

CAMPUS NEWS

Wollongong again shows the quality of its research

The results of the Australian Postgraduate Awards (Industry) for 1995 were released on 4 October 1994.

The University of Wollongong and the University of Melbourne together rank third nationally with 12 awards each.

The University of New South Wales ranks second with 13 awards and Monash University is first with 15.

In addition the University of Wollongong also has one reserve ranking, which is usually taken up.

This is a 55 per cent success rate from 22 applications. The national average was 47 per cent.

The successful applicants for Australian Postgraduate Awards are:

Professor Philip Broadbridge (Department of Mathematics and BHP)

Dr Geoff Spinks (Department of Materials Engineering and BHP)

Dr Buddima Indraratna (Department of Civil and Mining Engineering and State Rail Authority)

Professor Robert Whelan (Department of Biological Sciences and NSW Department of Agriculture)

Dr Mark Walker (Department of Biological Sciences and Arthur Webster Pty Ltd)

Professor Gordon Wallace (Department of Chemistry and Biotech Australia)

Professor Gordon Wallace (Department of Chemistry and MM Cables)

Dr David Steel (Department of Applied Statistics and Australian Bureau of Statistics)

Dr Song Ping Zhu (Department of

Mathematics and BHP)

Dr Phillip McKerrow (Department of Computer Science and Thomson Sintra Pacific Pty. Ltd.)

Associate Professor Roger Truscott and Dr John Carver (Department of Chemistry and Amrad Corporation Ltd.)

Professor Howard Worner and Mr Rod Brooks (Resources Division, Telecom Software Solutions and Western Mining Corporation)

Reserve: Associate Professor Kiet Tieu (Department of Mechanical Engineering and BHP)

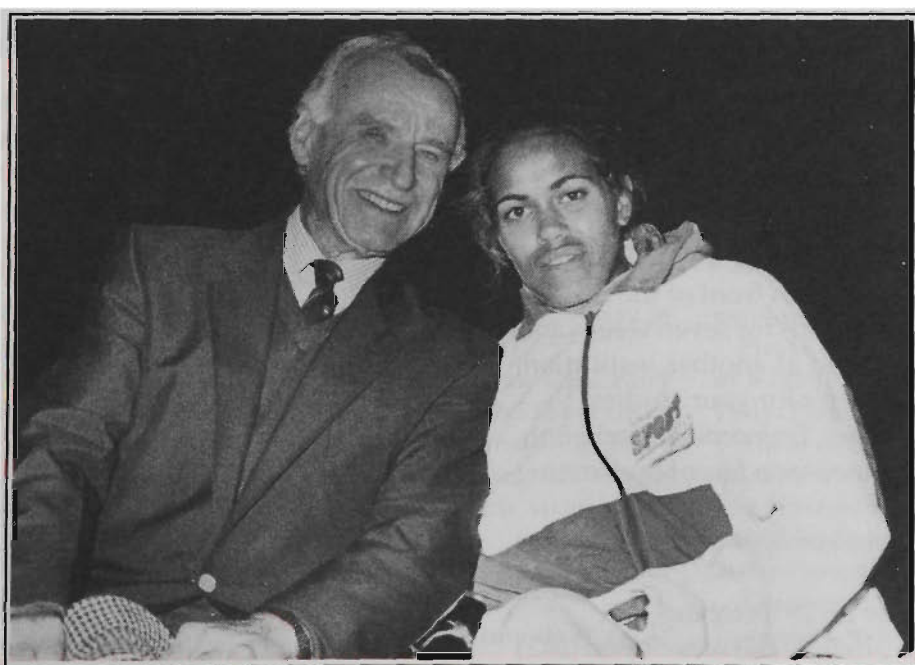
This success has an impact on the University's overall postgraduate scholarship offerings, lifting the total number of scholarships for 1995 to close to 50 compared to 37 in 1994.

Wollongong comes out on top!

After a week of wins, losses, parties, drama and lots of fun, the 1994 Australian Universities Games hosted by the University of Wollongong Recreation and Sports Association came to a close with a ceremony at The Snake Pit.

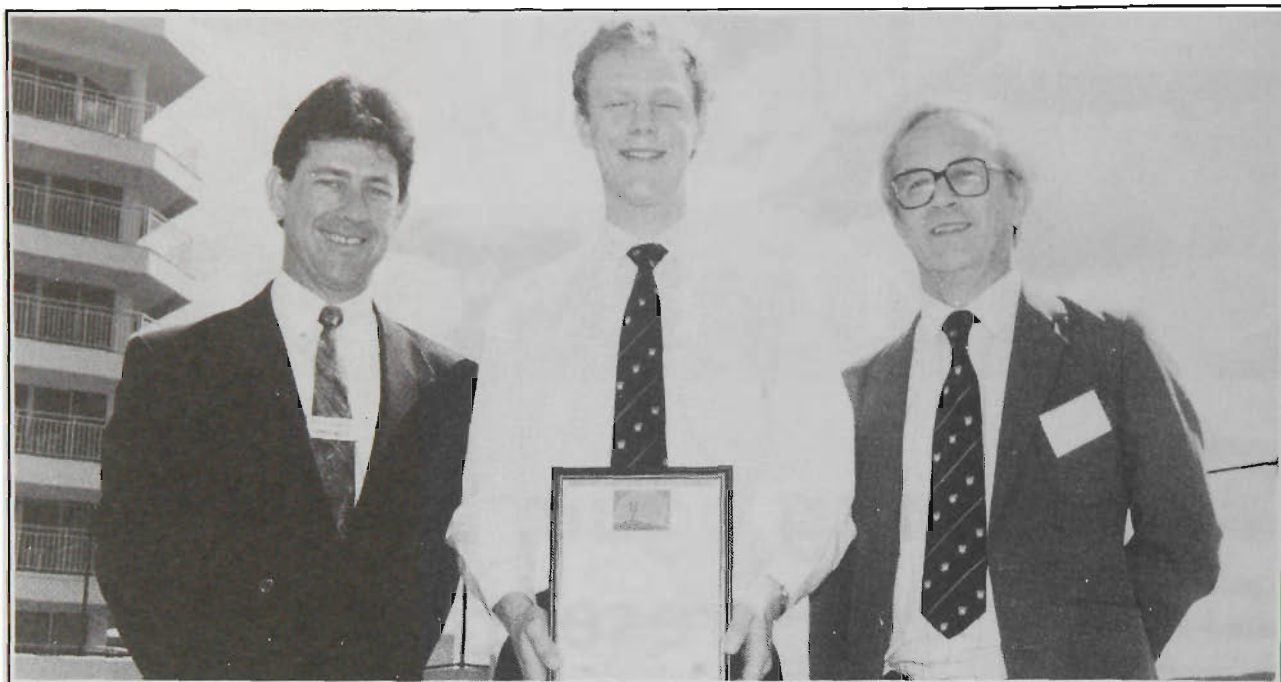
It was here that the University of Wollongong was announced as the champion university and a ceremonial scroll was handed to the 1995 host, the Northern Territory University.

Continued page six



The Chancellor, Dr RM Hope with Commonwealth Games gold medallist Cathy Freeman at the opening of the University Games at North Beach.

Duncan Fisher (centre) with James Wood of St George Bank and Professor Bill Zealey from the Department of Physics



St George Youth Endeavour Award goes to Physics student

In its fifth year, the St George Youth Endeavour Awards have continued to attract outstanding students in a range of fields.

A presentation lunch at the Novotel Northbeach was recently held to acknowledge category winners in the third quarter of 1994.

Duncan Fisher, winner of the Academia award, was up against some hot competition from other University of Wollongong students

in Mathematics and Law.

Duncan is a postgraduate student in the Department of Physics. He completed his undergraduate studies here after finishing the HSC with outstanding results at Wollongong High School.

He continued to produce results of a high calibre in his undergraduate years where he finished in 1993 with first class honours through thesis and coursework.

Duncan achieved high distinctions in all his results over four years except for one distinction in geology.

He received the University Medal, the highest recognition for undergraduate study, and is now in the first year of his PhD studying Theoretical Studies in Solid State Physics.

Duncan was nominated by Associate Professor Bill Zealey from the Department of Physics.

Sponsored by Kell Heard McEwan solicitors, Mr Fisher said: 'I appreciate the award greatly and it encourages you to continue working. It is very important to see business supporting the youth of today'.

The other categories were won by Penelope Creighton for Community Service, Jason Hickson of Woolworths for Business, Adam Reeve in Visual and Performing Arts, and the Secondary Achievement award went to Craig Arthur of Berkeley High School.

The Secondary Achievement award is sponsored by the Illawarra Mercury, Community Service by i98FM, Business by the Novotel Northbeach and Visual and Performing Arts by WIN Television.

Each quarterly winner receives a \$100 savings account from the St George Bank, a dinner for two at the Harbourfront Restaurant, a certificate of recognition and is entered in the running for the grand final awards in December.

University of Wollongong SUMMER SESSION 1994-95

Sun, Surf, Sand and Study

Make the most of this summer to fast-track your studies.

Summer Session at the University of Wollongong will put you one step closer to your degree – and a long way in front of the rest.

Starting on 5 December, Summer Session runs for seven weeks and is open to all students. If you are enrolled at another institution, check with them first about receiving credit for your studies.

Creative Arts, History, Politics, Languages, Economics, Marketing, Engineering, Computing, Law and Science are a few of the exciting subjects on offer over summer.

Postgraduate studies in Journalism, Marketing, Management and Business will also be offered.

Applications for Summer Session close on 28 October.

If you want to make your summer worthwhile call us today on (042) 213 927 or drop in to Student Enquiries, Building 36.

Bridge the gap to employment



Graduates Anastasia Konstantelos, Jade Tenkate, Fernando Merodio, Wilson Chi Chiu Tsui, Theresa Gregory, Serioja Niazi and Greg Kininmonth with John Murray from DIRETFE

On 26 September, 16 graduates from a job skills program received their awards at a ceremony attended by Deputy Chancellor, Brian Gillett; Dean of Students, Josie Castle; Careers and Appointments Officer, Patricia Webster; Alumni Officer, Juliet Richardson.

They were joined by James Rayment, Dick Hardy and Mary Jaques from Wollongong City Mission and John Murray from NSW Department of Industrial Relations, Employment, Training and Further Education (DIRETFE).

The students were participants in the 'Bridge the Gap to Employment' program conducted jointly with the Wollongong City Mission and the University Careers and Appointments Service.

It was funded by DIRETFE.

The common problem shared by all participants was that of being unable to find a position in their field of work within six months of graduating.

DIRETFE, the University and the City Mission helped with self-marketing, personal presentation and development, job preparation skills,

and resume writing, with a four-week work experience period in the students' areas of expertise.

There is no recognised area of support for unemployed graduates, and this initiative by the City Mission has been well received.

Jade Tenkate, a Bachelor of Science graduate studying for her Masters in Environmental Management, wanted to do the Job Skills program so she could benefit from the work experience – which she is doing with the Department of Conservation and Land Management in Sydney – and the chance to make contacts in the workforce that are otherwise difficult to make.

Centre Manager of the Wollongong City Mission, Dick Hardy, said: 'The group were very keen and our staff also learned a lot from the participants of the program.'

'The City Mission has a new job centre and the use of the fax, photocopier and other resources was a great help for the graduates.'

The Mission's Mr Rayment said the genesis of the program came from helping students with resume writ-

ing, combined with the facts that many people get jobs from their work experience and business is again beginning to discover the value of education.

He said: 'Young people are the powerhouse of the future'.

Ms Webster from the University Careers and Appointment Service said all graduates should be employed.

She said statistics show that graduates have a positive employment outlook and this reaffirms the program's continuation.

Guest Speaker, Virginia Wheway, a Bachelor of Mathematics student and winner of a St George Youth Endeavour Award for Tertiary Academia in 1994, has been working as a cadet with BHP for six years.

She said students should persevere because there are opportunities out there. A statistician and mathematician by trade, she finds her work very challenging.

She believes that university helps to develop one-to-one communication skills and said her statistics skills have even helped her to run the popular BHP horse tipping program!

University of Wollongong Children's Christmas Party

The children's Christmas Party will be held on Saturday 26 November from 11am.

The venue this year is again at Campus East, Fairy Meadow, near the Science Centre. The cost is \$10 per child.

A picnic carnival atmosphere will be created with plenty of entertainment for the children – hay rides, fire engine rides, train rides, merry-go-round, magic castle, swing chair-go-round, fairy floss, plus a few surprises.

There will be a sale of sausage sizzle plus free drinks, ice blocks, chips and sweets.

Santa Claus is expected to visit on his rounds at about 2pm.

The Christmas Party is open to all children, grandchildren, or nieces and nephews of University of Wollongong

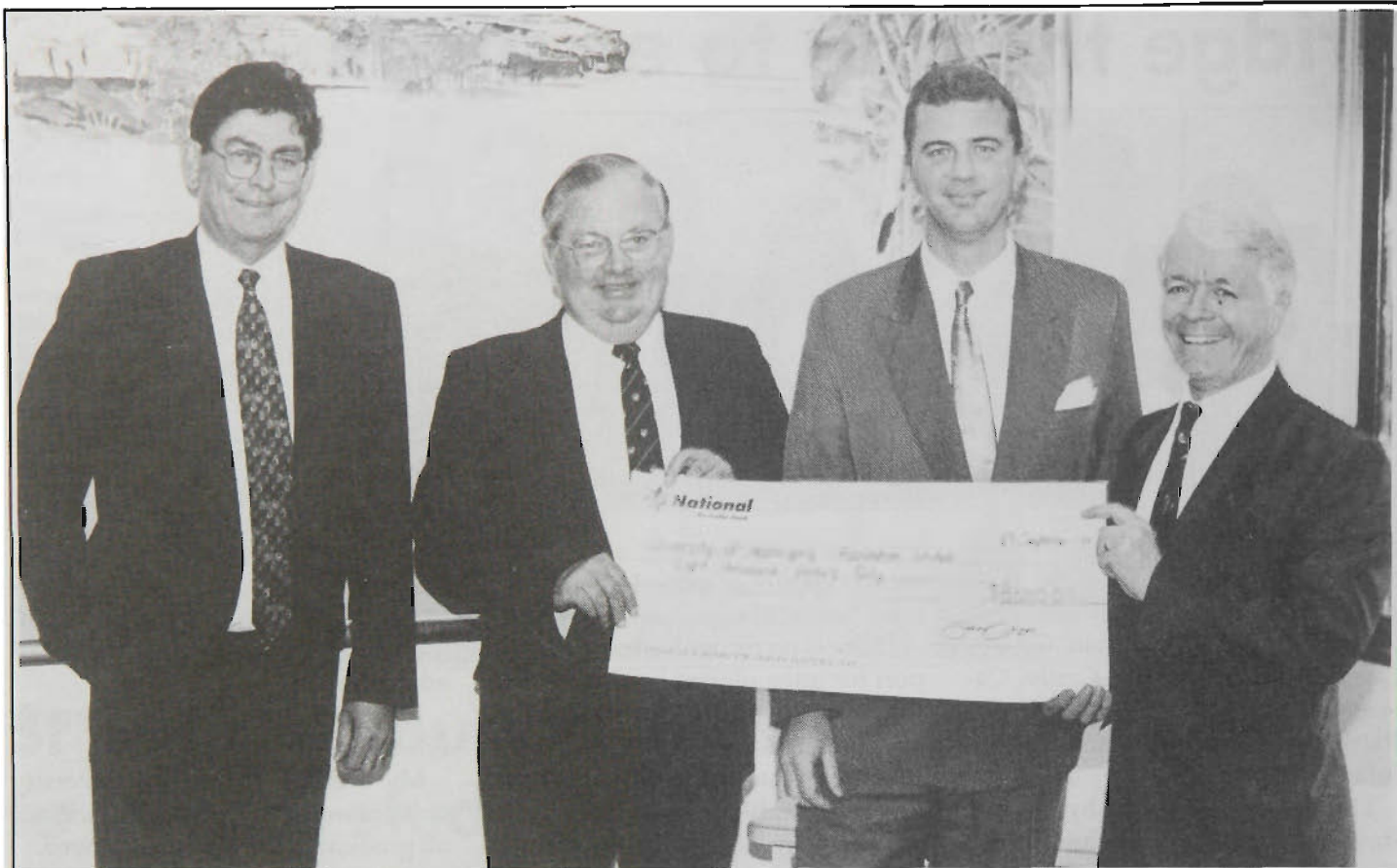
employees up to and including age 12.

Please bring a beach umbrella, portable table and chairs or a blanket. Helpers are also needed for the Christmas Party. Phone Steve Pedrou ext. 3420.

There will be the usual Christmas Hamper Raffle on the day for which we ask for your kind donations of food, liquid refreshments and any other item you feel suitable or cash donations. All donated items for the Raffle can be left at the Printery.

Nomination forms for the Christmas Party should be forwarded with payment to Doug Simpson, Business Services, no later than 21 October.

Your tickets will be sent to you through the internal mail. Please do not send money through internal mail.



Greg Wells, Brian Gillett, Neil Frost and Harold Hanson with the Foundation instalment from the National Australia Bank

At a recent luncheon in the Vice-Chancellor's Meeting Room, the National Australia Bank presented a further instalment to the University Foundation.

This is the third instalment they have contributed towards the University as part of a five-year membership.

After this period, the foundation member has the opportunity to renew the membership.

National Australia Bank were represented by the District Manager, Neil Frost, and Greg Wells from the Wollongong Branch.

University Deputy Chancellor, Dr

NAB and Uni – together in showing the way

Brian Gillett and Vice-Principal (Administration), Ken Baumber were accompanied by Financial Services Director, Susan Smith, and Chairman, Harold Hanson, and Executive Director, Peter Rose from the University Foundation.

On behalf of the University Foundation, Mr Hanson expressed his gratitude for the support received from the National Australia Bank, the

service it provides on campus and the interaction with business in town.

Mr Frost, on behalf of the National Australia Bank, said that the University and the bank are similar in their strength locally.

The National Australia Bank have recruited graduates of the University of Wollongong as some of their best staff and are keen to expand this association.

News from the University Council Meeting, 7 October 1994

1. Council elected the Hon. Dr Robert Hope as Chancellor of the University for another four-year term.

2. Mr Bob Somervaille was elected as the 'Council-appointed' member of Council for a one-year term.

3 A selection committee was established for the position of Deputy Vice-Chancellor (which will be vacated by Professor Sutton when he assumes the Vice-Chancellorship early next year). The Committee will consist of: the Chancellor (as Chair); the Vice-Chancellor (by that time, Professor Sutton); the Chair of Senate, Ms Shirley Nixon (the elected member of Council); a Faculty Dean; a member of academic staff elected by the Academic Senate; and the Vice-Principal (Administration).

4. The Deans of the Faculties of Commerce, Informatics,

Council News

Health and Behavioural Sciences spoke to Council on their 1995 course and subject proposals and future faculty planning (the other Deans had addressed the August Council meeting).

5. Council approved the 1995 University budget as recommended by the Planning and Development Committee.

6. Council also approved the 1995 Conservatorium Budget and the 1995 Recreation & Sports Association Budget.

7. Council Meeting Dates for 1995 will be: Friday, 10 February, 7 April, 9 June, 11 August, 6 October and 8 December.

Environment management study of Illawarra wetlands awarded \$86,000

The NSW Environmental Restoration and Rehabilitation Trust has awarded \$86,000 to the Illawarra Catchment Management Committee (ICMC) for an integrated assessment and management of wetlands information in the committee's area.

This area extends from Stanwell Park to Gerroa, and west to the Illawarra escarpment.

This assessment project of the Illawarra wetlands is a joint one with the Geography Department. Dr Ann Young and Mr John Marthick are the principal researchers.

The project aims to collate existing information on wetlands in the area, and then to add data on aspects such as land tenure and the geology of the catchments the wetlands lie within.

Wetlands threatened by clearing, excessive urbanisation, or by other factors in their catchments, can be identified, and given a priority for protection.

Management plans for the highest priority of wetland areas needing protection and rehabilitation will be prepared.

The project will involve community consultation, or-

ganised by the ICMC, to identify data sources and community priorities for wetland protection.

The Geography Department will bring the data together in a computerised database, known as a GIS or Geographic Information System.

The idea is to have a database that can be updated easily, and that is user-friendly so that it will be accessed directly by the ICMC.

Another Trust grant was given for bushland regeneration in the Illawarra, and the two projects will combine data and work cooperatively.

One of the major aims of the project is to provide a convenient information base so that research on the area can be located, and so that the many authorities involved in wetland management can have access to the full range of information available.

It will provide a pilot project for developing a system that will be applicable to other areas and to a wide range of environmental management issues.

Health and PE Education students cross Blue Mountains



The Health and PE students on their crossing of the Blue Mountains

Nineteen fourth year students from the Bachelor of Education (Health and Physical Education) course have navigated themselves successfully over 106km of rugged landscape in the Blue Mountains.

The students were divided into four self-sufficient groups and were responsible for all technical aspects of the expedition.

Practising navigational skills (such as planning cross-country routes between Katoomba and Mittagong, as well as map and compass work) and

the rationing of food and water for five days were the main priorities.

The groups were accompanied by Education lecturers Tonia Gray and Michael Searle.

The expedition represents the culmination of two sequential elective subjects in Outdoor Education for students in the final year of their degree.

The ordeal was described as 'a challenge which is physically and emotionally taxing'.

Students have recorded their experiences and emotions over the year in

a personal log book.

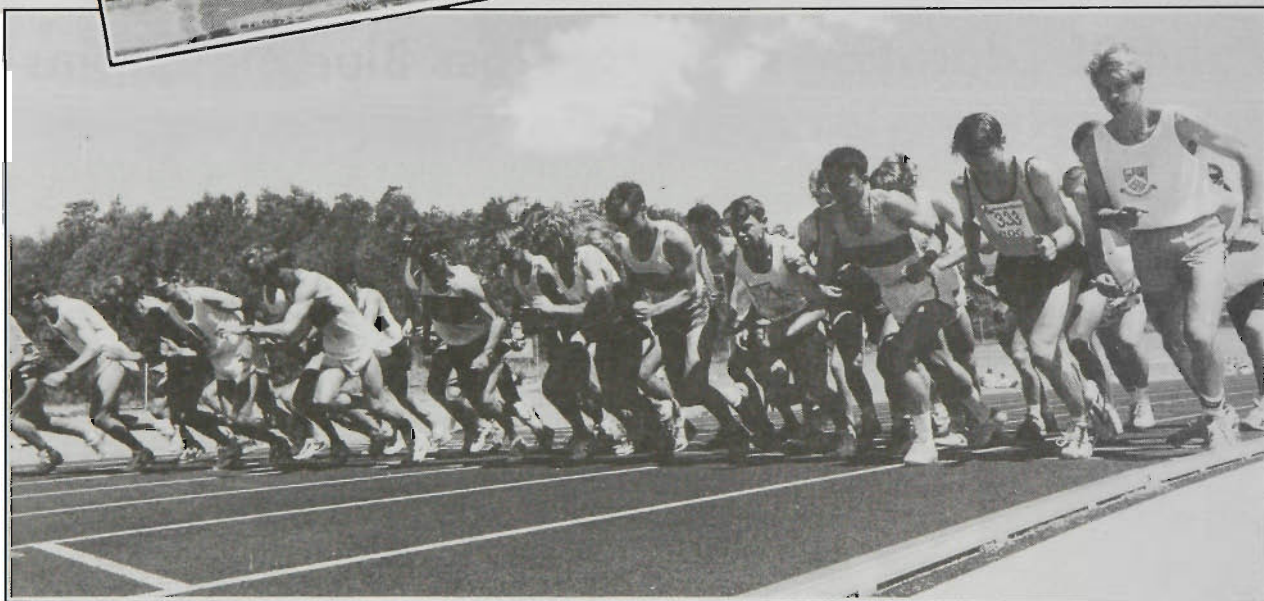
These entries capture the personal and social development which is an integral component of their sojourn to the bush. For instance Renae Tooley wrote in her diary: 'A trip that I am proud I participated in. Thanks for a lifelong memory'.

Warren Jones described the adventure as 'an experience which makes our usual everyday problems seem feeble' and Jane Stanley was simply grateful because 'We all made it together'.

UNIVERSITY GAMES



The University Aquatic centre was the focus of some record breaking swims at the 1994 University Games



Hot competition at Beaton Park Athletics Track for the start of the Men's 5000m

From page one

It all began on the Sunday afternoon after a demonstration match of beach volleyball on North Wollongong Beach, when Commonwealth Games Gold medallist Cathy Freeman officially opening the 1994 Schweppes Sport Plus Australian Universities Games.

Four thousand athletes from universities all over Australia and from Russia, Nigeria, South Africa, Papua New Guinea and New Zealand gathered to take part in one of the largest sporting events in Australia.

There were 20 officially sanctioned sports with major sponsors including Schweppes Sport Plus, Tooheys and Telecom.

The games were highlighted by

appearances from swimming legend Dawn Fraser who presented medals at the swimming finals held on two nights at the Aquatic Centre.

Athletes competing in the finals included Commonwealth Games representatives Daniel Kowalski, Chris Fydler and Jane Saville.

More than 300 volunteers assisted with the preparation and execution of the games including administration, hospitality, catering, first aid, cleaning, marketing and social activities.

The Bicycle Institute of NSW handled the massive task of catering and cleaning for the residents of the Athletes Village which unfortunately blew down the high winds.

As well as the official competitions, the participants could choose from a

range of social activities throughout the week including the national final of the Battle of the Bands.

General Manager of the Schweppes Sport Plus Australian Universities Games, Steve Heslop, said the Games were a huge success.

'The students and the visiting university sports administrators had a wonderful time,' he said.

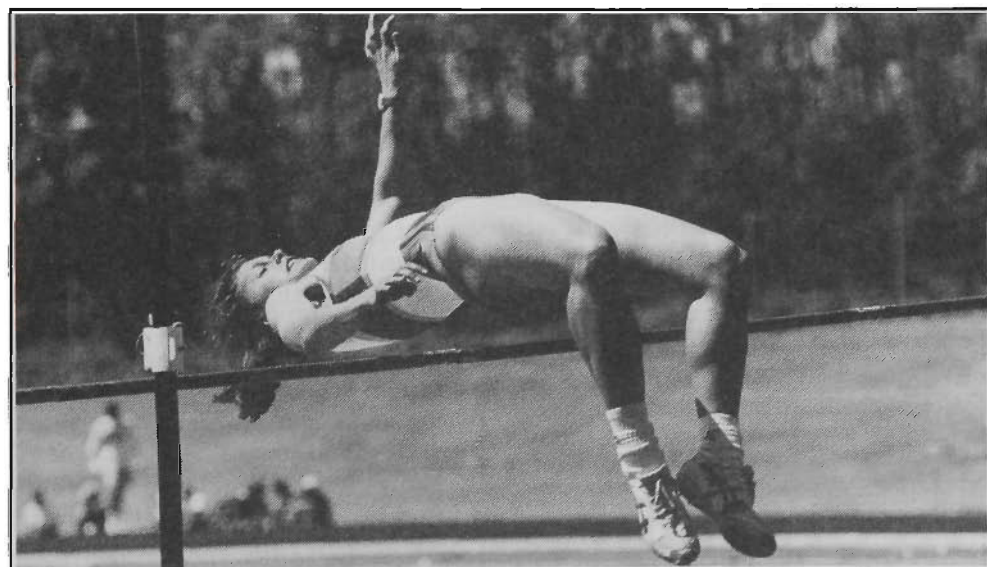
'The competition was fierce and the level of competition was outstanding with numerous records broken and outstanding performances.

'I would like to thank my dedicated staff, the staff of the RSA and the many volunteers who worked tirelessly on the Games.

'The whole University population should be commended. Congratulations!!'



Dawn Fraser presents the bronze medal for the Women's 4 x 100m Medley Relay to members of the Wollongong University Team of Emily Hill (left) and Kate Pettengell



Sydney University's Virginia Young in action to win the women's high jump

Australian Universities Games gold medal winners were:

Aerobics: novice women, UTS; Pairs, RMIT-Bundoora; men, Macquarie; women, RMIT-Bundoora; participants, Monash.

Athletics: men, Sydney; women, Sydney.

Beach Volleyball: men, Wollongong; women, Monash-Clayton; mixed, Wollongong.

Badminton: men, VUT-Footscray; women, Ballarat.

Baseball: Newcastle.

Basketball: men, Ballarat; women, Queensland.

Judo: UWS-Macarthur.

Hockey: men, Wollongong; women, Wollongong.

Netball: Newcastle.

Rugby: men, UNSW; women,

Northern Conference.

Soccer: men, Wollongong; women, UNE.

Softball: Sydney.

Squash: men, Sydney; women, La Trobe.

Swimming: men, UNSW; women, Sydney.

Tae Kwon Do: Monash-Clayton.

Tennis: men, Queensland; women, Wollongong.

Touch: men, Wollongong; women, Queensland.

Volleyball: men, Monash-Clayton; women, Deakin-Rusden.

Waterpolo: men, RMIT-City; women, Monash.

Best University Media Coverage: Charles Sturt University - Mitchell.

Team Spirit Award: Ballarat University.

Red Cross looks after injured athletes

The Red Cross NSW Voluntary Aid Service Corps provided first aid cover for the 5000 athletes who participated in the Australian Universities Games hosted by the University from 25-30 September.

Given that the 1994 Games had approximately 1500 more competitors than the recent 1994 Commonwealth Games held in Canada, and with a total of 553 injuries reported at last year's event in Brisbane, the Red Cross persevered through an even more demanding schedule at this year's Games.

A team of 70 voluntary aids worked in shifts throughout the week, boosting the on-campus Voluntary Aid Detachment's current membership of 40.

Other local detachments also supplied voluntary aids, including four employed in the Occupational Health section of BHP, as well as others who represented campuses and organisations in the Sydney metropolitan area and the Central Coast.

The Voluntary Aid Service Corps is the uniformed arm of the Red Cross and provides first aid at thousands of sporting events across NSW every year.

Voluntary Aids prepared for this year's Australian Universities Games by undergoing more specific sports medicine training.

As well as the 20 designated sports in which student athletes competed, Voluntary Aids also provided first aid cover for the many social events and functions associated with the Games.

FOR SALE: Universities Games leftovers! LILO Air Mattresses for sale \$10 used; \$15 brand new. Normally retail at \$25-\$30. Call the Recreation and Sports Association on (042) 213 361.

Reshaping work in Australia

The Faculty of Education conducted its first Workplace Education Seminar on Friday 16 September and had as its guest and principal speaker, Mr Laurie Carmichael.

Mr Carmichael is Chair of the Employment and Skills Formation Council, one of the Councils of the National Board of Employment, Education and Training (NBEET).

NBEET provides independent advice to the Commonwealth Government on matters relating to employment, education and training – advice the Government is required to table in the Parliament.

Several of the reports in which Mr Carmichael has played a key role are being used as the basis for extensive reshaping of work in Australia.

In the last few months, the Faculty of Education has been discussing the opportunities developing in the areas of workplace education and training.

These discussions flow from various NBEET reports, including the need for continuous and recurrent education, skilling of the Australian workforce, and credit transfer and course articulation.

Two issues have become very clear.

The first is that work organisations, ranging from schools to the largest industrial and commercial outfits, must have people working in them who are able to work in teams and manage and adapt their own workplaces.

The second is that current levels and types of information technology are already able to deliver knowledge and information to virtually any convenient location and at any time, without necessarily requiring a commitment that learners attend campuses and classes.

How should a modern Faculty of Education respond to or play a constructive developmental role in such issues? This was the question at the heart of the seminar.

Mr Carmichael is one of Australia's foremost thinkers on the changing nature of work, the re-organisation of its workplaces and re-educating and training of the workforce.

His ideas and advice will form much of the background for the developments which the faculty will consider in coming months.

Mining and metallurgical conference held in Wollongong

The Illawarra Branch of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and the University of Wollongong's Faculty of Engineering hosted a conference and workshop, Maintenance in the Mining and Metallurgical Industries, at the Novotel Northbeach from 4-7 October.

More than 150 delegates from corporate, governmental and industrial sectors of the mining and metallurgical industries across Australia attended, as well as representatives from the OK Tedi mine in Papua New Guinea and the CRA operation at Balikpapan, East Kalimantan, Indonesia.

Several guest speakers delivered keynote addresses at various forums, including Mr J. Ellis (CEO and Executive General Manager of BHP Minerals), Mr D. Cameron (AFMEU), Mr R. Robson (CEO Anderson Rea, ACTU and AMC Representative) and Mr A. Benn (Manager, Engineering and Plant Services, BHP Steel Rod and Bar Products Division).

Papers and workshops were presented on many topics incorporating the conference's focus on maintenance, such as equipment selection, work organisation, skill and training requirements, maintenance practices, technologies and support systems.

The conference pursued the optimisation of business performance in the mining and metallurgical industries by seeking to develop greater understanding of maintenance theory and technology, and their application and practice within the operational and business context.

Conference chairman and convenor, Mr Owen Kreilis of Southern Engineering Services, said: 'The breadth of papers we have been able to assemble and present from practitioners, managers, consultants and academia involved in the mining, metallurgical and state-of-the-art best practice organisations augurs well for a successful conference'.

Delegates also inspected a trade exhibition of industry review displays, enjoyed a visit to Australia's Industry World at Port Kembla, and gathered at social events interspersed through the conference's four-day program.

The Great Debate 'Evolution vs Creation'

Keira View Building
(Room 67.107 - Faculty of Law)
Friday, 21 October 1994, 7.30pm

Interested staff, students and members of the general public are invited to attend 'The Great Debate: Evolution vs. Creation'.

Professor Robert Whelan, Head of the Department of Biological Sciences, will represent the evolutionary point of view and is expected to bring his wealth of knowledge and capacity to communicate to support the argument for evolution.

Head of The Potter's House Christian Fellowship of NSW, Pastor Rob Walsh, is a former secondary school teacher who studied creation after becoming a Christian several years ago in Western Australia.

The Great Debate promises to be an evening of stimulating discussion and insight whatever your response to the issue of 'Evolution vs Creation'.

These two seasoned speakers will deliver what they believe to be evidence to support their respective cases.

The debate will be structured according to standard procedures. There will be an opportunity for the audience to address questions on this topic to either Professor Whelan or Pastor Walsh.

Enquiries: John L. Perry (042) 265 533.

Increasingly high participation rates of NESB tertiary students

The participation rate of non-English-speaking background (NESB) students in universities is higher than students whose first language is English, according to a report just released by the Bureau of Immigration and Population Research.

The report, *Immigration, Education and Training in NSW*, is the first major study of the impact of immigration on all sectors of the education system in NSW, including government and non-government schools, TAFE, Adult Migrant English Service, higher education and some vocational training.

The authors of the report were Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Multicultural Studies, Dr Robyn Iredale, and Coordinator of the Curriculum Research Group in the Faculty of Education, Dr Christine Fox.

They presented these and other findings at a seminar after the report launch by NSW Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs, the Hon. Virginia Chadwick, in Sydney on 29 September.

The findings show that NESB students comprised 23 percent of university students in NSW in 1992.

Indonesian-Malay, Korean, Chinese languages, Greek and Vietnamese-speakers had the highest participation rates.

Overseas students made up 5.3 percent of university enrolments in 1992, and of these, 72 percent were full fee paying.

Wollongong University had the highest intake of overseas students of the regional universities in NSW.

The data also showed that NESB higher education students displayed strong preferences for specific fields of studies: students speaking Chinese languages tended to favour business/administration/economics; Vietnamese-speakers gravitated to science, and Arabic-speakers tended to choose engineering/surveying and science.

The high participation rates of some groups is in spite of the difficulties that many NESB students face as they progress through the school systems.

The evidence showed that many immigrants, both adults and children, are not receiving the level of English language instruction they require in



From left: Dr Robyn Iredale (Centre for Multicultural Studies), The Hon. Virginia Chadwick (NSW Minister for Education), Dr Christine Fox (Faculty of Education Curriculum Research Group) and The Hon. Ms Photlos (NSW Minister for Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs) at the launch of the Immigration, Education and Training in NSW report.

order to participate fully in society.

There is a backlog of demand for Adult Migrant English Services and a high rate of unmet need in the schools.

In the learning of English as a Second Language (ESL), 42 per cent of government high school NESB students, and 69 per cent in the Catholic system, who require ESL instruction, particularly for proficiency levels beyond basic literacy, do not receive any special assistance.

The report also found that, since the implementation of the NSW Government's Multicultural Education Policy in 1983, no systematic scrutiny of curriculum materials for cultural bias, adequacy of coverage of global perspectives, or for evidence of racism in texts has been made at the school level.

One of the most serious gaps in teaching and learning in our multicultural society is in the preservice and inservice training of teachers for schools, TAFE and university.

None of the NSW universities indicated there was a significant core component for preservice training in teaching English as a Second Language, in intercultural education, in

global studies, or in teaching languages other than English.

It was reported from other research on higher education that, although many Staff Development Centres and Learning Centres offered workshops and seminars in cross-cultural communication, these are not attended by the majority of lecturers.

It seems there is no in-depth, mandatory, training segment for preparing teachers for multicultural classrooms/lecture rooms, or for catering for the specific needs of NESB students.

The question of the degree to which University academic policies and curricula have become international in perspective and content was another aspect mentioned in the report which has particular relevance to current University thinking.

The authors ask why the diversity of Australian society, one of our most distinguishing features, has been undervalued for so long, and suggest that adequate attention has not been paid to the education and training needs of immigrants and their children, despite an avowed policy of multiculturalism.

Wartime can be understood in any language

A well-known Italian book of poetry *'Tattered Freedom'*, which evokes strong memories and experiences of World War II, was launched in a bilingual (Italian and English) edition at the University's Department of Modern Languages last month.

The Italian Ambassador to Australia, Dr Marcello Spatafora, launched the book on Thursday 22 September.

'Tattered Freedom' was translated into English by Research Fellow, Ms Madeleine Strong Cincotta.

In addition to her academic work, Ms Strong Cincotta represents the Illawarra on the Ethnic Affairs Commission and is translating a collection of short stories by Luigi Pirandello to be published by Eolian Press at the University of Western Australia next year.

The story behind both *'Tattered Freedom'* and its author, Professor Giovanni Finzi-Contini, is highly unusual.

While Professor Finzi-Contini was brought up by his wealthy and cultivated Italo-Jewish family during the war, his father was killed trying to defuse an unexploded bomb.

Professor Finzi-Contini later fled from the family homes in Bologna and Milano during the German occupation in 1943 to the Adriatic coastal town of Atessa.

Only women and children refugees could stay in Atessa, so the men had to hide in the surrounding countryside to escape being rounded up and sent to concentration camps or forced labour for the Nazis' war machine.

Townfolk in Atessa often risked their lives to help them with whatever food they could spare.

Professor Finzi-Contini began writing poetry after the war at the age of 16



From left: Consul General for Italy, Dr Fabio de Nardis; Italian Ambassador, His Excellency Dr Marcello Spatafora, Madeleine Strong Cincotta and Head of the Department of Modern Languages, Professor Brian Moloney

and this collection was eventually published in Italian in 1981 to popular acclaim.

Quite apart from his poetry he is also Professor in Geophysics and Engineering at the University of Firenze.

The story of the Finzi-Contini family's experience of the rise of fascism in Italy and its implications for the Italo-Jewish community was also the subject of a 1970s feature film, *'The Garden of the Finzi-Continis'*.

The book launch also highlighted cultural and historical links between the Italian and Jewish communities.

The translation of *'Tattered Freedom'* into English came about after Professor Finzi-Contini's first visit to Australia in 1989 when he met Ms Strong Cincotta.

• *Tattered Freedom: Poetry* by Professor Giovanni Finzi-Contini. Bilingual (Italian/English) edition translated by Madeleine Strong Cincotta. Publisher: Leros Press, Canberra. 1994. First published in Italian in 1981.

The evacuee and her husband tried to comfort him. 'You tomorrow again. You happy again'. But the giant whose eyes were still those of a boy did not stop watching the violet flames and repeating 'Bad war. Never again.' On the doorstep he repeated again 'Bad war. Never again.' From the Via Grande he shouted into the night. He never came back.

(from the last stanza of Giovanni Finzi-Contini's poem *'Never Again'* pp 140-147)

Theatre students arouse 'Trouble and Desire' at Wollongong Youth Centre

A new Theatre-in-Education initiative, the Tongue-Tied Theatre Company has been developed by students from the Theatre Strand in the Faculty of Creative Arts this year.

Their first project, *Trouble and Desire*, a commissioned new play about high school students and their various experiences of sex and/or drugs will be performed at the Wollongong Youth Centre from 19-22 October.

Trouble and Desire, written by second-year Creative Writing student Vanessa Badham, aged 19, is the collaborative vehicle that will launch this theatre-in-education venture.

This young new company is directed by Shannon Faith Brewer, 20, an Honours candidate in Theatre.

Six second-year actors and several theatre technology students are involved in the production. Further scripts and productions are already being considered for 1995.

The Wollongong Youth Centre and the Illawarra Sexual Health Unit have provided support and funding for this production.

Trouble and Desire aims to present a direct and positive statement to 1990s youth culture about lifestyle, sexual and chemical experimentation, and personal awareness of healthy options in hazardous situations.

The play intends to reach adolescent audiences with its lively script and licentious combination of educational and entertainment values, and is as provocative as the first generation that will become adults at the turn of the millennium.

Trouble and Desire, the premiere production of the Tongue-Tied Theatre Company, will be performed at the Wollongong Youth Centre, corner of Burelli and Keira Streets, Wollongong from 19-22 October at 7pm.

Admission \$3. Running time: approximately 90 minutes followed by a post-show discussion.

Bookings and enquiries: contact Wollongong Youth Centre (042) 265 969 on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Update on Continuous Improvement Project (CIP) Your ideas count!

The last Continuous Improvement Project (CIP) update described the formation of five Service Improvement Groups (SIGs) composed of volunteers from all Administrative Branches.

The groups are trying to improve the work processes associated with student enrolment, purchasing, recruitment, use of forms and the flexi-time recording system.

The groups are following a strict problem-solving methodology leading from a clear problem definition, through the generation of potential solutions and, ultimately, to the evaluation of the performance of the chosen solution.

For example the problem definition chosen by the purchasing group is: 'The current purchasing system is under- and inadequately utilised'.

In the case of the recruitment group it was decided that the problem to be defined must reflect not only the views of administrators but also those of department heads commissioning the service and of recruits experiencing the service at first hand.

Accordingly, a survey has been sent to more than 200 staff hired in the last few years and opinions have been sought from deans and heads of department.

One of the major initiatives undertaken during August and September has been the conduct of training in 'Customer Service Skills' for all staff in Building 36.

The training was carried out by the local company Vivien Twyford Communications and the reaction of participants has been very appreciative.

The timing of the training coincided with the approval of the University's 'Client Service Policy' by the Administrative Committee. This policy is available to all from the CIP unit, ext. 4625 or 4626.

Also during August representatives from the Library, Academic and Student Services, Finance, International Office, the University Union, Personnel Services and Planning and Marketing attended a program on 'Benchmarking' conducted by the major consultancy firm, Ernst and Young.

The definition we are using is:

Benchmarking is the continuing effort to locate best practice, adapt it and introduce it into the University.

The participants chose three critical projects to pursue using the techniques of benchmarking. These projects are:

- Admission of postgraduate students;
- The complete purchasing cycle;
- The handling of queries.

The postgraduate topic will examine the process from the receipt of an application from a potential student to the moment a letter of acceptance or rejection is mailed.

The project leader is Administrative Officer in Academic and Student Services, Marina Evans, and the joint sponsors are Manager, Academic and Student Services, Peter Wood, and Director of the International Office, Eric Meadows.

The team handling the complete purchasing cycle will merge resources with the SIG team already working on the central part of this process.

This acknowledges the determination of all involved to re-examine the workings of this very important service to campus.

The project leader is Chief Accountant, Mary Youssif, and the sponsor is Director of Finance, Susan Smith.

The handling of queries should be seen as an important dimension of total client service.

This project, under the leadership of Deputy University Librarian, Felicity McGregor, and having as its sponsor Deputy Vice Chancellor, Professor Gerard Sutton, has begun with a series of measurement exercises.

Last month staff in Student Services, Personnel Services, the Union, Buildings and Grounds (the Gate Houses) and the Library undertook to record numbers of client queries handled either face to face or via the phone.

At the same time it was noted whether the queries were solved there and then or required transfer to another person. Waiting times in queues were also recorded.

During the week in question, by no means one of the busiest of the University year, more than 7000 queries were received by the five sections participating.

These queries were answered without recourse to transfer in 80 per cent of cases and the longest anyone waited for attention was more than five minutes. In most cases waiting time was less than 30 seconds.

In all cases of benchmarking, rigorous examination of university processes will precede any attempt to locate willing external parties with whom to compare.

Also, wherever practicable, the University will conduct 'internal benchmarking' first. The next significant event for the Continuous Improvement Project is the launch of the project's ideas scheme.

Under the banner 'Your ideas count', all staff in building 36 will be invited to a briefing session on 28 October.

At this session Vice Principal (Administration), Ken Baumber, will explain the project's latest endeavour in seeking to extend employee involvement in improving service and in problem identification.

It is hoped that this scheme, to be trialed initially within Administration, will be extended across the campus from next year.

Recently some employee-driven initiatives have resulted in concrete actions.

In many ways they are indicative of the true meaning of continuous improvement: making things better through the effective implementation of accumulating small steps of change.

The first example is the Directory Board facing visitors as they enter the Administration Building.

This was erected as a direct result of staff input, most recently at the time of the Administrative Staff survey conducted in March.

Similarly staff within Administration have been querying the practice of opening clearly addressed mail. This practice has now ceased.

As a result mail and registry staff have more time to spend on more important things,

Administration Staff now receive directly mail addressed to them, and those staff members who identified the previous practice as deficient feel vindicated and do believe that their ideas count.

General

22 and 23 October: **Campus Alumni Book Sale** will be held at the bookshop at Campus East (opposite the Science Centre). Any donations of books may also be left there.

24 October: **Free Concert for Trombone and Piano in the Hope Theatre.** Associate-Principal Trombonist of the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra, Brendon Collins, will give a free recital in the Hope Theatre (Building 40) at 8pm. He will be accompanied by David Vance. Program to include works for trombone and piano by Hindemith, Weber, Larsson and Gross, and a brass trio by Gross. All welcome! Enquiries: Faculty of Creative Arts (042) 214 214.

25 October: **Women's Issues Group Meeting.** Speakers: Chris Everingham - 'Famous Philosophies and Mothering Mythologies' - and Lori Lebow - 'Palaeontology, Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle and Jane Austen'. All are welcome to attend. Venue: Function Centre, Union Building, Northfields Avenue, at 7.30pm. \$2.50 Members, \$3.50 Non-Members. Refreshments and Door Prize included. Parking available in the multi-storey carpark (Level D is the most convenient access to the Function Centre). Enquiries: Moira Bowman (042) 843 741.

What's On

2 November: **Russell McLelland and Brown Public Lecture**, 5.30-7.30pm, Keira View Building, Lecture Theatre 67.104, Level 1. Topic: Alternative Dispute Settling Procedures. Speaker: Professor Neil Gold. (Russell McLelland and Brown Visiting Professorial Fellow). Professor Gold is a teacher, trainer and author who has worked as an academic administrator, member of teaching staff and consultant in North and South America, Europe, Africa, Asia and Australasia. He was among the first in Canada to teach mediation, negotiation and counselling skills to law students and lawyers. He lectures and conducts training programs in the field and will speak on Mediation and Mini-Trials at the International Bar Association Conference this month.

Human Research Ethics Committee. Agenda Deadline Dates: 9 November, 7 December. Meeting dates: 25 October, 22 November, 20 December.

Key Centre for Mines courses: 7-11 November: Modelling, Planning and Evaluation of Resources on a Personal Computer; 14-18 November: Environmental Geology. Enquiries: Professor Naj Aziz, phone 21 3449, or Sue Wade, phone 21 3057.

Cell and Molecular evening seminar series run by the Department of Biological Sciences. 24 October: Prof Peter Reeves (Dept. of Microbiology, University of Sydney) The Bresatec seminar on Prokaryote Evolution. Held at 7.30pm in Building 35, Room 105. Enquiries: Phone (042) 213 013, Fax (042) 214 135.

City of Wollongong Symphony Orchestra Concerts

26 November: 'Judy Glen's Spaghetti Opera'. Conductor: JWD, Judy Glen, soprano-comedienne. A comedy of arias interspersed with short pieces from the 'classical favourites' repertoire.

At IMB Theatre, IPAC, at 8pm. Adults \$20, concession \$17, family of four \$64, student rush \$10.

The Art of Lunch

A series of one-hour performances in the Music Auditorium (University Building 24.G01) on Thursdays at 12.30 during session. Admission: Free

Long Gallery

Until 6 November: Bronzes, Ken Stone, Lynn Brunet.

14 November-7 December: BCA Graduating Exhibition.

For further information contact Elizabeth Jeneid at the Faculty of Creative Arts, phone (042) 21-3048.

UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG CENTRE FOR NATURAL RESOURCES LAW & POLICY

LAND MANAGEMENT AND NATURE CONSERVATION LAW AND POLICY

SHORT COURSE 14-18 NOVEMBER 1994

The Centre for Natural Resources Law and Policy is conducting a five-day intensive residential short course on Land Management and Nature Conservation Law and Policy as part of its postgraduate programme in Natural Resources Law.

A limited number of places are available to interested persons wishing to undertake the course on a non-assessable basis. The course may be of interest to lawyers, planners, scientists, environmental managers and natural resource specialists. The fee is \$995.

Topics to be covered include international conservation law, the relationship between the Commonwealth, State and Local governments in conservation management, the conservation of biodiversity, protected areas (national parks etc.), endangered species law, wildlife management, the role of forestry agencies and conservation management on public and private lands.

For more information and a detailed brochure, contact Ms Maria Agnew in the Faculty of Law: Phone (042) 214 635 or Fax (042) 213 188.

Stop Press