Fewer injuries, faster recovery

Pilot study of BHP rehabilitation program

The Human Movement and Sports Science Department is conducting a $36,000 evaluation research pilot study into a BHP workers rehabilitation program.

The annual cost to the State of New South Wales of compensation for work-related injuries was calculated in June 1988 at $816m annually. Indirect costs to the community may be as much as four times this amount. Many injuries are preventable and Industrial Safety Officers are involved in modifying work practices to reduce the incidence of injury, but it is believed that such costs can be further reduced through the implementation of comprehensive and effective rehabilitation programs.

Recent changes to the Worker's Compensation Act have resulted in a requirement for employers to provide such programs for injured employees. There is a wide range of rehabilitation program models which satisfy this requirement.

At BHP, the Slab and Plate Products Division are determined to produce a rehabilitation program of excellence and BHP representatives, headed by Mr Steve Sanders and Mr John Burnard, have been involved in a series of discussions on the subject over a nine-month period with Professor Frank Pyke, Dr Alistair Boag (now both at tertiary institutions in Brisbane) and Mr Owen Curtis of Human Movement and Sports Science.

The need for evaluation of the rehabilitation model introduced by BHP resulted in an invitation to an experienced evaluation researcher and post-graduate student, Mrs Sue Curtis (recently of the Centre for Literacy), to suggest appropriate methodology. Her proposal, submitted through Human Movement and Sports Science, for determining the effectiveness and efficiency of the BHP Rehabilitation Program, was accepted, and a departmental research team located at BHP started work on August 14 on a $36,000 evaluation research pilot study.

This project provides a unique opportunity for the Department to develop a strong working relationship with BHP. A number of staff with expertise in exercise therapy, biomechanics, functional anatomy, exercise physiology and corporate fitness will contribute to it as the research develops. The application to local industry of principles and practices related to elite sports performance will furnish BHP with information and strategies to enable them to reduce the incidence of work-related injuries and to return injured workers to useful employment as rapidly as possible.

For students interested in worksite evaluation of employees' functional fitness and the provision of programs to equip selected workers with the capabilities needed to carry out manual and other tasks with reduced risk of injury at BHP, the project offers an exciting prospect of valuable work experience opportunities.

Clearly, such co-operative ventures help and serve not only the corporate client and the University of Wollongong, but the community at large.
General Notices

Distinguished Visitor

Professor V. K. Srivastava, a distinguished econometrician and statistician, will be visiting the Department of Economics for a short period late in October 1989.

Professor Srivastava is on staff in the Department of Statistics at Lucknow University, in India. He is a council member of the Indian Econometric Society, an associate editor of the Journal of the Indian Society of Statistics and Operations Research, the Aligarh Journal of Statistics and the Indian Journal of Natural and Physical Sciences, and a Fellow of India’s National Academy of Sciences. His research interests include shrinkage estimators, varying coefficient regressions and seemingly unrelated regression (SUR) models.

During Professor Srivastava’s visit to the Department of Economics, he will have discussions with Associate Professor Tran Van Hoa on the latter’s recent research results, partly carried out at Stanford University and at the University of California at Berkeley, USA, on improved hierarchical information (HI) estimators in the linear models with non-constant disturbances, including in particular the heteroskedastic and AR (1) cases.

Professor Srivastava will present a seminar in the Department of Economics at 12.30 pm on Wednesday, 25 October 1989, in Room 19.2085, to discuss his work on properties of Stein-rule estimation procedures in linear regression equations. All are welcome to this seminar.

Computer Services

SAS installations

Departments and staff wishing to have SAS installed on their own PCs may now do so. SAS requires a hard disk and preferably AT specifications. Installation by Computer Services is available at a cost of $70 and may be arranged by contacting Anne Porter on ext 3849.

Software documentation

Computer Services is currently reviewing the existing software documentation for all packages, editors and utilities that reside on the Sequent and PC laboratory networks, with a view to providing adequate documentation to university users. We ask that any departments or staff who have prepared documentation for themselves or their students forward a copy to Computer Services. Where departments sell such documentation, we will advertise its existence; in the case of departments being happy to have their handouts reproduced, we may elect to distribute (or modify and distribute) those handouts, rather than creating new ones.

When forwarding your documentation, a comment on its adequacy would be useful, as this would enable Computer Services to prepare handouts in accord with users’ requirements. Departments which have identified particular packages as being in need of documentation are invited to forward their requests for such documentation.

All enquiries regarding documentation and requests should be directed to Anne Porter, Computer Services.

Statistical users group

There will be a meeting of people interested in using statistical software on any university computers (including Unix boxes, PCs and Macs) to exchange information on issues such as who uses what and how data exchanges between various packages can be improved. If you use statistical software, or are thinking of doing so, you should attend. The meeting will be held on Monday October 9 at 12.30 pm in Lecture Theatre 35.G19. Enquiries to Ken Russell, ext 3815.

The Sir Richard Kirby Lecture

The 11th Sir Richard Kirby Lecture will be held in Pentagon 3, the University of Wollongong, from 6.30 to 7.45 pm on October 16.

Mr Bert Evans, Chief Executive, Metal Trades Industry Association, will speak on Industrial relations 1989: Is a new province for law and order achievable?

The lecture will be preceded by CWALMS book launch and award of prizes. Tea and coffee will be available after the lecture. Further information from Di Kelly, Department of Economics, 3612.

The Bert Halpern Lecture 1989

The Bert Halpern Lecture has been established as an annual lecture to be presented by a distinguished visiting scientist on a subject in chemistry or biochemistry. It honours the memory of Bert Halpern, Professor of Chemistry at the University of Wollongong from 1970 to 1980. Professor Halpern’s pioneering studies in amino acid, peptide and protein chemistry impacted across fields of medicine, biochemistry, chemistry and geochemistry.

This year’s lecture, The use of very intense X-ray sources in the study of protein structure is to be presented by Professor Hans Freeman, Department of Inorganic Chemistry, University of Sydney, at 5.30 pm on Tuesday October 24 in the Kemira Room Union Building.

University Challenge: Wollongong to compete

The University of Wollongong has been selected to compete in the 1989 University Challenge series, to be held this month in Hobart. The program will go to air on ABC TV in October.

The selection puts Wollongong among Australia’s top twelve universities, since budget cuts have forced the ABC to reduce the number of universities invited to compete from 23 to 12.

The team which will represent the University is: Fred Komidar, Graeme Watchirs, Lina Kastoumis and Hamish Brown, with Jon Knowles as reserve. Manager/coach is Daniel Morrissey, President of the University of Wollongong Students’ Representative Council.

Rugby Club wins premiership

The University Rugby Union Club won the Illawarra District Rugby 2nd Grade Premiership when it defeated Kiama 10-9 in the grand final played at Wollongong showground on Saturday September 23. The University Club came from 4th place on the table to beat Kiama, who were minor premiers and who had lost only one match before the grand final (to the University). This was the first time since 1983 that a University team has reached a grand final and augurs well for the future of the Rugby Club since a number of the team were first year students.

John Heiler of University scored a spectacular try 10 minutes from the final whistle. This put our team in front 10-9, a lead they held comfortably to the end.
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 Roser (ext 3201). Intending applicants are reminded that all research applications must be forwarded through the Office of Research and Postgraduate Studies.

Health and Community Services Grants
Applications are invited for grants in the following areas:
- Child Poverty / Child Health
- Rural and Remote Service Provision
Applications close with the University on November 1.

Scholarships, Fellowships and Awards
Australian Wool Corporation Scholarships
Applications are invited for scholarships to undertake a higher degree in a topic relevant to the wool industry.
Applications close with the University on October 10.

Staff Development Courses
Improving Poor Performers
October 24 (one day)
As part of supervisory skills training, a workshop to assist you to develop the skills and procedures necessary to deal with discipline problems in a positive manner.
RSVP 9 October

Nomination forms for Staff Development Courses can be obtained from Shirley Jorgensen Ext 3946.

Wollongong University Conservatorium of Music will present a program called 'Jazz Galaxy' - 'a Constellation of Stars and Two Big Bands' at Wollongong Town Hall on Friday, October 20 at 8 pm. It will feature Don Harper's Conservatorium Show Band and the Canberra School of Arts Show Band, under American flugelhorn player Don Johnson, Australia's leading guitarist Tommy Emmanuel, Adelaide's brilliant young clarinettist Andrew Firth and famous TV personality Su Cruickshank as vocalist and commere.

Bookings can be made through the Wollongong Performing Arts Centre (042) 263366.

The state of the art
In the recent SCA 'Past and Present' exhibition there were bisque fired ceramic pieces in which thumbs (or whatever) had ruptured the surface of the ceramic form. These pieces were aesthetically, visually and tactilely impoverished and also impractical, since a bisque fired ceramic can hold no liquid.

In contrast, the glazed cabinets in the current exhibition are filled on the one hand by beautiful ceramics (which combine affordability, aesthetics and function) by Simon Tognetti and in the other cabinet splendid evidence of book design, printing and binding (which similarly combine aesthetics and function to a high order) by James Taylor, an MCA postgraduate student.

Other exhibits include six silk-screened posters, inventive and beautifully printed, by Gregor Cullen of Redback Graphics fame, sensitive monotypes by Ann Ferguson and black and white lithographs by Leonie Melloy, including works of falling figures and a dream image self-portrait of the artist who like Marie Antoinette has misplaced her head. - J.E.

From the left, Gary Kelly, Manager, Apple University Consortium; Martin Pritchard, year 12 student, Endeavour High School, the prize winner; Juliet Richardson, Secretary Open Day Committee; and Professor Leon Kane-Maguire, Chairman, Open Day Committee.

Friends of the University

You may remember seeing a questionnaire in this year's Open Day programme - perhaps you even completed and returned it with your comments about Open Day. You will recall then that a substantial prize was offered to the first questionnaire form to be drawn.... The prize, an Apple Mac Plus PC, has been won by a Year 12 student from Endeavour High School, Caringbah. A small delegation from the University recently visited the school to present the computer to the winner, Martin Pritchard, during school assembly. The Apple University Consortium, represented by Gary Kelly, was pleased to be able to present the prize in person. Martin not only received an Apple Mac Plus with external disk drive, but he was also given a comprehensive software package, Microsoft Works, by the Microsoft company.

Our thanks go to the Apple Consortium and the Microsoft company for their generous sponsorship and support of the University. We would also like to thank Mrs Beverley Swift, Acting Principal of Endeavour High School, for the hospitality she and her colleagues extended to us on our visit. And of course we wish Martin many happy hours of communication with his Apple Mac Plus....
Seminars

Department of Biology

Seminars will be held in Lecture Theatre G.19, Building 35, at 12.30 pm.

October 3: Dr Roger Coles, Australian bat and bird sonar systems
October 17: Ross Godingay, The behavioural ecology of the yellow-bellied glider

Biomedical Evening Series

Each seminar will be preceded by dinner at the Union Bistro at 6.30 pm. All those interested are welcome to meet the speaker at the Bistro. Please contact the Convener, Dr E. J. Steele (042) 27 0434, so that appropriate table bookings can be made. Seminars begin at 8 pm in the Biology Meeting Room, Building 35.

Wednesday October 11: Sponsored by Flow Laboratories. Dr John McAvoy, Department of Histology and Embryology, University of Sydney, Control mechanisms of eye lens development

Department of Chemistry

Seminars are held on Thursdays at 11.30 am in Room 18.206. Inquiries to John Carver, ext 3340.

October 12: Dr Paul Haddad, Department of Chemistry, University of NSW, Application of ion chromatography to process control in the gold mining industry

Department of Computing Science

Visitors parking on the University grounds will be charged a fee of $1. This fee will be reimbursed by the Department. Alex Zelinsky, Convener.

Wednesday October 11, Room 20.4 (Pentagon) at 12.30 pm: Professor Dr Arndt Bode, Institut fur Informatik, Der Technischen Universitat Munchen, Parallel computer architectures – new trends and perspectives
Thursday October 12, Room 20.4 (Pentagon) at 12.30 pm: Professor Dr Arndt Bode, Institut fur Informatik, Der Technischen Universitat Munchen, RISC and parallel processing

Department of Economics

Seminars are held in room 19.2085. Information from Dennis O'Brien (042) 270 654 (ext. 3654) or in Room 19.2076.

Tuesday October 10 at 1.30 pm: Peter Whiteford, Social Welfare Research Centre, University of NSW, Poverty measurements and equivalence scales

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Monday October 9 from 12.30 to 1.30 pm in Room 35G45: Dr G. Naglidy, Multi-sensory perception

School of Learning Studies

For your diary: seminars will be held on October 13, 18 and 25. Bring your own lunch, coffee and tea will be provided. Inquiries to Bill Winser, School of Learning Studies, ext 3963.

Friday October 13 in Building 21.104: Dr Bronwyn Davis, University of New England, Gendered subjectivity in children’s literature

Department of Management

Seminars are held on Thursdays at 12.30 pm in Room 19.1003.

October 5: Michael Zanko, Organisational commitment to employee rehabilitation
October 12: R Clarke, Task allocation: implications for system design

Department of Materials Engineering

All Wednesday seminars 4.30 to 5.30 pm, Room 1.134

Wednesday October 11: Sponsored by Flow Laboratories. Dr John McAvoy, Department of Histology and Embryology, University of Sydney, Control mechanisms of eye lens development

Department of Physics

Thursday October 12 at 12.30 pm, Physics Lecture Theatre (18.118): Dr W.J. Zealey, Department of Physics, University of Wollongong, An infrared view of star formation

Department of Psychology

Seminars are held in 19.1056 on Tuesdays between 12.30 and 1.30 pm. For further information contact Sachiko Kinoshita, ext. 3741.

October 10: Associate Professor Bruce Partridge, Department of Nursing, University of Wollongong, Nursing theory and the clinical applications
October 17: Dr Susan Wayland, School of Behavioural Sciences, Cumberland College of Health Sciences, Visual and semantic processing of concepts in the brain-damaged

Advertisements

SALE BY TENDER

The University has the following items for sale by tender:
A limited number of second-hand Macintosh Plus computers with:
keyboard, 12 months warranty, system software 6.02, Hypercard software.
The University offers no guarantees on these items. Terms of sale are by cash or bank cheque. Enquiries should be made to Ms N Reali (042) 27 0775 or Mr G Kelly (042) 27 0813.

Tenders close at 11.30 am on October 6.

Tenders should be placed in a sealed envelope addressed to Business Services, The University of Wollongong, PO Box 1144, Wollongong 2500 and noted Tender for Macintosh Plus Computer.

CADMART drafting service

Publication standard graphs, charts and maps for research and business reports. Presentation diagrams for lectures, house plans and extensions. Call David ext 3424 or 614532 ah.