Can it hurt less?*, this documentary aims at subtly bringing to notice, Juvenile Justice System imperatives needing attention by government and community. It also takes an interest in power relations between people, politicians and bureaucracy.

The producer has used a long and deliberate production period to evoke responses and suggestions from police, youth, workers, community representatives, and Aboriginal community representatives; collectively known as the "commentators".

As fairly as possible, their responses are represented in the script and overall film structure.

The documentary is also available on videotape, duration 26 minutes.

Centre for Staff Development Seminar Series
'Educational Issues in Multimedia Teaching'

Thursday November 19 – Union Function Room 40 -4, 12:30-1:30. Lin Thompson, Deakin University: User Support and Access to Resources in Distance Education.

Thursday November 26 – Union Board Room, 12:30-1:30. Bill Chia, University of Western Sydney: The Application of Computers to Teaching.

Thursday December 10 – Union Function Room 40 -4, 12:30-1:30. Merrelyn Emery, Australian National University: The Use of Television in Education.

• *continued in Stop Press*

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HOPE THEATRE

Bookings Ph 214214
Western Entrance Northfields Ave

21 Nov: **Michelle's Ballet School - Concert** 7pm.
5 Dec: **Conservatorium Grand Finale Concert**. 2.30 & 7.30 performances.
10 Dec: **BHP Youth Orchestra concert** 8pm.

LONG GALLERY

Enquiries 213996 Building 25
Opening hours Mon-Fri 9am-4pm. Sun 1.30-4pm. Visit the Gallery Shop

Until 15 Nov: **Tori de Mestre and Jill Chisholm** Master of Creative Arts candidate. SCARP LAUNCH - North Wing, SCA.
19 Nov-13 Dec: **Graduating exhibition.** Opening Friday 20 November at 7pm by Professor Barry Conyngham.

GENERAL

Until 15 Nov: **Bachelor of Creative Arts Honours Exhibition**. Illawarra Technology Centre

4 Nov: Elizabeth Riddell (poet and journalist; winner of the 1992 Book of the Year, and Kenneth Slessor prize for poetry) will be the guest speaker at the **Annual Dinner of the Australian Federation of University Women** in the Norfolk Room, Northbeach Parkroyal Hotel, at 7pm. Tickets are $35 (including buffet meal, pre-dinner drinks and table wine), and are available from Jocelyn Booth, 10 Dallas St, Keiraville, tel. 29 3284.

27 Nov: The **Women's Issues Group's third Annual Dinner** will be held for members and friends in the Union Function Room at 7pm for 7.30 pm. Speaker Tenzin Norbu will talk on Life in Bhutan. The evening costs $20 for a smorgasbord, wine and orange juice. Enquiries to Moira, tel. 84 3741.

Stop Press

• *CSD courses and workshops continued from Page 7*

Writing Subject Objectives	Nov 9
Time Management for Academic Staff	Nov 11 & 18
Problem-Based Learning in Engineering	Nov 12
Media Training	Nov 13 & 16
Supervising Postgraduate Students	Nov 17
Small Group Teaching	Nov 18
Using Television as a Teaching Medium	Nov 19 & 23
Educational Video Conferencing	Nov 24
Lecturing in the Hope Theatre	Nov 30

Booking is essential.

For registration forms please phone Val Roberts on 3618. Applications accepted if vacancies exist.

What's On

4 Dec: The agenda deadline for the last 1992 **Human Experimentation Ethics Committee meeting**. It will no longer be possible to table late items. Late applications will be held over until the next meeting. Contact Kim Roser, ext. 3079.

STAFF

30 Nov: **Development leave applications** for General Staff close on 30 November 1992. For further information Ann Kiceluk, ext 4284.

30 Nov: Deadline for nominations for the 1993 **Vice-Chancellor's Award** for Outstanding Service by General Staff. These must be forwarded to the Head or Unit Manager, who must submit the nomination by 11 December. Inquiries to Ann Kiceluk, ext. 4284.

Pakistani musical troupe at Hope Theatre

The greatest Qawwali troupe of all times, the Sabri Brothers of Pakistan, will perform in The Hope Theatre this month.

The Sabri Brothers' tour of Australia is being sponsored by the Friends of the University of Wollongong.

The group, an internationally recognised troupe of musicians and singers from Pakistan, are exponents of the art form Qawwali.

To quote the music critic of The New York Times, John Rockwell, Qawwali 'is the music of the mystic sect of Islam

'The music seems to be a combination of Indian rhythmic patterns and Middle Eastern melody, but the result is hard to recognise,' Rockwell wrote.

'It sounds like nothing else, while being reminiscent of half a dozen things including gypsy folk songs and Greek bouzoukee.

'In spite of the strictly religious content of the songs, Qawwali has become a popular form of entertainment in Muslim countries.'

The Sabri Brothers belong to an ancient family of musicians of the Indian sub continent.

The Friends believe that in sponsoring this tour they are not only providing a rare treat to those from Pakistan, India and the Middle East, who are familiar with this art form, but are also providing an opportunity for others to share in this expereince.

The Sabri Brothers will play at Wollongong on Sunday 22 November at 6pm.

Tickets are available from Antoinette Matarranz, Friends Office, 3rd Floor, Union Building, at the University, or tel. 21 3169.