Stephen Castle's book adds to migration debate

Increasing international population movements and the emergence of ethnically diverse societies may undermine existing forms of identity, forcing immigration countries like Australia to rethink their national cultures and political institutions.

This view is pushed in a new book launched on 11 October by Senator Nick Bolkus, Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs at the University Centre in Sydney.

The book, entitled The Age of Migration: International Population Movements in the Modern World, concludes that monocultural or assimilationist models of national identity are no longer adequate for the new situation.

The book is co-authored by the Director of the Centre for Multicultural Studies at the University of Wollongong, Professor Stephen Castles, and Associate Professor Mark J. Miller, of the Department of Political Science, University of Delaware, USA.

The Age of Migration is the first major book to examine the new migrations of the 1980s and 1990s at a global level, and to discuss how they are rapidly changing our societies.

The book says immigrants can make a special contribution to the development of new forms of national identity, because they tend to develop multiple identities, which are linked to the cultures of both the homeland and of the immigration country.

This leads to new types of transnational identity, which form the basis for an emerging global culture.

Changes in national identity may, in turn, have important effects on fundamental political institutions, such as citizenship, the law and parliamentary democracy.

The nation-state is a fairly recent political form, which came into being with the American and French Revolutions.

The nation-state was based on the idea of a 'people' consisting of free political subjects, generally sharing a common culture and linked together as citizens of a particular state.

In the early 20th century this progressive idea was in many cases transformed into an instrument of exclusion and repression through extreme nationalism, leading to conflict, war and genocide.

The increasing mobility of people and the emergence of transnational identities seem likely to transform existing political structures.

The world of the 21st century will probably still be a world of nation-states, but they may be very different to those of today.

Castles and Miller argue that the 'age of migration' has already changed the world and many of its societies.

Most nation-states must face the reality of ethnic pluralism.

This goes against the myths of cultural homogeneity upon which national identity has been based.

Where people and government are unwilling to face the need for change, the likely result is social breakdown, racism and conflict.

The most extreme examples are neo-Nazi movements in Europe, urban riots in the USA or 'ethnic cleansing' in the former Yugoslavia.

On the other hand, acceptance of diversity can provide the energy for cultural creativity and social innovation.

Multiculturalism can also facilitate the development of international trade networks – of vital importance for a country like Australia.

The Age of Migration shows that movements of people have been an important factor in political change and economic development throughout history.

However, since the Second World War, and particularly since about 1980, international movements of workers, settlers and refugees have grown immensely.

Never before have so many people left their countries of origin due to economic deprivation, political persecution or ecological catastrophe.

Never before have so many migrants and asylum-seekers sought...
Sydney season a success
The School of Creative Arts Sydney Season during the weekend of the 22 October gave the School the opportunity to provide an impressive profile within Sydney's professional community and audience.

Agents are seeking interviews with students, publicity is continuing and the School is already being asked about next year's event.

Director of the Theatre Strand, Ian McGrath, has started planning to repeat the event from 14-16 October next year.

University to host arts festival
At the opening of the School of Creative Arts Sydney Season at the Stables Theatre on 22 October, the Vice-Chancellor Professor Ken McKinnon, announced that the University would be holding a two-week arts festival in June next year.

The festival is being coordinated by the School of Creative Arts and a University committee.

It will celebrate the School's new status as a Faculty and will be an opportunity for visitors, students and staff to enjoy the full range of performance spaces at the University that have been developed over the last few years.

The draft program promises a wide selection of music, theatre, visual arts and unexpected treats and features some high profile artists.

Watch Campus News for details.

Consortium moves in to new premises
Staff of the Wollongong Graduate Consortium have moved to the new Communications Centre (Building 20).

The contact numbers for all enquiries relating to postgraduate external courses are: Phone: (042) 21-4444. Fax: (042) 21-4477

The postal address remains: PO Box 2000, Wollongong NSW 2500

Take steps to ensure computer security
A disturbing trend in regard to theft of computer equipment is that the memory boards only are being stolen.

While it may be difficult to secure this aspect of a computer all possible precautions should be taken to eliminate this risk.

Stephen Castle's book adds to migration debate

From page one

entry to the highly-developed countries.

Today, there are about 100 million people living outside their countries of birth; about 20 million of them are refugees and 30 million are migrant workers.

Migration has become a central issue in international relations, and one of the most important questions in domestic politics in many countries.

Castles and Miller argue that many recent major conflicts have been linked to migration and issues of ethnic diversity.

They examine examples such as the mass expulsions of migrant workers during the Gulf War, outflows from Eastern Europe to the West since the fall of the Berlin Wall, racist violence in Germany and other European countries, and the Los Angeles riots.

The control of unwanted migration has become a major preoccupation of European governments.

Attempts by European Community countries to tighten up border controls have led to the spectre of a 'Fortress Europe' threatened by impoverished masses from the Third World.

The USA has reinforced its long border with Mexico, while the US Coastguard intercepts shiploads of Haitian refugees and Chinese workers.

The Age of Migration shows that such control measures have had little success, because they contradict trends towards increasing international integration.

It is impossible to have increased movements of commodities, capital and ideas without corresponding movements of people.

The only political answer is what diplomats call 'durable solutions' - measures to gradually reduce migration pressures by bringing about economic and social development in poorer countries.

Policies to cope with migration and settlement have varied widely.

One chapter of The Age of Migration is devoted to a comparison of Australia and Germany.

The authors argue that the high level of conflict in Germany and its relative absence in Australia is the result of two quite different approaches to managing ethnic diversity.

Germany has brought in many 'guestworkers' from Southern Europe and Turkey since the 1950s.

They were meant to be temporary and not to settle permanently and bring in family members.

The German Government claims not to be a country of immigration and denies citizenship and many basic rights to immigrants.

As a result, immigrants in Germany have become a politically excluded and socially marginalised group, and the target for violence by neo-Nazi groups.

By contrast, Australia's policies of treating immigrants as future citizens, providing special services to facilitate settlement and accepting cultural difference through multiculturalism have led to successful integration and social peace.

The Age of Migration argues that the Australian model, together with similar approaches in Sweden and Canada, offers valuable lessons to other countries of immigration.
It's a frog's life

Spending a rainy night wading around in rivers, dams, puddles and swamps is not a pleasant prospect to most, but it is a routine part of the life of an ecologist working with frogs.

Dr David Skelly of the Department of Biological Sciences has spent much of the last year getting rained on in the laboratories at Campus East working on his research into the mechanisms that determine distributions of frogs, or more specifically their offspring, tadpoles.

Dr Skelly came to the University of Wollongong from the United States on a postdoctoral research fellowship funded by the Australian Flora and Fauna Research Program.

Like all plants and animals, tadpoles are faced with dual challenges of growing up to adult size and surviving threats such as predators and a harsh environment.

Dr Skelly has found that the behaviour of tadpoles is critical in determining how well they meet these challenges.

Tadpoles that spend more time moving around and feeding grow faster. However, they are more likely to be found by predators.

For the dozen or so Australian species that Dr Skelly has examined it appears that tadpole behavioural patterns can be used to predict where frog species breed.

Species with less active, slow-growing tadpoles tend to breed in permanent water.

In contrast, species with active, rapidly developing tadpoles tend to breed in small, temporary pools of water.

This behavioural trade-off between growth and risk of predation may offer a general explanation for patterns of distribution for many animals.

These results may also have some application in understanding the patterns of decline in frog species that have been reported in recent years from around the world.

In the Illawarra, increases in the last two decades in damming, dredging, and channelising along with widespread introduction of mosquito fish could be related to local losses of Green and Golden Bell Frogs and Green Tree Frogs.

Dr Skelly is moving back to the US this month to take up a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Washington in Seattle.

CITR holds first diploma course in Vietnam

The Centre for Information Technology Research has held the first of its new Telstra Diploma in Telecommunications Management courses.

The course, held in Hanoi, Vietnam, is part of a contract with Telstra, the new Telecom/OTC combined organisation.

A CITR team, comprising the course co-ordinator Dr Pam Scott, accounting lecturer Mary Day, and communication lecturer Gael Walker, spent a week in Hanoi with seven students selected to be the first intake of the program.

Professor Michael Hough and Associate Professor Paul Patterson will travel to Hanoi this month to introduce participants to management and marketing.

The participants come from the Vietnamese national and international telecommunications carrier and include telecommunications engineers, an accountant, a sales manager in customer services, and the director of the Hanoi Post Office.

On the successful completion of these four CITR modules, it is planned to bring these participants to Australia in 1994 for Telstra-specific training in Sydney.

It is hoped that the course will also run in Ho Chi Minh City and eventually extend to Cambodia, Laos and other parts of the world.
New, simpler AUSTUDY form on its way

A national mail-out has been sent to 380,000 students renewing their AUSTUDY for the 1994 academic year.

The mail-out features a shorter, user-friendly AUSTUDY application form designed for students already receiving AUSTUDY. Students across Australia should have received their new form by now.

The Federal Minister for Schools, Vocational Education and Training, Ross Free, said the new form represented a landmark advance in improving service to AUSTUDY clients.

'The streamlined form asks only 13 questions, replacing the previous 52-question form,' Mr Free said.

'It will take students less time to complete because each student's personal details will be pre-printed on the form.

'The form's brevity will also enable faster processing by the Department of Employment, Education and Training, further reducing students' waiting time.'

Mr Free encouraged students to lodge the new form as soon as possible to ensure continuity of payments from 1993 to 1994.

'When it arrives, students should check the accuracy of their personal details, complete the applications form and lodge it as soon as possible with their nearest Student Assistance Centre or CES lodgement outlet,' Mr Free said.

He said the Department of Employment, Education and Training, which administers AUSTUDY, was committed to improving the speed, accuracy and quality of services to its clients.

Development leave applications open

Applications are open for development leave for general staff.

Development leave is available to all members of the General Staff. There are two categories or levels. Senior staff (with salaries above the minimum rate for Level Seven) and other staff. Similar policies and procedures apply in both cases.

Development leave aims to:

i) Provide an opportunity for new experience or skills development not available in the workplace;

ii) Facilitate new work contributions by the staff member;

iii) Generate new ideas and approaches to a familiar set of responsibilities.

Development leave may be sought to:

i) attend conferences or short courses, seminars and workshops of demonstrated direct relevance to the work of the applicant and of demonstrably high quality;

ii) undertake a brief (not exceeding two weeks) series of visits to other institutions or employers to observe work practices and establish relevant senior contacts;

iii) Gain relevant additional work experience with another employer either on secondment or as part of an exchange.

For senior staff, normally no more than four weeks paid leave and an assistance grant of up to $3000 will be approved. Leave may be taken in Australia or overseas.

For other staff, normally no more than three weeks and an assistance grant of up to $1500 will be approved. A special case would need to be made for leave to be taken outside Australia. There is no provision for funding the costs of spouse or dependent expenses.

Members of staff applying for development leave must generally have been employed by the University for more than three years and must have occupied their current position for at least two years.

Normally no re-application will be allowed within three years.

Inquiries to Personnel Officer (General Staff), Ann Kiceluk, ext. 4284.

Applications close on 3 December.

Postgraduate art exhibition

The influence of the sea on the work of an Illawarra ceramic artist, the role of women in traditional Chinese culture and the lost identity of modern man are some of the themes explored in the School of Creative Arts Postgraduate Students Exhibition at Wollongong University's Long Gallery until 7 November.

Work will be presented by local potter Wendy Dobson, Taiwanese artists Tricia Lin and David Chen, Iranian painter Mohammad Kazem Hassanvand Dekamvand, Japanese artist Norio Takamiya and designer Sumart Sukanit, who previously worked at the Chulalongkorn Museum in Thailand.

The gallery is located in Building 25, School of Creative Arts, University of Wollongong. The gallery hours are Monday to Friday 9am-4pm and Sunday 1.30-4pm. Inquiries: Liz Jeneid, phone (042) 21 3048.

Come and see the computer that made Jurassic park possible

Silicon Graphics will be demonstrating how computer graphics can be used in a wide variety of disciplines at the University of Wollongong this month.

This is your opportunity to see how academics are using visualisation techniques in fields ranging from molecular modelling to multimedia. You will also be able to discuss your work with Silicon graphics technical staff.

All attendees will be offered free subscription to Iris Universe Magazine. This quarterly magazine contains a wide variety of user stories and tips on using graphics workstations. If you would like to attend contact Lisa Thorburn, Silicon Graphics, phone (02) 879 9500 or fax (02) 879 6026.

The demonstration will be held in Science building 18 Room 118, on 10 November from 12 noon. Sandwiches, tea and coffee will be served at 11.45am.
Thanks to Pacific Power and Illawarra Electricity

Pictured (from left): prizewinner Mr Fabio Baron (UNSW); Professor Vic Ramsden (UTS); Mr Noel Godfrey (BHP Engineering Ltd); Mr John Sligar (Pacific Power); Professor Janardan Nanda (Monash University); Professor Werner Leonhard (Technical University Braunschweig, Germany); Associate Professor Vic Gosbell, chairman (University of Wollongong); Mr Marcel Benson (Illawarra Electricity); Mr Alex Baltch (Baltch Engineering Services); Professor David Hill (University of Newcastle) and prizewinner Mr Chaminda Perera (University of Wollongong). Absent: prizewinner Melvyn Dias (Singapore Polytechnic).

Through the generous sponsorship of Illawarra Electricity and Pacific Power, the organisers of the Australian Universities Power Engineering Conference (AUPEC) held at the University in October were able to present cash prizes for the best papers. Pacific Power sponsored two student prizes at $500 each and Illawarra Electricity sponsored a prize of $1000 for the best overall paper.

Application of engineering ethics questioned

Dr Sharon Beder, from the Department of Science and Technology Studies, has raised several questions about the way engineering ethics are being applied in Australia.

Writing in New Scientist (25 September) she outlines recent cases that suggest the Institution of Engineer’s code of ethics is being increasingly used to silence engineers who have publicly criticised other engineers.

One case she cites involved an engineer living on the NSW north coast who spoke out publicly against a proposal to build a sewage ocean outfall. He had argued that the environmental consequences of the outfall had been distorted and that alternative options had not been properly investigated.

But the only thanks he got for his trouble was a censuring, followed by eviction, from the Association of Consulting Engineers and a further censuring from the Institution of Engineers for supposedly breaching their code of ethics.

Another case involved an Adelaide engineer who simply wrote a letter to a newspaper criticising engineers from the Electricity Trust of South Australia for the way they justified continued use of overhead lines.

As a result he was publicly admonished by the Institution for breaching the Code of Ethics.

‘Like many professional bodies around the world the Institution has a code of ethics that is supposed to ensure that its members act with integrity and put public interests ahead of their own,’ Dr Beder said.

However her article questions whether this code is being interpreted in a way that encourages those high ideals.

‘Although the first tenet states that engineers should place the public interest before that of other sectional or private interests, including their employers, the problem is that almost every other material consideration steers individual engineers in the opposite direction,’ she said.

‘Most engineers are employees and work for large industrial organisations. Their career prospects, salaries, and professional status are determined by their employers who naturally demand strict loyalty from them.

This can cause conflicts of interest.’

Dr Beder said a good example of where conflicts of interest arise for engineers is in the preparation of environmental impact statements (EIS).

‘EISs are prepared by engineers on behalf of proponents of projects which are likely to have a significant impact on the environment,’ she said.

‘In this situation the immediate objective of an employer might be to get approval for a project, regardless of the adverse impacts the project might have on the environment or local residents.

The engineer employed to prepare such an EIS will realise that there is a tacit requirement to emphasise the advantages of the project, downplay disadvantages and even manipulate the data to give a favourable impression. Engineers who are unwilling to do this may harm their career prospects.’

Dr Beder argues that attempts to suppress public discussion of engineering practices and projects are not in the public interest, nor in the long-term interest of the engineering profession.
CONSERVATORIUM OPEN DAY

Sponsored By .... University Foundation

Wollongong City Council's GLENIFER BRAE MANOR HOUSE
Sunday, November 7th, 1993 - 11am - 4pm
Official Opening 11.00 am

*Piano Masterclass - Distinguished American Professor, W. Corbett-Jones
*Lecture - Parenting a Musician-The hardest Job of All - Prue Page
*Yamaha Participation
*Childhood Music Education Program - Everything you wanted to know about your young child and music - Lecture, Discussions & Demonstration Lessons
*Performances - Studio Recitals
*Rehearsals - BHP Youth Orchestra
*Conservatorium Choirs
*Displays - Stalls
*Adult Music Class - It's Never too Late to Start!
*Friends of the Conservatorium
*Music House Displays
*Refreshments available for purchase or....come and bring a picnic lunch and enjoy wandering minstrels

Enquiries: (042) 28.1122; 21.3533

🎵 WOLLONGONG CONSERVATORIUM - SOUNDS GREAT 🎵
Young engineers win at communication

The days when engineers were regarded as inarticulate mechanics have long gone!

Today's engineering graduates are trained in the latest communication and management techniques and those graduating from the University of Wollongong are demonstrating that they are among the best communicators in the country.

Lyle Griffiths is one of that new breed of engineers.

Having graduated from the Department of Mechanical Engineering last semester he has won several oral presentation competitions.

His most recent success was first place in the Society of Manufacturing Engineers' Oral Presentation competition in Sydney.

Mr Griffiths won $200 in the face of strong competition from the University of Sydney, UNSW and UTS.

He also came second in the NSW heats of the National Speakers Competition (Institution of Engineers Australia) at Darling Harbour Convention Centre.

At both events Mr Griffiths spoke on 'Quality Systems for Medium-sized Businesses', drawing on his recent experience as Quality Officer at SEC Plating (Sydney).

Mr Griffiths is keen to encourage other engineering students to enter similar events to improve their communication skills. 'You learn so much from looking at the way other people present. Adjudicators are very supportive and it is more a learning experience than a competition,' he said.

The Faculty of Engineering has placed increased emphasis on students' oral and written communication skills in response to industry demand for graduates with top interpersonal qualities.

Like all final year Mechanical Engineering students, Mr Griffiths took part in a half-day intensive training course run by Dr Paul Cooper where groups of six students role-play a board meeting and make formal technical presentations.

Immediately afterward students view their own presentations on video and analyse their strengths and weaknesses to improve performance.

Dr Cooper has also run a successful five-week course in oral presentation skills to all first year engineering students for the first time this year as part of the Engineering Common Core Curriculum.

The course has been developed and run in collaboration with staff from the Centre for Staff Development and the large class size (around 250) necessitated considerable planning to ensure that students get training of a quality comparable to that provided by the half-day small-group sessions.

By providing communication skills training throughout the Degree Program, our Engineering students will be even better equipped to face the challenge of managing the social and interpersonal issues of tomorrow's technology.

University's Young Achievement group wins again

The University Young Achievement Australia (YAA) Business Skills group have been awarded Blue Chip Status for their business efforts.

The group called ABSOLUTE were presented with their certificate on Wednesday 20 October.

This award is given to businesses which send in all their information on time and remain organised according to the YAA system for the program.

This is not an easy thing to achieve and only 40 of the 130 groups do so. ABSOLUTE were also the winners of the Regional Trade Fair in July.

The University of Wollongong group is among the first of the tertiary groups. The program began this year after a successful trial program at Monash University last year.

ABSOLUTE were sponsored in 1993 by Natural Gas Illawarra who have indicated further support for 1994. It is planned in 1994 to introduce a second group on campus.

Careers and Appointments Officer, Patricia Webster, who was the coordinating adviser for 1993, said that the program was a great success and the students who took part in it have grown significantly in their understanding of business and how they can apply the skills they develop at university.

Support is needed for the program. Ms Webster wants to hear from any businesses in the Illawarra who would like to contribute to the funding of a Business Skills Program group and make available advisers to support it.

Inquiries to Ms Webster, phone 21 3324, or the Illawarra Manager of YAA, Lyn Eckersley, on 044 471696.
Hope Theatre

6 November: Symeron presents Tales of Love Featuring Jane Edwards, Daniel Herscovitch and Adrian Wallis, Symeron presents the Australian premiere of Mauricio Kagel's Unguis Incarnatus est and the world premiere of Driftwood by young Australian composer Jon Drummond. 8pm. Tickets $15/$10. Bookings (042) 21 4214.

9-13 November: Theatre South presents the all-new Black Swan Theatre Company's Bran Nue Dae. Featuring the songs of Jimmy Chi and aboriginal band Kuckles, Bran Nue Dae is a centrepiece of the International Year of Indigenous People. Tuesday to Saturday at 8.15pm Saturday matinee 2pm and Thursday matinee at 11am. Bookings (042) 29 6144 or 29 6758.

General

8 November: Cell and Molecular Seminar: The Biorad seminar on Receptor Mediated Diversity, given by Professor John Shine (Director, Garvan Institute for Medical Research). The title is 'Receptor Mediated Diversity in the Nervous System'. 8pm in building 35, room 105.

8-12 November: Library information sessions for all academic, postgraduates and general staff. The sessions will provide details on the latest technology available in the Library for research and document delivery. The sessions will be held concurrently and run for 30 minutes. Where possible they will be discipline-based. Enquiries to Janette Burke in the Library.


10 November: Representatives for the bibliographic software PROCITE will conduct a demonstration of their product at 12.30-2pm in Seminar 4 of the Library.

4 December: Illawarra Committee for Overseas Students final event for year, Australia's Wonderland. Tickets and details are available from ICOS office, 3rd Roor, Union Retail Centre on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9.30am to 2pm or phone 21 3158.

Animal Experimentation Ethics Committee meeting dates, with agenda deadlines in brackets, are: 22 November (12 November).

Human Experimentation Ethics Committee meeting dates with agenda deadlines in brackets are: 16 November (2 November); 21 December (7 December).

Undergraduate Studies Committee meeting dates, with agenda deadlines in brackets, are: on the following dates: 9 November. Submission to Trevor James, ext. 4457, by 5pm of deadline date.

Considering further study or just some recreational reading? Visit the Campus Alumni bookshop and gallery book sale at Campus East, Fairy Meadow. The stock of used books covers: Science & Engineering, Social Sciences, Arts & Music, Education, Fiction & Non-Fiction, Young Readers' Stories & Classics. Open every fourth Saturday and Sunday of the month from 1-5pm, the bookshop is located at Cowper Street, Fairy Meadow (opposite the Science Centre). Your donations of any material are invited. These may be left any weekend afternoon at the Science Centre (Please mark 'Booksale'), or The Library or Students Enquiry Desk during the week.

Stop Press

Forum on Islamic banking

The International Business Research Group is holding a forum on Islamic banking on Thursday 11 November from 11am-1pm in Room 40.124.

Enquiries to Associate Professor M.M Metwally, ext. 4017, or Dr Nelson Perera, ext 4028.