A concert for Harpsichord and Strings was an impressive feature of the gala reception. Seen here on cello is Louise Butler and on harpsichord David Vance. Others, just visible, are Vanessa Woodhill and Edward Cowie on recorders.

IF style and quality in art can combine with ebullient, noisy enthusiasm to become a bell-wether for success, then success is clearly in store for the School of Creative Arts in The University of Wollongong. The gala reception on the evening of Thursday August 16, to launch the public image of the new school — and open an exhibition which remained open until September 14 — was above all a triumph shared: shared by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ken McKinnon, Peter Rousch, Professor and Director of the Institute of Advanced Education, and Edward Cowie, Professor and Head of the School.

As most people within the ambit of the University will be aware, the School of Creative Arts represents the first initiative — and a powerful initiative it is proving to be — of the former Wollongong Institute of Education in courses outside teacher education.

The School of Creative Arts has, in Professor Rousch’s words, ‘spawned a strong community interest in some of the University’s more recent work, and resulted in mutually supportive com-

As the preparation for this evening, Professor Rousch said that ‘what we were seeing that evening was something unequalled anywhere in Australia, and an affirmation of everything that is going on in the University today.’ He believed, he said, that the Illawarra was an ideal setting for this enterprise: a distinctive community — a microcosm of all that Australia is today. So far not enough had been done for the arts. This gala evening promised well for the region.

In this issue

- Children’s potential not realised
- Comment by the Vice-Chancellor
- WA technology strategy study
- International interest in
- Fielding model
- Powder technology work recognised
- Conference on HSLA steels
- Work, income and leisure
- Chancellor re-elected
- Studies in Chemistry
- University’s contribution to
- local economy
- Engineering application centre
- New student housing

Prominent throughout was Professor Cowie (bearded, centre). On the left, back to camera, is the University Chancellor, Mr Justice Hope.

A major feature of the gala reception was a series of superb charcoal drawings by John Eveleigh, seen here in the Long Gallery.

Community-university interaction so essential in this city.’

If further proof of that statement is needed, witness the news, announced by Professor Cowie, that Sir Sidney Nolan is to donate to the School of Creative Arts 12 of his works. And that an exhibition of the sculptures of Henry Moore is to be brought to Wollongong.

The gala ceremony was in itself a product of creative imagination, combining the exhibition preview of works by staff and students, a concert in the Music Auditorium and dinner heralded by a fanfare and accompanied by music. During the preview of works of art guests were invited not only to look but to buy! — and to see being restored a major 19th century painting of the Illawarra coastline.

Such was the level of enthusiasm that dinner continued until nearly midnight, by which time Shadow Minister for Education Senator Peter Baume declared that it was by then too late to make the speech expected from him and that we should have to make do with a few brief words. He had, he said, after ten years in politics, given up delivering post-prandial speeches after midnight.

Professor Rousch said that ‘what we were seeing that evening was something unequalled anywhere in Australia, and an affirmation of everything that is going on in the University today.’ He believed, he said, that the Illawarra was an ideal setting for this enterprise: a distinctive community — a microcosm of all that Australia is today. So far not enough had been done for the arts. This gala evening promised well for the region.
THE introduced honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) is certainly a useful animal, as those addicted to leatherwood honey will attest. However, as an introduced species in Australian ecosystems, the honeybee may be expected to have some undesired effects. Research in North America has demonstrated that the honeybee has caused local extinctions of native bees, particularly the solitary species, by its aggression and efficiency at exploiting the nectar resources.

Some few Australian studies have indicated that the honeybee may be causing similar effects here, but data are scarce. Of additional interest is the possibility that plants would suffer as a result of native pollinators being replaced by the introduced bee. While this species certainly harvests nectar from flowers, it may be a poor pollinator. Evidence of this comes from observations on the flowers of the ‘mountain devil’ (*Lambertia formosa*), to which the honeybee cannot obtain access due to the narrow tubes formed by the petals. The bees bite holes in the sides of the flowers and drain the nectar without contacting the pollen or the stigmas.

The nature of these possible interactions between the introduced bees, plants and native pollinators was the subject of an investigation initiated in The University of Wollongong by Anita Bradke, a third-year student in Biology, supervised by Dr Rob Whelan. The study was conducted to examine how honeybees might be affecting the pollination of *Grevillea barklyana*, which is a sprawling shrub common at Jervis Bay Nature Reserve. Since bee hives are kept near the Reserve and the *Grevillea* flowers throughout the year, this promised to be an appropriate system for the investigation.

How do the bees forage? Direct observations indicated that bees tended to land on the inflorescences without contacting the pollen or stigmas on the flowers (see fig 1). This was confirmed by collecting bees which were visiting the flowers and examining them under the microscope and counting pollen grains. *Grevillea* pollen grains are quite distinctive, being red in colour and triangular in shape (fig 2). Of 33 bees examined, only three had pollen on their bodies. To test whether bees were transporting pollen from one flower to another, pollen was marked by the application of a fluorescent powder — as described in a previous University Gazette article about mammals and banksias. Dye was applied carefully to the pollen presenters of a source inflorescence (see fig 3), which was then watched until it was visited by a bee. Attempts to follow the particular bee met with variable success! Where it was successful, the very next inflorescence visited by the bee was collected and examined under ultra-violet light. A single grain of fluorescent powder would show up under this light, indicating that the bee was successfully pollinating the plant. Of 34 cases of potential dye-transfer examined, only two showed any dye and in neither of these was the dye on the stigma — where pollen would need to be to effect pollination. The conclusion of this part of the study is that bees visit flowers of this plant to extract nectar, but are most ineffective pollinators.

What are the native pollinators? Two species of birds were observed making frequent visits to the flowers; the little wattle bird and the New Holland honeyeater. These two species clearly contact the pollen and stigmas of the flowers while probing for nectar, and are therefore likely to be effective pollinators.

How are these pollinators likely to be affected by the activities of the bees? Although the bees are aggressive foragers,
Children's potential not realised
Thinking should be included as a formal part of development

DR LAURANCE SPLITTER, a lecturer in the Department of Philosophy at The University of Wollongong, is determined to establish, in the University, a centre or institute for the teaching of philosophy to children. His aim is to create enough input to the teaching profession so that, in time, Australian school curricula will be able to include thinking as a formal part of the child's development.

The reason for Dr Splitter's concern for the establishment of such a centre stems from his belief that there is something missing in the school curriculum — the development of thinking and reasoning skills.

He believes that most children, average as well as bright, approach school with inquiring minds and a sense of wonderment: desire for answers about all kinds of concepts like space, time, justice, life and death, God, reality and their own experiences of existence.

But by the time they have reached secondary level schooling, their sense of wonderment and inquiry has been transformed by the tyranny of competitiverote learning into a desire to get a good mark by producing 'the right answer' in an examination.

Introduction

it seems unlikely that they would frighten off birds. However, by depleting the nectar resources, the plants would become a less attractive food source to the birds, which would be likely to move on to a more profitable plant species or a more

Fig 4: Timing of bird and bee activities in relation to time of pollen and nectar production

profitable area. The possible 'exploitation' competition between the birds and the bees was examined by comparing the timing of activities of the two in relation to the timing of pollen and nectar production by the Grevillea. Figure 4 shows that the numbers of flowers opening per two hour-period (i.e., rate of presentation of pollen) varies over a day, with peaks in mid-morning and mid-afternoon.

Nectar flow, which is expressed as sucrose production per two-hour period to account for volume losses due to evaporation, is also variable, with only one peak in mid-morning. This coincides with the first peak of pollen presentation. Both birds and bees showed patterns of feeding activity with peaks in mid-morning. The birds were getting up earlier in the morning but bees were very active by the time of peak nectar production. Birds continued foraging for nectar longer than bees, taking in the second peak of pollen presentation by the plants.

The potential appears to be there for bees to be reducing the attractiveness of a population of Grevillea barklyana to the native pollinators and further investigations are under way. These will have to include manipulative experiments such as removing bees from the area and measuring both bird activity and seed production by the plants for comparison with sites to which bees are allowed access. Results of these studies will be coming attractions!

Being a philosopher Dr Splitter knows that there is often no 'right answer' to many questions and that the ability to think, reason and evaluate is more important than the ability to reproduce the 'right answer'. Often, the child's reaction to the curriculum as it stands is to switch off and leave school early, having experienced the frustration of an educational process which did not focus on the questions and problems that were of major concern to the child. Children are overwhelmed by the apparent irrelevance of large parts of the curriculum, with the result that it lacks meaning for them and leaves them ill-equipped to deal rationally and sensibly with the social and personal problems which confront them.

'Our politicians', he says, 'have finally absorbed the sad truth that participation rates by Australian teenagers in higher secondary and tertiary education are among the lowest in the OECD. They have found their scapegoat: the universities, which they claim have imposed a too-heavily-academic H.S.C. upon the "decent, ordinary majority of average students".'

'This kind of pervasive anti-intellectual prejudice not only flies in the face of the facts — since vocational opportunities are significantly greater: for those who have completed some form of higher education — it seriously violates the rights of the very people whom it claims to be defending, by down-grading the importance of intellectual growth and reflection.'

Laurence Splitter believes he has found a solution to the problem. It lies in introducing philosophy into the school curriculum. The program has been successfully developed and tested in the United States by Professor Matthew Lipman, Director of the Institute for the Advancement of Philosophy for Children (IAPC) at Monclair State College, New Jersey.

Professor Lipman's discovery began with a specific and quite troubling observation: most of his students, even at College level, could not reason clearly. The cause, he came to find out, was that they had never been taught how.

From this point Lipman worked over the years to create a method of overcoming this gap in the curriculum. 'Our aim' he says 'is not to get children to learn philosophy but to encourage them to think philosophically.' The program he created is based upon a number of novels, the central one being Harry Stottlemeier's Discovery.

This novel is modelled on the Dialogues of Plato but bears little resemblance to the classic because it is written in terms with which children naturally identify. The book features a group of children who form a community of inquiry, which is modelled by the real children who develop community of inquiry in their own classroom.

The unexpected dividend that came from Lipman's experiments is that skills in other areas of the curriculum improved in the classes that had experienced Philosophy for Children.
THE Centre for Technology and Social Change has been contracted by the West Australian Government to undertake a study to assist the WA government’s development of technology strategy.

The study is being conducted by Professor Ron Johnston, Director of the centre, and Dr Jim Falk, Principal Research Fellow of the centre, each of whom has extensive research and consultancy experience in technology policy, energy policy and the social impact of technology.

The centre was specifically approached by the WA government because of its unique role as an independent research centre, regularly undertaking empirical work for government, industry and unions on immediate issues and problems related to technological change, policy analysis and evaluation.

This role fitted in with the commitment of the WA government last year to adopt a strategic approach to technology development within which the maximum benefits will be obtained for all people of the state from the development and application of technology.

Professor Johnston and Dr Falk are conducting a two-phase study. The first phase, completed in June, examines the specific rationale for a technology strategy in WA, designing a process for developing and updating the strategy, and defining the basic elements of the strategy.

Following a conference in July, where the conclusions of the first phase were discussed by relevant community sectors, Professor Johnston and Dr Falk have begun the second phase, involving detailed studies of specific technologies and sectors of the WA economy to elaborate and refine a detailed WA technology strategy.

Professor Ron Johnston

University solar energy research boosted

JOHN MONTAGNER’S work at The University of Wollongong on solar energy has been boosted by a loan of equipment from the CSIRO. Valued at between $80,000 and $100,000, the CSIRO Spectroreflector takes reflectance measurements through all wave lengths of light from ultra-violet to far infra-red.

Eric Christie of the CSIRO Division of Energy Technology has been installing the machine in the Mechanical Engineering Laboratory and familiarising Dr Montagner with it.

The Spectroreflector will be of great assistance in the work being done by Mechanical Engineering for Rheem Australia and John Lysaght (Aust). It might also be of interest to other departments including Physics.

Visit by Willy Tirr

WILLY TIRR, the well-known British artist, will visit the School of Creative Arts in The University of Wollongong: an exhibition of his works will be held in the Long Gallery beginning on September 28 and extending through October and November.

The visit is assisted by the British Council.
applied and contract research in several Australian states. The Centre concentrates on the evolution of science and technology policies, the implementation of new technology and the likely and actual social effects of the introduction of new technology.

As the only centre of its kind in Australia, TASC is attracting increasing interest and is being called upon regularly for consultant advice. One of its current projects is a study of the draft Science & Technology Strategy document produced recently by the federal government. Again, the Illawarra region is inevitably going to need new technology to improve its employment prospects, so research which contributes to our understanding of the process of innovation and its human effects is bound to be of local value as well as contributing to the stock of knowledge in this discipline.

Finally, after a year of planning, the University has taken the first practical steps to bring into being a Technology Centre. Major funding is expected from both the state and federal governments for this project. It is expected that approximately $7 million will be provided over five years for buildings and some recurrent costs. Initially a building has been temporarily leased in Keira Street. Mr A. J. Anderson of the Department of Business Policy and Operations has been appointed Director and Ms M. Bianc the Centre's Executive Officer.

The Technology Centre is clearly a major enterprise for the University, involving a partnership with state and federal governments for the good of the region. As the funds are coming from outside sources the University benefits to a considerable degree. The University's contribution, through the skills of its academic staff, will ensure that these physical resources are turned into benefit for the community. If the Centre is successful to the extent hoped it will be instrumental in diversifying the employment base of the region as well as in developing new knowledge. The University has already moved to strengthen relationships with City Council officers so that they are able to assist any successful enterprises as they move beyond the initial development stage to that of commercial production. The University's role will essentially be related to the research and development phase.

The common characteristic of all of these centres is the conjunction of theory and practice. The centres are committed to the maintenance of the traditional academic virtues of rigour and objectivity in their research, but they are also committed to ensuring that theory is developed and translated into knowledge which has practical application. It is essential that there be theoretical research, but this technological age requires also that much effort be devoted to the intellectually demanding task of developing applications of benefit to human beings.

Within each of the University's centres there will be scope for pure theorists and for people with applied interests. The centre framework provides the organisational device to ensure that the overall outcome is of benefit to the Illawarra community and to the nation as well as to the University. The University of Wollongong Gazette will from time to time include reports of the progress of the centres.

Ken McKinnon

International interest in Fielding model

DR TONY FIELDING of the Faculty of Education has been awarded an academic links grant by the British Council to visit the universities of Exeter, Lancaster and London.

The grant will enable Dr Fielding further to explore the practical implications of a theoretical model of teacher development which he and a team of researchers in Australia and the UK has developed in order to create a basis for curriculum planning and teacher education.

The members of the UK side of this team are Dr Ken Shaw, Senior Lecturer in Education, University of Exeter; Dr David McNamara, Lecturer in Education, University of Lancaster; and Mr Crispin Jones, Lecturer in Comparative Education, London University Institute of Education.

Other members of the team in Australia are Dr Barry Sheehan, Senior Lecturer in Education, La Trobe University and recently appointed Director of the Melbourne State College; Dr Colin Symes, Lecturer in Educational Philosophy, Brisbane College of Advanced Education and a recent PhD student of Dr Fielding; and Dr Darol Cavanagh of the University of Wollongong.

The results of the research on the model were published in the Australian Journal of Teacher Education (October 1983) and the whole issue was devoted to an exposition, and a critique, of the model. Dr Fielding was guest editor of that issue.

The research was initiated by Dr Fielding during his study leave in the UK in 1982. A great deal of interest was stimulated when the work was presented to the London Association of Comparative Educationists at London University in November 1982.

Powder technology work recognised

DR PETER ARNOLD, Reader and Chairman of the Department of Mechanical Engineering and leader of the Bulk Solids Handling Research Group in The University of Wollongong, has been appointed regional editor for Australasia of Powder Technology.

Powder Technology is the leading international journal concerned with the science and technology of wet and dry particulate systems. Subjects which fall within the journal's ambit include the formation of particles, the interaction between particles and their environment, the character of particles, and problems involved in industrial plant for handling and treatment of solid particles.

The appointment is of course clear acknowledgment of the international standing of the research being carried out by Dr Arnold and the Bulk Solids Handling Research Group at this University.

Commonwealth Committee

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR LINDA L. VINEY of the Department of Psychology has been invited by the Minister of Education and Youth Affairs to join the selection committee for the Commonwealth Postgraduate Course Awards.
Conference on HSLA steels an outstanding success

FROM the opening ceremony — with a speech by the New South Wales Premier Mr Neville Wran — to the last moment of the closing session the international Conference on High Strength Low Alloy Steels was an outstanding success. Held at The University of Wollongong and jointly organised by Dr Tara Chandra and Dr Druce Dunne of the Department of Metallurgy, the Conference was held to coincide with the sesquicentenary celebrations of the city.

Joint sponsorship was by the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers and the Australian Institute of Metals.

Principal aim of the Conference was to provide an important international forum which would serve to highlight developments and applications of HSLA steels. Major advances in metallurgy have taken place in many areas of engineering since the advent of HSLA steels. Today research is being undertaken on a world scale with, of course, competition from other materials. HSLA steels, however, meet those challenges by offering, for example, an optimum balance of properties per cost.

The Conference took place from August 20 to 24 and attracted delegates from Japan, USA, Great Britain, China, Italy, France, Sweden, Canada, Brazil, South Africa, Korea and New Zealand, as well as, of course, Australia. Sessions included a number of keynote lectures covering fundamental and production aspects of HSLA steels and their applications.

Work, income and leisure

THE Australian economy is confronting continuing high levels of unemployment, technological change and planned changes in industry structure. These changes are leading to considerable shifts in work, income-generating patterns and leisure. Extensive implications flow from these changes both for economic decision-making as well as for creatively managing socio-cultural consequences for both work and home life of the average Australian.

Recognising this, the Centre for Technology and Social Change and the Department for Economics at The University of Wollongong are jointly organising a Conference on Work, Income and Leisure in the Years Ahead, to be held at the University on September 28-29.

The Conference program outline is:
- The changing economy
  - Technology, unemployment and employment
  - Patterns of labour demand and supply
  - Structural Changes in the Economy
  - Demographic changes
  - Productivity growth
- Leisure: its changing nature and significance
  - The increasing significance of leisure trends
  - The overlap between work and leisure
  - The productive use of leisure time
  - Leisure, the arts and social re-adjustment
  - Leisure industries and the economy
  - Adaptive responses and policy issues
- Income generation and Equity considerations
  - Job sharing and working time changes
  - Future education needs
  - Technological changes and labour relations

The conference will be opened by Mr Barry Jones, Federal Minister for Science and Technology.

Mr Justice Hope — re-elected as Chancellor

THE University Secretary, Mr Challice Molorich, has announced that the Council of the University has unanimously re-elected the Honourable Mr Justice R. M. Hope as Chancellor of the University.

Mr Justice Hope was first elected Chancellor in 1975. He is the University's foundation Chancellor.

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Linking secondary school and University studies in Chemistry

THREE years ago, Dr Tony Fielding of the Faculty of Education in The University of Wollongong, Dr Peter Burton of the Department of Chemistry and Mr Chris Wiecek, senior Chemistry Teacher at Warrilla High School, joined forces to write a textbook for students studying chemistry at the Higher School Certificate level. The result of their collaboration was a three-volume set of books consisting of some 700 pages of text material. In just over a year since its first publication the series has already gone into its second printing and has clearly gained acceptance in our school system by a large number of teachers of senior chemistry.

The project has an interesting history. Fielding and Burton decided to write a book covering the conceptual and historical foundations of chemistry as a field of study which would both satisfy the needs of students taking high-school chemistry and provide a broad enough base of understanding for students to move smoothly from secondary to tertiary studies in chemistry.

What seemed needed, they thought, was a team of writers representing educational practice in the university, the discipline of chemistry, and expertise in chemistry teaching and curriculum in the school system.

Mr Chris Wiecek was subsequently invited to join the writing team since he was both an experienced teacher of H.S.C. chemistry and deeply involved in interpreting and developing the chemistry syllabus for classroom teaching.

The authors think they have achieved is a series which incorporates up-to-date understandings of chemical concepts, a range of instructional techniques designed to assist mastery learning of the concepts, and a built-in source of feedback to both teachers and students in the form of worked examples embedded in the text together with numerous summaries, questions for review and provided answers to numerical problems.

Making the project even more widely based in the interdisciplinary sense was the assistance given by the writing team by staff of the University’s Computing Centre who were crucial to document processing aspects of the project. In a very real sense, Ian Piper, Audrey Weir, Chris Drabble and Geof Hamer made significant contributions to the success of the project.

Yet another feature of the work was the involvement of a group of Year 11 and 12 students who assisted the authors by reading the text and attempting all the exercises and review questions. From this the authors were able to remove many ambiguities and weaknesses in the text material.

To date, the book is being used in schools in most Australian states and is about to be launched in New Zealand. Copies have been bought by teachers in Canada and the United Kingdom, and the publishers, William Brooks of Sydney, are exploring the possibility of issuing the book in a number of European and Asian countries.

University contributes $50m to local economy

At the request of Lord Mayor, Mr Frank Arkell, Mr John Steinke (Senior Lecturer in Economics at The University of Wollongong) has just completed an analysis of the economic impact that the University has on the region.

The study reveals that the University will be responsible for bringing $30.5 million into the region from federal government grants, research grants, student scholarships and parent support for students from outside the region. Of this amount $20,333,000 is available for spending in the region.

This influx of money when it flows through the Illawarra economy generates a further $29,450,000 of sales of other goods and services in the region in 1984, creating an overall gain to the local economy of just under $50m.

In effect the 730 jobs held by University staff create an equal number of jobs in local industries. In addition to its importance as an employer, and as a source of local spending, the University contributes to the local economy by providing education and training for the workforce.

There is ample evidence that University education adds substantially to the productivity of workers, thus making possible higher wages and profits. For example, surveys by the Australian Bureau of Statistics have shown that University graduates earn more than double the average Australian income over the period of their working life.

The University also contributes to the retraining of the Wollongong workforce through acceptance of a relatively high proportion of students on the basis of completion of a technical college certificate or passing of a special entrance examination. With local unemployment running at 20 per cent, retraining is one of the University’s important activities.

Large numbers of University of Wollongong and Institute of Advanced Education graduates are now employed by the major companies of the Illawarra, and in the schools, the city and county councils, and state and federal government departments.

In the long term they, and the many generations of graduates yet to come, are the University’s greatest contribution to the Illawarra economy.

Local students provide material for play

THEATRE SOUTH’S newest Theatre-in-Education play No Strings Attached draws its material directly from the experiences of students at Oak Flats High School. Two Theatre South actors, Sher Guhl and Michael Cee (himself from Oak Flats), spent time with the students, going to classes, wearing school uniforms, attending a disco and interviewing students from Year 7-Year 11. Meanwhile, Michael Smart and his Year 11 Drama Class were also collecting material from students. Out of all this research, Michael Smart, working closely with the actors and with Director Des Davis, created the play which began its Wollongong season appropriately at Oak Flats High School.

The ABC also became involved in the project when they chose it as an example of a professional Theatre in Education company working with students and made a documentary Diary of a Drama which will be screened as part of a major series on Drama in 1985.

Meanwhile, Theatre South is taking bookings for No Strings Attached not only in Wollongong, but also in Campbelltown and Sydney. The play will also form part of Theatre South’s Travelling Theatre Festival, which will tour country districts of NSW in October.
AN AGREEMENT signed between the University of Wollongong and the Department of Science and Technology will provide $750,000 during the next 18 months to support the establishment of an Engineering Application Centre, which will operate in close association with member departments of the Faculty of Engineering. An additional $1 million is expected to be made available during the ensuing three years.

Under the agreement the University is to ensure that appropriate staff are appointed as soon as possible and that a board, under the chairmanship of Professor B. H. Smith, is formed to incorporate a company which will undertake various activities including research and development, teaching, and industrial applications.

The company, to be called the Centre for Engineering Application Ltd, will be a significant fillip for the University and for University and industry interaction — as much of which as may be possible is indeed keenly sought so as to increase both the quantity and quality of research. The centre will endeavour to broaden Wollongong's industrial base. More work will come to the city and jobs will be created — jobs which would otherwise be centered in Sweden or Japan. The systems being built will use components made in Wollongong.

Work on this project began some two and a half years ago when Dr Christopher Cook joined the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering after working in industry, both in the United Kingdom and Australia, on the installation of industrial automation systems. Dr Cook had developed very strong ideas about the reasons for the decline in Australia's manufacturing industry and how an Automation Centre in Wollongong, involved in application engineering, could help to reverse this decline. Ideas, which were debated, augmented and refined by Dr Cook and Professor Smith were presented in a formal proposal titled 'The Establishment of a Robot and Automation Centre in Wollongong', published in June 1983. This document included a detailed budget for staff, space, equipment and materials requirements for the first three years of operation of the proposed Centre.

While the proposal, which was widely distributed at all levels of federal and state government and within industry, appeared to come at an opportune time and was generally well received, a number of competing proposals from other institutions around Australia were also in circulation. During the intensive discussions which followed with representatives of federal, state and local government, industry and unions over aims, operation costs and so on, one major difficulty which had to be overcome was to convince all concerned that the Centre would not be fully efficient unless it was closely associated, both physically and in its operation, with the Faculty of Engineering at The University of Wollongong.

Among the deciding factors which resulted in a favourable decision for Wollongong was the practical engineering credibility already established by the achievements of the relatively small robotics group in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, comprising Drs Cook and Russell, postgraduate students and teaching fellows.

A second factor was the effort made by Dr Cook to publicise the activities of the Wollongong group at every opportunity at many addresses, seminars and conferences. Dr Cook and Professor Smith take this opportunity to acknowledge publicly and record their appreciation for the encouragement and support which the project has received from the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ken McKinnon, and during the later stages from Mr John Anderson and Professor Ron Johnston.

The accommodation will be located on the University campus, facing Northfields Avenue, in an area specifically allocated for residential development. Great care has been taken with the design, with the aim of providing a village atmosphere while, at the same time, ensuring maximum privacy. In addition to providing normal student accommodation, the units will be available to people attending conferences and the University's Summer Sessions.

In the absence of government funding, the project will be financed from the University's own funds and from a loan raised specifically for the purpose.

Building is in the hands of a local construction firm, Hughes Bros Pty Ltd. It is hoped that Stage II of the project can be undertaken in the near future.