Wollongong wins Law competition

Although many people have their first encounter with the law in a solicitor's office, some solicitors have never been trained to conduct an effective interview.

This has been revealed in a new scheme adopted by the Law Society of New South Wales which allows solicitors to become accredited specialists in particular fields of law such as Criminal Law and Family Law.

The Executive Officer of the Specialist Accreditation Program has stated that most of the solicitors who failed the specialist accreditation assessment failed in the simulated client interview because they failed to develop a proper structure for the interview.

Dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Wollongong, Professor John Goldring, said, 'It is critical that lawyers develop effective interviewing skills.

'Solicitors need to use a combination of listening and questioning skills to learn about a client's problem and feelings.

'This will enable the solicitor to analyse the client's problem and provide the best possible advice, including alternative courses of action.'

More universities are addressing practical skills training as part of their law degree programs.

At Wollongong, law students must undertake a communication skills course of which interviewing is an important component.

One of the ways adopted to encourage students to develop a high standard of interviewing skills is participation, along with other leading law schools, in an annual Australian Client Interviewing Competition for law students. The winners go on to represent Australia internationally.

The competition comprises two preliminary rounds followed by a final round.

In each round, the students are required to conduct a simulated interview of not more than 30 minutes before a panel of three judges, comprising at least one practising lawyer and a counsellor.

At the end of the interview, the students discuss the instructions they have received and the follow-up work to be done.

The teams are expected to assist the client in making an informed choice.

Continued page two
US liability laws
Associate Professor Cindy Schipani of the University of Michigan, and currently Parsons Fellow at Sydney Law School will give a seminar on ‘Liability for damage to the Environment’.

The talk will focus on US experience in attributing liability to corporations and individuals.

The issues to be discussed are of enormous significance to Australian law in the areas of civil and criminal liability of individuals and corporations, assessment of environmental damage, and to the development of regulatory strategies.

The seminar will be held on Thursday 3 March at noon in Room 203 of the Keira View Building.

Travel seminar
The Centre for Staff Development is holding a seminar on ‘Business Travel: Procedures for University Staff’.

The seminar will be held on 13 April from 9am-12.30pm in room four in the Union Function Centre.

This seminar is designed to assist Administration Assistants and Personal Assistants to make domestic and overseas travel arrangements.

Academic Staff planning overseas study leave who wish to attend the International Travel session from 11.30am-12.15pm should inform Maureen Bell, ext. 3946.

An application form, available from Administration Assistants, must be completed for attendance at the full seminar. Inquiries: Maureen Bell, ext. 3946.

Wollongong violinist returning for concert
Sophie Cole, who studied at the Wollongong Conservatorium of Music and was a member of the Gleniffer Brae String Quartet, will be appearing with the Canberra School of Music at the Mendelison concert at the Wollongong Town Hall on Saturday 5 March.

Sophie was appointed to the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra in November 1993.

Tickets available from Jurgens Crown St and Parsons Music Box Corrimal.

Teaching values and virtues to children
Mr Ed Muttart from the Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburgh, will present some stimulating ideas for parents, teachers and social workers aimed at encouraging children to acquire virtues that produce harmonious human relationships, positive self-esteem and a more peaceful world.

This lecture has been made possible through the sponsorship of the Baha’i community of Wollongong in conjunction with the Curriculum Research Group in the Faculty of Education. It will be held on 10 March, at 6.30pm in the Union function Room 3. Registration $7.

Sale of computers
The University has 60 Macintosh SE computer systems for sale by tender.

Systems were previously in use in Building 22 Eastern & Central computer laboratories.

All have twin floppy disk drive (some with high density drives), 2MB of RAM and standard keyboard and mouse.

Contact Business Services, Helen Ashton, phone 21 3077, for tender document and details.

Visit the Long Gallery for a fresh experience
‘Segments’, a Visual Arts exhibition by first, second and summer school students from the new Faculty of Creative Arts, is on display in the Long Gallery.

This is an opportunity to see student works not normally exhibited – fresh works from emerging artists including paintings, prints, textiles, sculptures, ceramics and artists’ books.

The exhibition will be held until 20 March in the Long Gallery. Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-5pm; Sunday 1.30-4pm. Enquiries 21 3996.

Wollongong wins Law competition

From page one

taking into account legal, economic, social and psychological consequences, and to conclude the interview leaving the client feeling reassured, confident in the lawyers, and with a clear sense of specific expectations and mutual obligations to follow.

Teams are also expected to confront and deal with ethical and moral issues that arise during the course of the interview.

A student team from the Law Faculty at the University of Wollongong won the 1994 competition held at Bond University on 11-12 February.

The Wollongong team’s coach, Senior Lecturer Robin Handley, said that the high level of skills demonstrated by the competing teams was an indication of a new emphasis on legal skills training in law schools which was very encouraging for the future of the legal profession.

Winning team members Zoe Nielsen, a final year student at the University of Wollongong, and Patrick Culbert, a Policy Officer with the NSW Department of Transport and part-time law student, said they were thrilled with their win.

In the final round of the Australian Competition, Zoe and Patrick were faced with an anxious client who wanted to sell his share in a nursery business owned by a partnership comprising himself and his ex-lover.

The client was particularly reluctant to talk because his relationship had been a homosexual one.

The client had left his partner, and the partner was not co-operating in permitting the client to leave the business and obtain his fair share of the value of the business.

In the meanwhile, the client was left emotionally drained, with little money and no employment.

Coach Robin Handley said this was a testing situation for Patrick and Zoe’s skills, yet they handled the situation with delicacy and professionalism.

Zoe and Patrick will be representing Australia in the 1994 International Client Interviewing Competition which will be held in Glasgow, Scotland on 26-31 March.

Other countries represented will be Canada, England, Wales, Scotland and the USA.

Law firms have been approached to help fund the Australian representation at the competition.
Philosophy to advise on guidelines for human research

The Department of Philosophy is home to a $28,750 research project for the Federal Department of Human Services and Health.

Dr Susan Dodds (Philosophy), Ms Rebecca Albury (Sociology), and Associate-Professor Colin Thomson (Law), all members of the larger Medical Innovation, Society and Law Research Group, have tendered for and won a contract to provide operational guidelines and discussion papers for use by the Department of Human Services and Health Ethics Committee in the review of proposals for social and behavioural research.

The guidelines and discussion papers will supplement the existing National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) guidelines on medical experimentation involving humans, by examining the many ethical issues which arise in the design and conduct of social and behavioural research.

The three researchers are ideally placed to take on this project. Not only do they bring together substantial expertise in the three disciplines needed for the project (Law, Sociology, and Philosophy), but they are also able to draw on a wealth of relevant experience.

Professor Thomson is a member of the Illawarra and Area Health Service Ethics Committee and is a past-member of the NHMRC Medical Research Ethics Committee.

Ms Albury was a member of the National Bioethics Consultative Committee and has been an active participant in reproductive technology debates at both a community and policy level.

Dr Dodds is a member of the University of Wollongong's Human Research Ethics Committee and the international 'Feminist Approaches to Bioethics' network and has contributed to the development of ethics as it applies to a range of professional areas.

Research for the project has involved travel for the three researchers and their research assistant, Ms Linnell Secomb, to Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, and Canberra to meet with community groups, researchers and IEC members to discover what ethical concerns there are about social and behavioural research.

A thorough review of the literature and further discussions are planned with researchers at the University of Wollongong and in Sydney before the report is sent to Canberra in April.

The final report will include sections on the rise of the use of Institutional Ethics Committees (IECs) to review research involving humans; legal issues involved in social and behavioural research; the ethical issues raised by the range of methodologies employed by social and behavioural scientists; the operations and decision making processes of an IEC involved with review of social and behavioural research; guidelines for researchers and IEC members and a bibliography.

Although most countries require some sort of ethical review of social research proposals, comprehensive guidelines for both researchers and ethics committees have not previously been available.

The Department of Human Services and Health recognises the importance that these guidelines will have for researchers and university ethics committees (among others) and intends to make the published report widely available in the second half of this year.

James Wieland now professor

Associate Professor James Wieland has accepted appointment as Professor of English.

Professor Wieland was appointed Lecturer in English in 1978. He graduated from the University of Western Australia (Bachelor of Arts, 1st Class honours) and Queen's University, Ontario, where he completed his Doctor of Philosophy in Post-Colonial Poetry.

In 1985 he was appointed Chairman of the Department of English Literature and Drama and when it amalgamated with the Department of English, he was appointed Head of the new department. He became Associate Professor in 1988.

He established the New Literatures Research Centre within the Department of English in 1987 which now organises the Film Festival, HSC Day and lectures to teachers.

Through a grant from the Graduate Faculty, the research interests of the centre are conducted under the program 'Literature and the Colonial Legacy'.

As Head, Professor Wieland, has seen the department evolve into one of the best medium-sized English departments in Australia - a claim confirmed in a report by the Australian Vice-Chancellor's Committee in 1991.
Accommodation and casual employment service operating

Do you have any odd jobs that need doing around the house?
Does your organisation need someone to help out with urgent jobs?
Have you considered employing a student?

Michelle Garden, in the new Accommodation and Employment Office, Ground Floor Union Building, wants to match people with casual work available with students who want to expand their skills or just need a little cash.

University of Wollongong students are willing and able to do just about anything!

Examples include domestic duties, gardening, clerical work, tutoring, baby-sitting, waitering and bar work.

The Employment Service is a new initiative and is provided free of charge to students by the University.

It has been established with the aim to provide students with access to casual and part-time employment opportunities.

Michelle also runs an accommodation service for students and staff looking for off-campus accommodation (private flats, rooms, houses).

If you have something available for rent or are seeking accommodation call in or phone 21 4622.

The office is open from 9am-4pm (except between 12.30-1.30pm), five days a week.

Student expelled

As a result of a meeting of the University's Investigations Committee, a student has been expelled from the University.

The student was found guilty of breaching Rule 2(c) of the Examination and Assessment Rules by having another person sit for an examination in their place.

The committee note that this was a very serious offence as it amounted to fraudulent behaviour and recommended to the Vice-Chancellor that the result of the case be circulated widely throughout the University as an indication of the seriousness with which the University views such offences.

Academic staff are encouraged to stress to all students the potential serious ramifications of any breach of University Rules and that procedures are constantly reviewed in order to ensure that any such breaches do not occur.

Long serving dedication recognised

Ross Walker, Senior Administrative Officer in charge of academic appointments, was farewelled at a retirement dinner held in his honour last week.

Ross (pictured right) was a well-known member of the University, popular with all sections of the University staff because of his reliability and dedication and the assistance he gave willingly to everyone.

Formerly a major in charge of Administration with the Australian Military Forces, which was followed by a period with Bellambi Coal as an Administration Officer, he was appointed in 1972 to the then Wollongong University College as a Records Clerk and has gone through the ranks to retire as Senior Administration Officer in charge of academic appointments.

Ross will be awarded a Fellowship of the University at the graduation ceremony in October.

Celebration for Hargrave's 100th anniversary

This year is the 100th anniversary of Lawrence Hargrave's famous box kite experiment on the beach at Stanwell Park.

On November 12, 1894 Hargrave made a seminal contribution to the history of manned flight when he was lifted 16 feet beneath four strung out box kites in a prevailing wind of 21 mph.

Australians can be proud of Hargrave for his life-long dedication towards achieving heavier-than-air powered flight.

It is time that we told the rest of the world that the man on the $20 bill has been undervalued for far too long.

The Lawrence Hargrave Commemorative Association Inc. has been established and the patron is Air Marshal Sir James Rowland.

During 1994 they intend to target the five countries where the Hargrave influence through his letters and papers to the Royal Society was of vital importance - the UK, Germany, France, Canada and the United States.

Across Australia the association is tagging on to every aviation event they can, commencing with the Lawrence Hargrave World Hang Gliding championships held on the Australia Day Weekend in January.

Examples of two other events later in the year are the Lawrence Hargrave Great Across Australia Balloon Race, and the World Kite Flying Championships at Stanwell Park Beach on 12-13 November.

Anybody interested in joining the Association can do so by writing to:

The Secretary, The Lawrence Hargrave Commemorative Association Inc., 19 Stanwell Avenue, Stanwell Park NSW 2508 Australia or phone (02) 521 6000

Membership is either $50 for full membership or $25 for a newsletter subscription.
Tennessee, Wollongong collaborate

Associate Professor of Art at the University of Tennessee, Susan Metros, has been collaborating with the Faculty of Education as graphic designer for the educational multimedia project 'Investigating Lake Iluka'.

The project is an interactive simulated lake environment program being designed by the Interactive Multimedia Unit in the Faculty to support the teaching of Ecology.

Associate Professor Metros is founder and director of the Computer Enhanced Design Centre at the University of Tennessee.

Her research is focused on developing innovative ways to use the computer to enhance the creative design problem solving in both print media and interactive media.

'Investigating Lake Iluka' is a full-colour interactive multimedia package that will develop investigation and problem solving skills.

It uses a variety of investigation techniques, on screen video segments using Apple's QuickTime™ system extension, graphics and sound to simulate a lake environment.

It is targeted at the high school level being applicable to Biology and Geography as well as Ecology studies.

Students can investigate the various ecosystems of the lake, make physical, chemical and biological measurements, collect information about the individual animal and plant species and view video footage of news reports and expert and local views on a variety of issues.

A built-in 'note book' allows students to take notes on the content and save to a floppy disk for later editing as part of a report.

Students must use the measuring tools, consult experts and collect news reports to find solutions to the problems posed.

Recorded sounds and still graphics reinforce the realism.

The package is designed so that a full class, working in small groups, can access various parts of the package at once.

A laboratory licence is included so that a version of the program, without video, can be copied to all laboratory machines, while the CD-ROM version can be accessed by one group at a time.
Theatre South – a feast for its 15th

In its 15th year of operation, Theatre South presents one of its biggest seasons at The Bridge Theatre in Coniston.

The theatre seats 150 with a large foyer and excellent bar and coffee facilities.

The subscription season includes seven plays with enough variety to appeal to a whole range of theatrical tastes and is one of the cheapest subscription tickets available.

Beginning on 2 March is John Derum’s ‘More Than a Sentimental Bloke’.

Audiences will experience the joys of the characters brought to us by CJ Dennis.

In April, one of Australia’s most eminent playwright’s Ron Elisha presents ‘Choice – a tragedy in 36 flavours’.

This is followed by a play that personifies the era of Lawrence Hargrave.

Titled ‘The Dream Machine’ and written by Geoffrey Sykes, the play has a great deal of local appeal.

‘Time Gentlemen’, by John Senczuk with music by Jim McCallum and Paul Coombes is based on Phillip Massinger’s ‘A New Way to Pay to old Debts’.

Following this is a wonderful love story made famous by Bogart and Hepburn ‘The African Queen’. This stage adaptation by David McCubbin is a tale of determination, courage and love.

Appearing in NSW for the first time at The Bridge Theatre is ‘Cargo’ by David Britton.

Set in 1968 in the era of anti-Vietnam protests and Bob Dylan songs, it will bring back memories for those of that generation.

The last performance of the season is ‘The Barber of Seville’ by Beaumarchais, a comedy providing immense wit with emotional impact and feeling.

For further details on subscription tickets and bookings call Theatre South on (042) 29 6144.
Anthology of the Illawarra

As part of the 1994 Wollongong Festival of Creative Arts, the Illawarra Writers' Centre in conjunction with the Faculty of Creative Arts will publish an Anthology of the Illawarra.

The anthology will feature:
• poetry, prose fiction and historical anecdotes
• black and white art work and photography.

All work in the anthology will be about the region, or by artists and writers of the Illawarra.

The aim is to produce a lively collection, sometimes moving, but always interesting.

The anthology will feature many of the leading artists and writers of the Illawarra and will capture the spirit of the region in all its moods and aspects.

It will be available in leading bookshops and tourist centres throughout the region.

Contributions accepted will be paid for.

Material to be considered for the anthology should be sent to:
Anthology of the Illawarra, Faculty of Creative Arts, University of Wollongong, Northfields Ave, Wollongong 2522.
Closing date is 1 March 1994.

Visual Poetry competition

In 1993 a highly successful Visual Poetry competition was run by Scarp magazine in conjunction with the Third Regional Poetry Festival.

The winning entry was a three-dimensional piece called Vanuatu, by Brisbane poet Frances Rouse.

Another Visual Poetry Competition will be run this year.
First prize will again be $500 and payments of $20 for each work exhibited and/or featured in Scarp.

The first exhibition of winning entries in this competition will be at the University of Wollongong as part of the Festival of Creative Arts to be held between 4-19 June, 1994.

Contact Ron Pretty, Faculty of Creative Arts, ext. 3867.
Agreements signed with two Japanese universities

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ken McKinnon signed agreements in Japan last week with two universities.

Otaru University of Commerce is a small (2023 students in 1993) but old and highly respected national university. Founded in 1910, it is the fifth oldest institute of commerce in Japan. The city of Otaru has a population of 160,000 and is one of the oldest cities on the island of Hokkaido. There are four Departments (Economics, Commerce, Law, Information & Management Science) which offer four-year undergraduate degrees as well as a Graduate School of Commerce which offers a Masters program. Otaru received special funding from Monbusho (the Japanese Ministry of Education) to set up special advanced Japanese language programs in light of this agreement.

Wollongong is the first Australian agreement for Otaru, although they do have an agreement with the University of Otago in NZ. The second agreement was with Hiroshima Shudo University - a private university with about 5500 students, located in Hiroshima city. It specialises in Humanities (English Language and Literature, Psychology, Sociology, Education), Commerce and Law.

The University of Wollongong has been successful in obtaining funding under the 1994 University Mobility in the Asia Pacific program of $50,000. A total of $42,000 is for student assistance, the rest being for staff to work on further links with Japan. There will be six students studying in Japan in 1994 on exchange for a year starting in April, three at each university mentioned above. All are fourth year students of Japanese, enrolled in one of the following degrees: the BA (Japanese) - BCom; or the BA (Honours) in Japanese.

Fire - an urban planning issue

Professor Rob Whelan, Head of the Department of Biological Sciences, looked at the effects of disturbance on plant species diversity for his Honours project at Flinders University in South Australia.

At the end of the year, he decided that fire was an exciting form of disturbance, and became an ardent pyrophile. He studied fire ecology for his PhD in Western Australia, and continued this work in Florida and Southern California. His book, The Ecology of Fire, will be released by Cambridge University Press within the next year.

Fire ecology is very topical in NSW at present, and the ABC-TV science show, Quantum, has begun filming a program looking at a year in the recovery of the Royal National Park after the intense January fires.

Scientific input to the program comes from National Park botanists who are studying the recovery of plant populations, and from Professor Whelan and his Honours student, Steve Ward, who are looking at the influence of fire on small mammal populations.

‘One of the most important things to remember is that this recent fire should not be regarded as a holocaust for the Park,’ Professor Whelan said. ‘Yes, it was big and intense, but most of the problems encountered are associated with its proximity to urban development - which will have implications for recovery as well.’

National Parks usually have several functions, such as acting as conservation reserves, recreation, or the protection of specific populations of animals or plants.

The most important of these for each park need to be identified and the park managed to meet those particular management objectives.

‘If a park is to act as a conservation reserve, then the biggest threat to this objective is frequent burning,’ Professor Whelan said. ‘To maintain species diversity, fires need to be less frequent and perhaps more intense.‘

‘If the park is being managed solely to reduce the fire hazard, the deliberate burning every five years may be appropriate.

‘But this fire regime would compromise conservation objectives. Bushfire management in this region is partly an urban planning issue.

‘Reinvasion of animals into areas like the Royal National Park, bounded by urban areas, is obviously difficult for many species.’

While it may be late for the Royal, there are large tracts of land adjoining National Parks and Nature Reserves that are under consideration for development (such as areas of the Shoalhaven around Morton National Park, Robertson near Buderoo National Park, and West Dapto, near the Illawarra escarpment.)

‘There needs to be provision for corridors of bushland that will allow animals to return to a burnt area,’ Professor Whelan said.

‘As well, management plans such as

Campus News is published weekly on Wednesdays. Send material, preferably by Microsoft Mail or on disk, to Gillian Curtis (042) 21 3027 by noon on Monday of the week before that of publication. Campus News has a circulation of 3000. It is distributed on campus to staff and students. 1000 are mailed to the community and overseas including schools in Illawarra, southern Sydney and Canberra; local, Sydney and Canberra media; Friends of the University; business representatives; MPs and numerous individual requests.