Council and University combine to provide safe access to Northfields Ave

Contrary to recent media reports, the University is not seeking the closure of Northfields Avenue - the access road to the University and to surrounding residential areas.

Increasing traffic congestion and fears for pedestrian safety have led the University and Wollongong City Council to establish a joint planning group to investigate proposals to improve Northfields Ave for all users.

The University’s priority is to seek to create a safe environment for nearby residents, students, staff and visitors to the University.

To this end, ways of reducing the speed of traffic, providing safe crossings and the installation of other amenities are being pursued.

The University has allocated funds for safety improvements which will be implemented as soon as possible.

It is also anticipated that as a result of the developments being sought by the University there will be a significant aesthetic improvement.

As the road is classified as a public road, Council is restricted in what it can do both in terms of what is ultimately approved and the process which it must adopt when considering improvements.

Negotiations are proceeding to establish a workable arrangement where Northfields Avenue can be reclassified and become the subject of a management plan.

Both Council and the University would have input to that plan.

The real benefit would be that actual improvements and the processes for their introduction would be much simpler and timely and would take account of the needs of the users of this area.

There is no suggestion that Northfields Avenue will be closed to through traffic now or in the future.

Indeed it could be expected that the Management Plan would be specific in this regard.

HOLIDAY BREAK

Campus News will not be published over the session break. Deadline for the next issue is 11 July for the issue of 20 July. Remember there is now an E-Mail account (Campus News) especially for Campus News items.
The ZONTA International Foundation, an international non-profit organisation aimed at improving the legal, political, economic, educational and professional status of women has appointed Professor Carla Fasano, from the Faculty of Education, to its Amelia Earhart Awards Committee.

Based in Chicago, with an international membership of about 40,000 business and professional women from 61 countries, the ZONTA International Foundation was founded in 1919 and has observer status with the United Nations.

The foundation is very active in developing countries, with programs aimed at improving the education and employment opportunities for local women.

The foundation is also active in supporting young women in non-traditional educational careers, internationally, through its Amelia Earhart Awards Committee. Named after the US aviator, the committee allocates annual fellowships to young women engaged in aeronautics and space research.

Professor Fasano, a three-time recipient of the Amelia Earhart Award, will fly regularly to the US to join a distinguished international panel of professional women from industry and academia in the selection of candidates for the awards.

**Engineering and the Environment**

The 23rd Conference of the Illawarra Regional Group of the Institution of Engineers, Australia is holding a one-day conference at the University of Wollongong on Friday, 8 July.

The opening address will be given by Group General Manager, BHP SPPD, Mr Paul Jeans.

The keynote speaker will be Director Southern Regions, EPA, Mr Joe Woodward.

Topics will cover both general and local environmental engineering issues.

Enquiries, Judy Gordon, IEAust Campus Office, phone (042) 21 4086.

**Cancer program**

Dr Jagdish Mathur is anxious to reassure readers that the cancer therapy that the Boron Neutron Capture Therapy research group in the Department of Physics is working on, uses a nuclear reaction which penetrates human tissue to the depth of 10 micrometres, (in the order of one cell diameter), not 10mm as appeared in Campus News No. 14.
Law students chase further international awards

Hot on the heels of the University’s international success in the Client Interviewing Competition, the Faculty of Law is sending a team to Christchurch, New Zealand in July to make their debut in the Australasian Law Students Association Mooting Competition.

Last session a highly enthusiastic Student Mooting Committee organised the successful Inaugural Mooting Competition at Wollongong University. The level of enthusiasm in mooting was elevated by Wollongong’s subsequent encouraging performance in the Butterworth’s Mooting Competition.

Wollongong was a finalist and came second against the University of NSW. Second year graduate law student Natalia Yastreboff, said participation in the competition was due to the generosity of several sponsors who were helping them to raise sufficient funds to meet the costs of the trip. These include law firms Allen Allen and Hemsley, Taylor Szekely Kelso and Blake Dawson Waldron, Mr Robert Somervaille, Wollongong City Council and the University’s Law Faculty and Foundation.

Thanks also to Hargrave Chambers for donating an impressive perpetual trophy for the University Mooting Competition and Dr Brian Gillett for his assistance.

The International Client Interviewing Champion team from Wollongong, Zoe Nielsen and Patrick Culbert, have been invited to give a demonstration of their world beating talents at the New Zealand Competition. Patrick is also a member of Wollongong’s mooting team.

Biological Sciences in group researching water quality for City Council

A major research and development program aimed at improving the quality of urban run-off has begun with the commissioning of two water quality monitoring stations at West Dapto by the Lord Mayor of Wollongong, Councillor David Campbell.

The research programs will evaluate the water pollution control ponds incorporated into the Horsley Stage 1 Release area, West Dapto by private developers, to show whether they will be effective in improving the quality of stormwater run-off.

‘This evaluation process has not been undertaken previously in New South Wales,’ Councillor David Campbell said.

‘The scope of the research and development program includes state-of-the-art monitoring stations with the capacity for direct computer communication and puts the agencies involved at the forefront to this type of research.

‘The Illawarra is not the only region in Australia experiencing problems with urban run-off and it is anticipated the information produced will be exported throughout the state and nationally.’

The program involves co-ordination between Wollongong City Council, Public Works, the Environment Protection Authority, the Department of Conservation and Land Management in association with the University of Wollongong’s Biological Sciences and Civil and Mining Engineering Departments, and the Commonwealth Department of Employment, Education and Training.

Project costs are in the order of $800,000 over a five-year period.
Client teams in Personnel Services ready to assist

Personnel Services Branch has a commitment to provide a service which is orientated to individual needs.

A survey was conducted last year and the branch has been working on the major issues identified through that survey.

In addition the branch as a whole has adopted the concept of client teams to provide an easier, more friendly and more efficient way of conducting business.

As reported earlier in Campus News, the branch has been restructuring its service units.

From Friday 1 July, staff will move into teams of two, to provide the complete spectrum of personnel services to designated groups of clients.

The client groups and personnel staff assigned to those client groups are:

Client Group A: Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Creative Arts, Faculty of Health and Behavioural Science, Faculty of Informatics. Team A: Mai Goddard, ext. 3117, Leonie Grimmett, ext. 3276.

Client Group B: Faculty of Commerce, Faculty of Education, Faculty of Science. Team B: Sue Smithers, ext. 3275, Chris Bannerman, ext. 3202.

Client Group C: Faculty of Engineering, Faculty of Law, Education Services Development, Information Technology Services, Halls of Residence, Learning Support (Aboriginal Education Unit, Centre for Staff Development, Learning Development Centre), Library. Team C: Robyn Lumby, ext. 3934, Chris Wells, ext. 3944.


These changes including telephone numbers are not in operation until 1 July.

The Academic Staff, General Staff and Salaries and Benefits units will no longer exist.

The team, which looks after your department or unit, will respond to all personnel matters for staff in your department, both academic and general.

For example recruitment, all leave and salary variations will be handled by the team assigned to your department.

Life should become easier for you. You will be able to establish contact with your service team and they will handle all personnel questions for you.

In the next two months Personnel Services staff will be encouraged to attend faculty, departmental or other client-based meetings to introduce themselves to the staff members they will be supporting.

Each personnel team has approximately 350 staff to support and the aim is that within a short time they will get to know each staff member in their client group personally.

If you do not know the person assigned to your client group, you are welcome to call into the office and introduce yourself.

Incoming mail will be sorted by Client Group so your assistance is required in addressing mail to the staff member supporting your client group or to Personnel Services and the Client Group.

For example Faculty of Engineering staff should address correspondence to Robyn Lumby, Personnel Services, or Client Team C, Personnel Services.

Part-time teaching disks, leave forms, timesheets, advertising requests and all other documents coming into the Branch should all be addressed in this way.

There will be some signage in the branch to assist staff who need to talk to a personnel officer.

The signs will assist in identifying client groups, the team supporting them and their physical location in the office.

Joan Hutchinson will remain in reception and will direct you to the appropriate person. She is being as-

Team A: Mai Goddard and Leonie Grimmett (Arts, Creative Arts, Health and Behavioural Science, and Informatics)
supported by Lee Green in a part-time capacity.

Robyn Weekes will be co-ordinating the service teams and may be contacted on ext. 3267.

Other roles within the branch remain the same with the exception of Ann Kiceluk and Irene Burgess, who are working on special projects, and Roger Davey, who will undertake a payroll co-ordination role.

This reorganisation is being undertaken primarily in the interests of the clients, so be patient in the initial changeover period. Delays in processing may occur. Personnel Services always welcomes your feedback and suggestions.
The June Council meeting customarily receives several annual reports on the activities of the University as a whole and its affiliated bodies.

This year Council received the 1993 Annual Report and Financial Statements of the University itself and the Annual Reports and accounts from the Union, the Library and the Recreation and Sports Association.

The EEO Report and the Report on Open Day were also considered.

Other business before the meeting included:
- Selection of Vice-Chancellor. Council noted a verbal progress report on the selection process for the Vice-Chancellor’s position. Shortlisting took place on 7 June and candidates will attend the campus for discussions and for formal interview in the week beginning 25 July. Each candidate will address a special meeting of Senate on 26 July. During that week they will be taken on an inspection tour of the University and have the opportunity to nominate areas of special interest for a subsequent inspection.
- Council appointed members to the restructured Management Advisory Committees of the Halls of Residence. The restructuring, approved by Council’s Administrative Committee, updates the committee membership and provides specific terms of reference designed to support the heads in the good management and development of the halls.
- The Rules for Student Discipline were amended to provide for rotating chairmanship of the Investigation Committee. The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Academic) will chair the investigation of non-academic cases (harassment, computer “hacking” etc) and the Chair of the Academic Senate will chair academic cases (eg breaches of examination rules). The other members of the committee will be the President of the SRC and a senior academic appointed by the Vice-Chancellor.
- Revised Articles of Association for the University of Wollongong Association, concerning the membership and role of the Board of Directors, were approved.
- A professorial Chair in Information Technology was established.
- The “Plain English” University Union Constitution, prepared in conjunction with the Faculty of Law and the Plain English Centre at the University of Sydney, was approved. Council commended all involved on this worthwhile effort.
- Life membership of the Union was bestowed on two long-term and valued employees – Mrs Pat Williams and Mrs Fay Hulford – who were retiring after more than 20 years’ service.
- Trenchers (mortar boards) will now form part of the academic dress of postgraduate diplomats.

Council also received a student petition on funding for the University Library. Council noted that a proportion of the “Quality” money would be directed to improving Library resources. A report was commissioned for the next meeting.

It was also decided that, on the morning before the August meeting, Council members would visit the Library to inspect the facilities and collection. The President of the SRC would be invited to join the tour.

On a matter of public interest, Council noted that there was no plan to “close off” Northfields Avenue.

The University was pursuing discussions with the City Council with the firm aim of improving the safety of the road, particularly as the University now owned the buildings on the opposite side of Northfields Avenue and was becoming increasingly concerned for the well-being of pedestrian traffic as well as those traveling in motor vehicles.

The University was undertaking upgrading on its own to provide adequate pathways, landscaping and shelter.

The Vice-Chancellor noted the successful opening of the Festival of Creative Arts and commended the events to all Council members.

The official Report of the June Council meeting is available on the Public Information Server in the “Public” folder.

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**Council News**

The International Office has been trialing the International Friendships Program (IFP) since Autumn Session 1993.

Due to the success of the program, it has been decided to expand the program from next session.

Consequently, there is an urgent need of new participants from the University community and the general public.

The IFP is designed to promote cultural exchange between the community and individual international students.

The aim is to provide students with a friendly contact in Australia and to broaden their cultural experiences while studying at this University.

Local participants have found the experience of friendly contact with an overseas student rewarding.

If you are learning a foreign language, have travelled overseas or intend to travel, this is a good way to learn first-hand about a particular country, culture and language and to develop a friendship at the same time.

Participating involves the host inviting one or two students for a home-cooked meal, or some other simple activity such as a picnic, bush walk or sporting activity on an occasional basis (about three times per session).

The students come from many different countries, with the largest groups from the United States, India, Hong Kong, Sweden, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Pacific Islands and China, although our international students in total represent more than 60 different countries.

To kick Spring Session off, the International Office has organised a free ‘Wine and Cheese’ get-together, so you’ll meet your student in a friendly, informal atmosphere.

After that, it’s all up to you and your students.

This ‘Wine and Cheese’ welcome will be held on Wednesday 13 July at 4.30pm (venue to be advised).

This will be the fourth successful session of the IFP.

If you, or your friends and relatives, are interested in participating in the IFP, contact Stephen Lowe (Study Abroad Office, phone 214311) or Cindy Kazmar-Hall (ICIS, phone 213158) to obtain further information or a nomination form for the program.
Telecommuting cuts time on campus

Degrees by telecommunications? This might seem a little futuristic, but working from home is a logical step in these days of modems and networked computers.

The Department of Computer Science at the University of Wollongong certainly thinks so.

While you can’t do your whole degree on a computer network yet, you can complete a substantial part of it that way.

‘One of the main advantages of telecommuting is that it cuts down on time spent travelling,’ Head of the Computer Science Department, Professor Fergus O’Brien, said.

‘We’ve structured our Computer Science courses so that students need to attend lectures for as little as one or two days per week.

‘Most of the practical work can be done from home, as long as they have a computer (Macintosh or IBM-compatible) and a modem.

‘Another advantage is that we can offer 24-hour access, seven days a week, to our computer labs by way of a phone link. This makes our courses very flexible, and students in Sydney only pay the cost of a local call.’

It also means that part-time workers can fit in study around their work commitments, solo parents can snatch quiet moments to complete assignments and insomniacs can log on in the middle of the night to pursue a good idea.

The University of Wollongong has two natural ‘catchments’, or areas from which students are drawn: the Illawarra region, and the southern suburbs of Sydney.

It takes about the same length of time to get to Wollongong University from the south of Sydney as it does to get to either the University of Sydney or the University of NSW.

Add in the prospect of students only having to be on campus for one or two days a week, and Wollongong becomes very attractive to people from a great variety of locations.

‘Using a PBX tie-line, (02) area code users can dial in to a Sydney centre and are then connected to the University’s Computer labs,’ Professor O’Brien said.

‘Since the tie-line was introduced, there has been a dramatic upsurge in calls.

‘We are now becoming one of the biggest users in Australia of this type of telecommuting.

‘As well, the number of students attending this University from the south of Sydney is increasing rapidly.’

There are big advantages to this type of flexible learning system.

It has long been established that students living at home tend to have a higher chance of doing well at University than students who are coping with the pressures of renting – as long as they don’t have to spend a lot of time travelling.

Telecommuting allows students to minimise their travel time by working from home.

New initiative to measure Australia’s research contribution to ecologically-sustainable development

A team based at the Centre for Research Policy (CRP) at the University of Wollongong is about to undertake a four-month study that will make an important contribution to the goal of ecologically-sustainable development (ESD).

The CRP team, including associate researchers from the University’s Department of Science and Technology Studies and the CSIRO, has been contracted by the Australian Research Council (ARC) to investigate the nature and level of research relevant to ecologically-sustainable development funded under ARC research programs.

This work will be an important part of the implementation of the National Strategy for ESD, and will also feed into ESD-related activities in the Asia-Pacific region and into an international forum on sustainable development in October this year.

This will be the first Australian system-wide study of the extent to which government-funded research is orientated to achieving ecologically-sustainable development.

Knowledge about the level and nature of research relevant to ESD is an important first step in developing policies geared to meeting the broader objective of ESD and in suggesting areas where further research effort will be important.

However, this project will go further and set up a classificatory system for monitoring and evaluating the level of ‘ESD-ness’ in future research funding. Apart from providing a picture of how much money and effort in ARC-funded research is relevant to ESD, the output from the CRP study will be useful beyond ARC research programs and have utility in other research funding and performing agencies as well.

This research will link with two components of the international activities of the CRP as well.

As the regional focal point for the UNESCO-based Science and Technology Policy Asian Network (STEPAN), the CRP has been invited to present a regional perspective on indicators for ecologically-sustainable development at an international conference on ecological economics in October.

The team will discuss their findings as a model for integrating ESD indicators and R&D indicators.

As the national office for the APEC Human Resources Development Industrial Technologies Network (APEC-HURDIT), the centre will also link the research to the development of future directions in human resource development policy in the Asia-Pacific Region.

HURDIT will be involved in the development of training programs for industrial technologists where environmental studies form the core element.

The CRP research team consists of Professor Stephen Hill, Associate Professor Tim Turpin and Mr Adrian Deville, and includes as associate researchers Senior Lecturer, Department of Science and Technology Studies, University of Wollongong, Dr Sharon Beder, and from the CSIRO Institute of Natural Resources and Wildlife, Dr Trevor Redhead, Manager, Terrestrial Projects and Dr Andrew Pik, Manager, Policy and Planning.
General

Library information sessions for Academic Staff: 12 July – 9.30-10am: Faculty Librarian—who, what and where? An opportunity to meet your Faculty Librarian and discover what services they can provide to assist you and your students. 10am-1pm: Databases from your desktop—UnCover - New Features, Current Contents, ABN/Ozline, FirstSearch. 13 July – 9.30-10am: Loans/Reserve. 10am-10.40: Acquisitions and Serials Services. 11am-11.40: Document Delivery (Interlibrary Loan procedures). 11.40am-12.20: Special Collections/Archives. 12.20pm-1pm: Online Searching/SDI Services. Staff are invited to attend all or any of the sessions. All sessions will be held in Seminar Room 4, except the sessions on Special Collections which will be held in the Special Collections area.

28 June: Meeting of Women’s Issues Group at 7.30pm in the Function Room of the Union Building of the University of Wollongong, Northfields Avenue. Speakers: Delma Gordon, Marriage and Family Centre, and Carrey Sefton, Queensland Aboriginal Rock Art. Cost: Members $2.50. Non-members $3.50. Enquiries to Moira (042) 843 741.

What’s On

15-19 August: SRC Blue Stocking Week.
28 August: University Open Day.
30 August-3 September: Union Week.
4 September: Graham Park, Shoalhaven, Open Day.

The Illawarra Committee for Overseas Students (ICOS) upcoming events: July 23 and August 6: Snowy Mountains one-day trip $25 (coach only).


City of Wollongong Symphony Orchestra Concerts


26 November: ‘Judy Glen’s Spaghetti Opera’. Conductor: JWD. Judy Glen, soprano-comedienne. A comedy of arias interspersed with short pieces from the ‘classical favourites’ repertoire. All concerts at IMB Theatre, IPAC, on Saturdays at 8pm. Adults $20, concession $17, family of four $64, student rush $10.

The Art of Lunch

A series of one-hour performances in the Music Auditorium (University Building 24.G01) on Thursdays at 12.30 during session. Admission: Free

Long Gallery


Stop Press

NEW SECURITY CONTACT NUMBER

The new mobile phone number for campus security is 015 287750. You can phone HOT LINE #1 from any of the emergency phones on campus:

- Southern entry to Bld 8
- Eastern foyer entry to Bld 35
- Union Bld - outside the Duck Inn
- Outside security office

Main entrance to Bld 19 above the public phone

Northern entry to Bid 40

Walkway between Bid 23 and 25

SECURITY BASE PHONE 21 4555