# UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG

## CAMPUS NEWS



New Vice-Chancellor, Professor Gerard Sutton

## **New Vice-Chancellor installed today**

Professor Gerard Sutton officially takes up his position today as vice-chancellor of the University of Wollongong, taking over from vice-chancellor of 14 years, Professor Ken McKinnon.

Professor Sutton was formerly the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of this university and had held that position since 1990. Before that he was Foundation Pro Vice-Chancellor at the University of Technology, Sydney.

He has had a successful career as an academic and administrator and has spent several years as a research scientist.

He holds Bachelor of Engineering and Master of Engineering Science degrees from the University of NSW and a doctorate from the Catholic University of America.

Professor Sutton's appointment was popular both with the campus and the community.

He commented that this week also marked the beginning of a new phase in the lives of 2200 commencing students.

'I am sure that continuing students and the staff will make them feel welcome because to me the three special features of the University are its friendliness, beauty and dynamism,' he said. 'The University is at a stage in its development where we are, on any national measure, private or government, ranked in the top group of universities.

We have a growing international reputation but still have a way to go to be acknowledged as one of the world's best.

'That is the challenge for students and staff; for students because our reputation is spread by them.

'Our reputation will continue to spiral upwards, therefore the worth of a University of Wollongong qualification will grow in stature.

'The experience students get here has to be a quality one. We believe it is and we work continually to improve it further.

'We have a deliberate policy of ensuring that graduates from here feel comfortable on the international stage so students should take advantage of the international culture here and grow in an understanding of other ethnic backgrounds.

'I would like to wish everyone on campus a successful year.'

# Elections of student representatives

Elections are being held for student members on the following:

- Academic Senate (five positions)
- All Faculties (between six and 14 positions per Faculty)
- The Board of Studies for Environmental Science (one position)
- The Library Committee (one position)
- Graduate Faculty Committee (one position)

Full details are included on notice boards throughout the University, or may be obtained from the Election Officer, Kim Roser, University Administration Building.

Nominations close Thursday 9 March.

If required, ballots will be held on 21 and 22 March in Room 305 of the Administration Building from 10.30am-12.30pm and 1.30-3.30pm.

## Attention drivers and pushbike riders

You may see someone using a white cane or a guide dog.

There are several blind and vision-impaired people on and surrounding our campus.

The blind or vision-impaired person has been trained to deal with normal traffic and use sound clues to help them make informed and safe decisions regarding traffic.

You can help these decisions by ...

#### Drivers:

- Do not slow down or stop to let them cross where there is not a crossing or stop when the lights are in your favour.
  - Do not sound your horn as a signal to cross, or shout out instructions.
- Do not stop your car and get out to assist the blind or vision-impaired person across the road.

#### Pushbike riders:

- When using shared pedestrian and bike paths it is important that you slow down and indicate your approach. Do this by ringing your bell or calling out 'bike approaching on right'.
- Particularly if a guide dog is being used, always pass on the side of the pedestrian-not the dog. If you passed on the dog side, you can frighten the dog and cause a serious accident, or you could traumatise the dog to the point where they would refuse to walk along that same path again.

Pushbike riders who use the road should observe the suggestions for drivers.

If you are able to consider these few rules when you see someone using a white cane or guide dog, it will help blind and vision-impaired people make safe decisions.

Inquiries: Disability Adviser, Jodie Hoger, phone (042) 214352.

## The mathematics of water tables

The Faculty of Informatics has several areas of environmental research, including the study of water waves in coastal regions and hydrology along with energy efficiency in electric motors and also freight transport.

The work on prediction of underground water flow is a crucial task in water storage engineering, agricultural system design and environmental quality control.

This is not only because water itself is one of the most important compounds in biological processes, but also because water transports soluble materials through convection and dispersion.

Professor Phil Broadbridge and Dr Maureen Edwards of the Department of Mathematics have constructed new time-dependent solutions for flow through an unsaturated field soil influenced by biological macropores.

Although solution techniques in one-dimensional (vertical) flow are well established, many previous at-



tempts at exact analysis in two dimensions have failed.

In collaboration with James Cook University of North Queensland, Professor Broadbridge is developing series methods for solving steady unsaturated flow problems in arbitrarily shaped porous domains.

Future work will include a free water table, with analytic flow solutions in both the saturated and the unsaturated part of the soil.



Joy Brown

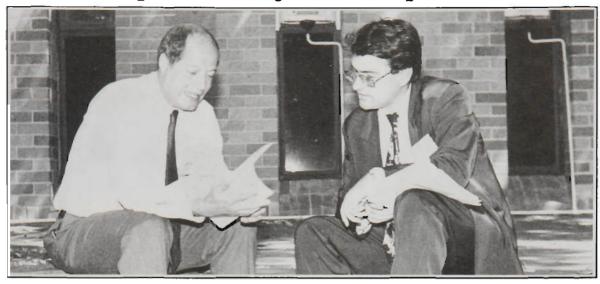
### Belated congratulations

Administrative Assistant in the University's Aboriginal Education Centre, Joy Brown, was awarded the Shellharbour Council's Citizen of the Year Award in January.

As well as her full-time position at the University, Joy is involved with numerous community groups.

# Eminent US researcher addresses Intelligent Polymer Open Day

Visiting scientist
Dr Ray
Burghman
discussed the
pioneering work
being undertaken
in Wollongong by
IPRL with
Director,
Professor
Gordon Wallace.



The Intelligent Polymers Research Laboratory (IPRL) at the University held Open Days on 2-3 February.

Those attending heard an address by eminent scientist Dr Ray Baughman from the USA.

Dr Baughman's diverse educational and research background enable him to combine concepts and ideas from areas across the fields of chemistry, physics and materials science.

This ability has enabled him to contribute so widely to the field of Intelligent Materials Research.

His work at Allied Signal (one of USA's leading chemicals and materials manufacturers) has resulted in 42 patents and the Chemical Pioneer Award from the American Institute of Chemistry for 1995.

He has discovered new technologies that have led to the development of conducting polymer batteries, smart solar windows, remotely-readable sensors, time/temperature indicators for perishable goods and information storage materials and high-temperature superconductors.

His visit to IPRL underlines the importance of multidiscipline and multinational research activities in the emerging area of Intelligent Materials.

This research area has the IPRL team involved with biologists, chemists, engineers, physicists, medical practitioners and neuroscientists in the US, UK, Malaysia, New Zealand, Korea and Japan.

During 1994 Intelligent Polymer Research continued to attract the attention of the international research community.

The concepts, techniques and approaches developed as a result of the pursuit of Intelligent Materials, will continue to determine our approach to Materials Science into the 21st century.

The IPRL, a pioneer in the field, continues to lead the world, with developments in new and diverse material systems, capable of enhanced performance without human intervention.

For example:

- New sensing technologies to monitor our environment and biological systems.
- New information processing tools using organic/molecular assemblies to assimilate and process information, replacing silicon-based materials.

• Synthetic actuation systems which respond to predetermined stimuli and then transduced into mechanical movement, the basis of artificial muscles.

The tremendous commercial opportunities available in this area of research has resulted in a flurry of international activity, with IPRL staff being invited to Malaysia, New Zealand, Korea, USA, the UK and Japan, establishing collaborative projects with the world's scientific community.

The multidisciplinary nature of Intelligent Materials work is highlighted by the fact that biologists, chemists, electronics engineers, materials engineers, neuroscientists and medical practitioners work side by side.

### **Business award for former VC**

Professor Ken McKinnon, who recently relinquished his position as vice-chancellor, has been awarded the Merv Nixon Award – Working for the Illawarra.

This award honours the late Merv Nixon, former South Coast Labour Council Secretary. The inaugural winner last year was former steel unions chief, Nando Lelli.

The award was announced by the Illawarra Connections president Peter Kell at the Illawarra Business Awards function on 14 February.

The award is given to a person each year who makes a locally-based contribution to the Illawarra region over a sustained period.

This contribution should improve the quality of life and living standards of Australians in general terms and the person should have wide community support or recognition by disparate community groups.

The Illawarra Mercury said that it was a popular choice as Professor McKinnon was leaving the University after a long and distinguished term that saw unprecedented developments at the campus.



The University's new grievance conciliators (from left): Back – Kim Roser (ext. 4136, Academic and Student Services), Jan James (ext 3572, Education); Juliet Richardson (ext 3249, Alumni Office); Ray Stace (ext 4102, Educational Media Services); Julie Gray (ext 3441, Biological Sciences); Maureen Bell (ext 3946, Centre for Staff Development); Tracey McDonald (ext 3227, Nursing); Jenny Sheridan (ext 3509, Chemistry); Hvezdoslava (Hvezda) Raus (ext 3232, Chemistry) (Secretariat); Marie Cooper (ext 3902, Records Administration).

The University of Wollongong established an Internal Grievance Mechanism for the in-house resolution of grievances in 1987 which was reinforced by the policy adopted by Council in 1993.

The Internal Grievance Mechanism aims at promoting a better working environment.

It provides staff who have a genuine grievance with a choice of people to approach.

A group of staff has recently been selected to be Grievance Conciliators for two years and has been trained through an intensive internal course.

Grievance conciliators complement the normal procedures for resolving grievances. They do not displace the responsibility of supervisors, heads of departments or the role of unions.

It is expected that under normal circumstances you would approach your supervisor or head of department to assist you with your problem, or you would seek advice from your union representative.

If you don't feel comfortable in approaching your supervisor, or do not receive satisfaction, you can contact other grievance receivers, such as one of the grievance conciliators, the EEO Co-ordinator, or Personnel. However, make sure you phone first for an appointment.

## Grievance conciliators established

A grievance can be defined as any work-related matter raised by a staff member which causes concern or distress and which is believed to affect that member of staff in his or her work.

A grievance may arise from any decision, act, or omission which is considered unjust or discriminatory.

Grievance conciliators are selected for their discretion and will do their utmost to maintain confidentiality.

Anyone breaching this confidentiality could be charged with misconduct.

However, the grievance conciliators may not be able to guarantee confidentiality if:

- it is considered that someone is in danger;
- disciplinary action or criminal investigation might be necessary; or
- employer liability might be involved.

In normal cases, no action will be taken without the consent of the person raising the grievance nor will their name be disclosed unless they lodge a formal complaint.

The same rights apply to the person against whom a formal complaint is lodged, and in the interests of natural justice, he/she must be made aware of any formal allegations so that they may

respond.

The grievance conciliator will have an interview with you and clarify the facts, work out whether you need advice from another source, discuss the options available and help formulate a plan of action.

This might include how you may attempt to resolve the grievance yourself; making a decision about the seriousness of the grievance; involving other appropriate people; initiating a conciliation process; or referring the matter to the EEO Coordinator.

Where the grievance is considered serious, it will be referred through the EEO Coordinator to the Director of Affirmative Action. The Director will select a suitable person to investigate the matter.

Grievances are usually only considered resolved when all parties agree, when the cause of the grievance has been removed or resolved, and when arrangements have been made, if appropriate, to repair and make good any damage and distress suffered by the grievant.

For further information regarding grievance conciliators, contact: Maxine Lacey, Equal Employment Opportunity Coordinator, EEO Unit, extension 3917.

## Quality assurance in teaching

As Chair of the Quality Assurance Sub-Committee of the University Education Committee (UEC), Professor John Goldring recently gave a talk to the Faculty of Health and Behavioural Science Planning Day.

Some of the points he covered included:

The Quality Assurance Sub-Committee is encouraging every member of academic staff in the University to make sure that he or she knows:

- what is meant by quality assurance,
- what some of the indicators of quality may be,
  - how to apply them, and
- why quality management is as important in the University as it is in many other activities.

The task of the University's Quality Assurance Sub-committee is to devolve quality management and academic control of subjects and courses to faculties and Academic Units.

'We hope, within the University, to create a climate of reflective self-evalu-

ation,' Professor Goldring said.

'The responsibility for ensuring a perfect product every time should rest with the floor manager (in our case the Dean and Faculty Committees) not with the Board of Directors (or the central University Committee).

'Quality is everyone's business, but it does require guidelines, and accepted standards, including guidelines and standards for a system of evaluation of academic programs, as part of a general program.'

Deans and Faculties have not really been called upon yet to establish and monitor standards.

The devolution needed to achieve this will only come about after a very concerted effort of staff development at Faculty Education Committee (FEC) level.

Decentralising quality control, so that it is a voluntary part of the culture of the whole institution, rather than keeping it central as a set of rules enforced by a group of scrutineers, is a much more satisfactory system.

Professor John Goldring



Accountability should be achievable without detailed scrutiny of every action

Evaluation is an essential part of that process, and self-evaluation is the highest form.

The University is developing a strategic plan for teaching and learning which will devolve responsibility for quality assurance programs to academic staff and for quality management programs to deans and faculty education committees.

The University itself, however, bears the responsibility of monitoring and reporting on the effectiveness of these programs.

# University going well in national cull for research centres

A selection process is under way nationally to fund approximately eight Key Centres of Teaching and Research which will target areas of significant benefit to Australia's economic, social or technological development.

Ninety-six applications have been culled by a committee established by the Australian Research Council.

The 18 most competitive proposals have been selected to be further scrutinised. The University of Wollongong has a major involvement in three proposals in this group of 18.

The three proposals are in the areas of Medicinal Biochemistry, Migration and Ethnic Relations and, in association with the University of Newcastle, Bulk Solids and Particulate Technologies. Proposals that survived the first cull came from a strong team with excellent records in both teaching and research.

Teaching and research elements of the proposal were balanced and integrated with defined teaching objectives and a focused research program

They had to have clear institutional and industry support and show that they had an effective management structure planned.

The successful key centres will be announced in June after another round of evaluations and institutional visits.

# UNIVERSITY TO WOOLLONGONG

# Alumni Association Annual General Meeting

#### Saturday, 4 March 6 7.30pm

in the McKinnon Building, University of Wollongong. (western end of the campus – parking available)

The Guest Speaker will be

The Hon Stephen Martin MP

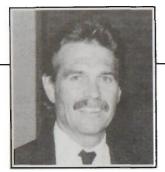
Speaker of The House of Representatives and Member for Cunningham

Stephen, who is also a Wollongong graduate, will share some of his insights into Australian politics and Parliament.

Alumni (former students and staff of the University) and their guests are invited to attend. Members of the public are also welcome.

If you wish to attend, please contact the Alumni Office ASAP.

Tel (042) 21 3249/ 3169 Fax (042) 21 4299



Dr Paul Webb

### Australian Coaching Council award for lecturer

Senior lecturer in Physical and Health Education, Dr Paul Webb, received the Eunice Gill Coach Education Merit Award at the 1994 Australian Coach Awards conducted by the Australian Coaching Council.

The award was presented at a dinner in the Great Hall of Parliament House in Canberra in December last year.

This follows the University of Wollongong Vice-Chancellor's Award for Teaching Excellence and the Recreation and Sport's Association Clubperson of the year, both of which Dr Webb received earlier in the year.

The Eunice Gill Coach Education Merit Award is made by the Australian Coaching Council for outstanding contributions to coach education in Australia.

Dr Webb has designed and written many of the coaching resources that are used by the Australian Touch Association in their coach education courses.

These included coaching books and courses.

In addition he designed and taught a postgraduate subject, Theoretical and Practical Bases of Coach Education, and an undergraduate subject, Principles and Practices of Coaching.

Dr Webb has also been involved in lecturing and teaching Coach Education Courses throughout Australia for 11 years.

He is a level four course presenter and has presented and coordinated many courses.

As a presenter at numerous conferences on coach education including ACHPER and National Coaching, Dr Webb is widely recognised as an expert in his field.

He has been involved with technical policy and has been on many technical and editorial committees with the Australian Touch Association.

He is President of the University of Wollongong Recreation and Sports Association, President of the Rugby Union Club and Senior Vice-President of Illawarra Rugby.

# Students get leadership training with army

The University of Wollongong Company, a training unit of the Army Reserve, provides an avenue of military service specifically for university staff and students.

The focus of the company's activities is to train young people as leaders and to commission them as officers in the Army Reserve.

Jason Brand is studying for a degree in physical education and will graduate from the University of Wollongong this year.

Along with Paul and Mark Marshall who are in New Zealand he will be commissioned in the Army Reserve shortly and his first posting is likely to be as the commander of a 30-strong infantry platoon.

'The officer training course has given me the confidence, assertiveness and experience to act as a leader in any situation,' Mr Brand said.

Army officers are expected not only to be effective members of a team, but to lead and motivate that team to perform in adverse conditions and often with scarce resources.

These skills are normally gained only through many years of experience or through expensive corporate training programs. These skills are keenly sought by employers.

'Because the University of Wollongong Company is affiliated with the University, I have been able to attend all the training in the University breaks so it has not effected my studies,' he said. 'The skills I have learnt in prioritising and delegating work have been invaluable.'

The company parades on week-

ends and during session breaks. For students and staff this allows a part-time military career to compliment rather than compete with studies or work.

'I've done things that I would never have had the opportunity to do outside the Army,' Mr Brand said.

The normal range of military training requires members to be proficient in several areas.

Opportunities include roping and rappelling, caving, bushwalking, marksmanship and watermanship.

'When I graduate from university I will probably move from Wollongong to work, but there are Army Reserve units everywhere so I can still parade,' Mr Band said.

The training depot is in Port Kembla, but by the middle of this year a modern, purpose-built training facility will be built within walking distance of the campus.

This building is designed to meet training needs and will be fully equipped with the latest computing and audio visual aids.

Army Reserve training is parttime and pay is tax-free.

The Army supplies all uniforms and equipment at no charge, and while on duty members are covered by the Commonwealth compensation scheme and have free medical and dental coverage.

The Department of Social Security does not count Army Reserve income against the Austudy earning limits or any other benefits.

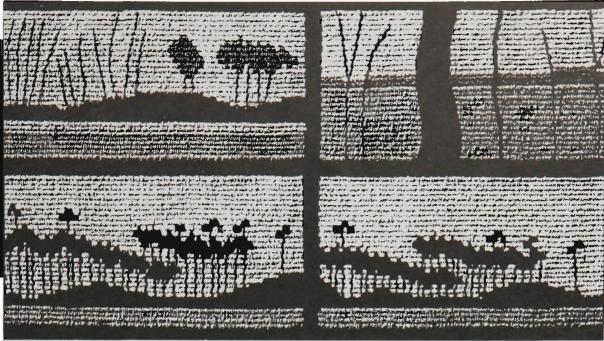
To find out more about the University of Wollongong Company, contact a training counsellor at the University of Wollongong Company, Military Road, Port Kembla 2505 or phone 042 741861.

### Employer-sponsored family day care places

The University Union has been successful in establishing five employer-sponsored places for staff of the University in the northern Illawarra Family Day Care Scheme.

If you are working at the University and are interested in applying for a place in this scheme, ring Carmen Causa, on 213 072, Monday, Thursday or Friday 8.30am-2.30pm for further information

Show draws attention to the world of tapestry



Glimpses of Tanja (detail) by Belinda Ramson

Texts from the Edge; tapestry and identity in Australia, is being held in the Long Gallery until 26 March.

It is part of the National Women's

# Theology courses available

Richard Johnson College, the Anglican college affiliated with the University of Wollongong, is offering undergraduate Diploma in Theology programs from the Australian College of Theology.

This qualification is recognised by churches and by the national accrediting authorities and in many places, is the minimum requirement for working in churches or church-based situations.

To qualify for admission an applicant must have completed Year 12 in the Australian school system or its equivalent.

Consideration is also given to other criteria and provisional mature age entry is available for persons over 21.

Two subjects are on offer in 1995: Introduction to the New Testament (Wednesdays 7-8pm) and Introduction to Christian Theology (Wednesday 8-9pm).

For further information contact the Registrar, Associate Professor Robert Young, phone 213710, or the Master, Canon Raymond Heslehurst phone 259 526.

Art Exhibition, which commemorates the 20th anniversary of International Women's Day.

The official opening will be held on 8 March at 5pm by founding Director of the Craft Council of Australia, Jane Burns AM.

Texts from the Edge draws attention to particular areas of current tapestry practice which concern the formation of the individual through gender, migration, place and displacement.

Artists in the exhibition are: Leonie Besant, Marie Cook, Robin Daw,

Meryn Jones, Catherine K, Valerie Kirk, Kay Lawrence, Sara Lindsay, Tas Mavrogordata, Liz Nettleton, Belinda Ramson and Diana Wood Conroy.

Exhibition coordinator is Kay Lawrence, while curators are Marie Cook, Kay Lawrence and Diana Wood Conroy

The Long Gallery is in the Faculty of Creative Arts. Opening times are Monday- Friday 9am-4pm and Sunday 1.30 - 4pm

Enquiries: Director, Liz Jeneid, phone 042 213 048 or 042 213 996.

## Help medical science

If you have a family history of non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus (NIDDM) then you may be at risk of developing NIDDM. STRESS may also affect your susceptibility to developing NIDDM.

The Biomedical Science Department is conducting a study to examine the role of stress and other factors contributing to a high-risk profile for developing NIDDM and cardiovascular disease later in life.

If one of your parents or grandparents has NIDDM and you are aged between 20-35 and are not presently diagnosed as a diabetic you are eligible to participate in this study.

All participants will be reimbursed for time and travel (up to \$50). For more information please contact Ms Rhoda Lucas or Dr Lee Astheimer on 21 3023. Please leave a message on the Voice Mail if unanswered (available outside business hours also).



Northfields Avenue Wollongong 2522 NSW Telephone 042 21 3555 If you are interested in the Student Exchange Program, information sessions will be held this month.

The sessions will take place between 12.30-1.30pm in the Communications Centre, Building 20, Lecture Theatre 4.

Each session will include general information about the Student Exchange Program together with specific information on the universities covered in the particular session.

Friday 3 March: University of California; California State University, Long Beach; Humboldt State University; Montana State University.

Tuesday 7 March: Indiana University, Bloomington; University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; University of Kansas, Lawrence; University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; New Jersey State College System.

Thursday 9 March: University of Colorado, Boulder; University of Massachusetts, Amherst; University of Miami; University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

### Student exchange info sessions

Wednesday 15 March: University of Exeter, UK; Université d'Orléans, France; Uppsala University, Sweden; Politecnico de Milano, Italy; plus other programs in Europe, South America and Asia available via the Council on International Education Exchange and the University of Miami.

Wednesday 22 March: Professor John Ridland, Australian Director, University of California Education Abroad Program.

Wollongong students who have been on exchange and exchange students from these institutions currently studying at Wollongong will be available to provide information and answer questions.

Enquiries: Study Abroad Office, Ground Floor, Administration Building (36), phone: (042) 213 170. Open 9am-5pm Monday to Friday.

#### **Union Activities**

Until 3 March: Welcome Week.

- 1 March: Comedy at lunch.
- 2 March: Clubs and Societies Market Day. Entertainment at lunch. Garden Party - big band night.
- 20-21 March: Opening night for CDs guest speaker, giveaways to launch CDs on Wollongong University campus.
- 3-7 April: Heritage Week.
- 4 April: Exhibition and smorgasbord in the Bistro.
- 6 April: Market Day with bushband.
- 27 April: Band Competition Heat 1, Uni Tavern.
- 1-5 May: International Week.
- 11 May: Band Competition Heat 2, Uni Tavern.
- 25 May: Band Competition Heat 3, Uni Tavern.
- 27 July: Band Competition Final.
- 7 August: Union Art Award.
- 4-8 September: Union Week.
- 8 September: Union Dinner.

#### General

The Campus Alumni Bookshop will

#### What's On

open on second and fourth weekends of each month. Come and browse through a wide selection of preloved textbooks and fiction. Campus East, Cowper Street, Fairy Meadow (opposite Science Centre). All proceeds directed towards Campus projects. Donations of material are invited. Enquiries to Alumni Office, phone 213 249 or 291 951 (anytime).

### **Long Gallery**

Exhibition program for 1995:

- 20 February-26 March: Texts from the Edge, Tapestry and Identity in Australia.
- 30 March-28 April: Postgraduate Show – Marilyn Walters, Binghui Huangfu, Enis Tan, Ron Stewart – Prints
- 4 May-28 May: Print Show -5 School Exchange Portfolio. University of Wollongong; University of Florida, Gainsville; West Virginia University; Indiana University; Purdue School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Cambodian Textiles from the collection of Neil

Manton. Monoprints: Jane Hall.

- 1-25 June: Mumblings Patricia Prociv, Fiona Davies, Davida Wiley. Country Blues – watercolours Jelle van den Berg; Landscape Aspects – Vivien Haley block and mono prints on fabric.
- 29 June-30 July: NAIDOC Exhibition Works by Aboriginal artists.
- 3-27 August: Artist Made Furniture.
- 1-24 September: Postgraduate Works

   Eileen Dillon Smith, Marcie
  McConville, Enis Tan, Taskin
  Gencag, Hue Lin Zhu, Alan
  Spackman.
- 2 October-5 November: Archaeologies: Structures of Time Diana Wood Conroy and Sharon Marcus. Reciphering Katharine Nix. Pathways Paper works by Ian Arcus.
- 13 November-10 December: BCA Graduating Exhibition.

Campus News is published weekly on Wednesdays. Send material, preferably by Microsoft Mail or on disk, to E-Mail account 'Campus News' by noon on Monday of the week before that of publication.

For any other enquiries contact the Editor, Gillian Curtis (042) 21 3926.

Campus News has a circulation of 3000. It is distributed on campus to staff and students. 1000 are mailed to the community and overseas including schools in Illawarra, southern Sydney and Canberra; local, Sydney and Canberra media; Friends of the University; business representatives; MPs and numerous individual requests.

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