Figtree High knows about 'mucking-up' the economy

PAUL KEATING could perhaps step aside and let four students from Figtree High School run the economy.

The students — Greg Harrison, Yun-Hui Teoh, Robert Todorcev and Don Lu — won the Illawarra regional heat of the national 'Managing the Australian Economy' competition.

The regional heat was held at the University.

The competition required teams of four Year 12 students to run a simulated model of the Australian economy.

The model was computerised and had a range of variables.

The teams reviewed a specially-prepared manual, studied the history of the economy and decided on policy options for the next ten years. The teams were asked for their views on appropriate levels of government spending, income tax, sales tax and general interest rates.

Their views were fed into the computer and a score was awarded based on the 'health' of the economy.

Wollongong University lecturer in economics, Dr Ed Wilson, said competition was very intense and the standard of the nine competing schools very high.

'They learned that it is easy to muck things up, yet difficult to set things right again,' Dr Wilson said.

'Competitors quickly realised that all the goals cannot be achieved simultaneously and it therefore becomes necessary to trade some off for the other.

'The competition introduced the students to a quantitative and computing side of economics that they have not previously been exposed to and they applied economic theory to real-world situations.'

Illawarra Grammar came second and Picton High third.

Other schools competing were: Aurora College, Bowral High, Bulli High, Edmund Rice, Nowra High and Wollongong High.

Figtree High will go on to the state final to compete against the best from 300 competing schools.

The national final will be held in Canberra this month.

Interested in accommodating a Japanese student?

THE WOLLONGONG ENGLISH Language Centre wants 'homestay' accommodation for some 20 students from Japan who will be in Wollongong for two and a half weeks from August 19.

Anyone interested in offering accommodation to one of these students in their home will be paid $110 a week as a contribution to costs.

The students will be attending classes at the language centre on campus between 9am and 4pm daily and will also go on organised excursions at weekends. More information from Juliet in the Friends' office (tel. 27 0249). She will put you in touch with the University's Accommodation Officer for overseas students.
Professor Helen Gamble has joined the Council after her election as Chairperson of the Academic Senate on July 25.

Revised procedures were approved for academic promotions and continuing appointments.

The Wollongong Conservatorium of Music was restructured to allow it to achieve effectively its major goals in tertiary, pre-tertiary and community music education. (Details appear on page 7.)

Subjects and course proposals for 1991 were endorsed. New courses include:
- Joint BA/BCom degree with Japanese as a major study;
- BSc in Human Movement Studies;
- Bachelor of Laws degree and combined degrees with Law;
- Master of Arts (Cultural Studies);
- Honours Masters in Total Quality Management;
- Master of Nursing;
- Master of Public Health;

The ‘devolution’ of budgetary responsibilities to the faculties was approved for implementation from 1 January 1991. Authority for designated budgetary and staffing matters will be progressively devolved to deans and faculty administrations.

The general staff retirement age was extended to a common maximum of 65. All general staff will be required to participate in annual performance appraisals. Faculty executive committees will have a member elected by and from the general staff of the faculty.

The Illawarra Technology Corporation Ltd was appointed custodian trustee of all patents and intellectual property developed by or on behalf of the University.
Professor Helen Gamble joins Academic Senate

PROFESSOR HELEN GAMBLE was appointed Chairperson of the University’s Academic Senate at the Senate’s July 25 meeting.

The retiring chairman, Professor Ron King, Faculty of Education, had held the position since 1983. Professor Helen Garnett, Head of the Biology Department, retains the position of Deputy Chairperson.

Professor Gamble graduated in law from the Australian National University. Before taking up her appointment at the University of Wollongong in 1989 she was chairperson of the NSW Law Reform Commission and senior lecturer and the Faculty of Law, Australian National University.

Professor Gamble is still a part-time commissioner of the NSW Law Reform Commission, Commissioner-in-charge of the references on Dispute Resolution (accreditation of mediators) and the Torrens Title assurance fund and Chairperson, Youth Justice Project — an enquiry into the NSW youth justice system, funded by the Law Foundation of NSW.

Council approves new academic staff promotion procedures

THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL has changed the way Academic Staff are considered for conversion to continuing status and/or for promotion.

The Council made this decision at its meeting of July 27.

As soon as printing can be finalised, copies of the new procedures documents will be distributed to academic staff.

Under the procedures academic staff provide an annually updated curriculum vitae to Personnel Services Branch. The CV will be in an approved format and restricted in length.

A sub-committee will automatically annually review those staff in promotion categories who are at the top of their salary range.

Those staff not at the top of their range may elect to be considered. The sub-committee decides if a prima facie case exists for further consideration for promotion.

Staff wanting to be considered for promotion will be required, on their CV, to show preferred weightings for assessment and nominate three referees (at least one from outside the University).

Only if the sub-committee recommends detailed consideration by the full Committee will referees’ reports be called for.

Other major differences are that staff do not have to make lengthy written submission; and there is a new committee structure. For this year, the standard deadline for submissions of CVs of September 1 will be extended to a date to be advised.

Logical Visitor

Dr ROGER HINDLEY, Reader in Mathematics, University College, Swansea, Wales, is visiting the Department of Mathematics until late September to work with Associate Professor Martin Bunder on topics in Lambda calculus and combinatory logic.

Dr Hindley is one of the world’s foremost experts in the area and a co-author of several of its most important texts. These areas were first developed in the 1930s as an ultimate foundation for mathematics, rather like the theory of quarks is to physics, but the work is now of fundamental importance as a basis for certain computer languages and as a means of verification of computer programs.

The current research programs, which will involve additional visitors in January, are funded by the Australian Research Council.

Liam rewarded for steel work

FOURTH-YEAR civil engineering student Liam Terris has been rewarded for his work on the use of cold-formed steel components and structure.

The Metal Building Products Manufacturers Association secretary, Mr Dennis Hill, presented Liam with The MBPMA Prize last month.

The prize is awarded to a third or fourth year civil engineering student who makes the best submission either as a set assignment or part of a degree project that demonstrates the use of cold formed steel components and structure.
Science Minister on campus

THE FEDERAL MINISTER for Science, Mr Simon Crean, visited campus on July 25 when he held discussions on the University's development.

Mr Crean met Vice-Chancellor Professor Ken McKinnon; Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ian Chubb; Pro Vice-Chancellor, Professor Lauchlan Chipman; Managing Director of the Illawarra Technology Corporation, Mr Jim Langridge; Professor Bill Lovegrove; Dr Ian Reinecke; Professor Ron Johnston and Professor Günter Arndt.

The Member for Macarthur, Mr Stephen Martin, accompanied Mr Crean.

Discussions ranged over the economic development goals in the Illawarra, the innovation precinct at Campus East, the Illawarra Technology Corporation, science policy, co-operative research centres and the Science Centre.

Mr Crean inspected the Illawarra Technology Centre and the Science Centre.

Accountancy consortium provides alternative strategies

THE SECOND Accountancy Doctoral Consortium, held on Friday July 27 at the Illawarra Technology Centre, investigated alternative research strategies with the aim of providing research students with a non-positivist perspective on accounting research.

After the six doctoral students had briefly outlined their research, three major presentations were made with final session in the form of a forum-panel discussion.

This year's presenters were Professor Tony Lowe from the University of South Pacific, Dr Richard Laughlin from Sheffield University, UK, and Associate Professor Wai Fong Chuan of the University of New South Wales.

Dr Laughlin made a case for the use of what he defined as 'middle-range thinking' - critical theory based on the work of Jurgen Habermas.

Dr Laughlin, a visiting scholar in the Department of Accountancy, categorised research methodologies on the basis of methodological precision and theoretical underpinning.

He has researched and published extensively and is regarded as the leading exponent of Habermasian critical theory.

Professor Chuan is engaged in a major research project on health care in Australia and she discussed some of the problems she and her research team were encountering in undertaking the study.

Professor Lowe has been an extremely significant figure in the development of alternative research methodologies in accounting. For 20 years he was the professor of Accounting and Financial Management at the University of Sheffield and his past students hold responsible positions in many universities around the world.

He believes a primary objective of academics is continually to challenge dominantly-held views.

'We cannot be good academic accountants if we rely on arbitrary subject boundaries. We must stick our necks out,' Professor Lowe said.

The University of Wollongong is viewed as one of the leading accounting research institutions in the country. If the consortium continue to be successful in generating research activity it will not be long before it is a leading international institution.
THE Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ken McKinnon, has issued a strongly-worded statement on sexual harassment on campus.

The statement, in the form of a memorandum, was sent by the Vice-Chancellor to Deans and Department Heads on July 24 after a 'recent unconfirmed case'.

'From time to time I am made aware of rumours of sexual harassment involving University personnel,' he wrote.

'A recent unconfirmed case brought to my attention has necessitated this reminder of our responsibilities.

'The campus sexual harassment policy clearly states that such behaviour will not be tolerated. Sexual harassment is illegal in education and employment under the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act and the Commonwealth Sex Discrimination Act. Employers may be held responsible for their own behaviour and the behaviour of the people they employ.

'Senior staff can be held responsible for sexual harassment in their departments, particularly if they fail to take appropriate action to prevent its occurrence or continuation. Please ensure that this message is conveyed to your staff.

'Sexual harassment is defined as any verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature which would normally be considered offensive, that is unsolicited, unwelcome and unreciprocated.

'It can range from intimidating sexist comments to criminal sexual assault. Of particular concern in universities are situations with students when positions of privilege are abused.

'For instance, normal social relationships among staff and students must never develop into closer individual relationships in which students may feel their academic progress depends upon compliance with the wishes of a staff member or members.

'While we do have a grievance procedure which is designed to protect individuals from malicious accusations, should incidents of a criminal nature occur and we receive a formal complaint, we would have no recourse but to call in the proper authorities.'

If you have any questions or require assistance in this type of matter, contact Peg McLeod in the EEO Unit on ext. 3917.

Fiona Highland with leading rugby league player Rick Walford

Aboriginal student to Norway conference

QANTAS has provided an airline ticket to enable Fiona Highland, an Aboriginal student at the University, to attend the World Council of Indigenous Peoples Conference in Norway from August 8 to 12.

A lunch and a raffle were organised to raise funds to cover Fiona’s accommodation costs.

Rick Walford, Aboriginal rugby league player from the St George club, drew the winning raffle ticket. Walford is a senior education officer in the Aboriginal Education Unit of the State Education Department.

Yami Lester heads new employment advisory body

PROMINENT Central Australian Aboriginal Mr Yami Lester will head a new body to advise the Commonwealth on Aboriginal employment, education and training.

Mr Lester has been appointed chairperson of the Aboriginal Employment, Education and Training Committee, a nine-member group comprising Aboriginals with experience in Aboriginal programs across Australia.

The committee has been established to give the Government independent advice from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives on issues and priorities for employment, education and training needs.

Mr Lester is chairman of the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Council and a former director of the Institute of Aboriginal Development.

Other members of the training committee are Mr Lionel Bamber, Ms Pat Fowell, Mr James Ingram, Mr Victor McGrath, Mr Mick Miller, Ms Phoebe Wanganine and Mr Ken Wyatt.

Children’s Christmas party

WIN SEVEN nights for two at the Gold Coast’s Seaworld Nara Resort, including return economy flight with Australian Airlines.

Proceeds go towards the children’s Christmas party. Tickets $2 from Printery, Library, Administration, Maintenance and Electrical and Computer Engineering.
Research Centre launches new booklet

THE NEW Literatures Research Centre has released a booklet on the Olga Masters Memorial Conference held at the University in 1988.

Olga Masters, an award-winning novelist and award-winning short story writer, died in 1986.

The booklet, entitled *Olga Masters, An Autumn Crocus*, contains an edited record of the formal section of the conference.

The centre’s Paul Sharrard said the conference rose out of local enthusiasm for Olga’s work.

The large quota of non-academic writers and humorous exchanges prevented an overload of scholarly solemnity, but never detracted from the homage being paid to the writer and her works,’ Mr Sharrard wrote in the preface. ‘It was an occasion that Olga would have enjoyed.’

The late Olga Masters

Theatre lecturer moving in the USSR

LECTURER in the Theatre Strand in the School of Creative Arts, Lisa Scott Murphy, was invited to the International Symposium of Theatre Movement in Moscow by the International Theatre Institute.

During the conference Lisa spoke of the use of the Feldenkrais Method in the training of actors. This method refers to an awareness of movement and is used by actors to promote the use of their bodies in developing characters and movement.

Lisa lectures to the theatre students on movement as well as being involved in designing movement aspects for various theatre pieces. Lisa and Des Davies will direct this year’s Third Year Graduating play ‘Vinegar Tom’.

While in the USSR, Lisa gave a lecture on her work for her doctorate research into movement design, and was invited to join the council of the International Research Centre of Theatre Movement. She also gave a lecture to a theatre company in Leningrad.

Wollongong Uni biologists invade United States

THREE WOLLONGONG University representatives will present papers at the 75th anniversary conference of the Ecological Society of America.

Dr David Ayre is currently on sabbatical at the University of California at Davis, working with Professor Grosberg — a world leader in his field — on the ecological genetics of marine organisms.

At the conference David will present a paper on the research he has been conducting at Wollongong on the ecological genetics of sea anemones.

Ross Goldingay will present a paper at the conference describing work conducted with Dr Rob Whelan on the pollination of waratahs.

Ross has completed his PhD study on the behavioural ecology of yellow-bellied gliders and is a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of California, Riverside.

The third member of the Wollongong connection, Jennie Chaplin, will present a paper to the conference on her PhD research on the relationship between environmental predictability and the evolution of sexual reproduction in ostracods.

A few weeks later, Mr Stan Bellgard will attend the eighth North American Conference on Mycorrhiza.

He will present the results of studies in the Wollongong region on the mycorrhizal fungi associated with the roots of native plant species and implicated in determining their ability to reinvade disturbed sites.

Union’s $1000 art acquisition award

THE UNIVERSITY UNION has initiated a $1000 annual art acquisition award to be held during Union Week, August 27 to 31.

The award is restricted to enrolled students of the University, both undergraduate and postgraduate. The prizemoney will be distributed in two awards — one of $700 and one of $300. The maximum selling price of the work entered should not exceed $300.

The Union wants to add to a permanent collection of artwork and is especially interested in supporting students’ work. An exhibition of selected work will be on show at the Union Bistro from Sunday, August 26 until Friday, September 14, with an award night to announce the winners on Monday, August 27, at 7 pm.
Restructuring approved for Conservatorium

THE COUNCIL of the University endorsed a new management structure for the Wollongong Conservatorium of Music on July 27.

Its aim is to complete the process of affiliation of the Wollongong Conservatorium to the University, while guaranteeing its continuing links with the wider community.

The position of director will be an academic position located in the School of Creative Arts. The director will be responsible to the Council of the University through the Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

The new director of the Conservatorium is Professor Barry Coningham, noted Australian composer, who was previously Reader in Music at Melbourne University and is Head of the School of Creative Arts at Wollongong University.

The director will be advised on matters of policy by a board of advisers made up of the following representatives from interested community and University groups:

- The Dean of the Faculty of Arts (Chairman);
- A nominee of the School of Creative Arts;
- A nominee of the Board with special musical or artistic talents;
- Assistant Director-General, South Coast Region, NSW Department of School Education;
- A nominee of the Council of the City of Wollongong;
- An elected representative of the music staff of the Wollongong Conservatorium;
- A representative of the community nominated by the Board.

The director of the Conservatorium will be an ex-officio member.

The Chairman of the Interim Board of Management of the Conservatorium, Professor Lauchlan Chipman, said the relationship between the Conservatorium and the University had been under review for more than three years and he was pleased to see that it had finally been resolved.

Department of Biology

Seminars are held from in Building 35.G19, on Tuesdays at 12.30 pm.

August 7: Dr Colin Woodroffe, Geography Department, University of Wollongong, Coral reef vegetation and island biogeography theory.

Further information from Dr Rob Whelan, tel. (042) 27 0042 and Associate Professor Ross Lilley, tel. (042) 27 0431.

Department of Chemistry

Seminars are held in Chemistry Lecture Theatre (Building 18.206).

Thursday August 8 at 11.30 am: Dr Laurie Aldridge, Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation, Concrete and superconcrete.

Department of Economics

Seminars are held on Thursdays from 11.30 am to 12.30 pm in Building 19.1056.

August 9: Jennings, Jennings Industries and Center for Applied Research on the Future, University of Melbourne, A personal history of innovation in housing in Australia.

Enquiries to the Convenor, Associate Professor Tran Van Hoa, Office 19.2069, fax (042) 27 0078.

Equity in Education program

Meetings will be held in Building 21.104 at 4.30 pm.

Friday August 10: Noeline Kyle, Ron King, Jan Wright and Jan James, Women and non-traditional study at the University of Wollongong.

Enquiries to Associate Professor Noeline Kyle, tel. (042) 27 0374 or Ms Jan James (042) 27 0078.

Coffee/tea provided.

Department of Geography

Seminars are held in Building 19.G026 from 12.30 to 1.30 pm and are open to all who would like to attend.

Wednesday August 8: Associate Professor R W Young, Department of Geography, University of Wollongong, The Glorious Southwest — land forms of the Colorado Plateau.

School of Learning Studies

Gender and Education Unit

Seminars are held in Building 21.104 at 4.15 pm on Fridays (unless otherwise indicated).

August 17*: Associate Professor Noeline Kyle, Co-ordinator, Equity in Education Program, Telling the lives of ordinary women: the case of women teachers.

* Seminars offered jointly by the Gender and Education Unit and the NSW Branch of the Australian and New Zealand History of Education Society.

Tea/coffee provided at all seminars. Enquiries to Associate Professor Noeline Kyle, tel. (042) 27 0374 or Ms Jan James (042) 27 0078.

Department of Management

Friday August 10 at 12.30 pm in Building 19.1003: Dr M Jabri, Job Satisfaction and performance among R&D scientists: the moderating influence of perceived accuracy of supervisory task allocation decisions.

Department of Materials Engineering

Seminars to be held jointly with the Wollongong University Student Chapter of the Metallurgical Society on Tuesdays from 4.30 to 5.30 pm in Building 1.134 (unless otherwise specified). Enquiries to Associate Professor D. Dunne, tel. (042) 27 0014.

August 14: Dr K. Snowden (ANSTO), Creep and fatigue at elevated temperatures.

Department of Mathematics

Thursday August 9 at 1.30 pm in Building 15.204 (Austin Keane Building): Dr Noel Smyth, Department of Mathematics, University of Wollongong, Magnons and the eruption of volcanoes.

Visitors wishing to park on the University grounds will be charged as $1 parking fee. This will be reimbursed by the department.

Social and Psychological Health Research Program

Seminars are held on Tuesdays in Building 19.1056 from 12.30 to 1.30 pm.

August 7: Alan Avery, Health ecology model of health and health care.

Contact Sheree Anshel, ext. 3499

Farewell dinner for Professor Ian Chubb

AFTER approximately five years on campus, Professor Ian Chubb is leaving to take up his new appointment as Chair, Higher Education Council, in Canberra. A dinner in his honour has been organised for those friends and colleagues who would like an opportunity to say farewell.

The dinner will be held on Friday September 21 at 7 for 7.30 pm in the Union Hall, Union Building, the University of Wollongong, Northfields Avenue, Gwynneville. The cost, $27 a head (and not $20 as reported in last week’s Campus News), covers pre-dinner savouries and three-course meal with orange juice and carafe wine; dinner music by the Gleniffer Trio. A full bar service will be available.

Tickets are available from Lee-Anne Owen, Vice-Chancellor’s Unit. Donations for a present may also be left with Lee-Anne.
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