

# CAMPUS NEWS

## Literacy crisis claims dangerous for education, says Professor Cambourne

Head of the Centre for Studies in Literacy, Professor Brian Cambourne, has claimed the recent debate about Australia's declining literacy standards could lead to educationally-damaging policy decisions.

Professor Cambourne is internationally recognised in the field of literacy learning.

'Many reputable literacy researchers across Australia's universities are concerned that recent claims of declining literacy standards could lead to policy changes which will seriously damage many children's education,' Professor Cambourne said.

'You can't claim that research findings are valid and proceed to develop policy on such findings until the research has been subjected to blind review and then published in a refereed journal.

**'You simply can't have such a thriving children's literature industry without first having a highly literate children's culture'**

'Can you imagine how people would feel if policy changes in the way we treat cancer or heart disease were set in train on the basis of unpublished biomedical research?

'Unfortunately when it comes to literacy, probably our single most important educational objective, we seem reluctant to question such research.'

Professor Cambourne said some



*Professor  
Brian  
Cambourne*

interpretations of recent research findings are simplistic and dispute evidence that does not support the claim that literacy standards have dropped.

'The mass tests which have been conducted in NSW and Victoria do not support claims that standards are falling, nor do recently published, scientifically rigorous studies,' he said.

Professor Cambourne also said that the only 'conspiracy of silence' about literacy standards was one of keeping the good news out of the public arena.

He said that the public never seems to hear such news as Australians buy more books and support more technical journals per head of population than most other nations on earth.

He also claimed that not only has Australia produced more successful children's authors per head of population than most other nations, but that children's borrowing from libraries

has increased dramatically in the last 20 years.

'You simply can't have such a thriving children's literature industry without first having a highly literate children's culture,' Professor Cambourne said.

He also described how Australian teachers were at the cutting edge of classroom practice in the teaching of literacy.

'We must be doing something right,' he said.

'Since the late eighties the number of American teachers who have travelled half way around the world to visit Aussie classrooms to observe our teachers teach literacy has dramatically increased.

'Since 1990 we have generated millions of export dollars by exporting Australian literacy training programs and teaching methods to the USA.'

**US drive for Frameworks pays off - See page 5**

# Kayaks and campfires conquered by all!

Kayaks and campfires were conquered by approximately 60 students who braved the Murrumbidgee River recently.

Two groups of third year Physical Education students participated in the annual canoe trip at 'Childowlah' as a requirement for their Practical Studies unit in kayaking.

The expedition was organised and led by the fearless Practical Studies coordinator and lecturer, Gary Wilshire, who did an excellent job and instructed the students for the 12 weeks before the trip.

Lecturer Kim McKee not only mastered the white water, but also prepared a culinary delight and initiated the 'quest for the biggest stick' with her 'damper dough-boys' (damper wrapped around the end of a stick).

Thanks also go to lecturer Mick Hatton for conquering the Hume Highway, while the Dean of Educa-



*Third-year student Scot Harris conquers the rapids*

tion, Dr John Patterson, proved he could Eskimo roll with the best of them.

Lecturer and keen paddler David Griffith, of the Chemistry Department,

also joined the second group of students.

The purpose of the trip was to give the third year Personal Development/Health/Physical Education students experience on grade two white water in addition to being tested for basic skills and proficiency awards under the NSW Canoe Board of Education.

All students gained their basic skills award and many the proficiency award.

The trip was one of the many outdoor education experiences undertaken by students enrolled in the four-year Education degree to help equip them with a range of teaching and survival skills.

## Bike riders take note

At a meeting of Wollongong City Council Neighbourhood Committee 5, which covers Gywnneville and Keiraville, local residents expressed their concern at the number of student cyclists not wearing safety helmets or displaying lights after sunset and the early hours of the morning.

This concern obviously relates to the safety of the cyclists.

Displaying lights on the front and rear after sunlight and wearing safety helmets at all times only aim to keep riders in one piece and avoid fines. Why take the risk!

Think safety first before there is an accident or offending riders are fined by the police.

**"Developing the individual.....Increasing the options"**



1996 ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATE CAREERS ADVISERS  
STAGED IN ASSOCIATION WITH  
THE GRADUATE CAREERS COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA



**8 - 11 December 1996, University of Wollongong, NSW**

Formal and informal curriculum based initiatives that develop work readiness skills in graduates are taking place throughout the world. This conference will explore these initiatives and other factors impacting on the capacity for universities to develop the employability of their graduates.

**Find out about UK and North American success stories and strategies for Australian implementation.**

Further details can be obtained by visiting our home page <http://www.gradlink.edu.au> or by contacting Martin Smith, Conference Convenor, University of Wollongong, Email: [M.Smith@uow.edu.au](mailto:M.Smith@uow.edu.au)





## Governor-General presents award for mental health achievement

*The Governor-General Sir William Deane presented the Gold 1996 ANZ Mental Health Service Achievement Award recently to representatives from the Department of Public Health and Nutrition for 'An Outstanding Contribution to Theory/Education/Practice'. Pictured are (from left): Brian O'Neill, Gordon Lambert, Ross Harris and Sir William Deane*

# Researcher to give 'Virtual Politicking' seminars at Columbia and Harvard

Associate Professor Celia Romm has been invited to give a series of seminars at the Graduate School of Business at Columbia University and at the Graduate School of Business at Harvard University.

These invitations are a great honour because the two schools recently have been ranked fourth and sixth in the world.

Dr Romm will dedicate her seminars to her work in the area of Virtual Politicking, which refers to the use of communication technologies, most particularly e-mail, for political manipulation within and between organisations.

Dr Romm's research in this area represents a transition from her earlier work on organisational politics to

the organisational implications of information technologies.

This transition prompted her move to take effect at the beginning of next year from the Department of Management, where she has been a member for the last seven years, to the Department of Business Systems.

Dr Romm's research is a joint project with Professor Nava Pliskin from Ben-Gurion University in Israel.

As part of the project, the two researchers collected data on the use of e-mail for intra- and inter-organisational politicking in the USA, Israel, and Australia.

The project has produced more than 20 publications, including a recently accepted paper in the top journal in Information Systems, *Communications*

*of the ACM.*

Dr Romm is completing a book that synthesises the project's major findings. The book is expected to be published by Hampton Press USA in 1997.

Dr Romm's visit to Columbia is a follow-up to a visit by Columbia Professors, Graciela Chichilnisky (United Nations Chair of Information and Resources) and Geoff Heal (previously Dean of the School of Business at Columbia University) to Wollongong.

These world-renowned researchers were invited to Wollongong by Associate Professor Amnon Levy from the Department of Economics to give seminars in the Department of Economics.

# Wollongong leads 'Diversity and Change' debate

Wollongong's business and cultural diversity again has put this city in the national and international spotlight.

The University of Wollongong's Department of Management has brought the Australian and New Zealand Academy of Management (ANZAM) to Wollongong for its 10th anniversary conference from 4-7 December.

With it comes the cutting edge of management teaching, research and discussion.

According to Dean of Commerce and conference convenor, Professor Gill Palmer, the theme for the 1996 conference, 'Diversity and Change - Management Challenges into the 21st Century', is significant for the campus, the Illawarra and the management debate.

Professor Palmer said the growth of ANZAM had mirrored the growth of management as a professional and an academic field.

Bringing the academy's conference to the Illawarra has placed Wollongong University with those campuses challenging the dominance of the Australian Graduate School of Management and the Melbourne Graduate School of Management as leaders in the field.

'Now there are similar activities in most universities and they are making a significant and major contribution,' Professor Palmer said.

'For Wollongong to be at the fore-

front, leading this activity, is very encouraging.'

ANZAM was established by academics in Management to communicate on current issues and developments.

The annual conference has been a forum where members address research, undergraduate and postgraduate study and areas of government concern.

**'We're very proud it's come to Wollongong; it really puts the city and its university on the map'**

Already the academy's 1996 conference is shaping up as its most successful.

More than 350 delegates from Australia, New Zealand, Asia and Europe will focus on issues ranging from international business and entrepreneurship to industrial relations and

gender in management.

A highlight will be the keynote address delivered in the spectacular surrounds of the Nan Tien Buddhist Temple by the world's best known researcher in crosscultural management, Professor Geert Hofstede.

Professor Palmer also highlighted the importance of ANZAM '96 for the Illawarra.

'We're very proud it's come to Wollongong; it really puts the city and its university on the map,' she said.

'I think the local community is becoming more and more involved in the University's activities and these are clearly links we can and should have.

'We train people who are working in the local business area and the local business community can contribute to and improve what we teach.

'We are very pleased the local community is supporting the conference in December.'

The Illawarra community will receive the financial spin-offs of a successful 1996 ANZAM conference.

Predicted attendance is well up on previous years, which means hundreds of conference delegates will spend time and money appreciating the region's attractions.

## Crosscultural management address at Nan Tien Temple

The world's leading researcher in crosscultural management, Professor Geert Hofstede, will give the keynote address for the ANZAM conference to be held in Wollongong in December.

It will be delivered in the surrounds of the Nan Tien Buddhist Temple.

Professor Hofstede was quoted last month in an article in the *Sydney Morning Herald* Computer Section on 'information overload' as saying that we have already gone beyond the human capacity to process information and that human beings are in danger of killing themselves with information stress.

Dutch-born Professor Hofstede has been working for more than 25 years to answer the question 'How does our culture - our background or national difference - affect how we manage our organisations?'

His studies began in the 1960s with IBM. His work

showed that despite the multinational company's standardised procedures, managers did things differently, because of their cultural differences.

These differences affected:

- i) individuals' integration in groups;
- ii) social roles of men and women;
- iii) how inequality is dealt with;
- iv) tolerance for the unknown;
- v) trade-off between long-term and short-term gratification.

Professor Hofstede's research is important for managers in the 1990s, showing how intercultural communication and the constant elements in organisational cultures can bridge national differences.

As well as working with IBM, he has also worked with Royal Dutch Shell and consulted in the public and private sector in Europe, Asia and North America.

# Faculty of Education's R&D pays off in the USA

Frameworks, a professional development program for teachers, had its beginnings with a \$20,000 University Challenge Grant awarded to Associate Professor Brian Cambourne and Dr Jan Turbill in 1990.

This grant enabled Dr Cambourne and Dr Turbill to develop the program and form a partnership with the Wayne Finger Lakes Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) in New York, USA.

This partnership created the financial support to pilot the program in 31 rural, urban and multicultural school districts in New York during 1990 and to market and distribute the program commercially since 1991.

At the recent Business Meeting held in Newark, NY, the Superintendent of the BOCES, Dr Joe Marinelli, noted that 'after a moderate start in USA in 1991, in five years Frameworks has developed a reputation as a long-term, comprehensive staff development program which supports literacy, learning and the processes of assessment and evaluation in elementary, intermediate and middle grades.

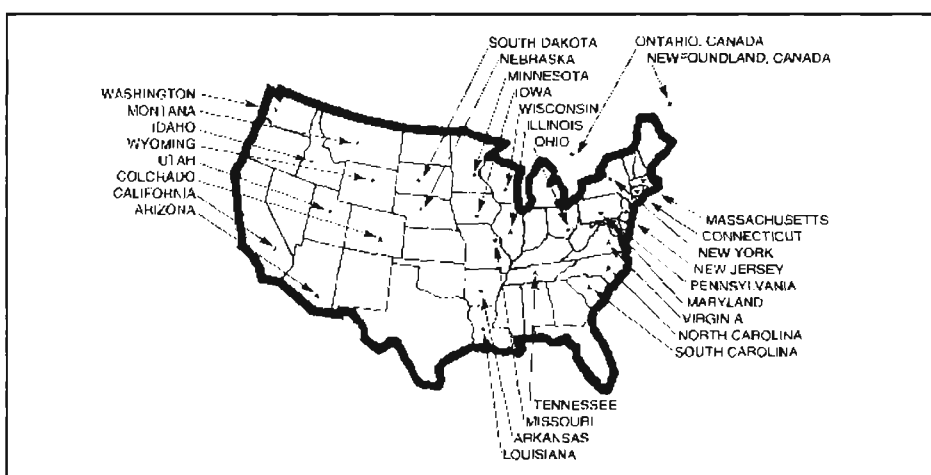
'We trained five sites with 115 teachers in 1991 and this year have trained 745 teachers in 33 sites. That's healthy growth for any business - for education it is rapid!'

The program has been introduced to all but three states in USA as well as three provinces in Canada. The map shows the distribution of Frameworks state by state.

The impact of the program has been carefully monitored and evaluated in



*Professor John Patterson, Dean of Faculty of Education, with the authors of Frameworks, Dr Jan Turbill and Associate Professor Brian Cambourne and the key personnel of the Wayne Finger Lakes Board of Cooperative Educational Services, NY (BOCES) at the recent annual Business Meeting of the Frameworks USA.*



the last five years. While the results are still being analysed, some important findings have emerged including:

- After participating in the Frameworks course, most teachers' beliefs and values about learning, language, literacy, assessment and evaluation begin to change. This change can take

anything from six months to occur.

- Changes in teachers' belief systems can be accompanied and/or are followed by changes in the classroom strategies they use. These changes can take up 18 months.

- These changes in turn are accompanied by changes in students' classroom learning behaviours.

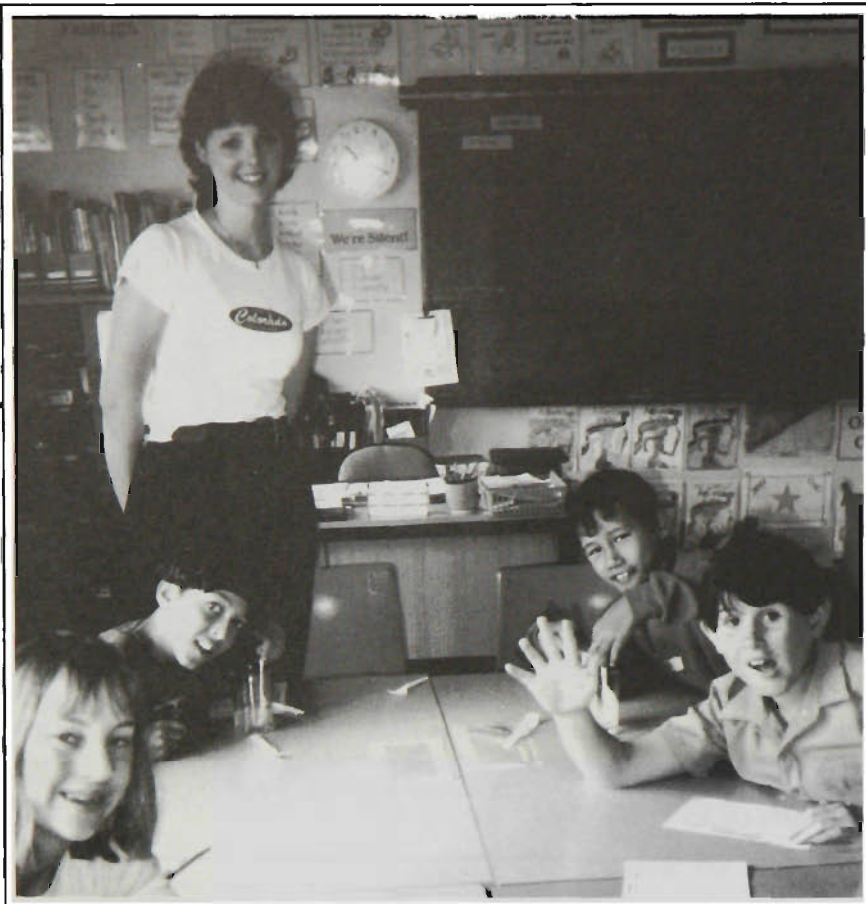
- In some USA schools, data are just beginning to emerge which show that when the previous changes have occurred, significant changes in test scores in literacy also begin to occur. These changes may take up to three years to begin to emerge.

The profits from the joint venture with the Wayne Finger Lakes BOCES are being used to support further enhancement and development of Frameworks courses as well as other research and development in the Faculty of Education.

## Frameworks' level of growth in USA

Statistic	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
Sites	5	10	14	14	20	33
Trainers trained	113	277	402	367	634	745
Teachers Trained						
(i) Literacy & learning module	261	588	3411	4133	7927	9200
(ii) Assess. <sup>1</sup> Evaluation module	0	0	331	992	619	920





*Education students prove science can be fun*

## Science fun for Berkeley and Warrawong primary schools

As part of the first-year Science and Technology (S&T) Education subject, students conducted two 'Science Fun Days' in local schools recently.

The days were at Warrawong and Berkeley Primary Schools.

This is the fourth year of the program with these schools, which was initiated by Brian Ferry and run this year by Neil McLaren.

Both are lecturers in Science Education in the Faculty of Education.

The first-year students gained an opportunity to fine-tune their teaching, particularly due to the repetitive nature of the program.

By the fourth time all had adapted the lesson considerably and were much more comfortable with their teaching skills and the S&T key learning area.

Mr McLaren said: 'Science coordinators Reece Cowan at Warrawong Primary and Don Townsend at Berkeley Public helped considerably.

'As Science Coordinators they both showed outstanding commitment to teaching. The rest of the staff, including the principals, were very cooperative and interested in the program.

'Barry Brown, the principal from Berkeley, managed to get Prime TV to film and put some footage to air on the Friday night's news.

'Teachers commented that thanks to the effort of the University students, this would be a chance for the public to see the positive side of Berkeley.'

Some teachers indicated that they would be following up the work in later lessons and that they saw the day as a useful adjunct to their programs.

The staff also gained some new ideas for future S&T lessons.

The program was well received by all participants, including staff, school students and first-year university students. The comment from one of our students at the end of the last session was 'definitely a wonderful experience'!

## International attention turns to Wollongong again

The University's Intelligent Polymers Research Laboratory (IPRL) has pioneered research into the development of Intelligent Polymer Systems for the last decade.

The laboratory has been particularly interested in studies involving conducting polymer materials discovered just 17 years ago.

Now the international and domestic research communities, and many commercial enterprises are taking notice.

During 1996 IPRL has hosted visiting scientists from Russia (biosensors), the USA (corrosion protection), Korea (actuators), Japan (membranes) and New Zealand (new generation polymers) to work on collaborative projects.

All of these projects are ongoing and producing significant outcomes.

This month IPRL hosted a visit of defence department representatives from Canada, USA, UK, New Zealand and Australia.

IPRL has also welcomed postgraduate students from Italy, UK and New Zealand to work on collaborative projects as well as hosting a delegation from Nitto Chemicals Japan.

Nitto recently launched a new product based on conducting polymers and has approached IPRL to establish collaborative projects in this area.

IPRL continues to draw support from Australian companies including BHP, CRA, Memtec and MM Cables.

In the last few weeks IPRL has been approached by four other Australian companies with proposals for work in this area.

The substantial investment made by the University of Wollongong and the personnel commitment of IPRL staff and students in the last 10 years is returning dividends.

As well as continuing to attract substantial financial support, IPRL has helped raise the research profile of the University with flow-on benefits for the local community.

# Wollongong ambassadors all over the world



*The Wollongong 'team' – gaining international experience to enhance their education.*

From the end of October students headed off to their exchange destinations.

In Autumn Session 1997, 52 Wollongong students will be on exchange in North America, Europe, South-East Asia and Japan.

For the first time, three students, Debra Atkinson, Ben Engel and Duncan Raus, will go on exchange to Assumption University in Bangkok, Thailand over Summer Session.

These students are in their third year of the Bachelor of Information and Communication Technology.

They will do a combination of formal study and work experience with Telecom Asia.

Four students are heading to Prince of Songkla University in southern Thailand to do the Thai Studies Program over Summer Session.

They are Jennifer Dixon, Philip King, Sachiko Hasumi and Masaaki Sasaki. Their program will include language, cultural studies, history, politics as well as numerous field trips.

These students are in their second year of Bachelor of Arts degrees with majors in History or Politics.

Three students – Michael Thompson, Aaron Hodges (both Engineering students) and Heather Davey (Psychology) – are heading to University of Alberta, Edmonton, in January for two sessions.

They will leave a Wollongong sum-

mer and arrive to -30 degree temperatures in Canada!

Two Commerce students, Tracy Kennedy and Naomi Stuart, are heading to Uppsala University, Sweden.

Kari Mannel (doing a combined BA/BEngineering degree) is going to the Universite d'Orleans in France.

Thirteen students will be in the US for one or two sessions to study at universities across the country.

They are: Ramiro Mesina, Cameron Allen and Naomi Yerbury (University of Kansas, Lawrence); Linda Thong and Tracy Amos (University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign); Susan Maloney (University of California, Santa Cruz); Greg Davey and Ian Halbisch (University of Colorado, Boulder); Michael Hatfield, Greg Ewart and Miriam Wells (University of Massachusetts, Amherst); Emmi Foster (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill); Paul Stoodley (Indiana University, Bloomington).

There are also eight students continuing from Spring Session 1996.

Megan Chisolm will continue her studies of Spanish language and culture at the University of Alicante in Spain.

Three students will head to Japan next April to undertake language studies towards their Bachelor of Arts majoring in Japanese: Leah Tinning

and Sharon Yang (both going to Sophia University in Tokyo) and Jon Mitchell (University of Obirin).

As can be seen from the destinations of exchange students, the University of Wollongong offers an increasingly diverse program.

From its initial development with universities in the USA and the UK, the University has expanded its program to Europe, Japan and more recently South-East Asia.

As any returned exchange student will confirm, the experience of studying abroad is highly rewarding, personally and academically.

It is also viewed very favourably by potential employers.

Applications for exchange beginning Spring Session 1997 are due on 22 March.

For students interested in going on exchange to the University of California, applications are due by 7 March (postgraduate students need to get applications in as soon as possible).

Plans are underway to make several scholarships available to a value of \$3000.

For further information and to pick up an application form, drop into the Study Abroad Office, located on the ground floor of the Administration Building.

The office is open from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday and will remain open over the summer.



# US Department of Energy invites Professor Chandra to Recrystallisation workshop

Professor Tara Chandra of the Department of Materials Engineering was invited by the US Department of Energy to participate in the first recrystallisation workshop.

Recrystallisation is an important materials processing phenomenon and Professor Chandra has been involved in research on this topic for the last 20 years.

Research in the area of recrystallisation in advanced materials has attracted worldwide attention.

The workshop was co-sponsored by the prestigious Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory University of California, Berkeley.

Other workshop panellists were from Canada, United Kingdom, USA, Denmark, Sweden, Germany, Italy and Russia.

The workshop was planned in conjunction with the Third International Conference on Recrystallisation (Rx '96) held in Monterey California from 20-24 October.

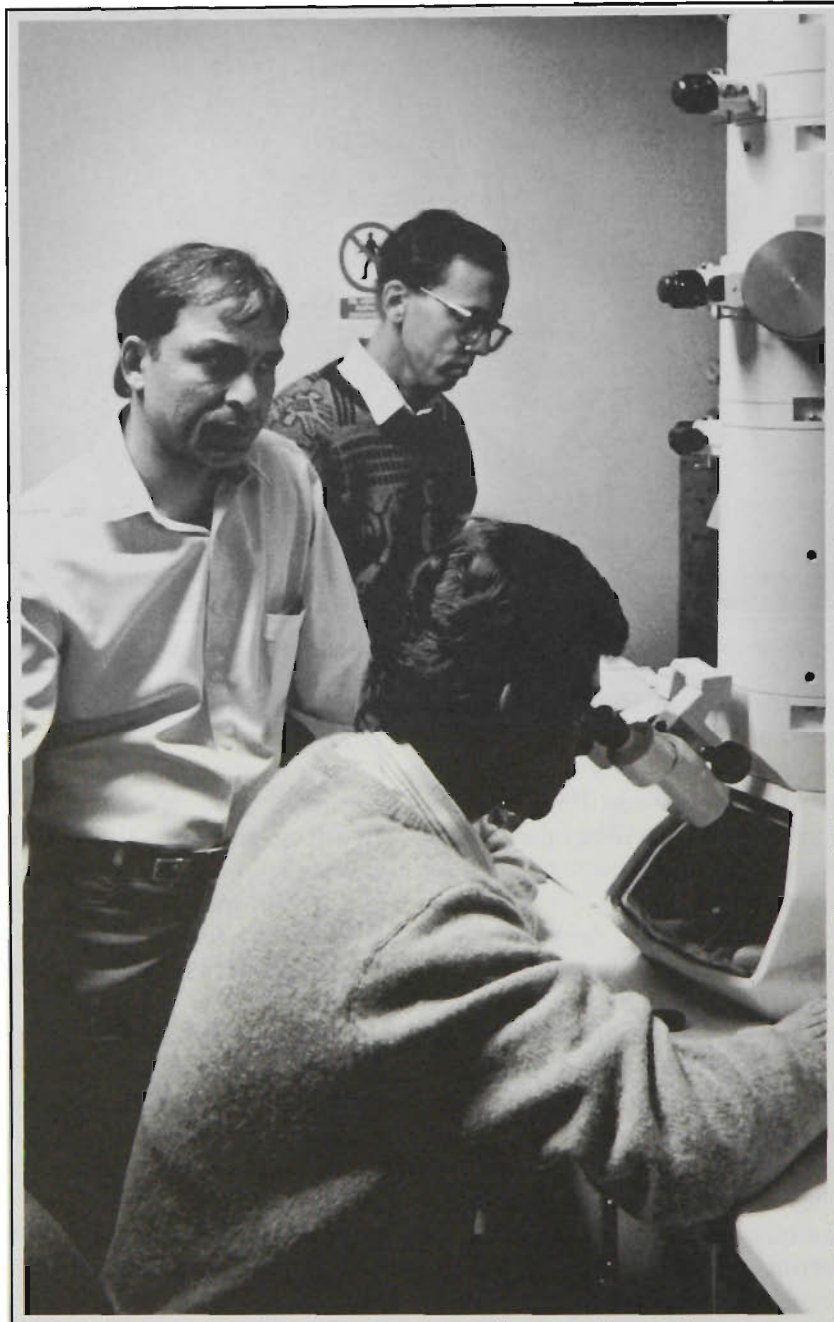
The purpose of the workshop was to discuss the advances in this topic. The US intends to set up an Advanced Centre on recrystallisation in 1998.

Professor Chandra organised the first international conference on recrystallisation held at the University of Wollongong in 1990.

The conference attracted experts from 23 countries and was a resounding success worldwide.

The international advisory committee was established in 1991, of which Professor Chandra is the co-ordinator.

Since 1990 the other international symposiums on the topic have been Rx '92 in Spain and Rx '96 in the US and Rx '99 is planned for Japan.



*Dr Tara Chandra (left) . . . world leader in recrystallisation*

## Maths coaching to be an annual event

This year as a community service the Department of Mathematics offered free assistance on Monday and Wednesday afternoons to Year 12 HSC mathematics students.

This assistance was provided by a mix of professional teachers and later-year Mathematics undergraduate students. The high school students experienced the University's own first-year tutorial classes.

Approximately 20 HSC students enthusiastically attended each session.

Notification of the scheme was given by poster displays at schools from Bulli to Kiama and by local radio and television interviews and with some newspaper support.

The scheme will continue next year, in an attempt to assist students achieve a better appreciation of mathematics, and its relevance to the modern society, as well as achieving a better HSC score.

## Student video wins award

A short video made by students in the Faculty of Arts has won second place in the National Student Film Festival.

Sean Batman, Ben Stephenson and George Martos made their video 'Monopoly' as part of the Introduction to Cinema Studies subject taught by Margaret Nixon in the Department of English in first semester this year.

'Monopoly' was awarded second place in the Narrative Video section which this year attracted the largest number of entries in the history of the competition.

The filmmakers won \$100 and their video will be exhibited nationally.



**NOMINATIONS ARE CALLED  
FOR  
THE  
VICE-CHANCELLOR'S  
AWARDS  
FOR  
EXCELLENCE IN  
TEACHING**

Up to four awards valued at \$2000 each.

Inscribed certificates will be presented  
by the Chancellor on University Day 1997.

Each nomination requires the support of three eligible members of the University community and should be on completed nomination forms available from Faculty Offices, Planning Services or the SRC office.

Nominations to reach Dean of the relevant Faculty by  
31 December 1996.

# Harry Beran and Mutuaga, PNG master carver



Mutuaga was a traditional master carver of Milne Bay Province, in the Massim district of Papua New Guinea where he flourished from 1880 to the early 1920s.

His finest carvings have long been regarded as masterpieces of tribal art but without knowledge of their creator's identity.

His 80 surviving works have been documented by the University's Dr Harry Beran, a long-time collector and researcher into Massim art.

Dr Beran's book, 'Mutuaga, a Nineteenth-Century New Guinea Master Carver', is the first to name a 19th century Melanesian artist and to identify a substantial number of carvings as his work.

This study shows how Mutuaga's personal style differs from those of other Massim carvers and how it changed during 40 years of producing artworks.

This book was launched at a meeting of the Oceanic Art Society of Sydney in October by another New Guinea enthusiast and distinguished Australian artist, Guy Warren, who is also the Director of the University of Wollongong's Art Collection.

Dr Beran is a philosopher by profession, in the Department of Philosophy at this University.

His interest in Massim art dates back to 1969. He has visited the Milne Bay Province several times.

Dr Beran has curated an exhibition of Massim art at the Australian Museum in Sydney and was the chief consultant for an exhibition of betel-chewing utensils at the Museum of Mankind in London.

His publications include *Massim Tribal Art* (1980) and *Betel-chewing Equipment of East New Guinea* (1988).

This latest publication was published by the University of Wollongong Press and is available from the University Bookshop or from ASTAM books, phone (02) 9566 4400.

## Bilateral seminar on 'Cooperative peace and security' in the Indian Ocean region

Security issues in the Indian Ocean region were the subject of a two-day seminar held at the Indian Ocean Centre in Perth recently.

The seminar was a bilateral activity involving officials, academics and researchers from Australia and India.

It was sponsored by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade under the Australia-Asia Institutional Linkages (AAIL) Program to establish a link between the Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA) in New Delhi and the Centre for Maritime Policy (CMP) at the University of Wollongong.

It was organised with the assistance of the Indian Ocean Centre in Perth.

The seminar was opened by Parliamentary Secretary for the Environment, Senator Ian Campbell.

One of the keynote speeches was

given by Deputy Chief of Naval Staff, Rear Admiral C A Barrie, on the subject of 'Australia and Indian Ocean Security'.

The Indian participants at the seminar included Mr N N Vohra, who is a former defence secretary and home secretary in India, and Director-General of IDSA, Air Commodore Jasjit Singh.

The objective of the seminar was to explore prospects for cooperative peace and security in the Indian Ocean region with a particular focus on maritime issues.

One of the organisers of the seminar, Executive Director of the Centre for Maritime Policy at the University of Wollongong, Commodore Sam Bateman, said: 'The seminar is another important step in building a sense of regional community in the Indian Ocean region which started

with the International Forum on the Indian Ocean Region (IFIOR) in Perth last year.

'We have made a lot of progress since then, including a greater preparedness to talk about the security concerns of regional countries.

'While it is easy to talk about the diversity of the Indian Ocean in terms of culture, religion, economic conditions and so forth, there were in fact a lot of similarities and common interests to be found in the region, particularly matters related to the Indian Ocean itself'.

These maritime issues, including resources, shipping and the protection of the marine environment, were considered during the seminar, along with other serious concerns, such as the spread of narcotics and small arms, and transnational crime in the region.



# 'On Strong Foundations' launched



*Dr Glenn Mitchell presented a copy of his book to representatives from the Beijing Foreign Studies University*

NSW Attorney-General and Minister for Industrial Relations, the Hon. Jeff Shaw, launched a book at the University recently which details the history of industrial relations in the Australian building industry.

The book, 'On Strong Foundations', gives particular reference to the formation and development of the Building Workers Industrial Union.

Written by Dr Glenn Mitchell from the Department of Science and Tech-

nology Studies, this book highlights many aspects of the complex relationship between government and unions.

At the launching, Mr Shaw said the book described a complex industry, drew on detailed research and provided an extensive and very readable history.

He said it looked at exciting periods in Australia's industrial history such as the Green Bans and the

deregistration of the BWIU in 1948.

Dr Mitchell said the book, which was supported by the BWIU, could be used in the national debate on the role of unions in contemporary society.

In particular, it traced the development of and reasons for the formation of super-unions.

It is available from the Union Bookshop or Harcourt Brace, phone (02) 9517 8999.

## University bookshop supports budding young author

Gail Livermore, a high school student at the Illawarra Grammar School, recently published her first novel, 'The Truth about Mother'.

As a daughter of two associate professors in the Faculty of Commerce, Gail's first approach to sell her book was to the Union Bookshop.

The store proved to be highly supportive of the young author, purchasing 10 copies of her book.

Gail started writing 'The Truth About Mother' when she was 13.

She completed the book a year later on the eve of her 14th birthday. A month ago, on her 15th birthday, Gail established her publishing company, Scale Publishing.

She is marketing her book nationally and internationally. The promotion of the book includes 'meet-the-author' presentations at local primary and high schools and newspaper, TV and radio coverage.

'The Truth About Mother', a work of fiction, follows the

life of Chris, a teenage girl who is forced to come to terms with the death of her mother and the imminent remarriage of her father.

In writing the book, Gail drew on some personal experiences, most particularly, the divorce of her parents when she was a child. Gail has managed to sell all of the first edition of the book in just more than a month.

From the popularity of the book, it is clear that there is a demand for a second edition, which Gail hopes to print through the University of Wollongong Printery by mid-November.

Gail is overwhelmed by the response to her book.

She believes that the major themes in 'The Truth About Mother', which are learning to live with change, forgiving and being hopeful, are what made her book so popular among young and old readers.

She hopes to incorporate these themes in her future novels.

## General

29 and 30 November: Two-day intensive Suicide Intervention Workshops will be held at the University to help health workers, professionals and lay people recognise and assess persons at risk, and to master a model for effective suicide intervention. Cost: \$35. Bookings: (042) 971 426 or (042) 213 876.

## Extra facilities for postgraduates

The Postgraduate Resource Unit has been allocated additional premises at Building 117, Northfields Ave, for the use of postgraduates and their families.

The facilities on offer are:

Large TV room; small library; play room; large kitchen (stove, refrigerator, microwave, and free tea and coffee); quiet study rooms.

The facilities are available for booking by small groups

This building will provide an ideal venue for small meetings and a common space for staff, postgraduates and families.

Make use of this facility. The staff looks forward to meeting you.

## Eighth Annual Information Day for Careers Advisers Thursday 20 February 1997

This Information Day is an excellent opportunity for Schools Careers Advisers, TAFE Counsellors and Consultants to gain crucial information that they can pass on to students making decisions about their future careers.

A focus of the 1997 Annual Information Day will be on Science and Engineering to redress some inaccurate perceptions in the community about careers in these areas; and the success, or otherwise, of UAC's InfoLine (introduced this year). The program will include

- Guest speakers:

Andrew Stanton, Director, University Admission Centre (UAC)  
Roger Bartley, Executive Director, Graduate Careers Council of Australia Ltd  
Kevin Locke, Employee Development Manager, Human Resources Services, BHP

- Other topics:

Working with Industry to give students' career a head start.  
Skills Graduates need in the 21st Century !?  
Student Debate - Wollongong, the Best Choice?  
Wollongong International College - diploma courses now available to Australian residents.

Attendees will have the opportunity to win an Avtek Mega Modem 288 (which allows your computer to 'talk' to outside computer networks such as the Internet through your telephone line) and a Microsoft Office pack, including Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Bookshelf (provides capability to create documents and tables using Word, spreadsheets using Excel, and to design catchy colour presentations for a variety of audiences using PowerPoint). Bookshelf enhances performance in all these areas through reference to a computerised dictionary, thesaurus, mini encyclopedia and atlas). Valued at approximately \$500 sponsored by ITShop, University of Wollongong. The winner will be announced at an afternoon tea after the day's program at approximately 3.30pm.

Registration forms are available in schools or phone Lee-Anne Owen (042) 213 027. Closing date for registration is 7 February 1997.

## What's On

Meeting dates for the last Human Research Ethics Committee and the Animal Ethics Committee for this year are: Human Research Ethics Committee: 17 December. Animal Ethics Committee: 20 November. Agenda items are due two weeks before meet-

ings. Enquiries Karen McRae, Office of Research, by email or on ext. 4457 on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday.

The Campus Alumni Bookshop is open on the second and fourth weekends of each month (Saturday and Sunday 1-5pm). Come and browse through a wide selection of preloved textbooks and fiction. Location: Campus East, Cowper Street, Fairy Meadow (opposite Science Centre). All proceeds directed towards Campus projects. Donations of material are invited. Enquiries: Alumni Office, phone 213 249 or 291 951. \*

## Art of Lunch

Every Thursday during session, from 12.35-1.25pm.

Venues are the Hope Theatre, Union Hall Foyer and Faculty of Creative Arts Music Auditorium. Brochures and information are available from Marilyn Meier, ext. 3990, and Jenny Fullerton, ext. 3996.

## Long Gallery

Until 7 December: BCA Graduating Exhibition/Honours student works.

## University Social Club

Become a member and enjoy a variety of social events. A chance to meet others across the campus. Contact Jim McKee by e-mail or ext. 3376.

## Stop Press



The Campus Alumni Bookshop will hold its last sale for the year on Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 November (1-5pm). This will be a discount sale, with plenty of excellent bargains.

This Bookshop will be closed during December and January, and will reopen on the second weekend in February

**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 3500. 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.**