Awards for excellence in teaching

VICE-Chancellor, Professor Ken McKinnon has announced the winners of a prestigious new award established by the University to encourage and reward high quality performance in teaching by academic staff.

In announcing the awards at the University Council meeting on Friday April 12, Professor McKinnon said the awards will focus added attention on the University's determination to foster excellence in teaching.

Up to four awards of $2000 will be available each year. Contenders for the awards must be nominated by three people. Nominators must come from the university community and may include staff members or students, past and present.

This year's winners were:
- Associate Professor Don Lewis (Department of Economics, Faculty of Commerce);
- Ms Ros Atkins (Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science);
- Ms Yvonne Kerr (School of Policy and Technology Studies, Faculty of Education);
- Ms Tracey McDonald (Department of Nursing, Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences).

"A range of criteria is considered by a committee," Professor McKinnon said.

"Major factors include teaching evaluation results from student surveys, responsiveness to student and colleague feedback on teaching, innovative teaching strategies and interest and enthusiasm in undertaking teaching and promoting student learning."

Fifteen nominations from five faculties were received for this year's inaugural awards. Eight of the 15 nominations involved student nominations. Eleven nominations passed the initial selection process and went forward to the committee for consideration.

The seven remaining nominations were:
- Ms J.E. Wright, (School of Learning Studies, Faculty of Education);
- Mr P. Patterson, (Department of Management, Faculty of Commerce);
- Dr M.J. Lowrey, (Department of Civil & Mining Engineering, Faculty of Engineering);

The awards will be presented by the Chancellor at the University Day function on Monday May 6.
Vice-Chancellor's teaching award citations

**Associate Professor Don Lewis**
Department of Economics, Faculty of Commerce

For more than a decade and a half, Associate Professor Don Lewis has been regularly rated by his students and his peers as an outstandingly effective teacher at all levels and in all contexts from the large, compulsory introductory Quantitative Methods class, through extra-Faculty service courses and smaller advanced Economics options to the postgraduate seminar and, as well, for his contribution to the success of a significant number of research students. Throughout this period Don Lewis has routinely sought student reaction to his teaching and shown a gratifying willingness to respond to their comments, resulting in a significant improvement over time in what were always extremely impressive evaluation results. Over the years he has also written and published on matters and in sources of particular relevance to other teachers of Economics at both secondary and tertiary level and more recently, has co-authored innovative text books evolving from his course materials in the fields of Mathematics and Statistics for Business and Economics which are widely used throughout the Australian tertiary education system. Among his colleagues, whether of long standing or those only recently appointed to the Department, Don is seen as a valued source of advice and support in teaching related matters and has made major contributions to course design within his Department and to the integration of programs within the Faculty of Commerce. Not surprisingly, Don Lewis is widely perceived and appreciated by his students and his peers as not merely a high quality instructor but also an educator who is actively concerned about the effectiveness of student learning.

**Ms Ros Atkins**
Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science

Ros Atkins teaches at what her Head of Department describes as the “less glamorous but most challenging and critical end of Chemistry teaching”, that is, at the 100-level and, most particularly, in the Bridging and Remedial courses offered by her Department specifically to overcome the heavy first year failure rates among students lacking an adequate preparation for the subject. In the course of her six years in this role she has progressed from providing tutorials specifically for these students to the position of overall First Year Chemistry Co-ordinator with a special responsibility for a personal commitment to the teaching of the innovative alternate 100-level strand which prepares these students for advanced study in Chemistry. In addition to her personal dedication and approachability Ros Atkins has also been responsible for developing widely used software packages for HSC chemistry teachers and for computer assisted learning in the Chemistry Bridging Course and is currently developing additional software for interactive tutorial work at 100-level. Outside the University the recognition of her skills has resulted in her being invited to act as a Leader in a course on Accelerated Learning and, for several years, to participate in a variety of courses aiming to prepare disadvantaged students for university study. Excellence may be its own reward; for Ros Atkins, however, excellence in this quite specialised but frequently under-rated area of teaching has also brought with it the gratitude and warm appreciation of students who might otherwise have been unable to pursue their University studies successfully.

**Ms Yvonne Kerr**
School of Policy and Technology Studies, Faculty of Education

Yvonne Kerr is regarded by her peers as a leading professional in the field of Physical and Health Education in NSW, which standing has been reflected in her appointment as Chairperson of the NSW Department of Education’s Committee to write the Physical and Health Education syllabus for Years 7-10, numerous consultancy appointments including those of Course Development Consultant to two other tertiary institutions in this state, and many invitations to conduct staff development workshops. Colleagues and students agree, however, that she is, in addition, a truly outstanding teacher who is closely attuned to the needs of her students, innovative in her teaching strategies, always demanding, invariably realistic, continuously constructive in her evaluation of their performance, active in seeking and responsive to feedback, personally approachable and fully professional in everything she does. Within the Faculty of Education, she currently coordinates five subjects and team-teaches in another four across the full spectrum from 100- to 900-level and has been heavily involved in redesigning several of these to incorporate computer-based activities, the use of video-based analyses of physical performance skill learning, and the design of school based evaluation projects involving students in self- as well as subject evaluation. Where appropriate she routinely schedules in-sessional “progress interviews” to monitor student work and development and conducts additional assignment preparation workshops. To be regarded as “stimulating”, “an appropriate role model”, or as “bringing professionalism and personal poise to her activities” would be satisfying to most teachers. To be regarded by at least some of one’s advanced students as “the most professional lecturer experienced in this University”, as Ms Kerr is, however, is high praise indeed.

**Ms Tracey McDonald**
Department of Nursing, Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences

Ms McDonald is heavily involved in teaching at a variety of levels in the undergraduate, post-basic and post-graduate level Nursing programs and is much sought after as a contributor in the in-service and other educational programs of individual hospitals and professional associations. Since she joined the University in 1987 she has gained an enviable reputation among her peers and her students for her ability to create lively, challenging, engaging yet often entertaining and highly effective teaching environments, for her creative use of a repertoire of teaching and learning strategies which she consciously varies to match the context and the objectives of the learning event so as to maximise student learning and for her friendly, open responsive and individually supportive approach to students. Tracey McDonald contributes frequently to the professional development literature of her field, has co-authored a textbook used as a resource in the Wollongong Nursing program and, as a text in the Graduate School of Health Management at the University of NSW, and is currently trialing with her students a ring-bound, edited set of readings (many of them her own) - “perspectives on Ageing in Australia” - that can be supplemented as appropriate new material comes to hand and into which other hand-out material and student notes can be integrated as the course proceeds. As might be hoped for in a professionally orientate program Tracey is widely regarded by colleagues and students not merely as a dedicated educator of the highest quality who constantly seeks new ways of promoting learning behaviour but also as an excellent nursing role-model.
ONE of the first joint academic units established by the University of Wollongong and the Illawarra Area Health Service (IAHS), was officially opened on April 12.

The Illawarra Public Health Unit is one of 14 units recently established throughout the state as part of NSW Health Department funding initiatives.

However, the Illawarra unit is unique in being a joint project with the University of Wollongong and it will also be developing close links with the adjacent public health region based in Goulburn.

The unit will strengthen links between the University and the Area Health Service, and contribute to research, program development and improved health for the people of the Illawarra.

The unit has been assigned broad responsibility in the areas of infectious and communicable disease control, environmental health and monitoring, pregnancy outcomes, birth defects and SIDS, the prevention of intentional and non-intentional injuries, and prevalence and intervention studies in chronic conditions including cardiovascular disease, cancer, asthma etc.

The Director of the new unit, Dr David Jeffs, who is also Senior Fellow in the Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences, said: "The University was developing its Master of Public Health (MPH) degree through the Department of Public Health and Nutrition under Professor Dennis Calvert.

"It made a lot of sense to link the practical expertise of the Public Health Unit with the teaching and research strengths of the department.

"We anticipate we will be working together on many joint research projects, and we have already had confirmation that one such joint project has secured substantial funding from a national body."

The new unit is located in University premises at 18 Madoline Street, with the operating costs being borne by the IAHS through specified NSW Health Department funding.

It has a full time staff of seven (including the director), as well as four part-time staff working on associated projects.

Among the guests at the opening were senior University staff, IAHS board members and executive, and officers and staff from Wollongong, Shellharbour, Kiama and Shoalhaven councils.

The Chairman of the Illawarra Area Health Board and Executive Director of the Illawarra Regional Information Service, Mr John McKenna, said that he foresaw that there was plenty of scope for more joint projects, as the University developed its Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences, and the IAHS gained recognition as a "Teaching Area Health Service".

"There are obvious benefits for the University, the IAHS, and the health of the Illawarra community in such collaborative approaches," he said.

### Cholesterol testing

**THE Department of Public Health and Nutrition is researching the relationships between cigarette smoking and blood cholesterol levels.**

As part of this study the department will be screening 20 male volunteers who smoke 15 or more cigarettes per day and 20 male volunteers who do not smoke.

Blood samples will be collected on campus at a convenient time to be arranged. The only commitment you will have to make is to fast overnight.

In return you will receive information on your blood cholesterol levels and body mass index which are both established coronary heart disease risk factors.

Although this study is using males, interested females are also encouraged to inquire with the view of being included in a study to be conducted at a later date.

For further information contact Brett Garner, ext. 3952.

### Quit smoking program

**THE Centre for Staff Development is offering a program to help staff give up smoking.**

In line with the University’s policy of establishing smoke-free buildings on campus, those staff who want to give up smoking may undertake this program which aims to create a healthier and happier lifestyle.

The course runs for five weeks: four consecutive weeks for two hours on the same day each week then a booster session one month later.

The dates are: July 18 and 25, August 1 and 8, and September 5.

All employees who smoke, but especially those whose work environment is smoke-free, are encouraged to attend. A minimum of 10 staff members must apply before the course will run.

Please forward your nomination form to Jan James, at the Centre for Staff Development.
WOMEN with any type of degree are invited to join the Illawarra branch of the Australian Federation of University Women. It is an organisation that encourages women and offers support in their career choices. The group meets once every two months at the University Union building. At each meeting there is a guest speaker. At the end of each year a prize is awarded to an outstanding Science or Engineering graduate. The prize is known as the Gina Savage prize. Anyone interested in attending the meetings or joining the organisation should contact Carol Williams, tel. (042) 213754 (w) or 71 4949 (h).

IF YOU are doing any form of quantitative research, you are sure to be encountering variability and will need statistics to help you cope with some of the questions that arise. For example, how many observations do you need? Can you control for extraneous factors? The Statistical Consulting Service can advise on these problems. Members of the Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences should contact Anne Porter, ext. 4058, in the first instance. Members of all other Faculties should contact Ken Russell, ext. 3815.

A JAPAN week will be held in Britain in October. As part of the activities the BBC is producing five Japanese plays for Radio 3. They have commissioned Marguerite Wells, Co-ordinator of Japanese Studies at this university, to translate one of them and adapt it for radio. Called Yabuhara the Blind Master Minstrel, it is a black comedy by the humorist Inove Hisashi.

ASSOCIATE Professor Jim Wieland has been awarded a travel grant from the British Council to study curriculum developments in Post-colonial literary studies in selected English Departments in the United Kingdom. He will visit the universities of Hull, Leeds, Stirling, Warwick, Reading and Kent during May, 1991. At the same time, he will hold talks with Heads or Stream Co-ordinators about the place of Communications Studies, and Cultural Studies in Departments of English.

THE Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences has organised two series of introductory workshops on SPSS for staff and graduate students. Participants will have the opportunity to work with their own data sets. Participants should be able to use the JOVE editor on WAMPYR and will also need an account and password on WAMPYR. This can be obtained by contacting Elwyn Walker from Information Technology Services.

APPLICATIONS for study leave are being called for Autumn Session 1992 (Session 1). Applications can be obtained from Sue Smithers, Personnel Services Branch, ext. 3117, or through the Administration File Server. Closing date is Friday, July 5.
A REPORT from the Faculty of Education. Similar reports are invited from other faculties

Webb, P. Performance Indicators of Elite Referees. Elite Referees Seminar, Australian Institute of Sport, March 14-17; Wilsmore, G. Level 1 Hockey Course Coordinator. Wollongong University, February, Wilsmore, G. Regional Coaching Clinic. Wollongong University, March 10-11.


New Staff Member: Mr Peter Cribb is the newly appointed faculty member in Physical and Health Education, Faculty of Education. He completed his undergraduate degree at the Australian College of Physical Education and the University of Oregon. He obtained a Masters of Studies in Education from the University of Wollongong in 1987 and a Masters of Education in School Administration with certification as a High School Principal and teacher from South-West Texas State University. He taught Physical Education at Knox Grammar School for eight years.

Coaching co-ordinator: Mr Gary Wilsmore has been reappointed Coaching Co-ordinator for the Illawarra Academy of Sport for the fifth consecutive year.

Syllabus chairperson: Ms Yvonne Kerr has been elected Chairperson of Years 7-12 Personal Development, Health and Physical Education Syllabus. Major role this year is to design the 7-10 syllabus and develop support documents for it.

Conference chairperson: Mr Gregg Rowland has been appointed Conference Program Co-ordinator for the NSW Head Teachers Conference for Health and Physical Education. Staff and facilities from the University will be involved. The dates for the conference are October 25-27, 1991.

Aussie Sports Expo: The Expo will be conducted by the Department of Sport, Recreation and Racing in conjunction with the Physical and Health Education staff, Faculty of Education. Anyone interested in gaining sports coaching qualifications through attending the Aussie Sports Expo on April 12 and 19, should contact Gregg Rowland.

Annexed: Associate Dean: Dr John Patterson, from the Health and Physical Education staff has been appointed Associate Dean of the Faculty of Education.

Exercise and older adults: Sylvia Rice, lecturer in the Faculty of Education, has been working with older women since 1984 at the Beaton Park Leisure Centre, and has recently extended her work to the over-60 group with a class called "Exersity".
Asia-Pacific Development Studies Research Program
Lunchtime seminars
April 30: Bruce McFarlane, Dept of Economics, Macquarie University, China's economy in the 1990s.
May 28: Tony Naughton, APDS program, East Asian capital markets: preliminary results.
Seminars are held in Room 40.222 from 12.30-1.30pm. For further information contact Melanie Beresford, ext. 3669, or Dennis O'Brien, ext. 3654.

Department of Accountancy
April 26: Warrick Funnell, Efficiency auditing as social and political discourses: a critical study of the establishment of efficiency auditing within the Australian Audit Office 1978-1984.
May 10: Andrew Chew, Department of Accounting, University of Technology, Sydney: Structuration of accounting systems.
Seminars are held in the Faculty of Commerce Building 40, Room 224, from 11am-12.30pm.
Enquiries to Associate Professor Hai Yap Teoh, tel. 21 3625.

Department of Biology
Autumn Seminar Series
April 23: Associate Professor Peter Greenaway, Biological Sciences, UNSW, Adaptations to terrestrial life in crabs.
April 30: Associate Professor Zeng Liangzhong, Fujian College of Forestry, China and Associate Professor Rob Whelan, Biology, University of Wollongong. Poor natural regeneration in abandoned farmland: the role of soils.
May 7: Dr D.J. Ayre, Biology Dept., University of Wollongong, Beyond simple aggression in sea anemones.
May 21: Dr Nigel Taylor, Department of Human Movement, Uni. of Wollongong. Respiratory mechanics during immersion.
May 28: Dr Stephen Doggett, Westmead Hospital, Medical Entomology Unit. Field and laboratory investigations of Lime Disease in Australia.
June 4: Dr Caroline Gross, Biological Sciences, Flinders University, Floral mimicry: a review of terminology and a case study.
Seminars are held in 35.G19 – 12.30-1.30pm on Tuesdays.

Department of Business Systems
May 8: John Earls, PhD graduate, Department of Business Systems, University of Wollongong. Three groups on a board (with apologies to Jerome K. Jerome), 12.30pm, Pentagon 5.

Department of Economics
May 8: R Bewley, School of Economics and Forecasting Research Group, University of NSW, Co-integration: Choice for Applied Economists.
May 15: J Bateson, Treasury, NSW Government, Current Issues in Public Sector Economics.
May 23: E West, Department of Economics, University of WA and University of Ontario, Adam Smith and Modern Economists.
June 3: C Eaton, Department of Economics, University of Tasmania and Simon Fraser University. Flexible Manufacturing and Market Structure. All enquiries to the Convenor, Associate Professor Tran Van Hoa, Office 40.207, Fax (042) 21 3477, Tel. (042) 21 3659.

Department of Education
Visiting Lecture
April 23: Dr B.S. Randhawa, Professor, University of Saskatchewan, Visiting Professor, Curtin University of Technology, Instructional and cultural influences on mathematics learning and outcomes. 4pm Room 19.1004 Social Science Building.
Enquiries to Dr Philip de Lacey, ext. 3728.

Department of Human Movement Science
Staff and Professional Seminar Programme Session 1, 1991
April 30: Mr O. Curtis & Ms S. Anshel. Community Outreach Program: History and Recent Development.*
May 7: Dr Jeff Bond. Sports Psychology Services in the A.I.S.
May 14: Professor W. Lovegrove. Graduate Faculty; Implications for Human Movement.
June 4: Professor C. Ewan. The Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences.
*Human Movement Science staff seminars.
All Seminars in Geology 35.G45 at 12.30pm, Tuesdays. Enquiries to Dr M. Brown ext 3495.

Department of Materials Engineering
April 23: Professor W Plumbridge, University of Wollongong, Overseas developments in materials engineering.
May 7: Dr J Nordon, Hawker de Havilland, Composite repair in the aerospace industry.
May 21: Dr R Priestner, University of Manchester. Hot rolling of steels.
June 4: M Sampson, Bisalloy Steels, Wear-resistant steels and their applications.
All seminars to be held from 4.30-5.30pm in Room 1.134. Enquiries to Associate Professor D Dunne, (042) 21 3014.

Department of Modern Languages
May 16: French Press Attaché to Australia, M. Kostia Sakow, The French media.
May 30: French Scientific Attaché, M. Laurent d’Ozouville, French science, technology and engineering.
For further details, contact Dr Susan Yates, ext. 3636.

Department of Philosophy
Colloquia
May 10: Philip Cam, University of NSW, The psychology of beliefs.
May 17: Catriona Mackenzie, Macquarie University, Reason and Sensibility: the ideal of women’s self-governance in the writings of Mary Wollstonecraft.
Colloquia are held in room 1034, Level 1, Building 19 at 2pm.

Department of Psychology
April 26: Dr Dorothy Bishop, Department of Psychology, University of Manchester, England. Predicting literacy skills in children with early language delay. Room 19: 1056, 12.30pm.

Department of Public Health and Nutrition
April 23: Professor Christine Ewan, Dean, Faculty Health and Behavioural Sciences and Prof Dennis Calvert, Head, Department of Public Health and Nutrition, Health and Environment.
May 28: Paul O’Halloran, Senior Lecturer, Department of Public Health and Nutrition, Family Interventions/Relapse Prevention in Schizophrenia.
June 11: Professor Phillip Barter, Chair of Preventive Cardiology, Graduate School of Health and Medical Sciences, Regulation of Cholesterol Transport.
All seminars from 12.30-1.30pm in 5.G03 RSVP or further information Linda Tapsell, ext 3152.

School of Creative Arts
Research Colloquia
May 16: Michael Scott-Mitchell, Scenery in the Theatre of Ideas. This investigates the space industry.
Continued page eight
FOR SALE
Robertson, 3br brick veneer house with panoramic views on seven acres. Has open fire, extensive paving and double garage. $400,000 neg. Tel. (048) 85 1412.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE
Tandem bike. Good condition. $320 ono. Tel Sue, (042) 26 9678.

Grants received
Commonwealth Special Education Program
Mr N Hall - Faculty of Education, “Developing Cognitive Control Through Computer based Learning Activities”, $8,950

Ecological Society of Australia
Ms A Hunt – Dept of Biology, “Variation in Genetic Structures of Populations of 2 Intertidal Starfish”. $300

The AMIC Student Medal (medal + $500) aims at encouraging excellence in student research and communication in the field of environmental management related to mining. Students should submit an abstract not exceeding 250 words. Should they be selected, they will then be invited to give a paper of 3000 words which they will present at the AMIC Environmental Workshop. The closing date is 17 May.
The Art of Lunch – Thursdays from 12.35-1.25pm, in the Music Auditorium of School of Creative Arts.

The next meeting of the Women’s Issues Group will be held at 7.30pm on April 23 in the Boardroom of the Union Building, University of Wollongong, Northfield Avenue. Guest speakers will be Liz Jenied, “A Glimpse of Yemeni Textile” and Simone Bryte, “A View of Life by a Woman Author”. All are welcome at a cost of $2.50 per head. Enquiries to Moira Bowman, tel. (042) 843741. Other meetings will be held on May 28 and June 26.

The fifth annual general meeting of the University of Wollongong Club is to be held in the Club Lounge, Union Building (No.11) at 12.30pm on Wednesday, April 24. All members and new members are invited to attend. Advise either Ross Lilley (ext. 3431) or Maree Fryer (ext. 3413) by April 19 if you will be attending.

The Illawarra Committee for Overseas Students (ICOS) has announced its calendar of events for this year. The first is a visit to Canberra and Cockington Green on April 27. The cost is: adults $8, children $5. The remainder of the events are: May 18: Old Sydney Town $8 and $5. May 25-26: Dubbo Western Plains Zoo two-day trip; adults and children older than six $35. July 27: Snowy Mountains (one day) $15 and $10. Tickets and details are available from the ICOS office in the Union Building next to the Careers and Appointments Service, Monday to Friday 9am-2pm. Tel (042) 21 3158 or ext. 3158.

Law Week Monday April 29-Sunday May 5. Events during the week will include a ‘Law as a Career’ seminar, talks on radio on current legal issues, and the lawyer of the year award.

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Research Methodology Seminar. The school runs a Research Methodology Seminar for honours students. This is a weekly class held on Wednesdays, 1.30-3.30pm. The course covers a range of theoretical and procedural matters including thesis presentation and research and writing techniques. All postgraduate students are welcome to attend these seminars but if you would like to attend call (042) 21 3985 so we can keep a track of numbers.

Gender and Education Unit and Equity in Education
May 1: Ms Barbara Pamphilon, Masters Honours student, Methodological problems interviewing older women.
May 8: Ms Jacqui Preedy, MEd student, Researching home economics.
May 15: Ms Jan Wright, lecturer PhD student, Interplay of discourses in PE.
May 29: Ms Jan Hall, lecturer MEd Honour student, The gifted and talented recognised but ignored.

Annual University service – Sunday May 12 at 7pm St John’s, Keiraville, Eastern and Moore Sts, Gwynneville. The Rev Raymond Heslehurst, who celebrates his 10th year this year as Anglican Chaplain on Campus, will preach the sermon. (note changed venue).

Graduation Ceremonies – May 7-10 and October 10-11.


The Illawarra Performing Arts Centre Guild Theatre is preparing for a season of Annie. Directed by Robert Peet, Annie has Peter Shepherd as musical director and Linda Shaw Wilson as choreographer. The season opens Friday July 26 then July 27 (two shows), 28 (two shows), 30, 31, August 1, 2 and 3 (two shows).

From page six

nature of the theatrical illusion made possible by the isolation of line, shape and the fluidity of space behind the proscenium arch.


August 22: Anne Brennan, Identity and Artefact. Anne Brennan, a jewellery maker, also writes extensively on craft, personal experience and material culture.

October 31: Studies in Contemporary Arts Practice and Performance in Australia. Presented by members of the University research program: Diana Conroy, Ian McGrath, Sue Rowley, John Senczuk, Andrew Schultz, Peter Shepherd and David Vance.

All colloquia are held in Building 24, G01 – Music Auditorium from 4.30-6.30pm. Enquiries to (042) 21 3302.

Postgraduate Seminars for 1991 will be held on April 18, May 16, July 25, August 22, October 31. All seminars are in the Music Auditorium from 4.30-6.30pm.

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All seminars are held at 12.30pm in 22.107. For more information contact Associate Professor Noeline Kyle ext. 3374.

Stop Press

AIDS quilt workshop

THE Illawarra AIDS task force is conducting an AIDS quilt workshop on May 4 at the University in Pentagon 1.

The workshop will run from 10am-3.30pm. The day will break for a picnic lunch by the duck pond at 1.30pm.

There will be a small charge for the cost of materials of $2 per head to $5 per family.