Philosophy Input for The Festival of Wollongong

The Department of Philosophy has organised the first of a series of public lectures for the Festival of Wollongong. It is doing this as a member of the Friends, which has as an objective the improvement of city and campus interaction.

The Inaugural Philosophy Festival Address was given by Professor Lauchlan Chipman of the Department of Philosophy, University of Wollongong. The Address was given at Wollongong Town Hall on Tuesday, 31st August on the theme “Human Rights, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow”.

The address was hard hitting and typical of Chipman. An extract from the text follows:

“I would predict that the Human Rights Commission will, during the course of its review of the human right to freedom of expression, receive submissions calling for tougher legislation against hate propaganda, particularly hate propaganda directed at selected ethnic groups. Writing nine years ago, in and of Victoria, I was able to say:

There is in fact no hate propaganda problem in Victoria, nor is the evolution of such a problem reasonably foreseeable.”

“Today, and looking at Australia generally, I am not so sure. Ironically, the rise in self-consciousness with respect to ethnicity, encouraged by official support at all levels for multiculturalism, has been correlated with a growth, at least in the reporting of the circulation of obnoxious and semi-literate tirades directed at particular ethnic groups, most notably the Vietnamese. It is easy to justify legislation against the use of violence or its threat, and against discrimination on ethnic grounds in such spheres as employment, education, and the provision of goods and services. It is very much more difficult to justify taking legal action against those who write or produce material which constitutes an incitement to such discrimination. Here one is in a very difficult position, for it is no part of the argument that the publication of malicious or poisonous lies about people of a given ethnic group is a worthy quality of a liberal and pluralist society.”

“The important thing about holding something as a principle is that one is then required to hold on to it even when it is exploited to do something which one does not welcome. There is no doubt that the principle, people are to be presumed innocent in criminal trials, enables some guilty people to go free, who would probably be convicted in the absence of such a principle. It is also the case that acceptance of the principle that humans have a right of freedom of expression means expression of things which one might believe to be untrue, unwise, ugly, or repulsive. But it is very much more difficult to justify taking legal action against those who write or produce material which actually causes material damage to its victims because of its effects on public attitudes.”

A complete copy of the Inaugural Philosophy Festival Address can be obtained from the Department of Philosophy at the University of Wollongong, telephone (042) 282427.

Chess Champion-Festival Highlight

Mr John Tong, Chess Editor and a member of the Friends of the University, organized the Simultaneous Exhibition by Fred Flatow, the City of Sydney Champion and former Australian Champion. The Exhibition was part of the Festival activities on Sunday, 29 August.

John has supplied the following account of the day.

“A total of 35 players selected from the local high schools and the Ironworkers Club participated under the glorious spring sunshine and the ocean breeze at the Belmore Basin”.

“The event surprisingly drew a great deal of interest from the passing crowd. The local chess community can hold its head high on the occasion for they had a celebrity to rival Johnny Young performing nearby.”

“Mr Flatow gave a taste of things to come when he demolished Giles Pickford, Executive Officer of the Friends in 10 moves in a warm-up game. The less experienced juniors succumbed very quickly to his sharp tactical play. On the other boards he gained the upperhand rapidly, punishing any inexactitudes.”

“Three hours and 800 moves later, Mr Flatow emerged victorious with 30 wins, 3 draws and 2 losses. Science student George Meldrum maintained his good record against visiting masters by drawing with Mr Flatow. The President of the University Chess Club, Wolfgang Brodessa scored 3-0 against the late comers”.

“Finally, thanks to the Graduates Group within the Friends of the University for donating the appearance fee and Mr Flatow, who in turn donated it to the Chess Olympiad team which will be held in Lucerne, Switzerland in October.”
ITALIANS OF WOLLONGONG TO WRITE THEIR HISTORY

The Italian community will fund a leading author to write the History of the Italian people of Illawarra. This decision was taken on 25 August, 1982, at a meeting in the Fraternity Bowling Club.

The University of Wollongong has found an eminent scholar to write the history. He is Dr Gerardo Zampaglione currently Ambassador for Italy in Indonesia and the author of six books.

Dr Zampaglione has expressed an interest in writing this history, particularly because it will be the first serious history of the migration of any ethnic group to Australia except for the British.

Mr G. Perusco, the organiser of the fundraising campaign and the Honorary Consul for Italy in Wollongong, has said that the need to write the history is urgent.

“Our history must be written soon”, he said, “before the many memories and records of the early days start to disappear. We owe this to ourselves and to our children”. The Italian Consul in Sydney is supporting the project and has already made a substantial donation.

The campaign organisers are currently seeking $70,000 which will be the cost of the project over the period 1983-84. Donations are tax deductible.

The organisers are also seeking historical and archival material from any Italian family or firm in Wollongong so that it will be possible for Dr Zampaglione to make an early start in 1983.

The books already published by Dr Zampaglione are set out below:


"Breve Storia dell’Integrazione Europea" (Short History of European Unity). Rome 1958. Pages 144.


"La Storia del Kuwait" (History of Kuwait). Rome 1980 Pages 272.

The Friends of the University of Wollongong are coordinating the project and any enquiries should be directed to Mr. Giles Pickford on telephone 282428 or 297311.

SEMINARS

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTING SCIENCE

The first Wollongong Summer School on The Science of Programming will be held January 31, 1983 to February 9, 1983, at Sponar's Chalet, Diggers Creek on Lake Kosciusko, Kosciusco Road, Perisher Valley, NSW.

Objectives: to improve the quality of thought which goes into the design and construction of computer programs; to lay foundations for improvement of teaching of programming and other aspects of computer science.

Lecturers: Professor Dr E.W. Dijkstra, Burroughs Research Fellow, Nuenen, The Netherlands.
Professor D. Gries, Department of Computer Science, Cornell University, USA.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

Professor Tony Vinson of the University of New South Wales will speak about his new book "Wilful Obstruction" on 9 September at 12.45 p.m. in Room 19.2103.

DEPARTMENTS OF ECONOMICS, HISTORY, HPS AND SOCIOLOGY

Mr Charles Perkins, Director, Aboriginal Development Commission, Canberra, will speak on "An Assessment of the Commonwealth's Welfare Programmes for the Aboriginal People", in Room 19.G14, Social Science Building at 10.30 a.m., Wednesday 8th September, 1982.

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

Dr Grahame Skyring, Dr. Phillip Trudinger and Dr. John Bauld of the Baas-Becking Laboratories in Canberra will speak on "Biogeochemical Cycling" on 7 September at 12.30 p.m. in Room 134 in the Metallurgy Building.

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

On Thursday 16 September at 12.30 p.m. in the Physics Lecture Theatre, Mr John Shepanski of the School of Physics, University of NSW will speak on "General Relativity and Relativistic Cosmology for interested onlookers".

CONFERENCE ON EMPLOYMENT GENERATION IN THE ILLAWARRA

Mr Merv Nixon, Chairman, South Coast Labor Council, is arranging a conference on employment generation in the Illawarra. It will be held at the University on Sunday, September 19 and Monday, September 20. The sponsors are the South Coast Labor Council, the Wollongong Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Wollongong City Council, the University of Wollongong, and the local Media. Details will be published in the next edition of "Campus News".
General Notices

MATHS STARS

On August 2, 275 year 6 pupils from 31 schools in the Illawarra took part in the first Illawarra Junior Mathematics Competition. The Competition, sponsored by the Illawarra Mathematical Association, the IMB, the Institute of Advanced Education and the South Coast Region Department of Education will be an annual event.

The two first prize winners were Belinda Suenson from Sts. Peter and Paul, Kiama, and Michael Lawler from Nareena Hills. Each received a medal, a $100 Investment Account from the IMB and an Outstanding Certificate.

Professor P. Rousch, Mr B. Gillitt, Mr W. Pike, some University staff together with the parents and teachers of the top 10 students will attend the presentation in the IMB Function Centre on Wednesday, 18 September.

UNIVERSITY GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

A summary of the papers from the AVCC Conference of Governing Bodies on University Government Relations is available from the Editor of Campus News. File 16-2-35 refers.

ENERGY POLICY AND OPERATING COSTS

The University Secretary has drawn the attention of all staff to the University’s substantial costs for energy, telephones and postage.

In 1982, it has been necessary to make the following budgetary provisions:

- Electricity, Gas, Oil: $360,000
- Water: $28,000
- Postage, Telephones: $239,000

It is necessary for all staff to be aware of the large costs involved and their co-operation is necessary if we are to contain expenditures on these accounts.

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation for male and female students is available during the summer in the Women’s College at the University of Sydney. Enquiries to the Principal on (02) 511195.

ASSOC. OF COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITIES

The following publications are available from the ACU, 36 Gordon Square, London, W1C 0PF.

- Postgraduate Studies at Australian Universities.
- Postgraduate Studies at British Universities.
- Postgraduate Studies at Canadian Universities.
- Postgraduate Studies at New Zealand Universities.

CLOSE UP LOOK AT TELECOM FACILITIES

Twenty staff and students from the University of Wollongong’s electrical engineering faculty had a one day visit to Telecom Australia’s telecommunications facilities in Sydney. Under the leadership of Dr Ken McLean, the fourth year electrical engineering students toured a number of Telecom installations including the older Redfern Exchange and inspected radio terminals and later visited the Trunk and International Exchanges. The group received detailed explanations of equipment and exchanges from Telecom staff.

AMERICAN STUDENTS APPEAL FUND

On Sunday 22 August 1982 three of Wollongong University’s American Exchange students - Brandon Breda, Suzanne Burton and Ruth Wieczorek were killed in a road accident in Queensland.

The University Union and the residents of International House have established an appeal fund to meet some of the expenses resulting from the accident, particularly the costs of flying the bodies of the students back to the U.S.A. for burial, which is expected to cost their families in the region of $3,000.00

In the near future a number of fund raising activities will be organised in aid of the Appeal Fund. In the meantime donations to the Appeal Fund are welcomed. Collection boxes have been placed in the Union Cafeteria and Bar and donations can also be sent to the Union Office. Cheques should be made payable to the “University of Wollongong Union”.

Concerts, Exhibitions and Entertainment

VANCE CONDUCTS BRITTEN

On Tuesday, 21 September at 8 p.m. in Wollongong Town Hall, David Vance will conduct the University of Wollongong Choir, The Illawarra Choral Society and the Wollongong Conservatorium String Orchestra in a rendition of “St. Nicholas” by Benjamin Britten.

Bookings are at the Union Office - $5 adult $2 concession.

MONTEVERDI MADRIGALS

On Saturday, 11 September at 8 p.m. in the Wollongong City Gallery, the University Singers will perform a programme of Madrigals by Monteverdi. There will also be music for unaccompanied cello performed by Megan Garner.

NEW PERFORMING GROUP

PUJOL, a new performing group based at the Centre for the Arts in the Institute has been formed.

Its first performances will be at Wollongong Workers Club from 1st to 4th September to coincide with the Festival of Wollongong.

Members are performing two Australian satires “The Roy Murphy Show” by Alex Buzo and “Drums Along the Diamantina” by Tim Golding.

Pujol will specialise in street theatre and plays with strong audience involvement.

Enquiries to G. Stonehouse, 202298.
Job Vacancies

DETAILS OF ALL THE JOB VACANCIES BELOW ARE CONTAINED ON THE CAMPUS NEWS NOTICE BOARD SITUATED AT THE SOUTHERN END OF THE HUT.

Flinders
- Temporary Lecturer in Chemistry
- Temporary Lecturer in Computing Science
- Lecturer in Sociology
- Research Fellow in Labour Studies

Macquarie
- Sr Lecturer/Lecturer in English and Linguistics
- Sr Tutors/Tutors in Slavonic Studies
- Temporary Lecturers in Education

ANU
- Professorial Fellow in Surfact Physics
- Postdoctoral Fellow/Research Fellow in Chemical or optical Physics
- Reader/Snr Lecturer in Accounting
- Lecturer in Population Studies
- Research Post in Pacific Studies
- Lecturer in Law
- Lecturer in Entomology

New England
- Principal of Mary White College

The Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee list of University vacancies in Australia is available from the Editor. File 320-99-2(ii) refers.

Scholarships and Prizes

DETAILS ON ALL THE SCHOLARSHIPS AND PRIZES BELOW ARE CONTAINED ON THE CAMPUS NEWS NOTICE BOARD SITUATED AT THE END OF THE HUT.

Name
- Caltex Woman Graduate of the Year Scholarships
- University of Newcastle Research Scholarships
- Jackson Ceramic Award
- ANU Vacation Scholarships

Field
- No restrictions
- All Departments at the University
- Ceramics
- No restrictions

Advertisements

HOLIDAY JOB IN PROGRAMMING

Uniadvice is seeking a person with a high level of expertise in computer programming to work on computerization of a local client’s records system. Suitably qualified applicants should contact Giles Pickford in the Friends office on 282428.

STUDY LEAVE ACCOMMODATION IN UK

A 3 bedroom house, 1½ miles from Cambridge, is available for renting for the period December 1982 - June 1983. For details contact Ross Walker, ext. 885.

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

The Northern Rivers College of Advanced Education has advised that holiday accommodation is available at Lismore for staff of the University. Costs range from $95 to $150 per week. For further information contact ext. 429.

Sport

SPORTS ASSOCIATION FEES UP

The University Council at its last meeting resolved in the following terms:

(i) that the 1983 Sports Association Budget be approved;
(ii) that with effect from 1 January 1983, the annual membership fee be increased to $25 and the entrance fee to $10;
(iii) that the proposed automatic increase in subscriptions be referred to the Administrative Committee for advice.

WOMEN SCORE BASKETBALL HONOURS

The University of Wollongong men and women’s basketball teams competed in 1982 intervarsity.

The women won the semi finals against Latrobe - 67 to 35. Top scorer was Barbara Williams.

They went on to win the finals against Newcastle 78 to 51. Top scorer was Marina Vlasoff with 31 points and Wendy Dal Santo with 26 points. Two members of the team were selected for the All Star Team - they were Marina Vlasoff and Joanne Guyatt.

Marina was named most valuable woman player by the referees.

The men’s team finished 5th and Gary Vaughan was selected for the men’s All Star Team.