1993 funding – excellent results

The University of Wollongong together with Swinburne, NSW, RMIT, CSIRO, 10 manufacturing companies centred in Victoria and NSW, the Metal Trade Industry Association and the Strategic Research Foundation has won a $14 million (over seven years) Co-operative Research Centre in Intelligent Manufacturing Systems.

Landscape Supervisor Martin Bramston and apprentice landscape gardener Denis Boxsall give Washingtonia Filifera (Cotton Palm) some tender loving care while it waits in the wings to give the final touch to the Keira View Building. Removed originally from the Keira Viewsite, the transplanting of Washingtonia Filifera, unlike most other trees, has a high chance of success because of the short fibrous root system.

The leaves are trimmed back by about a third to reduce evaporation and the tree supported by guy ropes. Frequent and regular watering is necessary.

This particular specimen is approximately 25 years old and, thanks to the expertise of the University’s Landscape Section, is expected to grace the University campus for many years to come.

Key players from Wollongong are Professor Chris Cook (Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering), Professor Guenter Arndt (Department of Mechanical Engineering) and Dr Richard Badham (Department of Science and Technology Studies). The University is now involved in three CRCs (see page six).

The CRC announcement the University has been advised by DEET of its funding for 1993 in certain categories. $150,000 has been received for Equity Funding. This places Wollongong in the top funded category for equity.

The Equity and Access Consultative Group has begun the process of recommending allocations in response to submissions received.

The two submitted projects (the maximum allowable) for the National Priority (Reserve) Fund were successful. They were:

• The proposal under the Quality Management and Assurance Section written by MIP team titled: ‘Planning and MIS for Quality Enhancement and Assurance and Effective Resource Utilisation in the Higher Education System’. ($250,000) (See separate article)
• The proposal submitted by Associate Professor Mary Harris under the Other Quality Measures Section titled ‘Industry Relevant Management Education for Health Service Clinicians – An Area Health Service – University Pilot Project’. ($70,000)

DEET has also announced the successful applications for project funds awarded by the Committee for the Advancement of University Teaching. They were:

• Ms Stein – A skills-based process approach to nurse education for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. ($48,300)
• Dr R Lewis – VITUL: video introduction to undergraduate laboratories. ($24,892)
• Dr A Wilson – Multimedia pre-laboratory instruction for tertiary

Continued page two
projects from the Department of Industry, Technology and Commerce (DITAC) have been two.

University’s pro rata share which would be $46,614.


The following academic promotions took effect from 1 January:

• To Associate Professor: Dr M Anshel (Human Movement Science); Dr N Azziz (Civil and Mining Engineering); Dr R Badham (Science and Technology Studies); Dr M Boyd (Civil and Mining Engineering); Dr M Metwally (Economics); Dr R Nillsen (Mathematics).

• To Senior Lecturer: Dr D Brown (Psychology); Ms J Hammond (Education); Dr R Jayasuriya (Public Health and Nutrition); Dr N Mackay (Psychology); Mr G Moore (Physics); Dr P Nulsen (Physics); Ms L Tapsell (Public Health and Nutrition); Dr N Taylor (Human Movement Science); Dr J Wragg (Psychology); Ms H Yeatman (Public Health and Nutrition).

The funding of five projects in this category is significantly better than the University’s pro rata share which would have been two.

The classes will start on Tuesday 16 February 1993 and Thursday 18 February.

Do you want to improve your English? Then why not join an Advanced English class in 1993?

The English classes are taught by a qualified ESL teacher and cover topics such as job skills, business, social conversation, life in Australia.

The whole course itself is offered at an affordable price, which is $15 per term (i.e. every three months).

This program successfully ran last year and has helped many overseas students and migrants who experienced difficulties in speaking English.

Classes held every Tuesday 10am-noon, St Michael’s Church Hall, 74 Church Street, Wollongong and Thursday, 9.30-11.30am, St John’s Anglican Church Hall, Cnr Moore St and Eastern St, Keiraville.

The classes will start on Tuesday 16 February 1993 and Thursday 18 February.

Excellent results in 1993 funding

From page one

chemistry teaching. ($39,900)

• Professor Conyngham – Multimedia teaching in creative arts. ($47,572)

• Professor Goldring – Developing a learning package for student-centred learning in the ‘service’ teaching of contract law. ($46,614)

The funding of five projects in this category is significantly better than the University’s pro rata share which would have been two.

The University has also been successful in obtaining research funding for two projects from the Department of Industry, Technology and Commerce (DITAC) Industry Research and Development Generic Technology Grants. They are:

• A Communications Technology Grant titled ‘Universal Mobile Satellite Terminals’ – $1 million in total over three years in conjunction with the Universities of Sydney and Adelaide and Codan Pty Ltd. The co-ordinator at the University of Wollongong is David Rowe (Electrical and Computer Engineering).

• A Manufacturing and Materials Technology Grant titled ‘Smart Manufacturing Techniques’ – $618,796 in total over two years in conjunction with the University of NSW, CSIRO, the South Australian Centre for Manufacture, Ford Plastics James Hardie Irrigation Pty Ltd and Hoover Australia Pty Ltd. The University of Wollongong Coordinator is Associate Professor Richard Badham (Department of Science and Technology Studies).

Researchers at the University have been successful in obtaining funding from the National Health and Medical Research Council and the Cancer Council. They are:

• NHMRC Medical Research Grant – Dr Mark Walker (Biology). The Development of a Recombinant Anti-Pertussis Toxin Vaccine. ($45,800)

• NHMRC Public Health Research Project Grant – Professor Ewan, Mr D Wilson and Professor D Calvert (Public Health and Nutrition). Community Perceptions of Environmental Health Risk – Lead as a Case Study. ($66,493 per year for two years)

• Cancer Council – Dr Mark Baker (Biology). Radiolabelled Serine Protease Inhibitors in the Imaging and Therapy of Malignancy. ($50,276)
Environmental Science team set up

The BHP chair of Environmental Science, Professor John Morrison, has his full complement of staff to assist with the co-ordination of the Environmental Science program.

This includes the Bachelor of Environmental Science and the Honours Master in Environmental Science degrees together with associated research activities.

Unlike Professor Morrison, who was Professor of Chemistry at the University of the South Pacific, Marina McGlinn, the Professional Officer, and Sandra Quin, the Administrative Assistant, are not new to the University.

Ms McGlinn has held positions in the Department of Biological Sciences and the Department of Science and Technology Studies at this University.

Ms Quin returns to the University having previously worked for the Centre for Technological and Social Change.

The Environmental Science program operates under the overall guidance of the Board of Studies for Environmental Science which has members from all the Departments contributing to the program.

Through the Environmental Science program Professor Morrison hopes to develop links between the University and a wide range of organisations with interests in environmental matters.

This mutually beneficial interaction will be facilitated through final year students in the Honours BEnvSci degree having to complete a research project which must be carried out in collaboration with a non-university organisation.

Links between groups concerned with environmental issues both on and off campus will also be expanded via the Industry and Environment Working Group which is being developed within the University.

It is hoped that in this way the University staff and students and a wide range of non-university organisations working in the Illawarra will obtain a broader understanding of the environmental issues requiring study in this region.

This should then lead to greater collaboration between all parties concerned with environmental issues in the Illawarra.

Input wanted for National Quality Assurance project

The University has obtained a grant of $250,000 under the Quality Management and Assurance Processes Sub-section of the 1993 National Priority (Reserve) Fund.

The grant is for a project entitled: Planning and Management Information Systems for Quality Enhancement and Assurance and Effective Resource Utilisation in the Higher Education System.

This project will be undertaken during 1993 by a team comprising Professor Russell Linke, Professor Carla Fasano and members of the Management Information and Planning Section.

In addition, a small project steering committee is to be established and chaired by project manager, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Professor Lauchlan Chipman.

The project aims to substantially build on recent planning developments within the University by developing and implementing comprehensive systems for planning (extending to effective resource allocation), monitoring and evaluating performance, including the refinement and definition of key performance indicators at all levels within the institution.

Intended outcomes of this project will be implementable across the Unified National System, with input being sought from universities nationwide.

In the initial phase of gathering and collating information, the project team would welcome any comments or input members of the campus community may wish to contribute.

Copies of the original project submission are available from project co-ordinator, David Macpherson, ext. 3372.

Responses should reach the Management Information and Planning Section by the end of February 1993.
International skills recognition seminar

Three people from the University attended an international seminar on the transfer of skills in Melbourne last month. Director of the Centre for Multicultural Studies, Professor Stephen Castles, chaired a workshop on Skills Recognition and Refugees while Dr Robyn Iredale, also from the Centre, presented the keynote paper on this topic. Ms Lily Soh from the International Office represented the University from the point of view of transfer of skills for educational purposes.

The seminar was jointly sponsored by the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (NOOSR) which is located in the Department of Employment, Education and Training, Canberra.

IOM, based in Geneva, is the largest international, non-government body whose specific function is to ensure the orderly migration of persons who are in need of international migration services.

Much of IOM’s work is concerned with the resettlement or repatriation of the world’s refugees.

But increasingly it has become involved in the planned migration of nationals, the movement of skilled experts to meet specific needs in less developed countries and the return of talent from more developed countries to countries that urgently need these skilled resources.

NOOSR was established in DEET in 1989 and took over some of the work of its predecessor, the Council on Overseas Professional Qualifications which was located in the Department of Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs.

As well as assisting with pre-migration assessment of skilled migrants, DEET is encouraging many professional and technical occupational groups in Australia to move from qualifications-only assessment of skilled migrants, that is assessment of formal qualifications only, to an assessment of all of their competencies as embodied in paper qualifications, employment experience and on-the-job training.

This is proving to be a long and costly exercise in many occupations as the perception prevails that new tests have to be devised to measure a derived set of competencies.

The main purpose of the seminar was to facilitate an exchange of information and views on procedures and processes that are occurring around the world to deal with the increased movement of skilled labour and the recognition of their skills.

The seminar addressed the distinction between skills-based and qualifications-based assessment

In the past Australia predominantly has been concerned with the intake of permanent migrants, but the globalisation of the labour market and the increased flow of temporary skilled workers are placing added emphasis on the need to derive relatively quick, equitable means of assessing people’s skills.

The seminar addressed many issues that still need resolution within the Australian context – such as the shortage of English language and other training programs, the distinction between skills-based and qualifications-based assessment and the particular problems facing refugees.

In addition, visitors from overseas provided a picture of what happens in Canada, New Zealand and Europe.

The introduction of the common labour market in the European Community from 1993 has meant a long process of consultation to ensure that skills will be transferable between the 12 member states.

The outcome is that the members of the EC have basically agreed to recognise each other’s degrees, diplomas and vocational training.

Deputy Head of Delegation of the Commission of the European Communities to Australia and New Zealand, Roderick Skinner, described it as a ‘leap of confidence’ whereby each country accepted what the other countries taught in their training institutions and universities.

A combination of mutual recognition, harmonised training and specific directives have been instituted to facilitate the transfer of skills across national boundaries.

This attitude was refreshing and provided food for thought for Australians.

As Australia develops trade and business links with Asia and as the flow of people within our region escalates, Australia will need to think about reducing some of the barriers to skilled workers from Asia.

It will also need to ensure that it fully utilises the skills embodied in the many migrants who have already settled in Australia and whose linguistic and occupational skills are unutilised or underutilised.

Australia has 2.3 million bilinguals, but much of the emphasis in the assessment of these people continues to be on whether they can speak English properly.

The European example demonstrated to the seminar participants the value of a range of languages and the short-sightedness of excluding someone from the workforce because their English was not good enough.

Australia needs to move away from its monolingual mentality and learn to value people even though their English may not be perfect or they may speak with an accent.

A Greek Professor of Psychology who attended the seminar was surprised to learn that even though his English was perfect his accent may disadvantage him in Australia.

A knowledge of the local language is often required in the EC, but in some occupations it is not essential and there is a much more flexible view that acknowledges that real language learning takes place on the job.

Study leave applications due

Members of staff wishing to submit an application for study leave to start at the beginning of Second Session 1993 (Spring Session) should have their applications with Personnel Services Branch by Friday 26 February 1993.

Note that applications need to be processed through the Head of Academic Unit and Dean of Faculty.

The application form and conditions document are contained on the Administrative File Server under Staff Matters, Academic Staff, Study Leave. Applications should be typed.

For further information, contact Malcolm Goddard, ext. 3117.
Space station chief appointed to Mechanical Engineering

Professor Michael P West has been appointed Professor of Mechanical Engineering and is expected to take up his appointment at the beginning of Autumn Session.

Professor West grew up in Texas, where he received his primary and secondary education.

He attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Massachusetts, for nine years, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronautics and Astronautics in 1971, and a Master of Science degree in Aeronautics and Astronautics in 1973.

In 1976, he was awarded a PhD in Structures and Materials Engineering from MIT, with a minor in Applied Mathematics.

At MIT he was awarded the highest undergraduate honours in Aeronautics and Astronautics, an MIT Academic Scholarship, and a National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship.

Professor West worked from 1976 to 1978 at McGill University in Montreal, Canada, undertaking research and teaching in the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

In 1978, he accepted a position with the Danish engineering firm of F L Smidth and Co in Copenhagen, and worked there for five and a half years as a mechanical analysis specialist for the cement process industry.

Professor West was an Assistant Professor for two years at Boston University, in the Department of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering.

He has also taught at the Danish Engineers' Postgraduate Institute, the Danish Technological Institute, and most recently, at the University of Houston.

In the five years before his appointment at the University of Wollongong, Professor West was employed at Lockheed Engineering and Sciences Company in Houston, serving as Engineering Supervisor on the Space Station Freedom project for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

He, and the group he headed, earned numerous awards, including the NASA Group Achievement Award.

Professor West's research interests include finite element methods, structural dynamics, mechanics of materials, and mineral processing.

CONTACTING SECURITY

Please take note of the methods. Security can be contacted 24 hours a day.

Ring 3936 This will ring in the Security Operations Centre, and you will be answered. If the centre is not staffed then you will be given a message to say that the call is being diverted. DO NOT HANG UP. The call is diverted to a mobile telephone.

Ring 3116 This will ring on the Security Supervisor's desk. This telephone will connect with Graham Parsons who is there periodically during the day. After hours contact can be initiated through the Security contact numbers.

Ring 3916 This number will contact the Security Manager. After hours contact can be effected through Security or on speed dial 6045

Ring 4254 This is a paging number. Method for use is as follows: Dial 4254 and you will be answered with 'enter pager number'. At this enter "214". You will then be asked for a message, enter your telephone extension or contact number. There will be a pause and then you will be told if the page is accepted or not accepted. Note: This system accepts only numeric messages, i.e. extension numbers.

Ring Switchboard (Extension 9) This is another paging method. When using this system: Ring the switch and tell them you require to contact Security on pager 214. They will ask you for a message. You can in this instance pass a message in alpha-numeric format, i.e. both as a message in words and an extension number.
The Co-operative Research Centre on Materials Welding and Joining, involving the University of Wollongong as one of the core partners, was officially established in July 1992.

The centre met Commonwealth Government requirements for a partner agreement and a contract with the Government to provide the research, education and technology transfer/commercialisation programs proposed in the application.

The Commonwealth Government is providing $12.42 million over seven years to establish a centre with the primary objective to enhance the competitiveness of Australia's value-added manufacturing industry through innovation, research and development, training and technology in the welding and joining area.

The centre will be binodal in nature (Adelaide and Wollongong) and will provide a co-ordinated approach to research, education and technology transfer in welding and joining by harnessing the resources of the core partners—Ansto, BHP, CSIRO, the Universities of Adelaide and Wollongong and the Welding Institute of Australia (WTIA).

The Faculty of Engineering at the University of Wollongong, mainly through the Departments of Materials and Mechanical Engineering, will play a key role in the research and education programs of the centre.

The Board of Management of the CRC—chaired by Mr Don Williams, Chairman of the Australian Submarine Corporation, and consisting of senior representatives of the core partners—has overseen the development of the contractual agreements during 1992 and has organised the appointment of a director and deputy director of the centre.

The appointed Director, Dr Norman Eaton, is President of the International Institute of Welding (IIW) and has a distinguished international reputation in institutional, industrial, educational and R and D aspects of welding and joining.

Dr Eaton arrived in Wollongong on 14 November and has established the centre office in the ITC.

The Deputy Director, Mr Ian Henderson, is located at the second major node of the CRC in CSIRO-DMT, Adelaide.

Mr Henderson co-ordinated the development of the research program before the arrival of the director and is collaborating with Dr Eaton in establishing the centre's three major programs.

The University, mainly through the Faculty of Engineering, is obliged to contribute substantially in-kind to the CRC, in terms of academic staff time and equipment infrastructure.

In return, the CRC is expected to provide substantial research funding through research students, post-doctoral fellows and provision of specialist equipment and general research costs.

The educational program also provides a means for developing the postgraduate course offerings of the faculty.

All research proposals will be assessed by the Technical Committee of the CRC in terms of criteria which are still being developed.

The proposals require involvement of at least two partners, and a preference for research of industrial relevance, particularly if it is industrially supported.

Some research project areas will be 'technology-push', but there will also be a strong emphasis on 'market-pull', with the major objective of raising the technological performance of Australian manufacturing industry.

Dr Susan Yates inspects the cover for her book

Dr Yates meets her US publisher

During her recent study leave, Dr Susan Yates was in New York to meet with the publishers of her book Maid and Mistress: Feminine Solidarity and Class Difference in Five Nineteenth-Century French Texts.

Her study leave involved research on her latest project, which examines the representation of women in French medical and literary discourse of the nineteenth century and the relations between the doctor and the bourgeois female in the novel of the period.

She was recently awarded a grant from the ARC to support her project, entitled 'The New Confessor: The Role of the Doctor in Nineteenth Century French Society as Represented in Selected Novels by Balzac'.
School of Journalism student Wayne Davis has edited and published a magazine *Environment Illawarra: The Keira Green Corridor* which outlines the development of the concept of green corridors in Wollongong stretching from the escarpment to the sea.

In 1983 some far-sighted individuals and organisations, including the University and Wollongong City Council, proposed the idea of the co-ordinated planting of trees on a broad scale across areas under the jurisdiction of several organisations.

Initially five corridors were proposed: Keira, Kembla, Brokers Nose, Mullet Creek and Bulli. Recently a sixth at West Dapto has been suggested.

Under the plan an overall concept regarding species and appropriate landscape design is adhered to with preference given to indigenous species. The resulting corridors provide habitats for the unique fauna in the region and reduces the impact of urban expansion.

The magazine outlines the history of the development of the concept, its implementation and success so far.

The printing of the magazine was sponsored by the University’s Students’ Representative Council and Wollongong City Council.

For further information contact the Community Revegetation Coordinator at Wollongong City Council, tel. 27 7298.

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**Pool re-opening delay**

Due to weather conditions and further complications during re-tilling, the pool will not be opening until Monday 25 January.

Please phone the Recreation and Sports Association before venturing down to the pool, as further delays may occur.

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**UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG RECREATION & SPORTS ASSOCIATION**

**Sports Scholarships 1993**

The Recreation and Sports Association, in conjunction with the University, is offering Wollongong’s second Sports Scholarship in 1993.

Applicants should be outstanding in their sporting field and be enrolling in the University in 1993. The scholarship is worth $3,000 per annum and will be renewable if academic, sporting and other performance standards are met. For further details and an application form please contact:

Executive Officer
University of Wollongong Recreation and Sports Association
P.O. 1144 Wollongong 2500

Applications close: 12 February, 1993
8-11 Feb: International Conference on Environmental Management – geo­water and engineering aspects. This conference will be very useful to young professionals and experienced decision-makers in the civil, mining and environmental engineering industry. For further information contact Dr Siva Sivakumar, tel. (042) 21 3055.

8-19 Feb: The Faculty of Education will be holding a two-week intensive workshop on interactive multimedia. Russ Glaser from Glaser Media Group, San Francisco, will be the chief instructor. Contact Dr Barry Harper, tel. (042) 213465, fax (042) 213465.

19 Feb: Justice Michael Kirby has been invited by the Information Technology and Communication Unit to give a public lecture on the OECD’s work on international guidelines relating to legal issues raised by information technology. The lecture will be held after a dinner in the Union Board Room from 7pm. Contact ITAC, tel. (042) 21 3606, for more information.

23 Feb: There will be a forum on Careers in Languages, organised by the Department of Modern Languages from 2-4pm for school students, university students and any interested members of the community. A panel of speakers will outline the varied career opportunities for language students. Bookings: tel. (042) 21 3676.

27 March: The New Literatures Research Centre is staging its 1993 Children’s Literature Conference. Called Australian Children’s Literature: Finding a Voice, the conference will be held in the Pentagon. The registration fee of $60 ($55 for students) includes a two-course lunch. Registration plus conference dinner is $95 ($90). Inquiries to Administrative Assistant, Maryann Pearce, tel. (042) 21 3226 or (042) 21 3677.

Meetings dates for the University of Wollongong Animal Experimentation Ethics Committee have been set for 1993. Prepare your applications in advance of these dates as no other meetings will be held in 1993. Meeting dates, with agenda deadlines in brackets, are: 22 February (12 February); 24 May (14 May); 9 August (30 July); 22 November (12 November). All applications are subject to annual renewal and it is the responsibility of the researcher to ensure that their ethical clearance is current.

**What’s On**

**Call for presentations: Education for a Global Society. International conference 4-9 July 1993 at the University of Western Australia. This conference will focus on the development of teacher training programs which provide teachers with a global perspective, a universal value orientation and competence in evaluating curriculum materials. Anyone who would like to participate write to Dr Marjorie Tidman, PO Box 1044, Carnarvon WA 6701.

**Stop Press**

**PUBLIC LECTURE**