FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Since the last issue of The Outlook, some faces have changed on the Alumni Association Board of Management. At the AGM on 4 March, the following officers were elected:

President Ruth Procter
Vice-President Allan Petersen
Secretary Wendy Raikes
Treasurer Ron Perrin

Sincere thanks go to Keith Phipps, our dedicated and enthusiastic outgoing President, and to our competent Treasurer, Rosemary Cooper, who also stepped down. As founding executive officers, their invaluable initiatives have set the Association on firm foundations.

The guest speaker at the AGM was the Hon Stephen Martin MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives and Member for Cunningham, and also a Wollongong graduate. He enlightened and entertained us with insights into life in politics.

University of Wollongong alumni are to be found in almost every walk of life. With 34 years behind us, we have been creating a rich and often colourful weaving throughout society both in Australia and overseas. We have a common thread - we are all graduates of a top-quality university, ever growing in stature and of which we can be very proud. I am constantly reminded that the value of our degrees continues to rise.

Part of our University's excellent reputation is based on the achievements of alumni in the professions, business, industry, social and community services and other responsibilities. These are the outcomes of our preparation for life 'out there' undertaken at the University of Wollongong.

In this publication you will share the stories of other alumni and find details of the various chapters that you can join. We have been particularly encouraged by the commitment of many alumni to maintaining ties with their fellow classmates by organising reunions and by raising funds to help the needs of today's students.

Juliet Richardson, our Alumni Executive Officer, would be delighted to help you plan your own reunion, or put you in touch with an established chapter. It's a very rewarding experience. Don't hesitate to contact her.

The Alumni Association Board is working hard to provide worthwhile benefits for Financial Members. A recent market research initiative, undertaken in conjunction with Hilton International, has targeted alumni living near Sydney. The aim is to gain your feedback on accommodation packages that might interest you.

Please join us as we salute our time at the University of Wollongong. Your support is needed. An excellent way to show this is by becoming a Financial Member of the Alumni Association. An application form can be found between pages 6 & 7.

Wishing you a rewarding year,

Ruth Procter
President, Alumni Association

Cost:
$40 per head (Financial Members of the Alumni Association and their guests)
$45 per head (other alumni and guests)
(NB: Alumni Association annual membership is $20)

For this you can enjoy:
• A sumptuous 3-course meal with table wine (bar open for other drinks to be purchased)
• The celebrity guest speaker
• Dancing to live music (Fresh)
• The chance to revisit old memories and friends

We hope you can join us for this evening of fun and entertainment!

The Engineering Chapter of the Alumni Association is pleased to invite fellow alumni and other guests to a

DINNER / DANCE

to be held on
Saturday, 22 July 1995
at 7.00 for 7.30pm
Venue:
Carringtons at the Belmore
31 Smith Street, Wollongong

Celebrity Guest Speaker:
PETER FITZSIMONS
Columnist, best-selling author, ex rugby international and raconteur

Tickets can be obtained from:
Engineering Chapter Secretary,
Ted Bosman
6 Cosgrove Ave, Keiraville 2500
telephone (042) 28 8662.
Or from the Alumni Office telephone (042) 21 3249.
Please RSVP immediately. Seats are limited, so don't delay!

This function has been made possible by the generous sponsorship of:
Brambles Industrial Services,
Port Kembla
Brambles Forklifts
Gardner Perrott
Wreckair Hire

See page 24 for details of the services offered by these divisions of Brambles.
A REUNION
for alumni who graduated in 1984 or 1985
will be held on
OPEN DAY
Sunday, 27 August 1995
Campus Tours
Official Welcome
Barbecue Lunch
Open Day activities
Alumni from other years are also welcome
Come back and see the campus as it is today!
Details from the Alumni Office Tel (042) 21 3249
Gerard Sutton takes over the reins as Vice-Chancellor during interesting times. The week before the interview for this article, for example, was a particularly busy one, with three major events coming to fruition.

First, a 'strategic alliance' with BHP was formalised, with the announcement of a new joint Institute for Steel Processing and Products. Then there was the opening of the Art Taiwan exhibition at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Sydney, a project which originated through a Wollongong graduate and which has resulted in widespread overseas promotion of the University. And finally, the University was grouped in the top tier in the latest round of the federal government's quality review process.

'The challenge for us now is to continue that upward quality spiral,' says Gerard. 'This will be a different challenge to the one we've faced previously, because the government has indicated there will be no new dollars for the University of Wollongong.'

The extent of this challenge should not be underestimated. Not long after this interview, students from around the state gathered at the University of Wollongong for the first National Day of Action, held to protest against upfront fees for postgraduate courses.

Gerard's views on fees are controversial, but he knows where he stands. He is keen to dispel certain myths, and has a more down-to-earth approach than most in his position.

Gerard Sutton was born in Sydney and grew up in Lakemba. He went to primary and secondary schools in Lakemba and Strathfield, completing his Leaving Certificate in 1958 at St Patrick's College.

A cadetship with the railways enabled him to study electrical engineering at the University of New South Wales. Gerard later gave up being an electrical engineer and became an experimental scientist with the Australian Atomic Energy Commission. This led to research for the Royal Australian Navy into the way sound propagates under water and the role of this in submarine detection.

Gerard won a postgraduate scholarship to do his doctorate at the Catholic University of America. Only one of these scholarships went to a naval scientist in any given year. 'That was the time of the Vietnam War,' he says, 'and it was a university that had a lot of defence money. It was really the only place with the expertise and the facilities for the study of underwater acoustics.'
On returning to Australia, he became senior lecturer, professor and associate head of school at the then NSW Institute of Technology (now the University of Technology, Sydney, or UTS). In 1988 Gerard became Foundation Pro Vice-Chancellor at UTS, moving to Wollongong in 1990 as Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

They first organised an exhibition of Australian paintings and artworks in the Museum of Fine Arts in Taipei, Taiwan," says Gerard. 'That resulted in banners in the main street and coverage in all the Chinese and English newspapers in Taiwan.

This identified the University of Wollongong and associated us with the first ever art exchange between Taiwan and Australia. The follow-up from that was for Taiwanese artists to bring their work to Australia, and that's what the exhibition Art Taiwan is really all about.'

The quality review announcement rounded off an already eventful week, and although Gerard may be new to the position of Vice-Chancellor, he has nevertheless been an integral part of the University's core over the past five years, and as such has made a significant contribution to laying the groundwork for these events.

The unpleasant prospect of fees has become a reality in recent months, and Gerard Sutton has firm views on these, both at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

He supports the idea that prospective Australian students who 'qualify academically', but do not meet the government-funded quota, should be able to pay full fees and enter university in the same way as international students do. He rejects the idea that a change of government would necessarily mean upfront fees for undergraduates.

'The HECS scheme has been so successful,' he says, 'that it's likely any future government would simply offer greater incentives for upfront fees, but they would retain the HECS scheme.'

'It's been such a success that many countries are looking to adopt it. The HECS scheme, I think, is fair.'

The Vice-Chancellor says that at the cost of funding the undergraduate area, the government is not providing for any growth in the postgraduate area. 'If you're not getting funds from the government, you have to either get them from industry, or from fees.'

Many universities have already started charging students. The University of Wollongong has not. However, fees will be introduced at the postgraduate level, in selected courses. Not all postgraduate courses would be able to sustain fees, for example courses in arts.

'But we will ensure that equity considerations are in place, so that people who do not have the funding upfront will be able to have bank loans organised for them. This will happen over a period of five years, not just in twelve months.'

Gerard laments the unsuccessful moves to pressure the government to provide places for practical legal training. 'Students will have to do what they've always done, and go to the College of Law to get their practical legal training, or attend one of the special programs now being offered around the country.

'This university has never offered such a program, and if we are to offer it we have to find the money. So we either have to close an existing program, or charge fees. It's as simple as that.'

At the time of writing, the students and the University have 'gone back to revisit the issue', to look at how much of the program could be built into the undergraduate degree. These are challenging times indeed, and Gerard Sutton is ready to face them. 'The University takes great pride in its achievements to date and sees no limits to its increasing international reputation.'
Quality given recognition

WOLLONGONG IN TOP GROUP

‘Gong for a feisty steel city uni’ read the front page headline in the Sydney Morning Herald on 14 March, following the release of the federal government’s higher education Quality Committee’s second round of quality assessments. The University of Wollongong was placed in the first grouping, the only Australian university based solely in a regional centre to achieve this status.

The Herald article said that this grouping cemented the University’s reputation as a new force in tertiary education and that the list of the world’s best universities may soon have an addition - Wollongong.

‘Now Wollongong has confirmed it is a rising star,’ said the Herald, ‘proving in this review, which investigated teaching quality, that its teaching is top notch.’

Former Wollongong Pro Vice-Chancellor, and now Deputy Vice-Chancellor at Monash University, Professor Lauchlan Chipman said that he was not surprised at the University’s success. ‘The conventional wisdom in Australia is that if it’s first rate, it has to be in a capital city,’ he explained. ‘The Wollongong experience has driven a coach and horse through that. As with the rest of the world, it may be that some of our finest educational institutions are actually located in regional communities.’

‘The government review,’ continued the Herald article, ‘is not the only proof of Wollongong’s excellence. It almost doubled its level of research funding from $8,608,000 in 1993 to $14,566,000 in 1994, and has already surpassed the 1994 figure this year.

‘Student numbers have risen from 3,104 in 1981 to 11,763 in 1994, and the mean tertiary entrance rank of students joining Wollongong has risen from 70 to above 80 in just four years.’

The University will receive $1.55 million from a pool of $71.3 million to be distributed following the 1994 quality review, which looked at the quality of teaching and learning in Australian universities.

Federal Minister for Employment, Education and Training, Simon Crean said the Quality Committee’s report shows that Australian universities have ‘vigorously adopted quality improvement policies’. He said the report also shows that Australians can have confidence in the quality of our university system. ‘It is clear that the spectacular growth in university enrolments over the past decade has not been at the expense of quality.

‘The Australian higher education system has the best of both worlds: diversity and quality in terms of output,’ said Mr Crean.

The 36 public universities were placed in three groupings, although Mr Crean endorsed the report’s conclusion that the grouping of institutions was not a ranking exercise.

The Minister confirmed that a third round of quality assessments will proceed in 1995, concentrating this time on research and community service.
Joint University / BHP commitment

MAJOR RESEARCH INITIATIVE

A joint commitment by the University and Australia’s largest company has given the Illawarra region a world-class research institute for steel processing and products. This significant development offers an excellent example of the cooperation between universities and industry that is being encouraged by the federal government.

BHP Managing Director, Mr John Prescott, visited the University in March to announce the formation of the joint BHP/University of Wollongong Institute for Steel Processing and Products, which, as Mr Prescott stated, is the ‘largest single joint investment of its type by BHP’.

The Institute will conduct world-class strategic basic and applied research that will complement the current in-house research capacity of BHP Research, and will offer postgraduate teaching in steelmaking, metal coating and organic coating technologies.

Mr Prescott said the establishment of this Institute offers new and exciting possibilities for both BHP and the University of Wollongong and is ‘a reflection of the high regard we in BHP have of the University and this region’.

He went on to say ‘From the business point of view, closer ties between industry and our universities is desirable and indeed essential if Australian companies are to grow to world class and compete successfully internationally.

‘Such a relationship also provides universities with the opportunity to take a more active role in the economy, through the application of their expertise.’

Funding by BHP totals $500,000 per annum for an initial period of six years. It is expected that three senior level appointments at world-class standard will be made by 1996 in the areas of coating technologies, electric arc steel making and management of cultural change. This will be boosted by additional funding for specific research projects, making up an annual package of around $1 million.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Gerard Sutton, said the University is very pleased to be operating in partnership with Australia’s largest company in the establishment of a world-class research and teaching facility. He added that this was a particularly significant development for the University because ‘it is the first time BHP has chosen to go into a university partnership with such a high level of commitment’.

The Institute is to be located in the University’s Faculty of Engineering. It will provide postgraduate teaching in all the major processes, from steelmaking through to coating, for BHP’s technologists, particularly for those intended to support BHP’s offshore expansion around the Pacific basin.

The Institute will be guided by a Board, comprising senior representatives from the University and BHP. From the latter these will include Paul Jeans, Group General Manager - Slab and Plate Products Division, and Ian McMaster, Group General Manager - Sheet and Coil Products Division.

The level of research in steel-related areas, which is already high within the Engineering Faculty, will be significantly boosted by the Institute. Dean of Engineering, Professor Tibor Rozgonyi, expects that students from various centres in Australia and from countries around the Pacific basin will come to Wollongong to undertake professional and postgraduate studies by a combination of university study and industrial work.

Staff from the University and from BHP will collaborate closely in the teaching. Multi-modal and/or distance learning teaching methods will be used to offer programs in remote workplaces.

Dr Keith Enever of BHP Research is the Interim Director of the Institute. He will be working with staff from the University to develop the teaching program for a 1996 start. A permanent director of the Institute will be appointed after an intensive national and international search.

The research program is intended to include, as major areas of expertise, steelmaking, and casting and coating of steels, particularly advanced polymer and metal alloy coatings. Other research areas include rolling and thermal treatment of steel, surface engineering, automation and process control, managing cultural change and the impact of new technology.

Pictured at the March announcement are (from left) Dr Keith Enever, Interim Director of the Institute; Professor Gerard Sutton, Vice-Chancellor of the University; and Mr John Prescott, Managing Director of BHP. Photo courtesy of The Illawarra Mercury.
EDUCATIONAL MEDIA SERVICES

Associate Professor Sandra Wills directs a new service based at the University of Wollongong. Her 40 staff are providing educational media services for the University as well as the PAGE (Professional And Graduate Education) Consortium and outside clients.

The University’s new Education Media Services unit is delivering course material via television, audiotape, videotape, computer disc, CD and in print. This material is being used across Australia and is gaining export attention.

Professor Wills says that the biggest challenge facing her and her centre is to keep pace with changing technology, especially interaction on global electronic networks.

Sandra Wills came to Wollongong from her position as foundation director of Melbourne University’s Interactive Multimedia Learning Unit. Before that she ran her own consultancy business for six years, specialising in educational multimedia for clients, including the Commission for the Future and Victoria’s Department of Industry.

Sandra travels the world continuing work she launched in Australia. She ran the Fifth World Conference on Computers in Education in Sydney in 1990, which drew an international attendance of 2,500. She is now planning sessions associated with the Sixth World Conference on Computers in Education to be held later this year in Birmingham, UK, as well as planning the 1996 World Computer Congress to be held in Canberra next September.

Sandra wants the Canberra congress to be a ‘virtual conference’, using the newest interactive technologies for video conferencing and electronic mail. She explains, ‘This could result in hundreds of participants from around the world using centres in their home cities to interact with the on-site delegates.’

According to Sandra, the University of Wollongong is making great progress in introducing multimedia technology into learning, especially through the PAGE Consortium. PAGE is a consortium of 12 universities providing postgraduate and professional education at a distance, using SBS broadcasts together with printed course notes, and increasingly, interactive CDs.

The University has provided $70,000 this year to accelerate the training of academic staff in multimedia presentation under Sandra Wills’ direction.

Late last year her unit staged a multimedia expo for university staff and 150 high school teachers and principals attending a national technology conference in Wollongong. The expo showcased video production and the text and graphics capabilities of the unit.

Printery and Text Production services are managed by Glenn Brissett.

Interactive Multimedia Production services are managed by Geoff Hamer. His team includes designers, programmers, graphic artists and animators, who are currently producing safety training material for WorkCover under contract.

Television production is managed by John Rickleman, formerly of WIN TV. His team produces broadcast quality video, incorporating computer generated graphics.

Audio Visual services are coordinated by Barry Robson, who also manages the University’s video-conferencing suite.
Communications technology in teaching

**TEACHING FOR THE FUTURE**

The Department of Science and Technology Studies (STS) recently launched a series of initiatives involving state-of-the-art communications technology and national outreach. These initiatives range from electronic global networking through to lecture courses offered on CD-ROM and distance teaching on national radio, and they were launched at a special function in March.

**Publishing on the World Wide Web**

The World Wide Web (known as WWW or the Web), which forms part of the Internet, is an integral element of the 'information super-highway'. Put simply, it is a massive and rapidly growing global network of documents, and portions of documents, which are linked together.

Information on the WWW, the Department of STS is gaining exposure at 40 million computer sites around the world, a number which has probably increased significantly since the time of writing.

**CD-ROM lecture courses**

The Department is now offering a third-year subject, 'The Environmental Context', packaged in multimedia format on CD-ROM.

**National radio distance teaching**

In June the Department goes to air on Radio National Open Learning, becoming the national provider in its area of study.

Working with Radio National’s Open Learning production team in Sydney, a team of three academic staff from STS has devised a 13-program series to accompany the new Open Learning subject, ‘Introduction to Science and Technology Studies’. At the same time it has produced three new textbooks, course handbooks, and readers to accompany both this subject and its companion subject, ‘The Scientific Revolution’, which will also be offered in distance learning mode.

The series will provide Open Learning students and other Radio National listeners with an introduction to the study of science and technology from the perspective of the social sciences. At the same time, it will allow students on campus to study the subjects offered in any session at their own pace.

Head of the Department of STS, Professor Jim Falk says, ‘These initiatives are the products of academic staff who are dedicated to getting their message across to those who need it, and who are alive to the potential of the latest technology.

‘These are early steps in what we see as a process of continual development of new efficient and stimulating teaching techniques. It is the way of the future, and the University’s Department of STS is pleased that it can be there, helping map the way forward’
Matthew's great sea voyage

SHIP FOR WORLD YOUTH

Wollongong graduate Matthew Bradley, BEd(Hons) 1995, recently participated in the Seventh Program of the Ship for World Youth (SWY). Below he describes the significance of this international voyage, and how the trip has influenced his own life.

I have had the recent good fortune to represent the University of Wollongong as one of a 20-member delegation selected from all over Australia to participate in the 7th SWY program.

SWY is based on a somewhat adventurous and romantic notion which has been conceived, developed, funded and produced by the government of Japan. In 1995 the program involved selecting representative delegations from 13 different countries, and providing us with a luxury liner to cruise the Pacific Ocean, on a study tour that would focus on looking at current world issues from the perspective of young people. The program also aimed to provide opportunities for all participants to learn about the other cultures on board, and most importantly to promote friendship, goodwill and mutual understanding.

A total of 290 delegates between the ages of 20 and 29 were selected in their home countries via rigorous examination. The countries represented on the program were Japan, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, Fiji, Jamaica, Mexico, New Zealand, Solomon Islands, the USA, Venezuela and of course Australia. The selection requirements included a proven track record in involvement, leadership and development in youth programs, and a definite willingness and desire to contribute any skills and learning back into our home communities and thus the 'global village'.

We were then introduced to the good ship 'Nippon Maru', a 22,000 tonne luxury ocean liner which is one of the flagships of Japan's major tourist line, Mitsui O.S.K. She is a beautiful vessel and was a fantastic place to call home for the next two months at sea.

On 19 January our sailing itinerary took us from the port of Yokohama directly to Brisbane. From there we struck out across the Pacific to Ecuador in South America, stopping at Fiji and Tahiti along the way. After Ecuador we sailed north to Acapulco, where the representatives from the South American and Caribbean countries left the ship. The rest of us continued on to Honolulu in Hawaii where we disembarked, leaving the Japanese contingent to return home.

Our program in Brisbane included a civic reception and visits to various industrial sites, mostly associated with the mining of raw materials. We also stayed at Gatton College near Toowoomba, a centre of agriculture which provided a good insight into rural life in Australia. Although their stay in Australia was limited to three days, the visitors were left with a very favourable impression of this country.

The program began in early January when all delegates assembled in Japan for a 10-day introduction to that country and to the program. During this time we were exposed to many different aspects of life in Japan through cultural visits, civic receptions, visits to areas of industry and technology and a 'homestay' in the city of Hiroshima. These and other activities helped to create an environment where people could get to know each other.

The Australian delegation in Sydney prior to departure. Matthew is squatting at the front, on the left.
Similarly our visit to Fiji lasted three days, and gave an enjoyable and valuable insight into life in that culture. In a country where everything is closed on Sunday, it was fitting that our introduction to their lifestyle involved a welcoming church service. We were also treated to a traditional feast and kava ceremony, as well as a feast of beautiful song and dance.

The port of Suva (as with all the ports we departed from) was a mass of streamers, tears, military bands and new friendships, as we sailed for Tahiti. Our brief visit here, for refuelling before crossing the Pacific, enabled us to see what a strikingly beautiful island Tahiti is.

The SWY arrived in Guayaquil, the major port city of Ecuador, two days after a peace treaty had been signed and a cease-fire ordered in a war against the neighbouring country of Peru. Consequently we were provided with a military escort on all our visits, and there was no shortage of men with machine guns following us around the countryside. Whilst Ecuador is beautiful, one cannot help but notice the great distance that exists between wealth and poverty there.

The port of Acapulco in Mexico held a bittersweet taste for most participants. It is a lovely city indeed, but it was also the place where a third of the SWY delegates completed the program. This was a very sad experience for all of us, after so many special friendships had been formed. Whilst this was an ending of the program, we also recognised it as the beginning of both our friendships and our ongoing responsibilities to each other and our countries.

Once in Acapulco, all 290 participants as well as the administrators flew up to Mexico City for a special official reception held in the castle constructed by Maximilian, the first 'self proclaimed' emperor of Mexico. At over 7000 feet in altitude, and being in a city of over 20 million people, this was certainly an experience to be remembered. We were also able to visit the National Museum and the Aztec temples of the Sun and Moon.

The atmosphere on board the SWY was never quite the same after our farewells in Acapulco, although the rest of us were fortunate in being able to continue on and conclude our program in Hawaii.

The good ship 'Nippon Maru' was extremely well equipped for a successful program. Whilst on board, the delegates from each country were asked to prepare and deliver a presentation designed to introduce others to their life and culture. Many delegates made use of the technical equipment available, such as sound, lighting, video and staging, and weeks of preparation went into each presentation.

Daily life on the ship was both productive and challenging. The 'official' language was English, but with so many people whose native tongue was not English, the ability to communicate varied enormously. This was a constant challenge, given our frequent discussions regarding current events and issues of concern.

The program also catered for a variety of social interests, and there were countless opportunities for friendships to develop and new skills to be learnt. The skills I acquired included playing traditional Japanese drums, sumo wrestling, singing Fijian traditional songs and dancing from the Solomon Islands. I also developed and organised a Christian Fellowship Group and conducted two full-day sporting events for all participants.

As soon as I was accepted into the 1995 SWY program, I knew that my life would never be the same. The program itself exceeded all my expectations. It has had, and I'm sure will continue to have, a large impact on my life, as I was exposed to so many experiences where I couldn't help but expand my concept of the world, and the types of lives that people from vastly different cultures lead.

As far as the goals of promoting friendship, goodwill and an expanded sense of mutual understanding are concerned, I believe the SWY has been, and hopefully will continue to be, an extremely successful program. I would like to acknowledge the foresight and vision of the Japanese government in undertaking such a challenging concept.

I would also like to recognise the support of many people at the University of Wollongong, in particular Trish Tindall and the staff of the International Office, and the Dean of Education, Associate Professor John Patterson, the other staff in the Faculty of Education, the Recreation and Sports Association and also the Alumni Association (Campus Chapter).

I feel that I was able to extract maximum benefit from the SWY, and to make a major contribution to its success. I am grateful to the University for providing me with an education that has equipped me to participate effectively, and I am also happy and proud to say that I did this as a representative both of my country and the University.
After teaching Italian at Wollongong for nearly 20 years, Associate Professor Vincent Cincotta recently retired from the University. In recognition of his success in forging links between the Italian community and the University, he was made a Fellow of the University on 10 May 1995. Mavis Miller (BA 1985, MStudFr/It 1987), a graduate of Italian, looks at Vincent's past and present achievements, and discovers that he is now busier than ever.

Vincent Cincotta was born in 1934 in the New Jersey suburbs of New York City, where his family settled shortly after immigrating to the United States in 1931 from the Italian island of Stromboli.

In 1960 Vincent obtained a bachelor's degree majoring in Italian and Spanish and a diploma in secondary education from Fordham, the Jesuit University of New York. He was awarded the University's gold medal as the year's valedictorian, which was quite an achievement considering he had been working full-time throughout his studies. More recently he has received a 1995 Alumni Achievement Award from Fordham.

Vincent then completed his Master of Arts in Italian at Columbia University's Graduate Faculties in 1964. After two Fulbright scholarships, at the University of Rome (1964) and later at the University of Florence (1971-72), Vincent was awarded a doctorate in modern languages (Italian and Spanish) from the Graduate Language Schools, Middlebury.

Move to Australia

After 17 years of teaching in the United States at both secondary and tertiary level, Vincent came to Wollongong in 1977 as the foundation lecturer in Italian studies in the University's then newly-formed Department of European Languages.

In addition to his vast experience in the teaching of the Italian language, and his experience in research and publication on diverse areas of Italian, Italian-Australian and Spanish studies, Vincent is a specialist on Federico De Roberto and other Sicilian writers of the 19th century School of Verismo.

His publications in this area have appeared in Italic (USA), Inventario (Florence), Rivista di Studi Italiani (Toronto), Musicology Australia (Brisbane) and other journals. His book Federico De Roberto - Commediografo (Catania) is considered the definitive study on this Sicilian writer of the late nineteenth century. In 1988 Vincent was invited to lecture on De Roberto as a Visiting Professor at the University of Messina in Sicily, a great tribute to him as a scholar.

Vincent was coordinator of Italian studies at Wollongong from 1977, and of Spanish from its introduction in 1987, until his retirement in late 1994. In 1977 he founded the University's Circolo Italiano, and in 1978 the Wollongong Chapter of the Dante Alighieri Society, serving as president and publications editor from its foundation until 1991. From 1988 he was Associate Professor of Italian in the newly-named Department of Modern Languages.

Teaching has always been of primary concern for Vincent and his reputation for making language classes lively and interesting is well-known amongst his former students. One remarked that she had never experienced a language class so exciting as one given by Vincent Cincotta, and indeed his promotion to Associate Professor was accorded on the basis of his excellence in teaching. His research has been equally well recognised, with his publications listed in the essential Italian literature bibliographies.

Il Circolo Italiano and other activities

Vincent Cincotta's enthusiasm and drive was further reflected in the activities of Il Circolo Italiano, with its regular presentation of Italian plays and Italian dinners encouraging the participation and enjoyment of the community. Il Circolo published an annual magazine called 'L'Eucaliptus' which covered its activities and, more importantly, encouraged creative writing by students. This was an invaluable aid in the practical expression of learning.

Il Circolo was also supportive of any cultural function in the Department, and was involved in a departmental initiative to organise a three-day conference as a University contribution to the Bicentenary celebrations of 1988. This major conference was entitled 'The Italians in Australia - the First 200 Years'.

In founding the Wollongong Chapter of the Dante Alighieri Society, a worldwide organisation whose aim is to foster the study of the Italian language and an appreciation of Italian culture, Vincent succeeded in involving not only similarly interested people from within the University, but also a large number of people from the local community, all of
whom shared an interest in the rich culture of Italy, both past and present.

Some highly significant cultural events were organised by Vincent during his time at the University. He instigated a new course in Italian opera, bringing together Italian literature, theatre and music and demonstrating how these reflect the social context. This was a complete change from conventional Italian literature courses and demanded a special occasion to launch it. Vincent succeeded in persuading Dame Joan Sutheriland to visit the campus in 1978 to give the introductory seminar. This course has remained one of the most popular Italian/civilisation courses in the University's program.

Other well-known groups of musicians from Italy, whose visits to the University were organised by Vincent in the late seventies and early eighties, included Solisti Veneti, the world-famous chamber musicians, and the Neapolitan Nuova Compagnia di Canto Popolare, who performed Neapolitan classical folk songs. There were also important Italian art exhibitions at the Wollongong City Gallery, such as works by sculptor Vincenzo Gemito and original lithographs by Italian artist Marino Marini.

Antologia de la Zarzuela

In Spain on study leave in 1988 and again in 1993, Vincent gathered material for his long-time research into the history of its musical theatre. Whilst doing this he met the directors of the world-famous Antologia da la Zarzuela, which is a national company of 147 singers and dancers specialising in performing zarzuela.

Although initially seeking permission merely to use their archives and publish their photographic material, Vincent discovered that the director-producer was already keen to support any initiative to make knowledge of this genre accessible in English. In fact he was willing not only to give full permission for Vincent to use all their materials, but he was also keen for the company to perform in Australia.

On his return to Wollongong, Vincent put the proposition to one of Sydney’s leading impresarios, Andrew McKinnon, who in turn convinced the Director of the Festival of Sydney that the Antologia de la Zarzuela would be one of the biggest attractions.

And so, on the initiative of Vincent Cincotta and 550 faxes later, the world-famous Antologia de la Zarzuela came to the Opera House Concert Theatre in January 1995. His judgment was confirmed by box office results, by the critics and by the tumultuous applause from people attending performances. A total of 14 performances took place in just 11 days, and the group left Australia to continue a whirlwind tour covering several continents in a few weeks.

In addition to being instrumental in the group’s coming, Vincent played a very active role during their premiere Australian season, being professionally assigned as company manager. He was primarily responsible for the coordination of this 90-member ensemble and their stay in Sydney, handling the logistics of their travels and other needs, as well as interpreting for Spanish and Australian personnel in the production. He also did the translation of the program notes and supplied background information to the media.

Farewell at Gleniffer Brae

Vincent Cincotta’s academic achievements and his involvement in the world around him attest to the calibre of this man. It is not difficult, therefore, to understand why a special function was organised to join Vincent in celebrating his retirement from the University and from 35 years of teaching.

His friends, colleagues, associates and various dignitaries gathered at Gleniffer Brae on a beautifully sunny Sunday morning last November in (for Vincent) a surprise greeting when he arrived accompanied by his wife Madeleine, and two young adult children, Enzo and Angela.

In acknowledgment of Vincent’s great love of music, a concert was presented by the University Singers under the direction of David Vance. The program included light and humorous items and it delighted Vincent.

He was honoured by the attendance, among others, of Ms Franca Arena, Member of the Legislative Council; Mr Turo Chiodo, Italian consular representative for Wollongong; Mr David Campbell, Wollongong Lord Mayor; Mr Frank Arkell, former Wollongong Lord Mayor; Mr Giles Pickford, former Executive Officer of the Friends of the University; and Dr Antonio Mansueto, representing the Italian Consul General. They all paid tribute to Vincent and his enormous contribution to the community.
New member of senior executive

Professor Brian Moloney, Head of the Department of Modern Languages, also commended his great contribution to the growth of the Department.

And now?

As befits a scholar with Vincent Cincotta’s high level of dedication, he is now relishing the opportunity to devote more time to his current research into the history of the development of the lyric theatre in Spain. This is the first time such a project has been written in English, and Vincent confesses it will be an encyclopaedic tome covering the history of the genre, its major composers and librettists, an index of all the zarzuelas of the past 130 years, a discography, bibliography and a chronological index. He makes no apology, however, for the pleasure he is deriving from this research.

Nevertheless he does admit that he misses teaching and the interaction with students, which is not surprising given the vast number who have greatly appreciated Vincent’s guidance in learning over the years. He has helped many people of all ages to new levels of understanding and consequent personal growth, and as such has surely achieved the fundamental aims of any teacher.

We wish to thank him and wish him well in his retirement.

(Mavis Miller is profiled on page 22.)

NEW DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR APPOINTED

Professor Peter Robinson, until recently Chief of CSIRO Division of Manufacturing Technology, has been appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor, taking up this position in mid-May. He replaces Professor Gerard Sutton, who is now Vice-Chancellor.

Professor Robinson has also held positions as Director, Invotech Operations Pty Ltd, one of Australia’s leading technology consulting companies; Group General Manager, Technical, with Metal Manufactures; Research Associate in metallurgy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA; and Senior Research Officer, John Lysaght Ltd (Newcastle).

He is the recipient of many prestigious awards, including the Claude A Stewart Award from the Australian Institute of Metals for significant contributions to the Australian metals industry; and the ‘International Award’ from the American Society of Diecasting Engineers. In 1994 he was made a Member of the Order of Australia for contributions to research and industry development.

Peter Robinson is a graduate of the University of Wales, where he gained his PhD in 1959 and was later awarded a Doctor of Science for ‘Contributions to Material Science’.

As well as having an academic and professional record of the highest standard, Professor Robinson is well regarded for his capacity as a member of senior management teams, his leadership qualities and his interest in creating an environment in which individuals can achieve their intellectual potential.

‘The University is very pleased to have attracted a person of the calibre of Peter Robinson to the post of Deputy Vice-Chancellor,’ says the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Gerard Sutton. ‘His academic standing and breadth of management experience, together with his personal style, will ensure that this University will continue on its upward quality spiral.’

Professor Robinson says that he knows Wollongong well and is keen to be a part of this community. ‘The University is developing an international identity,’ he says, ‘and I am looking forward to helping continue the strong growth and excellence which is already well entrenched.’
Expansion of PAGE

DIRECTOR OF PAGE APPOINTED

Dr Jim Beck was recently appointed as Director of the Professional and Graduate Education Consortium (PAGE), a group of 12 universities from Australia and New Zealand offering professional and postgraduate courses through a wide range of learning resources, including lectures on SBS Television.

The University of Wollongong is the founder and host university for the PAGE Consortium, which was established eighteen months ago.

Jim Beck is Director, Academic Services Projects at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT), and has been the RMIT representative on the PAGE Board since its inception. He has been seconded from his current position for a year, subject to review after six months. Although based in Melbourne, he visits Wollongong regularly.

Jim's role relates principally to marketing and coordinating the activities of the member universities, establishing operating systems for the Consortium and liaising with relevant external agencies.

He says he feels very confident about the Consortium. "Universities have to get used to operating more collaboratively with each other, with government and groups in society. We are running out of broadcast time on SBS and need to look at options of cable TV and electronic networks, which have some intrinsic advantages for customised delivery and learner participation. We have to place more emphasis on tailoring courses to markets, and we need to expand more into the area of short professional courses."

PAGE recently announced that its graduate enrolments have shown a substantial increase over the same period last year. The range of offerings has increased to 30 courses in areas ranging from engineering, health and education to TQM and telecommunications.

As well as broadcasting on SBS, PAGE has been transmitting programs via the ABC's Asian satellite service, ATV, to test the acceptance of courses within the region. The potential for PAGE in Asia is enormous, and course materials are currently being broadcast as general interest programs. ATV is available across China, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea.

PAGE is a new concept in professional education. It offers Professional Education on your terms. PAGE provides the best that 12 universities across Australia and New Zealand have to offer:

- cross accreditation between member universities;
- convenient delivery systems;
- self paced & modular learning;
- courses with market relevance, and
- access to "packaged learning" which is unconstrained by location or class numbers.

Course fees may be tax deductible.

PAGE provides practitioners in a wide range of professions with access to quality academic programs designed to meet their professional requirements.

For further information, please contact PAGE:
PO Box 2000, Wollongong 2500
Phone: (042) 21 4444
Fax: (042) 21 4477
Internet: page@uow.edu.au

Professional Education on your terms

Business Systems
Cognitive Neuroscience
Communications
Education
Engineering
Health
Journalism
Management
Multicultural Studies
Telecommunications
Total Quality Management

SPRING SESSION, 1985 COMMENCES
17 JULY, 1985
International cultural links

ART EXCHANGE
AUSTRALIA - TAIWAN

Associate Professor Peter Shepherd, Associate Dean in the Faculty of Creative Arts, and Project Director of the recent Australia-Taiwan art exchange, explains the history and significance of this quintessential example of internationalism.

From 'Creative Nation', the recent policy document for the arts, we read:

The Government ... believes the nation, as well as the artists, companies and institutions involved, benefit from a confident projection of Australian cultural diversity and energy to new audiences overseas.

The concept and implementation of artistic exchange is not a new phenomenon within the universities and arts training institutions of Australia, and indeed many institutions have had artistic exchanges of one kind or another over many years.

In recent years we have learned that there is much to gain and little to fear from being open to the world. It is as true of the culture as it is of the economy. In fact the meeting of imported and home-grown cultures has massively enriched us.

I would like to share with you a story, which is an illustration of how a personal and initially small concept developed into something of national and international importance, artistically and in the wider political sense, to both Australia and Taiwan.

In 1991 one of my doctoral students, Chen Yin-Wei (David), who had already completed a masters degree here, mentioned that people in Taiwan were curious about his choice of Australia as a place to study art at postgraduate level, when traditionally his generation had gone to Europe and the United States. They were also very curious about the art of Australia. He suggested to me that we should take an exhibition of the works of some of the University staff and local artists to Taiwan, and we could then bring an exhibition of contemporary art of Taiwan back to the University.

Chen Yin-Wei then returned to Taiwan, and being a person with many important contacts, he discussed the plan at the very highest levels. He returned with an invitation from the Director of the Taipei Fine Arts Museum, and the support of his government, for us to put together the first survey exhibition of Australian art for Taiwan. This meant that the original concept of a small, regionally based, exhibition now had to be changed to provide an exhibition which would give a large overview of aspects of recent Australian art.

I invited Deborah Hart to join the project as curator, and we made the first visit to Taiwan to start negotiations with the staff of the Museum about the style of show that would reflect all our aspirations. It is interesting now to reflect back on that first meeting, in Taipei, of the two groups of people, each knowing nothing of the other, nor what to expect. Both groups were keen to see the project happen and both at least shared a sense of humour. This process involved several visits in the next two years. We were responsible for raising funding and sponsorship of close to $250,000 for the Australian exhibition. The Taipei Fine Arts Museum would do the same for the exhibition from Taiwan.

The first stage of the project came to fruition with the opening in December 1993 of IDENTITIES: ART FROM AUSTRALIA in the Taipei Fine Arts Museum, by the Australian Senior Representative to Taiwan, Mr Colin Heseltine, and by Dr Huang Kuang-nan, Director of the Museum. Present was a large representation of the Taiwan arts community and more than thirty guests from Australia, including six of the Australian artists represented in the exhibition.

Lu Hsien-Ming, Morning in Taipei, 1992, oil on linen, 269 x 393 cm, Collection of Taipei Fine Arts Museum (From Art Taiwan exhibition)
sponsors, gallery owners, arts journalists and publishers, Professor Gerard Sutton, at that time Deputy Vice-Chancellor, and others from the University. On the weekend following the opening ceremony, the Australian artists and speakers participated in seminars with a group of 200 Taiwan artists.

The exhibition, which filled one floor of that enormous museum, was of 120 works by 36 Australian artists, from all states and with diverse backgrounds. Accompanying the exhibition was a 175-page dual-language catalogue. The exhibition showed for three months in Taipei and then returned for showing at the Wollongong City Gallery as the only Australian venue. It had proved so successful in Taipei that the Taipei Fine Arts Museum purchased thirteen major works for their permanent collection, making it the largest contemporary Australian collection in a museum outside this country.

From the very outset from the Gold Coast City Art Gallery and from the Wollongong City Gallery. We were then fortunate to negotiate an agreement with the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney. This museum provided an excellent venue for displaying an exhibition of this type. It had recently shown contemporary art from the People's Republic of China in the exhibition MAO GOES POP, so the opportunity for access to a major exhibition from Taiwan fitted well with their own planning. A three-way partnership was then developed for the second phase of the project, with the Museum of Contemporary Art taking a large share of the responsibility for the organisation of sponsorship in Australia.

On 15 March 1995, ART TAIWAN was opened at the MCA by the Hon Michael Lee MP, Federal Minister for the Arts, Communications and Tourism. Present were guests from Taiwan, including the Director of the Taiwn Culture and Education Office, Dr Yu Yuh-chao, the Acting Director and the Curator of Taipei Fine Arts Museum and a group of nine artists and five journalists. The Senior Representatives from the Taiwan offices in Canberra and Sydney were also present.3

This exhibition will be on show in Sydney for four months before touring to The Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Canberra School of Art Gallery and Wollongong City Gallery, closing in February 1996. It consists of 100 works by 30 artists from Taiwan and is concerned with questions of the re-definition of national identities and the tensions between global and local issues. Again a dual-language catalogue accompanies the exhibition.

A seminar series, like those held in Taiwan, was held at the MCA. The artists and journalists were also the guests of the University of Wollongong for two days of seminars and visits to artists' studios. They had time to renew acquaintance with some of the Australian artists who had previously visited Taiwan, and already there are plans set up between these artists for future collaborations.

Exhibitions of works by Taiwan artists are also on show in Sydney, at the Ray Hughes Gallery and Fire Station Gallery, to coincide with the exhibition at the MCA.9

Despite all the complexities associated with such an enormous project, the ideals, beyond just showing two exhibitions of works, have been realised in ways beyond all expectation. The relationships formed between artists, curators, commercial galleries, artist run spaces and museums, both in Australia and Taiwan, and in particular between the University of Wollongong and all the above, suggest that there is fertile ground for further collaborations of various types.

The University of Wollongong's name in Taiwan is now synonymous with excellence in the arts and with having contributed to the bridging of cultural understanding between the two countries.

To achieve a genuine reciprocity, a suitable Australian venue was required for presentation of the exhibition of art from Taiwan. We already had firm commitments to suitable venues for the exhibition of earlier works of artist Lai Jun-Jun.7

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia China Council, Australian Exhibitions Touring Agency, Sherman Galleries, and sponsorship in kind by Qantas/ Australia Asia Airlines, Hilton Hotels, Yang Ming Shipping Line and MM Kambia Products.8

Gold Coast City and Taipei enjoy a very active sister-city relationship. Several works from the Gold Coast City Art Gallery collection were included in IDENTITIES: ART FROM AUSTRALIA.

Wollongong City Gallery has been involved in collaborations of many different kinds with the University of Wollongong. Works from the Wollongong City Gallery collection were included in IDENTITIES: ART FROM AUSTRALIA.

This was an historic occasion, being the first time that Taiwan and Australian representatives have participated in such a public function. This is due to the official non-recognition of Taiwan by Australia, because of agreements with the People's Republic of China.

Ray Hughes brought out artists Yu Peng and Chen Tsai-Tung to collaborate in a project of painting on ceramic pieces. Fire Station Gallery curated an exhibition of earlier works of artist Lai Jun-Jun.

Mandy Martin, EZ Works 2, 1986, oil on linen, 170 x 240 cm, Gold Coast City Art Gallery (from Identities: Art from Australia Exhibition)
Under its International Friendship Program, the University aims to provide opportunities for cultural exchange between its international students and members of the local community.

One afternoon during Orientation Week in February, more than a hundred new international students were 'matched up' with their Wollongong hosts for Autumn session.

This linking of students and volunteers from the community is the basis of the International Friendship Program (IFP), jointly organised by the International Office and the Illawarra Committee for International Students (ICIS).

The IFP aims to provide students with a friendly contact while in Australia, and to broaden their cultural experiences while studying at Wollongong. Many international students come to Australia without other family members, and often without any personal support or contacts in the country. Their stay can be greatly enhanced through contact with local families, who themselves find the experience both rewarding and educative.

The program offers local hosts an excellent way of learning first-hand about a particular country's culture and language, whilst the student has the opportunity of learning about life in Australia and can meet local people. In both cases a warm friendship can develop.

The students come from a wide range of countries, with the largest groups being from the USA, India, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Pacific Islands and China. In all, our international students represent more than 60 different countries.

Through the IFP, local hosts are matched with one or two international students. They are encouraged to meet them two or three times during session, typically to invite them for a home-cooked meal or to share a barbecue. Other activities might include a picnic, shopping, game of tennis or going to the movies.

Vice-President of ICIS, Innocent Magaya, who comes from Zimbabwe, was at the reception during Orientation to meet other international students like himself. He is pictured talking to Amy Becklenberg, an American exchange student from Indiana University, Bloomington. Innocent is in his second and final year of the MBA program, and is involved in assisting other international students through ICIS activities.

ICIS organises regular sightseeing trips at weekends, giving students an opportunity to see places of interest both locally and elsewhere in the state. The Committee comprises members of the local community and the University, as well as representatives of the different international student groups on campus. Other activities include a barbecue for new international students each session.

Several ICIS members also act as IFP hosts, including longstanding Committee members Enid and Arthur Sherwin. They are pictured with their student for this session, Ralainony Manantera Herison (He), who comes from Madagascar and is in Wollongong for two years studying computer science. He completed the first year of his degree at the Institute for Australian Studies in Dubai, which is a campus of the University of Wollongong.

New hosts will be most welcome to join the IFP for next semester in July. If you are interested in becoming a host yourself, and you live in or near Wollongong, please contact Denise Hull at the University for further information. Her telephone number is (042) 21 3173.
ELECTION OF TWO CONVOCATION MEMBERS TO THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

Under the University Act, the members of Convocation* elect four of their members to the University Council. At the end of 1995 two such positions will fall vacant. The term of office for the elected members will be four years from 1 January 1996.

Nominations from members of the alumni are invited. This is your opportunity to have a voice in the affairs of the University through its governing body, the University Council.

If more than two nominations are received, an election will be held, with voting papers despatched later this year. So be sure to vote when you receive the ballot papers and return them by the date indicated.

For further information about how to nominate please contact Kim Roser on telephone (042) 21 4136.

* The Convocation members are elected by and from the members of the Convocation of the University, which consists of: graduates of the University; graduates of the University of New South Wales who were enrolled for at least three years at the Wollongong University College; graduates of the Wollongong Institute of Education and of the Wollongong Teachers' College; the past and present members of the Council; the members of the full and part-time academic staff; the full-time non-academic members of staff who are graduates of other universities; other such members as have been approved from time to time by Council on application.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION GRANTS

In the last few months the Association has received a number of ad hoc requests for financial assistance, mostly from students seeking help with a particular project, but also from organisations associated with the campus. To date the Board of Management has considered each case on its merits and in some cases has decided to award a small grant (ranging from $50 up to about $200).

In the interests of equity and to formalise the outlay of its funds, the Board has recently drawn up a policy on the award of grants on an annual basis. Alumni, students or groups involved with the campus community are invited to read the conditions outlined below and, if the appropriate criteria are met, to apply for an Alumni Association grant before the closing date of 31 July.

Since the Association is in the early stages of its development, funds for these grants are necessarily limited. Two articles in this issue ('Ship for World Youth' by Matthew Bradley, pp 10 & 11; and 'Planting Trees at Gallipoli' by Neil Trivett, pp 30 & 31) have been written by alumni following their overseas trips, for which they each received a small grant from the Alumni Association or one of its chapters. Another recent recipient of a grant has been the campus Voluntary Aid Detachment of the Red Cross.

Alumni Association Grants: General Conditions

- Grants will be awarded for educational or self-development purposes, or for worthy causes linked to the University community.
- Application may be made by individual Financial Members of the University of Wollongong Alumni Association, by potential alumni of the University (i.e. currently enrolled students) or by organisations which have a link with the University.
- Applications will be considered on merit by the Association's Board of Management (or its subcommittee). The worthiness of the cause and its relevance to the University and to the Association will be taken into account.
- Application must be made on the appropriate form (available from the Alumni Office), and applicants will be asked to provide evidence of expenditure and the names of referees or other sponsors.
- Where appropriate, grant recipients will be asked to supply an article describing their experience for The Outlook magazine.
- The closing date for receipt of applications is 31 July.

Application forms may be obtained from the Alumni Office, University of Wollongong, Northfields Ave, WOLLONGONG, NSW 2522 (located on Level 3 of the Union Building). Telephone (042) 21 3249; Fax (042) 21 4299.
The new ponds to the north of Building 19 and adjacent to the new McKinnon Building (previously known as Keira View) were the subject of a national award to a local landscape architect firm late last year.

A 1994 national merit award was presented to Brammer Taylor Landscape Architects by the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects, for the Keira View Ponds at the University. The category in which the award was made was Infrastructure and Building Settings. This means a landscaped design which is associated with engineering infrastructure and/or building settings. These ponds are not only aesthetically pleasing, but also form an integral part of the University's stormwater system.

The ponds link the upper and lower sections of the campus. Elements of the escarpment and Mt Keira, which rise to the west of the University, were brought into the ponds, including rocks and rounded river pebbles which reflect the processes of weathering. The ponds were completed in early 1994 and were constructed by staff from the University's Landscape Department.

There were 17 entries in the category, ranging from formal Australian embassy gardens overseas to informal nature reserves. The winning Project Award went to Coronella Creek in Nunawading, Victoria, and the merit awards went to the Keira View Ponds at the University of Wollongong and to the Hotel Conrad and Jupiter's Casino on the Gold Coast.

View of a section of the Keira View Ponds, facing west towards the McKinnon Building and Mt Keira, with Building 19 to the left.

Bob Elvy remembers when the University of Wollongong was just four buildings in a paddock. He completed his first degree at Wollongong in 1975, the year he began working with Cleary Bros as assistant company secretary.

Bob now sits in his office on Five Islands Road and runs the day-to-day operations of Cleary Bros, one of the largest private companies of its kind in NSW. ‘My job is made a lot easier by the fact that John, Brian and Denis Cleary retain a big interest and involvement in the day-to-day management of the company,’ Bob explains.

To me, engineering was always a means to an end. I was always interested in the management side of things.

After he finished his second degree in 1979, Bob became administration manager at Cleary Bros, then group controller in 1983 and has been chief executive since 1989. He is now also a director and chairman of the board of BHP Steelers, a trustee of Wollongong Sportsground Trust, chairman of the board of Illawarra Sports Stadium Ltd and a member of Wollongong City Mission’s advisory board.

The Elvy family came to the Illawarra in 1960 and Bob completed his HSC at Keira Boys High School in 1967. Soon after this he began an electrical engineering traineeship with Metal Manufactures Ltd and enrolled in a science degree at the then Wollongong University College. Bob recalls that in those days the College consisted of the Union, the engineering, science and the administration buildings, and roughly 1800 students.

Bob left Metal Manufactures in 1975 to work with his father, Ken, at Cleary Bros. Ken Elvy was company secretary and financial controller at the time, and encouraged Bob to go back to university and complete a commerce degree to increase his chances of advancement. ‘To me, engineering was always a means to an end,’ Bob says. ‘I was always interested in the management side of things and the two degrees helped me appreciate both ends of the scale.’

After graduating with his bachelor of commerce degree in 1979, Bob could commit himself to Cleary Bros full time.

Cleary Bros has been in earthmoving and transport since the company was founded in Kiama at the start of the century. John Joseph Cleary bought his brothers out, but when he died in 1958 the company operations were carried on by sons John, Brian and Denis and daughter Jill. John brought his own companies to Cleary Bros and became chairman, a role he still fulfills.

The company employs 400 people. As Bob explains, ‘We’ve kept our workforce fairly constant, despite the economy going up and down, which has been an additional cost in one sense. We value our employees and they are very loyal as a result.’

I met some young people who had been through this program, and they really impressed me in that they now wanted to do something with their lives.

The company’s desire to offer much-needed assistance to the Steelers in their formative years led it to provide help in ground redevelopment at Wollongong Showground, now Steelers Stadium. ‘John Cleary really wanted to pursue that,’ says Bob, ‘and he put a lot of hard work into it. It used to be a greyhound racing track, but now we have one of the best playing surfaces in the league.

We wanted closer financial control over our ‘investment’ in the Steelers, so in 1988 I became a member of the building
committee overseeing the construction of the licensed club. From there I became involved in a lot of other committees, and was elected on to the Steelers’ board in 1991, becoming chairman the next year.’

Bob then became a trustee of the Wollongong Sportsground Trust (a government appointment) as the representative of the Steelers. ‘The big project now,’ he says, ‘is the entertainment centre and the northern grandstand, a project of great value to the Illawarra community.’

While Bob Elvy was becoming involved in rugby league as a ‘football exec’, he was also turning the attention of Cleary Bros to a completely different organisation in the Wollongong City Mission. ‘I was invited to a breakfast function, which was also an appeal for funds,’ he explains. ‘I was extremely impressed with what the Mission had achieved, not only in terms of its financial and welfare assistance, but also in the training it provided to help people get back into the workforce and off the welfare merry-go-round.

‘The Mission had an employment scheme with a 95 per cent success rate. I met some young people who had been through this program, and they really impressed me in that they now wanted to do something with their lives.’

Bob was the foundation chairman of Wollongong City Mission’s advisory board, whose role is to provide expert advice and support for the Mission’s management, headed by Ted Bartlett.

The latest in the long list of community projects supported by Cleary Bros (a list which also includes providing sports sponsorships and equipment for schools) is the lift at Wollongong City Gallery. Cleary Bros were project managers for the construction of the lift (at discount rates), which Bob says was ‘sorely needed’.

Bob Elvy is more than satisfied to be working in a job he enjoys, for a company he respects. ‘It’s a very interesting company to work for and there has been a wide variety of community areas that the company has supported,’ he says. ‘We’d like to think that, having had a successful corporate history, at the end of the day we have put something back into the community.’

Bob, who is an extremely busy man, particularly wants to acknowledge the enormous support he receives from his wife and family ‘Without them,’ he says, ‘these achievements would just not be possible’

Mavis Miller was educated at the St George Girls’ High School in Sydney, and then undertook a business course at the Summerhayes Business College. However, this preparation was of no immediate use to her due to the Great Depression.

Fortuitously, the opening of the Sydney Harbour Bridge in 1932 provided Mavis with her first jobs, filling souvenir ‘Bridge’ china with sweets, and then with very torn fingers tying them up with gold tinsel cord. When the market quota was reached, she went on to trim hats for the big event.

Mavis eventually became employed in a department store as a costing clerk, and later as a ledger-keeper for nine years. With the outbreak of war, she was able to improve her position in a protected industry at BGE Electrical Plant Manufacturers at Waterloo.

Contributions to the war effort

At BGE Mavis organised a Comforts Fund within the workplace to support the servicemen who had enlisted from the plant. Parcels of food and other necessities (when available) were despatched to them at the front and to those who were prisoners of war. She maintained correspondence with them until the end of the war and during the occupation of Japan.

At the outset of the war, an appeal was made by the Army’s Records Department for typists, so Mavis organised a group to go to the Showground to help out. She also assisted for a short time in the dermatitis ward of the Concord (then) Military Hospital, which was kept busy with men with skin problems from their service in New Guinea.

For some time she worked in the All Services Canteen at Eddy Avenue, just outside Central Railway Station in Sydney, where thousands of servicemen were passing through in a continuous stream. From there Mavis became president of the Gallipoli Younger Set attached to Anzac House, a part of the RSL’s headquarters, where she became involved with meals for the servicemen and organising a Sunday night
dance to raise money for entertainment for servicemen on leave.

During this period Mavis also found time to study the German language for three years at the YWCA.

Interest in women's issues

Concerned with social issues, Mavis had been a member for some years of the Union of Australian Women, and president of the branch covering the Sutherland area. She stepped into the same position in the Warilla group upon settling there, and later also became president for some time of the International Women's Day Committee. It was during this time that Mavis was active in the Union of Australian Women, when she led the first group of women in Crown Street, Wollongong, with petitions to the government of the day against the illegal war in Vietnam.

With an interest in the surf lifesaving movement, Mavis became foundation secretary of the Women's Surf Club attached to the Warilla-Barrack Point SLSC, and soon also became a foundation member of the Warilla Women's Bowling Club.

She was the inaugural secretary of the Warilla Advice and Information Centre for nine years from its foundation in 1974. In 1978 she was admitted to the national organisation, 'The Women of the Year', in recognition of her commitment to the community.

As a longstanding member of the Workers' Educational Association (WEA), Mavis was a representative on the Regional Council and was president of the Illawarra Region at the time of her first year at University. She occupied the same position in the nascent Illawarra Writer's Group, which grew out of the creative writing class in the WEA.

From 1972 Mavis was a Credit Union officer for nine years until her retirement at the age of 65. 'This was considered to be the limit of one's workability' adds Mavis, with just a hint of scorn.

What to do post-retirement?

Mavis was at a loss for some months. Finally, amidst fear and trepidation, she sat for the Special Admissions Program of the University of Wollongong. Gaining admittance, she says that she then had to overcome her intense fear of failure or her inability to complete what she had set her heart on.

Her interest in languages from school days was rekindled in the Department of (then) European Languages, where she embraced her studies of Italian wholeheartedly. As President of Il Circolo Italiano, it was a labour of love for her. She was also interested and active in the cultural organisation, the Dante Alighieri Society, the more so having studied the great poet's major work, La Divina Commedia.

Mavis' earlier fears about studying proved unfounded. Six years and two degrees later, she turned 72.

After graduating Mavis joined the Friends of the University's Graduates Group, which recently became the Campus Chapter of the Alumni Association. Now in her 80th year, she regularly works at the Campus Alumni's highly successful second-hand Bookshop at Campus East, which opens on weekend afternoons twice a month.

Those who know Mavis Miller have heard her say, 'Sitting back and doing nothing is something I can't do.' How true this is. Wherever Mavis sees a need in the community she is there to help. She firmly believes that personal growth is ongoing, regardless of age, and she is always grateful to those around her for contributing to her own growth. Mavis' positive attitude to life and to overcoming obstacles is an example to us all.

ATTENTION INTERNATIONAL ALUMNI!

If you are a Wollongong graduate who has returned home to a country in Asia (or indeed to any part of the world), and would be interested in participating in the development of a group of Wollongong alumni in your country, please would you contact the Alumni Office at the University.

Some work has already been undertaken towards setting up alumni chapters in countries such as Malaysia, Indonesia, Hong Kong and Singapore. The development of groups varies widely, and in some countries there has so far been no formal effort to set up an alumni group, even though the number of Wollongong alumni returning home is steadily increasing.

The Alumni Office would particularly like to hear from graduates in Thailand and Taiwan, and also Hong Kong, where a dinner was held some years ago but a formal chapter has not eventuated.

Exchange or study abroad students are also welcome to participate in establishing alumni groups in their countries, particularly the United States.

There is a small number of Wollongong graduates living in New Zealand, and Bernadine Cantrick-Brooks in Rotorua is keen to make contact with a view to establishing an alumni group. So if you are living in New Zealand, you can expect to hear from Bernadine soon!

The assistance being sought is in the form of advice (regarding customs and demographics of that country in the context of bringing alumni together), updating addresses and so forth. From the University's point of view, it is extremely helpful to have some contacts 'on the ground' when trying to generate interest in a reunion or other alumni get-together overseas.

Input from overseas alumni requested
Brambles' divisions sponsor Engineering Chapter's dinner on 22 July.

We're Ready to Carry the Load

Any time, any place, anywhere there is heavy work to be done, Brambles Industrial Services is ready to take up the challenge. Whether it is trucks, cranes, plant, forklifts, wet or dry hire or contract work, Brambles Industrial Services can provide the service to fulfill your needs.

Engineered Cleaning and Protective Coatings Solutions

- Water Pressure Jetting and Cutting
- Waste Removal and Treatment
- Catalyst Handling
- Hydrodemolition
- Asbestos Removal and Treatment
- Sewer and Drain Cleaning
- Toxic Sludge Treatment and Removal
- Protective Coating Application

Gardner Perrott
Industrial Services

Telephone:
Kurnell (02) 668 8577
Port Kembla (02) 75 2222

**BRAMMBLES**

**INDUSTRIAL SERVICES**

Tel (042) 74 6111
Fax (042) 75 0544

**FORKLIFTS**

A Division of Brambles Australia Ltd.
A.C.N. 000164 938

First in Forklifts

**Hire**

With more than 35 years experience in forklift rental, Brambles Forklifts have developed the best service and backup facilities to make sure that you can get on with what you do best, while we look after your material handling needs.

We operate the largest forklift fleet in the country, with over 3500 forklifts - petrol, diesel, LPG and electric.

Offering the most flexible range of rental plans - from one machine and an operator for casual hire to long-term hire - easily arranged to let you focus on your core business while we take care of your forklift needs.

**Service**

With a fast, reliable breakdown service offering 24 hour, 7 day service and a preventative maintenance program which is second to none, Brambles Forklifts can keep your downtime to a minimum. We can repair and service all forklift types and brands - petrol, diesel, LPG and electric - either on-site with our fleet of mobile workshops or in our fully-equipped workshop.

**Sales**

A range of expertly maintained, ex-hire forklifts for sale at very competitive prices.

(02) 604 8800
Fax (02) 609 4982
767 The Horsley Drive, Smithfield
Number one in forklift rental for over 35 years.
Association AGM

Over 60 alumni and their guests attended the Annual General Meeting on Saturday 4 March 1995. The guest speaker was Wollongong graduate and well-known politician, The Hon Stephen Martin MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives and Member for Cunningham, whose talk about life as a politician and Parliamentarian was both informative and entertaining. It was evident from his address that Stephen is a keen supporter of the University of Wollongong and enjoyed the opportunity to meet with old friends.

Elections were held and office bearers were elected to the Association’s Board of Management as follows:

President Ruth Procter (previously Vice-President)
Vice-President Allan Petersen (President of the Education Chapter)
Secretary Wendy Raikes (re-elected)
Treasurer Ron Perrin (member of the Commerce Chapter)

The founding President, Keith Phipps, and Treasurer, Rosemary Cooper, both decided to step down. Their invaluable contribution to the development of the Association in its early stages is very much appreciated.

Earlier this year the Board, together with the local chapters, began drafting a strategic plan for the Alumni Association, with specific goals and objectives. The new Board is continuing to work on this important document, the final details of which will be published in the next issue.

Continuing the tradition established over the past two years, a reunion will be held on Open Day, this year on Sunday, 27 August. Alumni who graduated in 1984 or 1985 are specifically invited, but any alumni are welcome. Reunion activities include campus tours and official welcome followed by a barbecue lunch, and being Open Day the campus is alive with activity for all the family. This is a great opportunity to see how the campus has changed, especially if you haven’t been back for a year or two.

All members of the alumni are reminded that two of the Convocation representatives on the University Council will be stepping down at the end of this year when their two-year term expires (see page 19). Graduates who are interested in participating in the governance of the University at the highest level are invited to nominate for one of the two vacancies. This is your opportunity to represent your fellow alumni and to have a voice in the affairs of the University. Be sure to vote when you receive the ballot papers, if an election is necessary.

Chapter Updates

Engineering Chapter

A major function is planned for Saturday 22 July, and the engineers are keen to invite alumni members from all disciplines to attend. A dinner/dance, with a celebrity guest speaker, will be held in Wollongong at Carringtons at the Belmore (41 Smith Street) at 700 for 7.30pm. The guest speaker will be Peter FitzSimons: columnist, author, ex rugby international and raconteur.

Tickets for what promises to be an excellent night of entertainment and good food are just $40 per head for Financial Members of the Association and their guests, or $45 per head to other alumni or guests. Included in this cost is a sumptuous three-course meal with wine, celebrity guest speaker, dancing to live music and the chance to renew old friendships. See page 2 for more details.

The engineers have been planning this function for several months, and it has been made possible by the generous sponsorship of four divisions of Brambles: Brambles Industrial Services, Port Kembla; Brambles Forklifts; Gardner Perrott; and Wreckair Hire. Further information about the services offered by these divisions of Brambles is given on the page opposite.
The three annual Engineering Alumni Awards were recently presented to students from each of the three departments in the Faculty as follows: Fiona Kaul (Materials Engineering), Matthew Malone (Mechanical Engineering) and Laura Camarotto (Civil and Mining Engineering). The awards were presented by Mark Bell, President of the Chapter, at the Faculty Prize Evening on 9 May. The recipients were given an engraved university plaque.

**Campus Alumni**

Since the beginning of the year the secondhand Bookshop at Campus East has been opening fortnightly, on the second and fourth weekend afternoons of each month (1-5pm). The wide range of textbooks, fiction, collectors’ items, magazines and more is well worth a browse, and if you have any books you no longer need, donations are always welcome.

Proceeds from the Bookshop go towards book prizes for honours year (or equivalent) students. At present three prizes, worth $300 each, are offered annually on a triennial system, whereby each of the nine faculties is allocated a prize every three years. This year the prizes are being awarded to a student from the faculties of Arts, Creative Arts and Law. Two have been awarded so far: to Louise Manner in Creative Arts and to Natalie Gray in Law (see photo).

The Campus Alumni AGM was held on 5 April and the following members were elected to the Executive: Trevor Brew (President), Keith Phipps (Vice-President), Wolfgang Brodesser (Secretary/Treasurer), Marjory Macdonald (Bookshop Convenor), Wilma Furlonger (Assistant Bookshop Convenor) and Michael Arrighi (Representative to the Board).

**Commerce Alumni**

A most successful networking/friendraising party was held on campus in February featuring a number of commerce alumni who each gave a short talk about the importance of the University and the value of networking. Lucky door prizes were also drawn from business cards deposited by alumni as they arrived. This type of function is set to become an annual event.

The Chapter’s AGM was held just before the Association’s, on Saturday 4 March. Following the elections, the 1995 Management Committee comprises David Winton (President), Rita Tibbitts (Vice-President), Joy Bassett (Secretary), John Vouriotis (Treasurer), Greg Laing (Membership) and Ron Perrin (Representative to the Board). At the AGM the 1994 Commerce Alumni Award (for outstanding achievement by a member of the alumni) was awarded to Phillip Peace (BCom 1983).

On Open Day on Sunday, 27 August, the Commerce Alumni will have a ‘hospitality room’ in Building 40 as a respite and meeting area for commerce alumni who visit the campus that day. The room (40.338) will be open from 11am to 3pm, and tea and coffee will be available. So please feel free to drop in for a chat and a rest.

For the second time the Chapter has recently awarded complimentary annual membership to graduates on the Dean’s Merit List. The group is keen to expand membership and to look at ways of increasing opportunities to provide student scholarships.

**Education Chapter**

At the Chapter’s AGM, held on 18 May, guest speaker Dr Jan Turbill from the Faculty of Education gave a very interesting address entitled ‘Assessment and Evaluation within an Outcomes Standard Framework of Education’.

Elections were also held as follows: Allan Petersen (President), Lenore Armour (Vice-President), Christine Howell (Secretary), Hazel Holmwood (Treasurer) and committee members: Michael Arrighi, Rosemarie Dowel, Kerrie Eyding and Malcolm Harris. The new committee is meeting in early June to plan events for the year.

**Honorary Chapter**

Last year’s project to raise funds for a scholarship resulted in donations by Chapter members amounting to more than $3,000. A scholarship for this amount was awarded to a first-year student who enrolled in Creative Arts this year. The balance of funds will be used to purchase some works of art for the University’s Permanent Collection.
Opportunities for exchanges overseas

Chapter members met on University Day (8 May) and were given a briefing about current developments at the University by Convenor, Dr Brian Gillett.

During the graduation ceremonies in May, six people were honoured by the University. Dr Vincent Cincotta and Mr Jerry Ellis were made Fellows of the University; Professor Barry Jones, Dr John Stocker and Mr Bert Flugelman were awarded honorary doctorates; and Professor James Hagan was made Emeritus Office bearers elected to the Association's Board of Management at the AGM in March, from left; Ron Perrin (Treasurer), Allan Petersen (Vice-President), Ruth Procter (President) and Wendy Raikes (Secretary). Professor. These people are now welcomed as new members of the Honorary Chapter □

INTERNATIONAL ALUMNI EXCHANGES

Currently studying for her BCom, Audrey Smith is the International Relations Director for AIESEC Wollongong. Below she explains what AIESEC is and how alumni can benefit by participating in its International Graduate Exchange Program.

Every year AIESEC (pronounced eye-sek) offers thousands of university graduates throughout the world the opportunity to work overseas in traineeships through its International Graduate Exchange Program. The traineeships can range in duration from six weeks up to eighteen months.

AIESEC is the world's leading student organisation with over 80,000 members in 81 countries. AIESEC aims to increase understanding between countries and people, and to overcome political, social and cultural barriers that prevent peace in the world. In order to achieve these aims, AIESEC cooperates with business, academics and other organisations to run programs that address issues facing today's society. The International Graduate Exchange Program is one of the tools utilised by AIESEC in achieving its aims.

In the past year, the University of Wollongong's AIESEC local committee has provided past students with the opportunity to work in and experience the culture of countries as varied as Egypt, Hong Kong, the Czech Republic and the United States. Graduate Lisa Mulquiney, for example, is currently in Egypt for nine months working in the hospitality industry, whilst Megan Tyquin is in the Czech Republic for three months doing a market research project for an electricity company.

Reciprocal exchanges

In Wollongong AIESEC has been host to international graduates placed in traineeships with companies such as BHP Sheet and Coil Products Division, the Joint Coal Board and the Government Employees Health Fund.

In February 1994 Henry Anthony, a graduate from the University of Indonesia, travelled to Australia to be employed for twelve months at the Government Employees Health Fund. Working in the accounting department of the Wollongong office, Henry gained practical work experience in accounting as well as an international perspective through the interaction with fellow employees, AIESEC members and the general community.
Herry believes that the AIESEC International Graduate Exchange Program provided him with a 'memorable experience'. He comments, 'Not only have I had an opportunity to develop my business skills and my future career prospects, but I've also made a lot of friends at the office, AIESEC and in my other social life."

The transition from an eastern to a western culture was a challenge for Herry. He says that Australian slang was always hard for him to understand, but by the end of his traineeship Herry appeared to be fluent with all the varying terms used by Australians.

Moslem is the main religion of Indonesia, and this cultural difference confronted Herry with further challenges. As Moslems are prohibited to eat any form of pork, foods such as pizza, hamburgers and even fried rice were all to be avoided, even though fried rice in Indonesia does not usually contain any ham or bacon.

As well personally benefiting from an important cultural experience, Herry has also had the opportunity to contribute to a better understanding of his own culture by his Australian colleagues and friends. In fact all AIESEC trainees are encouraged to take advantage of as many opportunities as possible to help

bridge the gaps between different cultures. AIESEC members in the host country offer trainees the chance to become involved in various projects run by AIESEC, such as visiting schools, working with other community groups and giving cultural presentations.

Open to alumni

All university graduates can have the opportunity, like Herry, to live and work in another country. What better way to experience the culture than to become a part of the country and its people? Instead of being a tourist and only viewing the country on a superficial level, the way of life of another culture can be truly experienced.

Upon arrival in your host country, members of the AIESEC local committee will do their best to help you adjust. AIESEC assists you with your visa application, finding accommodation and any other problems you may encounter. They will also arrange activities that will help your stay in their country to be as enjoyable as possible.

International exposure is obviously an advantage in today's competitive environment. It gives you the opportunity of working in your chosen field whilst also broadening your mind by viewing the world through different eyes.

A range of different traineeships is available depending on your qualifications. Traineeships in the fields of commerce and computing are particularly common, although those requiring experience in engineering, linguistics, journalism and other fields are often available.

Perhaps one of the greatest benefits of the Exchange Program is that it is reciprocal. The entry of one trainee into Australia thus enables one of our graduates to take on the challenge to work overseas.

For more details about how you can become involved in the program, please telephone AIESEC Wollongong at the University on (042) 21 4032. Ring us and broaden your horizons!

YOUR FEEDBACK IS VALUABLE

Universities throughout Australia have recently been thrust into the spotlight in terms of their ability to demonstrate a commitment to providing quality teaching and research to the greater community. Annual quality audits have been performed on all universities by the federal government, as the article on page 6 explains.

As a graduate of the University of Wollongong, you are no doubt pleased to know that your university is seen as being comparable to any other in Australia, and is considered to be one of Australia's leading universities.

A major reason for this is the emphasis placed by this university on strategic planning and quality processes. The broad approach to monitoring, assessment and the adjustment processes are encapsulated in the diagram, which maps these components of the planning and quality framework and their interrelationships.
By special arrangement with the supplier, the plaque has been made available to alumni at an extremely low price. The cost per plaque, either framed or mounted on timber, is $61.00 to Financial Members of the Alumni Association, and $66.00 to other alumni. These costs include postage and handling, but please add $25.00 to overseas orders.

To place your order, just complete the form below and return it with your payment or credit card details, and a clear photocopy of your testamur plaque, to the Alumni Office at the University. Please allow 28 days for delivery in Australia. (Overseas orders may possibly take longer)

Name ____________________________
Name at graduation (if different) ____________________________
Postal address ____________________________ Postcode __________
Country (if outside Australia) ____________________________
Tel: Home __________ Business __________
I wish to order (please Indicate number)
- Gold plaque on polished rosewood timber
- Framed gold plaque
- Framed silver plaque

NB: The cost per plaque is $61.00 to Financial Members of the Alumni Association and $66.00 to other alumni. For overseas orders please add $25.00.

I am/am not a Financial Member of the Alumni Association. (Delete as applicable)

My cheque (or postal money order), payable to the University of Wollongong, for $ _______ is enclosed, together with a photocopy of my degree testamur.

Alternatively please charge $ _______ to my Bankcard / MasterCard / Visa (delete as applicable)

Card no: _______ / _______ / _______ / _______
Expiry date: _______ / _______
Name on card ____________________________
Signature ____________________________ Date _______

Please complete and return this form, with your payment and photocopy of your degree to: Alumni Office, University of Wollongong, Northfields Ave, Wollongong NSW 2522. Orders by credit card may be faxed on (042) 21 4299. Enquiries may be made by telephone to the Alumni Office on (042) 21 3249.

The University has regularly sought feedback from its past and present students and other stakeholder groups regarding the quality of services and facilities, as well as identifying barriers to access and the achievement of a student’s full potential once here. Recent successes resulting from your feedback have seen greater numbers of subject references held in the library, and improved rail and bus services to the University, including the establishment of a regular bus service to southern Sydney.

Figure: Framework for Institutional Planning And Delivery

Service needs/result Service process documents Service processes Service measured

---

Service Quality Loop
Neil’s visit to Turkey

PLANTING TREES AT GALLIPOLI

The University recently assisted three students to participate in a reafforestation project on the Gallipoli Peninsula. One of the students, Neil Trivett (BA 1994, currently completing a Master of Arts in journalism), recounts this unique experience.

In July last year, huge areas of prime forest on the Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey were devastated by fire. The blaze left thousands of hectares completely bereft of life, and also killed the man in charge of firefighting operations.

Ismail Duman, a lecturer from Istanbul Technical University (ITU), who was camping nearby with his family helped to fight the fire. After more than a week, he returned to Istanbul determined to find a way to help reafforest the area.

In conjunction with a close-knit group of colleagues, Ismail went on to enlist the help of more than 1,500 Turkish students and staff from ITU and Istanbul University. In view of the historical significance of the peninsula as a battleground during the First World War, 40 international students from Germany, Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand were also given the opportunity to assist.

The symbolism of our countries cooperating with Turkish authorities to replant an area where we once fought was very powerful.

In November last year the International Office at the University of Wollongong was asked to nominate three students to form part of a contingent of 18 from Australia and New Zealand. Belinda Waide (who completed her Bachelor of Creative Arts last year), Gary Leonard (a Master of Science student) and I were lucky enough to emerge from the selection process as Wollongong’s representatives.

Just over a week later, in late November, we were winging our way to Turkey, with the help of Turkish Airways.

We arrived in Istanbul at 6.30 am, 28 hours and five transit lounges after leaving Sydney, to be met by the project organiser, Ismail Duman. An hour later, the television cameras and press reporters turned up. It was only then that we were allowed to leave customs, after we had draped our bodies in our countries’ flags for the inevitable photo opportunity.

It took us an hour or so to reach our guesthouse, our tiredness arriving about thirty minutes later, together with more media. Any plans to sleep were forgotten as we received each media organisation individually.

Some time after supper we had had enough, so we headed to the city’s largest nightclub, one of Europe’s largest in fact. Isn’t it funny how you suddenly find energy when something important needs to be done?

We arrived at the nightclub and waited whilst our hosts negotiated our entry fee. At the same time that the bouncers realised we were westerners, and therefore ‘groovy’ enough to be let in, a group of ‘not so groovy’ people took offence and started shooting. They managed to fire off a few shots, before being persuaded to leave by one of the bouncers and his 18-inch gun. Relatively unphased, we made our way inside and emerged six hours later.

The following morning we were woken at some ridiculous hour (midday, I think) for the first of our many official tours of the city.

Duman. An hour later, the television cameras and press reporters turned up. It was only then that we were allowed to leave customs, after we had draped our bodies in our countries’ flags for the inevitable photo opportunity.

The initial thing that struck me was that Istanbul has no wastebins. The fewer bins you have, the fewer places the PKK (the Kurdish rebels) can hide bombs. The organisers of our trip were vigilant in their attempts to ensure we were not the object of a PKK attack, especially when we travelled to Gallipoli.

When the time came about a week later, we felt there was little chance of this happening. Our convoy of 16 buses was preceded by four police cars, a dozen or so army trucks, and the Governor’s car (all complete with flashing lights and the odd siren).
The 350km trip took all day and I spent most of the journey looking out the window. Periodically interrupting the barren countryside were masses of unfinished buildings, which it seems is the norm in Turkey. I thought I must have arrived in the country at the beginning of a huge construction boom, until a lecturer from Istanbul Technical University enlightened me.

Apparently it is quite common for a group of well-meaning friends to come together to form a collective, and begin building some holiday flats or an apartment building. Only because of the country's soaring inflation rate, they often find that they run out of money. The construction could lie dormant for years before enough money can be scratched together to begin building again.

Even when finances are not a problem, building a house can take years. An elderly expatriate American artist explained it to me this way. 'Everyone in Turkey has a job. Your job might be fitting water pipes, and that's all you do. Someone else fits the faucets and someone else fits the toilet. Then to top it all off you have to get in another person to connect the lot up to the water main. You can imagine how long it takes to build a house.'

These words were to haunt me during my time at the camp.

After detouring to take in the Turkish War Memorial, at the insistence of the Governor, we arrived at the campsite two and a half hours late, one hour after the sun had gone down, two days before the power would be connected and three days before our supplies were to turn up.

The conditions at the camp were, to say the least, spartan, and both food and water were in short supply. Most meals consisted of stale bread, thin soup and tea. Going to sleep on an empty stomach in temperatures around -6°C became quite difficult at times.

The British believe we have placed undue emphasis on what happened at Gallipoli. 'Nostalgic paranoia,' someone recently said. Perhaps they're right. But the Turks understand why it's so important to us.

It's impossible to go anywhere in Turkey and not see a statue or bust of Atatürk, who commanded the Turkish forces at Gallipoli and subsequently founded the Turkish republic.

They have officially renamed the area of coastline where our forces landed ANZAK Koğu (ANZAC Cove). Every year thousands of Australians make the pilgrimage to the area. They feel the need to experience it for themselves.

I never shared this urge, until I arrived at the camp. I was only ten kilometres from ANZAC Cove and could see Lone Pine from the fields where we worked planting trees. As each day passed, and the reality of the camp set in, I increasingly felt an overriding desire to go and see 'the cove'.

After four days I couldn't wait any longer.

The organisers said there would be a visit to the area at some stage during the two-week camp. Then again, they had also said there would be showers and warm beds. I had come too far to miss my opportunity to walk between the graves at ANZAC Cove.

One morning, against strict instructions to the contrary, three Aussies and one Kiwi walked to ANZAC Cove and Lone Pine. It was an eight-hour round trip, even though we managed to hitch a ride with a group of peasants. They were going to scavenge firewood to exchange for food.

I was surprised to find that amongst the devastation of the fire, small rings of green had remained around the grave sites. This was due to a combination of good luck and hard work put in by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, whose efforts saved the sites.

The results of the fire were, at times, distressing. However, I consider myself extremely lucky to have been able to see the area as it would have been after the war. I shall always remember the tree that I planted at Lone Pine, in memory of the ANZACs.

And I shall always cherish the mateship that formed between the Australian and New Zealand students during our time at Gallipoli.

Turkish dancers entertain the busloads of students as they travel from Istanbul to Gallipoli.

Neil, Belinda and Gary would like to thank the University Council, the Students' Representative Council, Professor Sutton, the International Office, the Alumni Association and the University Union for their assistance.
The Union Retail Centre now stocks a first class range of music CD's, specialising in those hard to find classical and jazz CD's, and a wide range of pop and rock. There is also a mail order service, so we can send your CD to you!

University of Wollongong Union

Retail Centre open
Monday to Friday 8am - 6pm
Saturdays 10am - 2pm

042 266 940

Campus Personal Computing

- Complete Apple Macintosh Range
- Complete Compaq PC Range
- Internet Hardware and Software Packages
- Telecommunications (incl. Mobile Phones)
- Full Range of Software and Peripherals
- Full Maintenance and Support Facilities

Note: A proportion of the income from each sale will be donated to the Alumni Association.

(042) 21 3775

Suppling Technology solutions to members of the Alumni Association