Open Day for Research Students

High standard of work and of presentation

For many university students post-graduate research is seen as something rarified and esoteric, even elitist — something concerning only those who would have been described by Miss Jean Brodie, in her prime, as the crème de la crème. [On the other hand, the careers market the way it is, there are those who see a higher degree as the way to go.] The University’s first exhibition of post-graduate research, staged at the Union on November 9, tended to confirm that view of the esoteric. Titles of many of the research projects, to a lay mind, were mind-boggling.

One or two examples: Piezo and Zeeman Spectroscopy of Group iii Acceptors in Germanium; or Pathogenesis of Pseudomonas Aeruginosa in Sheep Fleece Rot.

But what could be clearly understood by anyone, was that this inaugural exhibition, scheduled to appear on the annual calendar of University fixtures, was an eye-opener in several ways. It indicated an extremely high level of teaching and of research. It indicated an extremely close rapport between academic staff and post-graduate.
students. It indicated a close camaraderie not only between staff and students, but between students from diverse disciplines (for example, the Creative Arts student examining a display from Biology and exclaiming, 'That's something I can use'). These were among the points stressed by the Vice-Chancellor during this opening address and by Professor David Griffiths during the awards presentation.

The displays themselves varied widely in terms of presentation. Two which stood out as head and shoulders above all others were those from Biology and Metallurgy and Materials Engineering. They achieved this by the use of models and/or good typography, which made visitors automatically gravitate towards them and spend some time there. With those examples in mind, other displays less impressive on this occasion will clearly become more 'attractive' to visitors next time round.

In many ways the Open Day was about communication — another point stressed by the Vice-Chancellor. Too much research and too many researchers remained 'undiscovered' because many researchers had still to learn that communication, outside the boundaries of academe, was as important as the results of successful research.

Of the exhibition, the Vice-Chancellor said this was a very special day, and one marking another step along the road to maturity. Post-graduate students, he said, were at the cutting edge of University activity. He acknowledged that life was tough on the allowance available. And on the point of difficulty of communication, he stressed the fact that scientists 'had to learn to get across to lay people details of esoteric research. Scientists who learned to communicate would get a better deal.' 'Getting the message across' was an important aspect of a research career.

This year, for the first time, the University gave awards for the best PhD and the best MSc theses submitted during the year. Judgement was based on a report by referees.

Both awards went to the Department of Chemistry: the best PhD to Ulrich Senff and best MSc to Roslyn Atkins. At the end of the day it was congratulations all round for the 150 post-graduate students, and their supervisors, who took part in the displays and oral presentations.

Congratulations were in order too for Professor Ian Chubb whose brainchild this was, for Professor David Griffiths for his role in the academic side of things, for Peter Wood and Denise Stevens of Academic Services who were behind the organisation and who were able to introduce to many of those present the unit's latest publication — the University's first truly comprehensive Research Report, covering the year 1987-88.
resulted in the prototype demonstrations. However, only one 'knowledge' strand has been completed so far — that of 'open fires' — and while much remains to be done, methods of obtaining the objectives set out have become clearer, and an acceleration towards the final goal is confidently expected.

J.D. Hamment

Visit of Professor Krishnamurthy

Professor E.V. Krishnamurthy, Professor of Computer Science at Waikato University, Hamilton, New Zealand, will be visiting the Faculty of Mathematical Sciences from November 21 to 25. He is one of the world's most productive computer scientists, having published some eight books and 120 papers. He is a member of the Indian Academy of Sciences and has supervised approximately 60 graduate students.

At present he is particularly interested in parallel processing, a procedure whereby a computer could be solving several different parts of a single complex problem at the one time. His methods involve the use of combinatoric logic, the particular interest of Associate-Professor Martin Bunder of the Mathematics Department. Professor Krishnamurthy will be working with Associate-Professor Bunder during the week and will be giving a seminar to members of the Faculty of Mathematical Sciences.

Audio-visual Equipment 1989

Heads of academic units have been invited to submit requests for the purchase of audio-visual equipment in 1989.

The closing date for submissions is 30 November 1988. Academic staff should notify their equipment needs through their Heads of Departments or Schools after having discussed the matter with Mr B. Robson, ext 3622.

Background to Natural Hazards in the Illawarra

This short course is designed to provide background information on location, causes and possible prediction of natural hazards affecting the Illawarra, concentrating on the area between Helensburgh and Nowra. It is directed towards planners, engineers and developers who might have expertise in their fields of interest, but who want to update their knowledge or acquire broader information on the nature of a wider range of hazards. The course is intended as an introduction to hazards and forms part of a series of courses to be given over the next few years. Some future courses will be field orientated. The present course will run for two days, broken down into four half-day lecture sessions.

November 30
9 am -12.30 pm  Climatic background to natural hazards in the Illawarra
1.30 -5 pm  Flooding in the Illawarra

December 1
9 am -12.30 pm  The problem of landslip in the Illawarra
1.30 pm - 5 pm  The bushfire hazard.

Specifics

Climatic Background — Dr Edward Bryant, Department of Geography.
This segment establishes the climatic background for the occurrence and prediction of rainfall-dependent hazards. Included in this discussion is a description of the Southern Oscillation and the climatic events associated with it.

Hazards dependent upon this phenomena in the Illawarra include coastal storms, regional and localised flash flooding, landslip and bushfires.

Flooding — Associate Professor Gerald Nanson, Department of Geography.
Analyses the nature of flooding in the Illawarra. It concentrates on the description of small drainage basins and their hydraulic behaviour. Using as an example the Dapto Flood of 1984, severe flooding events in the Illawarra and their impact are described.

Landslip — Dr Ann Young, Department of Geography.
Focuses upon the reasons for landslip in the Illawarra and the description of those areas most susceptible to failure. It presents the historical background to landslip in the City of Wollongong and illustrates the type of structures and man-made developments most prone to destruction or disruption.

Bushfires — Dr Ros Muston, Department of Biology.
The urban setting of the Illawarra makes it especially prone to bushfires. This segment outlines the vegetation of the Illawarra and those areas most susceptible to bushfire. It describes the pattern of revegetation and the management procedures that minimize the hazard.

Further information from Wollongong Uniadvice Limited, The University of Wollongong, PO Box 1144, Wollongong, NSW 2500.

'The final issue of Campus News for the year will appear on Tuesday December 6. Deadline for copy will be noon on Monday November 28.
First issue for 1989 will come off press on Tuesday March 2.
Wollongong students form cultural link with artists in Canada

Most readers of Campus News will be familiar with Art Arena, the gallery set up in Wollongong in 1983 by students of the School of Creative Arts. Now Art Arena is proposing what it describes as Australian Identikit Critical Projects: an exchange between Art Arena and Hamilton Artists Incorporated in Ontario, Canada.

At the beginning of this year a member of the Art Arena group went to Canada (Hamilton, Ontario) with her husband and children on a teacher-exchange program. While there she has become involved with a group called Hamilton Artists Incorporated. Although similar to ours it has been operating for 15 years and is a much larger concern. Hamilton, like Wollongong, is a steel-manufacturing city, also drawing on a European immigrant population. It has a university with an established art program similar to the School of Creative Arts, University of Wollongong. Both centres have a close proximity to the state capital city and the problems and advantages of functioning as a regional centre — a situation to which artists are very sensitive.

As a means of establishing a cultural link with Hamilton the group is organising an exchange exhibition. Members' work will be exhibited in Hamilton in December and the work from Hamilton Artists Inc. is to be exhibited at the Art Arena gallery in Wollongong in January 1989.

It is felt that, in the long term, this exchange exhibition will add to ongoing discussions of regionalism and its effects on the arts within a community.

UNESCO Asian-Pacific Photo Exhibition in Michael Birt Library

Each year for the past 12 years the Asian Cultural Centre for UNESCO (Tokyo) has held a thematic contest for amateur and professional photographers in the Asia-Pacific region.

The theme for the 12th exhibition is 'The Marketplace'. Prize-winners are featured in a special exhibition which tours venues in participating countries. This year the Australian National Commission for UNESCO is bringing the most recent (1987) exhibition to a limited number of Australian venues.

The 74 colour and 36 black-and-white photographs will be on display in the Non-Book area on the ground floor of the Michael Birt Library from November 23 to 30 from 8.30 am to 5 pm.

'Day-dreaming on Company Time'

A collection of short stories by CWALMS research officer Robert Hood is to be launched during Bards and Balladiers at Bulli Family Hotel on Thursday November 24 at 7.30 pm.

The collection, entitled Day-dreaming on Company Time, is the third publication from new small press publisher Five Islands Press.

'We are convinced that Day-dreaming will be well received,' says FIP Executive Officer Ken Stone.

'The stories make compulsive reading; and their variety and overall humour will appeal to a wide audience.' Already the stories have proved their appeal. Several are competition winners. One story, 'Dead End', was recently declared overall winner of the Australian Golden Dagger Award for Mystery Writing — a competitive award presented by Australian Airlines and POL Publishing. Critic Stephen Knight judged the contest, comparing the author to Patricia Highsmith and Fay Weldon.

Another story, 'Orientation', won the prestigious Canberra Times National Short Story Competition in 1975 and is here appearing in book form for the first time. Most of the other stories have been published in magazines throughout Australia. The title story is being made into a film by Ian Watson (artistic director, Griffin Theatre) and the School of Creative Arts at Wollongong University.

'No less a critic than multi-award-winning novelist Thea Astley has recommended the book, describing it in these terms: 'This is Roald Dahl country, 12 short stories well-written, with fine dialogue and closely observed scene-sets... several stories of the intensity of "Juggernaut" are classic exercises in suspense. The quality of the writing is evident throughout.'

The author believes there is a unity to the collection which gives it identity.

In the collection are semi-naturalistic stories dealing with relationships and ordinary life; some are satiric and others surreal. There are also tales that could be described as horror fantasy.

'Most of my stories have a surreal or fantastic feel to them,' Hood says, and sometimes they take on the surface form of genre literature as well. I don't mind the labels — I like horror and mystery stories.'

Day-dreaming on Company Time will be available at the launch for $10. Otherwise it may be obtained from Five Islands Press at $11.95 (PO Box 1946, Wollongong 2500); or from bookstores.

University in Joint Venture to Provide Career Training for Finance Sector

The University of Wollongong has entered into a joint venture with Computations Pty Ltd — an Australian multinational, which designs and implements business systems for the international financial services industry. The purpose of the joint venture is to provide a commercial fee-paying Institute which will be located at North Sydney to promote four levels of education and training for people entering the finance-sector — tomorrow’s high fliers.

Behind the venture are Mr Ian Carter, general manager of Wollongong Uniadvice Ltd, the research/consulting arm of the University, and Dr Michael Hough, head of the School of Industrial and Administrative Studies. They will be responsible for the control and accreditation of the education and training programs, including the recruitment of academic staff. Computations for its part will provide training for the students who will become tomorrow’s financial services-information technologists. The course will cater specifically for people seeking the specialised skills required for entry into what ranks among the most highly competitive areas of international banking, insurance and similar-category institutions. The need for such an institute was recognised by Computations, which saw growth restricted because of a shortage of skilled people in its own field and other areas of financial management. This was particularly so in Australia, which is the base for most of its research and development work. A period of intensive research showed that the tertiary education system today, already stretched, was not in a position to provide the specialised training required. What was needed was a combination of academic and vocational skills.

Discussions with The University of Wollongong began early this year. Wollongong University was chosen by Computations because it was recognised as one of the major centres for business and technology in Australia. The University, of course, has long recognised the need for close links with industry, and has sought to provide qualifications to meet industry’s demands.

The University has approved course curricula which, across the range of available qualifications, will combine present University options with the specific technological and vocational skills needed by the financial services industry.

Four levels of training will be provided.

Short Course Career Entry
An intensive six-months full-time program for HSC qualified applicants (or equivalent). The course will train them to become finance-sector-trainee junior business programmers.

Degree Level Career Entry
A ‘fast track’ sandwich-mode method of study to produce graduates with work experience and a B. Comm (Business Systems Analysis) with a finance-sector-elective specialisation, who can function as finance-sector-analysts programmers.

Professional Retraining Into Business Systems (1)
A finance-sector-focused retraining program for suitably qualified graduates, to enable them to function as finance-sector-analysts programmers.

Career Training for Finance-Sector Corporate Personnel
Career development and career extension training for selected finance-sector corporate personnel, especially in the fields of management training and advanced business systems training.

SAANZ Women's Day
Monday November 28, Australian National University, Sociology Department, Haydon-A llen Building, Rooms 2095-2096.
9.00 Registration.
9.30 'Muscle or Finesse: Gender and the language of data analysis'/ Lynne Thomson (University of Sydney).
10.00 'Strategies for Handling Power (when you think you might have it)'. Liz Ashburn (City Art Institute).
10.30 Morning Tea.
11.00 Concurrent Workshops.
'Research Issues: Families of Prisoners'. Ann Aungles (University of Wollongong).
'Women Researching Women: Protecting and Promoting Collective Interests'. Elizabeth Watson and Jane Mears (Macarthur Institute of Higher Education).
1.30 Concurrent Workshops.
'Researching Child Sexual Assault in an Ethnically Diverse Community'. Ronda Taylor (University of Wollongong).
'An Anti-racist Feminism'. Jan Pettman (Australian National University).

'The Hudson Report and Dawkins' White Paper: Implications for Women'. Rosslyn Reed (Kuring-Gai CAE) and Leonie Short (Armidale CAE).
3.30 Annual General Meeting of the Sociological Association of Australia and New Zealand Women's Section.
Accommodation: (062) 49 3082/(062) 49 3137
Child Care Inquiries: Claire Runciman (062) 49 5111
Further information: Stephanie Short (042) 27 0743 (w); Gisela Kaplan (067) 75 3110 (h).
All women welcome, the Women’s Day is free.

Friends Final Fling for 1988
Sunday December 18
University Oval No. 1
10 am to 4 pm
*Town v Gown Cricket Match with celebrity guest players Bob Holland and Murray Bennett
*Friends of the University Christmas Party and farewell to Executive Officer, Giles Pickford
If you want a seat in the marquee then RSVP to Muriel Murada on 27 0082
Research Centre for Studies in Literacy leading way to more effective teaching and learning

Teacher: How could you become a better reader?
Child: You have to grow up.
Teacher: Can you fix up that spelling for me?
Child: What spelling?
Teacher: Do you like spelling?
Child: No.
Teacher: Why not?
Child: Because sometimes I forget to put my plus and my equals and sometimes I don’t know how to do it.

Comments such as these help us to understand a child’s-eye view of literacy learning and are only a small part of the constant flow of data being gathered from classrooms and schools. These classrooms are the laboratories for the research being carried out by the team from the Centre for Studies in Literacy.

The Centre for Literacy has a strong commitment to improvement of literacy teaching and learning in our schools and is involved in a broad range of exciting projects that are seeking to make literacy teaching and learning more effective through professional development.

The Early Literacy Inservice Course (ELIC)
The Centre, through its recognised expertise in the field of literacy learning, has played a major role in the state government initiative to address the issue of effective literacy teaching and learning. Its involvement in these fields has ranged across a broad spectrum. The NSW Department of Education appointed the Centre as the evaluators of the Early Literacy Inservice Course (ELIC). ELIC was and is an innovative professional development program originating in South Australia and taken up nationally by all Departments of Education. Funds to the Centre for their role as State Evaluators of ELIC have totalled $193,600 over three years.

The ELIC Evaluation was a major research project involving 24 Case Study teachers, 13 School Executives and 132 Case Study children for the core data alone. A further 258 children and 27 non-case study teachers contributed to the data on language learning and teaching in classrooms. These school personnel were located in seven different school sites, spread throughout NSW. The data collected were qualitative in nature, as befits the methodology of the naturalistic paradigm. This meant that the five academic team members engaged in data collection amassed a vast array of complex data including interviews with teachers and children, observations, samples of children’s writing, journals, questionnaires, school documents and photographs — much of which was entered into a data base for the purposes of coding, analysing and categorising. The data organisation and handling has kept the research support staff of three more than gainfully employed for the entirety of the project. The Final Report was handed to the client on the due date with time to spare.

The Evaluation Team, all members of the Centre for Literacy, clocked up thousands of kilometres during the course of the evaluation, and the only memorable mishaps were the missing of one plane and the colliding with one kangaroo.

The ELIC Evaluation, although the Centre’s major project over the past three years, has been carried out concurrently with a number of other research and development projects for a variety of clients.

Retelling Project

In 1987 members of the Centre were involved in a project entitled ‘Assessing Language Growth Through Retelling’. This project was funded by ACAP (Australian Co-operative Assessment Programme) in the NSW Department of Education to the amount of $34,000. It involved a research team of two working with 13 teachers from two local primary schools. The teachers agreed to learn to use ‘Retelling Procedures’ — a teaching/learning strategy previously developed by a member of the Centre in collaboration with primary-school teachers.

The research team worked in the classrooms and observed Retelling Procedures in progress. The data they gathered included the texts the teachers used for retellings, copies or tapes of the retellings that the children gave and notes on the way the retelling sessions were run. Interviews and discussions with the teachers gave the opportunity for both researchers and teachers to work out how language development could be assessed through the retellings. Co-ordination with the ACAP team and some teachers in Sydney gave further data and the resulting product was a manual on Retelling Procedures for teachers to use. It is hoped that this manual will be published by the NSW Department of Education in the near future.

Secondary Literacy Inservice Centre (SLIC) Project

The Centre Team is presently engaged in a research and development project, The Secondary Literacy Inservice Course (SLIC). The Course, named SLIC after its big sister ELIC, is jointly funded through the Projects of National Significance and the Disadvantaged Schools Program to a total of $75,000 and will be completed by the end of the year.

The Secondary Literacy Inservice Course (SLIC) grew out of the needs of teachers working in three secondary schools in the Disadvantaged Schools Program who approached the Centre for support and advice in the teaching of literacy in their discipline areas. The Centre developed a Course for teachers in these schools in the reading, writing and learning processes. From these beginnings, with funding from Projects of National...
Research Funds

The sources of research funds given below are available to members of academic staff. Further information including application forms may be obtained from Kim Harriss (ext 3201). Intending applicants are reminded that all research applications must be forwarded through the Office of Research and Post-graduate Studies.

Previously Reported in Campus News

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Significance, the Centre is now developing a Literacy Inservice Course that can be run in any secondary school without external support, a difficult but challenging task. The Course will consist of a manual for the running of the course, as well as a series of readings, videos and support materials.

The Centre for Teaching Development has been employed to assist in the creation of the three videos used in the course. Filming has taken place in many schools, in Woolworths, an architect's office, a university secretary's domain and a private home — not quite 'Raiders of the Lost Ark', but it did have its moments!

Challenge Grant

This year a Challenge Grant of $22,000 was awarded by The University of Wollongong to the Centre for Studies in Literacy to further investigate professional development modules for overseas and local markets. A proposal has been submitted to a large international publisher and negotiations are under way for funding for further development in 1989-1990.

With so much experience in these areas of research the Centre has been able to develop a very competent and well-equipped research team with a wide range of skills in the handling of qualitative data and naturalistic inquiry, resulting in recognition at both national and international levels.

Wheat Research Council

Applications to the Wheat Research Council for financial support for research projects involving the Wheat Research Council or joint applications involving WRC and one or more other research councils are invited from interested persons.

Applications close with the University on December 17 for joint projects and January 18 for WRC projects.

Australian Antarctic Program

The Antarctic Division of the Department of Science invites applications for funding to undertake research in Antarctica during the 1989-90 summer and 1990 winter and for funding under the Antarctic Science Advisory Committee Grants Scheme for field projects in Antarctica and/or Australian-based Antarctica research.

Proposals should be directed to the specific areas of study listed in the information available from the Office of Research and Postgraduate Studies.

Applications close with the University on February 14 for grants.

Scholarships and Prizes

Australian Telecommunications and Electronics Research Board Medal

The Australian Telecommunications and Electronic Research Board (ATERB) have invited nominations for the ATERB Medal and a gift of $2500 in recognition of outstanding research in the field of Telecommunications and Electronics.

Applications close with the University on January 17.

FOUR DAYS THAT COULD SHAPE YOUR FUTURE

Explore the latest developments in university computer technology at the PACIFIC UNIVERSITY CONSORTIUM CONFERENCE Wollongong University, Australia February 5 - 8, 1989
Seminars

Department of Chemistry

Seminar will be held in room 18.206 starting at 11.30 am.
Friday November 25
Speaker: Dr Peter Brooks, Department of Organic Chemistry, University of NSW.
Topic: Synthesis of aesthetically pleasing compounds.

Department of Management

Title: Islamic Banking: Current Issues and Future Prospects.
Speaker: Tony Naughton, Department of Management.
Date and time: Friday November 25, 11.30 am.
Venue: Building 19, Room 1003.

Concerts, Exhibitions and Entertainment

'Hargrave' on Stage

The play, Hargrave, written by Geoff Sykes, will be presented at the Performing Arts Centre, Wollongong. The play centres on the activities of a group of engineers and aviators at an imaginary exhibition held before World War One. Much of the play reflects the hopes and hardships of the period. It also seeks to explore and express the legend of the man, Lawrence Hargrave, his world and his inventions.

Geoff is a postgraduate student in the Department of Science and Technology Studies, and is intrigued by the exploration of technology themes on stage.

Hargrave will be presented from November 23 to 26, 8 pm/3pm Saturday. Prices $10 and $7. Inquiries and bookings available by phone to the Illawarra Performing Arts Centre, 26 3366.

School of Creative Arts – Diary of Events

December

Friday 2
Preview – Postgraduate Exhibition, Long Gallery, 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm.

Wednesday 7
School Meeting, 9.30 am.

Saturday 10
Messiah by G.F. Handel, University Singers, Wollongong Town Hall, 8 pm.

Festival of Australian Writers, School of Creative Arts, Monday 16 to Friday 27 January 1989

Children's Christmas Party

If you have not received your tickets for the Christmas Tree would you please contact Lionel Ransley at the Printery as there were some nomination forms that did not have a contact name or department on them.

We now urgently need donations for the hamper to be raffled and drawn on November 26. Please leave your donations with Flora at the Registry, Administration or Lionel at the Printery.

Staff Roundup

Pay Periods

Close-off dates for pay periods ending December 22 and 5 January 1989. It is important that all members of your Department are made aware of these dates to avoid any delays in payment.

Pay Ending December 22:
All variations and overtime forms December 9, 4pm.
All part-time teaching and casual timesheets
December 16, 4 pm.

Pay Ending 5 January 1989
All variations and overtime forms December 16, 4pm.
All part-time teaching and casual timesheets
December 22, 4 pm.

Pay day for period ending December 22 will NOT be brought forward. It will be paid on December 22.

Tribute to Mt Keira

A gardener from the Landscape Department composed the poem below as a tribute to Mt Keira. Campus News does not normally publish poetry. We do so on this occasion with the assurance that we are not, by any means, professing further encroachment into SCARP's preserves.

Mt Keira I watch you while I am working away
and I’m really amazed at the roles that you play
On the days that you’re cloudy you look so forlorn
On the days that the sun shines new colours are born
But it’s early in the morning when I like you best
when pockets of mist fall down from your crest
into your gullies that run your length down
You’re really a jewel in the Leisure Coast’s crown.

Gardener
Landscape Department

Advertisements

To Let
Two-bedroom furnished house, good storage, Kiama. Three months from December 1. References required. Phone 37 8083 ah.

Three-bedroom furnished apartment, North Beach, available December 1 to January 28. Suitable visitor to University. Phone ex 3843.

Sale by Tender
The University has the following items for sale by tender:
1 Bolens ride-on mower
3 Victa 550 two-stroke mower 21 in. cut
1 Cement Mixer — electric 2 cu ft.
1 Tractor carry-all
1 Honda self-propelled mower 21 in. cut
1 Stihl chainsaw 16 in.
3 Knapsack sprays.
2 Brushcutters LEY and KA AZ modd.
1 Flymo mower — petrol engine.

There is no guarantee is offered on these items. Terms are cash or bank cheque. For inspection call Mr M. Bramston - (042) 27 0954.

Tenders close 11.30 am on November 25. Tenders should be sent in a sealed envelope to Business Services, University of Wollongong, PO Box 1144, Wollongong 2500 and noted on the outside front 'Tender for (description of item)'.

The University also has for sale by tender a Ford Falcon GL Station Wagon registered number OFJ-155. Terms as above. For inspection call (042) 27 0784, Mr G. Graham.

Tenders close at 11.30 am on November 25. Tenders to The Supply Office, University of Wollongong, PO Box 1144, Wollongong 2500 and noted on the outside front 'Tender for Vehicle OFJ-155'.

For Rent
Spacious bedroom in furnished three-bedroom house opp. Thirroul Beach. Suit non-smoker, quiet person with sense of humour (please). Ring Carole on 27 0780 or 67 5265.