


# THE UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG



# CAMPUS NEWS

Distributed each Tuesday

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Editor: George Wilson, Tel. (042) 270391

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## INVENTING COUNTRIES



William McGaw

*Inventing Countries* is the title of an anthology produced by the South Pacific Association of Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies (SPACALS), in the Department of English in The University of Wollongong. Edited by William McGaw - who also painted the cover illustration - the book is sub-titled, 'Essays in Post-Colonial Literatures'. The papers are from the fourth conference of SPACALS, held at Massey University in February last year. There are 13 essays in all. The writers are from Australia, New Zealand, South East Asia, India, Africa and the Caribbean, and include Patrick White, Christina Stead, Xavier Herbert, Louis Nowra, Martin Boyd, Lionel Fogarty, Witi Ihimaera, Keri Hulme, Rachel McAlpine, Wang Gungwu, Wong Phui Nam, Goh Poh Seng, Raja Rao, R.K. Narayan, Nirad Chaudhuri, Ruth Praver Jhabvala, Mongane Serote, George Lamming and V.S. Naipaul.

The work is produced as a special edition of *SPAN*, a literary journal which prints criticism, literature, reviews, poetry and short fiction. Normal-size issues run to between 100 and 120 pages. It is distributed to members of SPACALS. The price of *Inventing Countries* is \$10.

Membership of SPACALS costs \$15 for corporate membership and for members living in Australia, New Zealand, the Americas and Europe; \$A7.50 for full-time

students and for individual members from Papua New Guinea, Asia and the Pacific Islands.

Further information from SPACALS, Department of English, The University of Wollongong, PO Box 1144, Wollongong, 2500.

### WOLLONGONG ATTRACTS MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION OFFICER

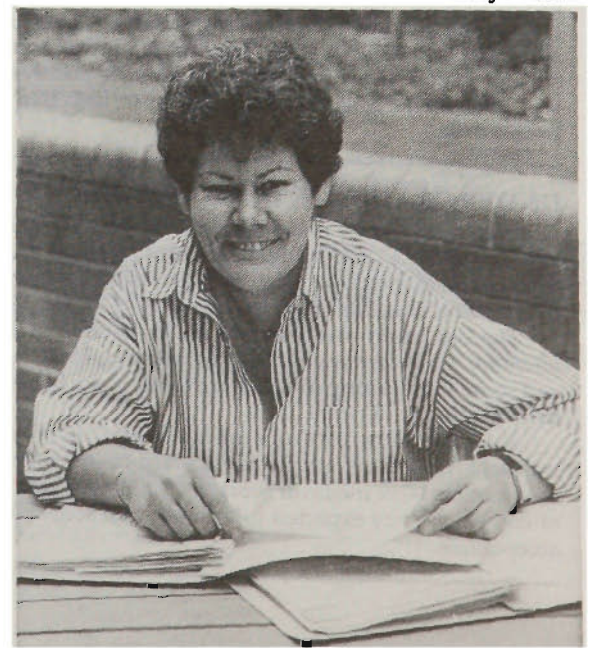
The expansion of the student accommodation facilities at this university has attracted Robyn Wilkes, formerly an Accommodation Officer at Macquarie University, to move to Wollongong and take up the challenge of managing the new facilities.

Robyn was on deck on Monday of last week, February 8. She is responsible for Campus East, the former Fairy Meadow Migrant Hostel purchased from the Commonwealth Government last year, a complex of flats in Gipps Road, built recently in conjunction with Marksman Homes, and Kooloobong, an on-campus complex of self-contained units. She will also co-ordinate the search for private flats and boarding facilities for students.

Robyn organised residential accommodation for students at Macquarie University from 1983 to 1987. Before that she worked in the Department of External Studies at the University of New England, organising orientation programs for external students. She has a Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) from the University of New England and is currently enrolled in a Master of Arts (Psychology) at the University of Sydney.

The University Secretary, Mr Ken Baumber, said: 'We are delighted to have attracted such an experienced person. Top priority has been given to increasing residential places because of the number of students from outside Illawarra wanting to come and study here. We have increased the number of places from 200 to 500 since 1986 through our own resources as little government assistance has been received.'

Robyn Wilkes



# General Notices

## CAN ENVIRONMENTAL INFLUENCES AFFECT OUR GENES?

The Clive and Vera Ramaciotti Foundations have funded Dr E.J. Steele, Biology, to carry out molecular and genetic research in mice on a project entitled *Molecular Screening for Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphisms in Antibody Variable Region DNA sequences in Progeny of Immune Males*.

The work has been funded to an amount of \$65,762 over two years. The principle aim will be to examine whether vaccination of male mice can alter the genes coding for the specificity of serum antibody molecules in the germline DNA of their progeny (ie, in the genes of the sperm or eggs).

A major issue in biology is whether exposure of an organism to an environmental 'stimulus' can have any specific effect on its genetic material, ie, do Lamarckian modes of inheritance, or the transmission of acquired characteristics, exist in nature? If they do, then it implies that evolutionary genetic change may be rapid and non-random, ie, somatic stimulation (in higher animals) can guide, or feedback upon, the content and/or expression of the genetic material.

This basic evolutionary idea was first put forward coherently in 1809 by the great French biologist Jean Batiste Lamarck. The idea of Lamarckian inheritance was first killed off over 100 years ago by August Weismann via his 'doctrine' on the complete isolation of the germline from the soma. This conceptual 'barrier' never really succeeded in killing off the possibility.

Earlier this century two scientists challenged Weismann's doctrine, viz, Kammerer, an Austrian biologist, in animals (1900-1920) and Lysenko, a Soviet biologist, in plants 1930-1960s.

It is unfortunate that highly emotive issues surround the work of both scientists. In Kammerer's case a charge of fraud was laid, terminating eventually in his suicide (see Arthur Koestler's *The Case of the Midwife Toad*) and in Lysenko's case the whole episode was enwrapped in charges of fraud, and also by the distortions of the Stalinist era. The topic is still charged with high emotion.

These factors often prevent objective research and critical evaluation in this area. In 1978 Dr Steele proposed the Somatic Selection Theory of Acquired Inheritance, which predicts Lamarckian transmission phenomena in the immune system of higher animals. This theory showed that Weismann's barrier was more permeable genetically than previously supposed. The elements of the theory invoke Darwinian natural selection processes at both the cellular and molecular levels in the somatic tissue of the individual. Penetration of Weismann's Barrier is then achieved via the agency of viruses intrinsic to body cells related to the AIDS virus) which ferry these altered genes to be integrated into the germline DNA. In the past ten years the theory, and the various 'whole animal' experimental predictions of it, have caused world-wide interest both inside and outside the scientific community.

Dr Steele has spent the past few years developing a defined animal model, allowing the detection of an acquired inheritance effect via immunised males in one generation. These data, however, are not by themselves sufficient to convince scientific sceptics of the reality of the paternal transmission process. For this to be achieved will require positive molecular genetic evidence of alterations in offspring genes. The present project addresses this issue directly. The aims and methodology are of such precision that a clear answer, whether positive or negative, will be obtained. This will contribute to an objective understanding in this area.

## UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS

The enrolment of new undergraduate students for 1988 has been very satisfactory. The actual enrolment rate was generally as expected, with rates, on average, equal to 95 per cent of the expected figures.

The University was unable to make the desired number of offers for some courses, particularly Nursing, Human Movement and some Engineering. We did, however, make 91 per cent of the desired number of offers.

As of February 5, 93 per cent of the April 30 projected intake was achieved. This figure was expected to improve after final round offers were made on February 9, together with some manual offers which were expected to be made and some anticipated later acceptances.



Dr Ted Steele

## 'NEW LITERATURE REVIEW'

For some time in recess, *New Literature Review* (NLR), is about to be reactivated.

NLR has provided a useful, often controversial, selection of critical commentary, interviews and theoretical debate in the field of post-colonial writing. The aim is to maintain the unassuming format and the probing intent of the journal. Subscriptions, contributions and word-of-mouth support are being sought.

Projected issues over the next few years include:

1. Post-Colonial/Post-Canonical Teaching, Curriculum design and critical approaches.
2. War and Post-Colonial Writing.
3. Post-Modern/Post Colonial.

The connection between the two and new critical applications.

4. Pacific writing.

NLR will be based at the New Literatures Research Centre, Wollongong; its new editorial group consists of Paul Sharrad, Helen Tiffin, Andrew Peek, James Wieland, Bill Ashcroft and Dorothy Jones.

NLR will appear twice-yearly for the annual price of \$10 Australia. Send Australian currency, or add equivalent of A\$5 for bank charges. Correspondence to: The Editors, *New Literatures Review*, English Department, The University of Wollongong, PO Box 1144, Wollongong, 2500.

## CLOSURE OF ENTRANCE 2

Since the introduction of 24-hour patrol coverage, Entrance 2 has been closed on a trial basis between midnight and 5 am.

This has helped facilitate better control and security on campus. It has therefore been decided to extend the closing times between 10.30 pm and 7 am on weekdays and all day and night on weekends and public holidays - except where there are major activities on campus which are likely to generate a large volume of traffic.

It is understood that some staff and students might feel that they could be inconvenienced by this, but it is considered that because access to all parts of the campus is available via Entrance 1 and the Ring Road, the inconvenience should be minor and outweighed by the benefits to be gained in additional control and security.

K.E. Baumber  
University Secretary

## AGING IN PERSPECTIVE

A two-day conference on aging, examining issues of care, concern and coping related to aging and the needs of an aging population, will be held at The University of Wollongong on Friday and Saturday February 19 and 20.

The conference will be held at the School of Health Sciences and School of Education, in association with the Wollongong City Council, the Illawarra Ethnic Council and the Illawarra Area Health Service.

Further information from the Gerontology Conference, Wollongong University, PO Box 1144, Wollongong, 2500.



## CLUB AND SOCIETIES' DAY

Thursday March 3 is the date for the Sporting Clubs' and Societies' Day. The affair will be held at the Recreation Centre, on the northern side of the campus - Building 13.

Information will be available on squash, hockey, table tennis, athletics, volleyball, kendo, netball, golf, waterskiing, basketball, cricket, bushwalking, rugby league, surfriding, rugby union, badminton, tae kwon do, snow skiing, sailing and windsurfing.

## ASCILITE-88

The sixth annual conference on Computers In Learning In Tertiary Education will be held at the Canberra College of Advanced Education from December 4 to 7.

ASCILITE-88 is the sixth conference of its kind. It provides an opportunity for people interested in the use of computers in teaching and learning in tertiary education to meet. The format of the conference will include papers, workshops and demonstrations.

Theme of the conference and associated areas of interest are Information Technology In Higher Education: New Frontiers.

- \* High technology implications for more effective CAL
- \* Learner access to information technology
- \* Educating the educators
- \* The role of artificial intelligence in education

Further information: Mrs Kay Fielden, ASCILITE-88, School of Information Sciences and Engineering, CCAE, PO Box 1, Belconnen, 2616.

## CITY GALLERY SOCIETY LAUNCHES NEW MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

The Wollongong City Gallery Society has announced the launch of a new membership drive within the business community of the Illawarra region. The new Corporate Membership category of the Gallery Society is designed to give organisations the opportunity of being associated with an important aspect of the City's cultural life, as well as gaining valuable recognition within the community. Membership offers an exclusive package of benefits, many of which can be passed on to employees.

The City Gallery is one of the leading regional galleries in Australia. Many prominent Australians have already donated gifts. These include Patrick White, Lloyd Rees, Daniel Thomas, Harry Seidler and the former art collector Lucy Swanton. It is a measure of the Gallery's standing that it continues to attract donors. Through a diverse and ambitious program, a broad section of the community is able to enjoy international, national and regional visual arts experiences, organised by the professional staff with a view to offering exciting, challenging exhibition programs from month to month.

The Gallery Society is the main supporting organisation of the City Gallery and the aim of the new membership category to help provide the support necessary for it to maintain its high reputation and standards which successfully attract major exhibitions and travelling shows to the region.

Subscription fees have been set at a modest level to ensure membership is within reach of all sectors of the business community, no matter what the size of the organisation.

For further information please contact The City Gallery, 85 Burelli Street, Wollongong 2500. Telephone (042) 277461/2.

## SECOND AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY HEALTH CONFERENCE

*Health Promotion The Community Health Approach.* The conference will be held at Clunies Ross House, 191 Royal Parade, Parkville, Melbourne, from April 14 to 16.

Details from Carlene Shaw Conference Services, 24 Winbourne Road, Mount Waverley, Vic. 3149.

## SEMINAR ON RESEARCH FUNDING UNDER THE AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL

The University of Sydney is to host a seminar on research funding under The Australian Research Council. The seminar is open to all academic staff and will be held in the Merewether Lecture Theatre on Thursday February 18 from 2 pm to 4.15 pm. followed by afternoon tea and informal discussion. This seminar will provide an opportunity to find out about the structure of the Australian Research Council and its policies.

For further information please contact the Head of the Office of Research and Postgraduate Studies, Ms A. Read, extension 3386).

## EEO news....

### WHY SO FEW?

For years we have known the obvious, that women are under-represented in tertiary institutions at all levels of study and academic employment - and particularly in postgraduate and technical courses and in tenured and senior academic positions.

For example, in 1986, 18.6 per cent of the academic staff at The University of Wollongong were female with only nine at, or above, senior-lecturer rank as compared with 143 men.

Some of the reasons are obvious too - attrition rates due to family responsibilities and so on, but the picture is of course more complex than that.

In its 1988-1990 Triennium Report, the Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission (CTEC) has proposed a National Plan of Action For Women in Tertiary Education.

A paper has been prepared which sets out national equity goals and priorities and outlines a plan to improve the participation of women at universities.

The paper is available for perusal in the EEO office and I would welcome interested parties giving their comments for relay to CTEC over the next month, so that the National Plan may have the benefit of consultation with Wollongong academics, students and general staff. I would like to focus in 1988 on how this University might tackle this most difficult question of female participation. I will later propose an open meeting to discuss this matter but welcome any suggestions in the meantime.

Please write, ring or contact me in person.

Kathy Rozmeta  
Ext. 3917

## Advertisements

### FULLY FURNISHED HOUSE FOR LEASE APRIL 1 TO JULY 7

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

### ACCOMMODATION WANTED

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

### HOME FOR LEASE

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

### FOR SALE

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

### ACCOMMODATION WANTED

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

### TO LET

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

## Scholarships and Prizes

### NH&MRC VISITING POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS IN AUSTRALIA

The NH&MRC has invited applications from overseas medical and dental graduates to gain full-time research experience and enrol for a higher degree in Australia. The scholarship is tenable for two years.

Applications close with the University on April 15.

# Research Funds

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

## MEDICHECK CHURCHILL FELLOWSHIP IN PREVENTATIVE MEDICINE

Applications are invited to research funds for an additional Churchill Fellowship in Preventative Medicine. The Fellowship will be available Australia-wide for a project designed to improve the practice of preventative medicine in Australia based on information gained overseas. The usual project is about three months although fellowships of shorter duration will be considered. The successful applicant will receive a living allowance plus costs and airfares.

Further details and information are available from The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, 218 Northbourne Ave, Braddon ACT 2601. Phone (062) 478333, with whom applications close on February 29.

## COMPARATIVE ANATOMY POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

Applications are invited by the Sir Colin and Lady Mackenzie Trust Award for a two year postdoctoral fellowship to undertake studies in comparative anatomy within Australia. The fellowship has a stipend of \$28,000 in the first year and \$30,000 in the second year. Additional funds of up to \$6,000 are available for equipment, maintenance and travel.

Applications close with the University on March 15.

## US PUBLIC HEALTH POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

Applications are invited from the Fogarty International Centre/United States Public Health Service from young Australians and other nationals who are permanent residents in Australia working in the biomedical sciences, to enable them to undertake research in health-related fields in any biological or medical laboratory in the United States. Fellowships are awarded for two years; a request for a one year award may be considered.

Applications close with the University on March 17.

## ELIZABETH AND FREDERICK WHITE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

The Academy of Science has established a series of research conferences in the physical and mathematical sciences related to the solid earth, the terrestrial oceans, the earth's atmosphere, solar-terrestrial science, space sciences and astronomy. Participation of overseas scientists is encouraged. A sum of up to \$5,000 for each conference is allocated and supplementation from other sources is encouraged.

Proposals for 1989 close with the University on March 17.

## RESEARCH INTO EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

Applications are invited from The Commission of the European Communities for research grants for 1988/89. Awards will be given to young university teaching staff at the start of their careers who, individually or as a team, are doing research work on European Integration. Applicants should be under over 40 years of age.

Applications close with the University on March 17.

## CSIRO/UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG COLLABORATIVE SCHEME 1988/89

Applications are invited for the 1988/89 grants under the CSIRO/University of Wollongong Collaborative Scheme. Total funds available are \$60,000 and grants are normally between \$5,000 and \$15,000. Grants are made on an annual basis.

Applications close with the University on March 31.

## FIELD SCIENCES RESEARCH FACILITY

The Edith and Joy London Foundation has called for applications to utilise the field station located 46 km north of Batemans Bay. The 348-hectare property provides a protected and managed environment, simple accommodation and laboratory facilities.

Bookings for July-December close on March 31.

## AUSTRALIAN WATER RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL

The AWRAC has invited applications for water research funding. Proposals must fall within one of these programs:

- National Priorities Program - funding for maximum of three years in areas of national priority.
- Partnership Research Program - funds provided under this program must be matched by a third party and must be for a new (not continuing) project.
- Scientific Merit Program - limited funding will be available for research of a fundamental nature.
- Research Fellowships - these are available to recent PhD graduates or experienced researchers. Fellowships are tenable for three years with a salary in the range of \$28,456 to

Applications for fellowships close with the University on March 31 and April 13 for other programs.

## PREVIOUSLY REPORTED IN CAMPUS NEWS

	Internal Closing
Mahvi Cultural Scholarships	March 7
Pure and Applied Science in Engineering Research Scholarships	March 21
Rutherford Scholarship	March 21
Field Sciences Research Facility	March 31
Clive and Vera Ramaciotti - Travel Grants	Any time
Earthwatch	Any time
Criminology Research	Any time
Pig Research Council - Support for Eminent Visitors	Any time
MERA Project Grants	Any time

## SUCCESSFUL 1988 NHMRC GRANTS

<b>BIOLOGY</b>		
Garnett, H.M.	Characterisation of cytomegalovirus induced plasma membrane glycoproteins	41,621
Hulbert, A.J.	The role of the thyroid in the early physiological development of mammals	42,407
Steele, E.J., Cooper, P.D.	Studies on the potential of gamma insulin as an adjuvant in mice	27,002
<b>CHEMISTRY</b>		
Truscott, R.	Mechanism of senile nuclear cataract in man	27,106
<b>HSSS</b>		
Calvert, G.D., Turner, D.R.	Characterisation of human lipid transfer protein	39,903
Calvert, G.D.	Hepatic metabolism of high density lipoprotein	27,499
Calvert, G.D.	Metabolism of human high density lipoprotein subfractions	32,471
<b>VC's UNIT</b>		
	Peptides, neuropeptides and neuro-transmission	104,649