Accolades for Vice-Chancellor

The University paid tribute to the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ken McKinnon, at the graduation ceremony on Friday 7 October, when he was admitted to the degree of Doctor of Letters Honoris Causa.

The Chancellor, Dr RM Hope read the following (slightly edited) citation:

Kenneth Richard McKinnon was born in Auburn, South Australia in 1931, the son of a primary school headmaster and one of a family of 12.

He later recalled that, to win a point in his family, you had to speak out strongly and be very sure of your argument. Ken McKinnon learnt these tactics well, applying them to great effect thereafter.

Ken McKinnon’s career in education and management mirrors, in some important aspects, the Australian experience of the post-war years, notably the movement from an insular to an international perspective.

He graduated with Bachelor of Arts and then Bachelor of Education degrees from the University of Queensland in the 1950s and gained his doctorate in Education from Harvard in 1965.

His working career began with a teaching appointment in South Australia in 1952.

Then came the critical career move that took him to the Australian Territory of Papua New Guinea as a headmaster.

Over eight years, Ken McKinnon rose to the position of Superintendent of Schools.

In 1963, he left Papua New Guinea to take up a Harkness Fellowship at Harvard but returned in 1966 as Director of Education.

He had executive responsibility for a program involving 250,000 students, 13,000 teachers, two universities and 10 teachers’ colleges during the challenging times of transition from ‘colonial’ control to autonomy.

Michael Somare, the prominent political leader and then Chief Minister, recognised the importance of education in readying his people for the demands of independence and found

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a committed and loyal supporter in the Director of Education.

Professor Inglis, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Papua New Guinea from 1972 to 1975, has written of Ken McKinnon: 'No expatriate head of a department worked faster, or more happily and cleverly – to do himself out of a job. The manner in which he handed over to Alkan Tololo as Somare’s director of education is a model of decolonisation'.

Ken McKinnon’s achievement in Papua New Guinea brought him to the notice of Gough Whitlam, one of the architects of PNG independence and then the newly elected Australian Prime Minister.

Whitlam wrote later that 'the most enduring single achievement of my Government was the transformation of education in Australia.'

A major vehicle for that reform was the Australian Schools Commission set up with a crusading charter 'to widen the educational options of all children'.

In 1973, Ken McKinnon was appointed as Chair of the Schools Commission, a position which complemented his educational and political ideals and tested his administrative acumen.

His eight year chairmanship outlasted the Whitlam Labor government and presided over the application of the principle of 'equality of opportunity' to the primary and secondary schools.

During this period, not only funding but the expectations and standards of Australian school education were lifted to their highest levels so far.

In 1981, the still fledging University of Wollongong staged a great coup in attracting a person of Professor McKinnon’s stature as its second Vice-Chancellor.

His appointment was a little unusual for its time. Here was a Vice-Chancellor who had not sprung from the Oxbridge mould, someone who had not spent his apprenticeship in academia but was instead a Harvard-educated manager with the knowledge and skills to operate in the political arena.

He was the ideal person to place this University firmly in the forefront of higher education in Australia and to give it that entrepreneurial edge that has become its distinguishing trademark.

The philosophy underpinning McKinnon’s leadership style at Wollongong could be summed up in Shakespeare’s words: ‘the readiness is all’. He has a ‘canny’ knack of discerning future trends and then seizing the opportunity of creating an advantage for the University.

He took a leading role in the amalgamation of the University and the neighbouring Wollongong Institute of Education: an achievement which ensured the continued viability of the young University.

He orchestrated the initiatives which saw the University develop expertise in the new technologies such as telecommunications.

He encouraged the development and articulation of University and Faculty objectives and planning strategies.

His forethought was instrumental in giving Wollongong the ‘track record’ of achievement and planning to place it in the top 10 Australian Universities in the inaugural federal Quality Review in 1993.

If Cardinal Newman upheld ‘The Idea of a University’ as a community of scholars, Ken McKinnon could be said to have created the ‘Model of a Modern University’ - a working model in which researchers, scholars and students came together not only to discover new knowledge but also to advance society and improve the lives of their fellows.

The social justice ideals of earlier days are still evident in the more socially attuned McKinnon approach to higher education.

Nevertheless, he maintains strong support for pure research and encourages creative endeavour.

Ken McKinnon gave his full support to the development of the outstanding Wollongong initiatives in the Creative Arts.

He pursued an unrelenting campaign to create a campus that enriched the learning experience.

Thus his support for the acquisition of the fine works of art which enliven the building interiors and the grounds.

His, often misunderstood, zeal for building duck ponds has created an acclaimed environment for both contemplation and debate.

Ken McKinnon is in many ways, literal and other, the architect of the current University of Wollongong.

At the same time, he has taken a leading role on the public stage as an acknowledged expert in educational management and public administration.

Amongst other major roles, he has chaired the Australian National Commission for UNESCO and convened the Australia-USA Education Policy Project; he is a member of the Prime Minister’s Science and Engineering Council, and was President of the Australian Vice-Chancellors’ Committee.

His interest in the arts is evident in his roles as Deputy Chair of the Australian Council and in his continuing support of the Sydney Dance Company as its Deputy Chairman.

He is the Chairman of Theatre South and a Trustee of the Wollongong Art Gallery.

Professor McKinnon has chaired two recent major national enquires: the Review of Marine Science and Technology and the Nuclear Reactor Review.

He has written and co-authored a number of key reports on education and on science and technology management as well as many articles in areas ranging from political comment to marine science, but concentrating mostly on his prime interest – education.

It is very appropriate that we recognise Professor McKinnon as a ‘man of letters’ for it is largely through the strength and clarity of his spoken and written words that he has influenced the direction of Australian education.

He has committed his considerable powers of determination, hard work and persuasion to widening educational opportunities in Wollongong, in Australia and overseas, notably amongst our Pacific and Asian neighbours.

In placing Wollongong’s University on the international map, he has also achieved recognition for the region.
Dorothy Jones, Doctor of Letters Honoris Causa

Dorothy Jones joined the Department of English at the University of Wollongong in 1971.

Since then, the Department has grown from a small unit to a department with fourteen academic staff, a flourishing Honours program, and eight postgraduate courses. Ms Jones has been an essential part of this development and, at many stages, its guiding hand.

After more than 23 years service she has attained the ranks of senior lecturer and associate professor and gained an enviable reputation as a teacher and scholar.

The English Department’s present profile is centred on its important components of post-colonial studies and feminist studies.

Ms Jones laid the groundwork for both of these initiatives by introducing comparative Australian/Canadian Studies, and by developing two foundation subjects in Women’s Studies.

Her initial foray into post-colonial studies has developed into the internationally recognised New Literatures Research Centre with its successful research program and patronage by the Canadian Government.

Her work in Women’s Studies has been truly a pioneering effort.

Her goal was to provide female students – particularly mature-aged students – with a new and empowering approach to life.

The subjects she developed – Women in Society and Twentieth Century Women Writers – were the first subjects in the University’s curriculum to give women and women’s writing a valid place in the calendar.

Amongst her peers, Ms Jones is recognised as one of the leading literary critics of Australian and post-colonial women’s writing.

She is a leading authority on the writing of Olga Masters, Elizabeth Jolley and Canadian writer Aritha Van Herk.

When Associate Professor Jones retires at the end of this year, the English Department and the University will lose one of its most valuable members.

She is one of a select group of academics who combine the intellectual rigour of a fine analytical mind with initiative, foresight and empathy.

She has been a pioneer of developments in her discipline, a model for her students and colleagues, and for those women whose lives and prospects she has enriched through her dedication and persistence.

Ross Walker becomes a Fellow of the University

Ross Walker retired from the University early this year after nearly 22 years of service.

He took up duty with the Wollongong University College in 1972.

Initially a records clerk responsible for creating a new filing system, he soon moved to the area where he was to serve with distinction – personnel management.

Mr Walker worked in almost all areas of personnel management, from policy development to organising housing for new academic staff.

Among his many achievements was his role in the federation of the University and the Institute of Education.

The smooth transition of Institute staff to University conditions needed both tact and an ability to absorb the complexity of two sets of procedures and conditions.

His sensitive handling of people’s worries and his outstanding knowledge of ever-changing industrial relations issues were invaluable as the University grew.

Mr Walker was involved in the full span of academic life – recruitment, commencement, conditions of service, promotion, resignation and retirement.

As such, he was confidante, guide and problem-solver.

The award, on his retirement, of honorary membership of the academic staff union speaks eloquently of Mr Walker’s fine reputation for fairness and ingenuity.

His contribution to the campus community over that time is unquestionable.

He was also a fine ambassador abroad, impressing those in other institutions here and overseas with his efficiency and courtesy.

We pay tribute to his achievements and welcome him formally as a permanent member of the community he has served with such dedication.
In 1941 Walter Jervis commenced a Metallurgy traineeship with John Lysaght Australia.
Although working shifts with extended hours and studying at technical college, Mr Jervis already displayed some of the commitment to the wider community that would distinguish him throughout his life.

In 1948 he became a foundation member of the Illawarra Men’s Hockey Association and was instrumental in the formation of the South Coast Aero Club.

In 1969 he was appointed General Superintendent of the CRM Works, a job which entailed travelling to America and Japan for technical visits and negotiations.

This was a most rewarding stage of his career which led to his 1978 appointment as manager of the Organic Finishes Division with responsibility for ‘Colorbond’ operations company-wide.

By this time, John Lysaght Australia were recognised as world leaders in both metal and organic coatings, a reputation undoubtedly enhanced through Mr Jervis’s dedication and business acumen.

In 1982, Mr Jervis became manager of the Port Kembla works.
His excellent managerial skills as head of a cohesive and productive working team helped Port Kembla works survive a recession with no compulsory retrenchments.

He retired in January 1986 after overseeing the start of the modernisation of the Springhill Works.

In retirement, he continues to be heavily involved in the local community as a foundation Director of the Wollongong Performing Arts Centre, a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and a Director and Deputy Chairperson of the Illawarra Mutual Building Society.

Walter Jervis (centre) with Chief Superintendent Beverley Lawson who gave the occasional address, the Vice-Chancellor and Chancellor

He also served for many years as a Director of the Friends of The University of Wollongong.

All in the family

Although not a member of the University of Wollongong’s staff, Joyce Warren has close links with the campus.

She undertook postgraduate study in Creative Arts, which she successfully combined with an extensive career as a visual artist and as an experienced academic in the visual arts.

She has been a guest speaker and occasional tutor at the Faculty of Creative Arts.

Some of her exquisite work in porcelain is on display outside the International Office.

Her husband Guy Warren is also an prominent Australian artist and is the Director of the University’s Permanent Art Collection. Ms Warren was awarded a Doctor of Philosophy in Creative Arts.
Indonesian visionary honoured at graduation

At the graduation ceremony on 7 October, the University honoured Ir Djoko Subagyo for his contribution to the international development of the University of Wollongong and his dedication in ensuring the success of a groundbreaking collaboration.

Ir Djoko Subagyo was born in Tuban, Indonesia in July 1938 and graduated from the Moscow Institute of Electrical Engineering with a degree in Electrical Mechanical Engineering in 1966. He joined PT Krakatau Steel in 1972. In 1975 he was promoted to Manager of Production and, in 1985, to Director of Production. It is anticipated that, when the next appointments are made in 1997, Ir Djoko Subagyo will become the President Director of IR Krakatau Steel.

Ir Djoko Subagyo can be described as a visionary.

Perceiving the need for engineering expertise in Indonesia, he co-founded the Technical Faculty of the University of Tirtayasa, West Java. He became Dean of the Faculty of Engineering in 1981 and committed time and expertise to ensure it became a well established and successful faculty.

He left the Faculty of Engineering in 1992 as a prosperous concern.

His concept of the future of engineering in Indonesia led him to recognise the need for both ‘specialist’ and ‘generalist’ engineers.

After visiting Australia, he chose to involve the University of Wollongong in his plan to open up educational options for Indonesian engineers.

As a result, the Materials Engineering Department now offers Indonesian non-metallurgical engineers the opportunity to undertake the Master of Engineering Studies, improving both their working knowledge of steel metallurgy and their command of technical English.

It is worth noting that this course, the embodiment of Ir Djoko Subagyo’s ‘generalist’ concept, is the first of its kind anywhere in the world to be successfully undertaken.

The ‘specialist’ engineer is developed through the Honours Master of Engineering Research degree, undertaken by metallurgists and material engineers to provide experience in areas of engineering relevant to the specific interests of PT Krakatau Steel.

Ir Djoko Subagyo, a major business figure in Indonesia, has worked hard to establish and develop a professional relationship between the University of Wollongong and the engineering industry of Indonesia.

He is openly proud of the success of this venture and actively promotes the University of Wollongong as an international institution throughout South East Asia, enhancing our reputation as a University of excellence.

At the same ceremony the first group of 22 engineers from Krakatau Steel received their degrees.

First graduates via SBS Television

Rushing off to lectures after work or attending residential schools during vacation leave was not part of the scene for four students with full-time careers who received postgraduate awards at the graduation ceremony.

These students were the first to graduate in courses offered through the Professional and Graduate Education Consortium (PAGE) which allows busy professionals the opportunity and flexibility of watching lectures on SBS TV in the comfort of their own home or office.

These students studied from Victoria, South Australia, NSW and ACT.

Robert Kibble, from the ACT, attended the ceremony, while the other three candidates graduated 'in absentia'.

Mr Kibble was awarded a Graduate Certificate in Total Quality Management. An employee of the Department of Administrative Services in Canberra, he thought the TV lectures 'were great'.

'The University of Wollongong has been very far sighted in introducing this way of offering graduate education,' he said. 'It is a great idea and the supporting notes are well prepared. Particularly liked the way the course canvassed all the current views of management without pushing a particular model.'

PAGE offers the best that 12 universities across Australia have to offer, new delivery systems, self-paced and modular learning, cross accreditation between member universities, instructional design expertise with market relevance and access to 'packaged learning', which is not constrained by location, class numbers or mode of delivery.

PAGE subjects can be integrated with other face to face or workplace learning modes on a full fee paying basis.
SPRING GRADUATION

Congratulations to staff graduating in October

Name: Lynn Brunet
Course: Master of Creative Arts (Honours)
Position: Lecturer in Painting / Printmaking, Faculty of Creative Arts.

Lynn Brunet, a painter and sculptor, has been lecturing full-time in the Visual Arts Strand of the Faculty of Creative Arts for one year, following three years of casual tutoring in Women and Society, History of the Arts and Aboriginal Arts.

Her main role is to coordinate programs for international students undertaking studies in Creative Arts.

For her MCA Lynn conducted research into the art and writing of 19th century Australian sculptor Margaret Thomas.

Apart from her teaching commitments, Lynn also maintains her studio practice in painting and sculpture. Her latest works are being exhibited in the Faculty’s Long Gallery until 6 November.

Name: Marilyn Meier
Course: Doctor of Creative Arts
Position: Lecturer in Music Performance, Faculty of Creative Arts.

Marilyn Meier is an accomplished concert pianist who has performed frequently throughout Australia as well as overseas.

She began her current position as a lecturer in Music Performance at the beginning of this year and has also performed at events such as the University’s Festival of Creative Arts held in June. On attaining her doctorate, Marilyn said: ‘It was fantastic. Wollongong is the only place in Australia where you can combine performance with research work.’ Her thesis was based on a musical analysis of 19th century piano preludes which also form part of her extensive performance repertoire.

Name: Joanne Lilley
Course: Bachelor of Arts (majoring in English)
Position: Promotions & Public Relations Officer, Science Centre (Campus East).

Joanne Lilley came to study here after attaining her HSC at Figtree High School in 1989 and has been working at the Science Centre for five years. During the first four years she was an explainer and guide for visitors and school groups participating in the Science Centre’s educational programs and exhibitions. She was appointed to her current position in 1993.
Jan Turbill's doctoral thesis 'From A Personal to a Grounded Theory of Staff Development' investigated the particular school culture that needs to be in place to encourage optimal learning for teachers.

She linked her research to her ongoing work with the design and development of the Frameworks literacy program in school education.

Jan's thesis dealt 'with the processes and structures of Frameworks as a staff development model for teachers, progressing from personal impressions through to a professional evaluation of the program's underpinnings'.

As well as managing to complete his Master of Business Administration studies, Stephen Heslop has been extremely busy over the last 12 months as the Manager of the recent 1994 Australian University Games held at the University of Wollongong.

Mr Heslop praised the course content and subject information as 'very appropriate to my work with both the Games and the Recreation and Sports Association, and for the services sector in general. The MBA course at Wollongong is very useful, it's up-to-date, and it has a very good commercial background'.

Craig Peden came to the University as an Administrative Trainee and Commerce student at the beginning of 1990 after attaining his HSC at The Illawarra Grammar School.

During his degree Mr Peden majored in Business Systems and Management while employed in various departments and units of the University's administration, including Financial Services, Personnel, Academic and Students Services and the International Office.

He is now a permanent member of staff in the Admissions Office.
Education's multimedia award-winning habit

The multimedia team in the Faculty of Education report that their winning streak continues and that their project Investigating Lake Iluka has won all three major association education awards for multimedia this year.

As well as winning the ATOM award earlier this year, it has recently won the Australasian Interactive Multimedia Industry Association award for the best education multimedia title, and the Australian Society for Educational Technology award for computer software as well as its Premier award for the most innovative product for 1994.

The multimedia staff are very happy with such recognition and anticipate completion of their current project for the Department of Water Resources so that this can be a contender for these awards in 1995.

As well as receiving trophies, the multimedia team have hosted a 10-day intensive workshop that was also attended by two Faculty of Education members.

The client for this workshop was Choice, the publication of The Australian Consumers' Association.

A presentation of the product to Choice's Marketing Director, Janice McEwan, was held in the Library on Monday 10 October.

International House voted 'the best' as mid-year conference venue

International House recently received high accolades as an accommodation venue from delegates at the 14th Annual RACI Organic Chemistry Conference during the mid-year recess.

Seventy percent of delegate respondents to a survey conducted at International House rated the accommodation quality as 'excellent' to 'good'; 98 percent described standards of service as 'excellent' to 'good'; and 88 percent found the quality of food was 'excellent' to 'good'.

Favourable comments from conference delegates included:

"The best college accommodation I have experienced over the past 16 years! Reception was very helpful from the start and your student workers did a brilliant job of running the bus service and the late night bar facility - Excellent!"

"I was impressed with the quality of the bed."

"Make sure your students remain as friendly as they have been to us - it was a real pleasure to stay here with you."

"This was the best conference I have been to, thanks in no small measure to the quality of accommodation and service at International House. Keep up the good work."

University staff intending to host mid-year conferences in either the mid-year or September/October recesses can consider International House for accommodation.

Availability of mid-year rooms in the hall is a departure from the trend of recent years.

In the past, University accommodation was often not available mid-year even though many delegates traditionally stayed on campus for conferences.

The University's halls of residence, while aware of demands for conference accommodation, are committed to the priority of housing students and what their economic realities allow.

However, for the last two years International House has hosted mid-year University-based conferences on a voluntary basis.

Student residents who vacate their rooms for part of the recess period (in return for a refund of fees) allow International House to accommodate conference delegates.

International House was able to house all the delegates who required University accommodation for the Maths and Statistics Conference held on campus during the July and October 1993 recesses, as well as for this year's 14th Annual RACI Organic Chemistry Conference.

This arrangement holds few economic benefits for International House.

Residents vacating their rooms are refunded out of fees charged to delegates before any accommodation costs are recouped.

This means that the costs to mid-year conference delegates are necessarily higher than those charged for the summer recess.

International House's management regards this as an effective arrangement which serves the student residents who receive refunds or gain recess employment assisting conferences, the delegates who are accommodated and the host departments whose organisational needs are also served.

Faculties and departments interested in hosting conferences at International House can contact Gary Graham, Office Manager, International House, on ext 3784.

Native mammals set up new habitat near Administration Building

Campus News has been informed by a PhD student in Biology who specialises in small mammals that the creatures outside the administration building are in fact native mammals - who unfortunately are called 'swamp rats'.

For those who haven't seen these native mammals, they have brown fur, are smaller than European rats (and shaped a bit differently) with naked tails that are shorter than their bodies, short rounded ears and dark brown feet. They usually nest in shredded vegetation, leaf litter or hollows.

They mainly eat fungi, seeds and bits of ferns but will eat insects if available (they also appear to like biscuits!). They are commonly seen around Mt Keira and Mt Kembla.

These animals are harmless, pose no health risk, and will not find their way into buildings - so there is no reason they should be baited or disturbed. Please also be careful around the Administration Building as the babies are very small and could be trampled.
Lawyers writers and artists create new journal, Law Text Culture

The relationship between the legal profession and the societies and cultures where the law operates is an important and relevant area of interdisciplinary study, according to Faculty of Law lecturer and President of the Law and Literature Association of Australia, Penny Pether, and Dr Joseph Pugilese from the Department of English.

Ms Pether and Dr Pugilese coordinate an undergraduate course, Perspectives on Law - English, and hope to offer it at higher levels in future.

Other interdisciplinary courses offered include perspectives on law and economics, philosophy, politics or science.

Law and literature studies include discursive and critical analysis of legal judgments and the language of the legal profession in relation to a range of social and cultural issues such as human rights, social justice, ethnicity, gender and contemporary media and culture.

‘For instance, students study the legal and judicial pronouncements delivered in rape cases, such as the controversial rougher-than-usual-handling decision of Justice Bollen in South Australia, although not all examples are as extreme as that,’ Ms. Pether said.

‘We also study the way in which the law is portrayed through literature, media and screen studies,’ Dr Pugilese said.

‘Students look at works such as Kafka’s The Trial, Shakespeare’s The Merchant of Venice, Margaret Atwood, Scott Turow, and Tom Wolfe’s The Bonfire of the Vanities.

Contemporary Australian writers such as Sara Paretsky and Lewis and Gurein’s experimental text Unable by Reason of Death are also studied, as are television programs such as Rumpole of the Bailey and LA Law.’

Growing interest in the social, cultural and textual aspects of law and a flourishing exchange of ideas generated between law and literature has resulted in the publication of a new journal, Law Text Culture.

This journal is a combination of both academic and artistic material focusing on issues relevant to both law and literature.

Law Text Culture was produced at the University by staff and students from the Faculties of Law, Arts and Creative Arts.

This journal will be launched on campus after being launched at the Law and Literature Association of Australia Conference held at the Queensland University of Technology in late September.

The first edition of Law Text Culture contains several contributions by writers and leading exponents of law and literature studies in Australia and abroad.

Growing interest in the social, cultural and textual aspects of law and a flourishing exchange of ideas generated between law and literature has resulted in the publication of Law Text Culture.

Articles include those by Aboriginal author Ruby Langford-Ginibi on Aboriginal and Traditional Customary Law, crime writer Sara Paretsky’s contentious The Protocols of the Elders of Feminism and Professor Richard Weisberg’s Codification of Western Law and the Poetics of Novelistic Disclosure.

Poetry, experimental multi-genre texts by Dean Kiley, and reviews by Terry Threadgold (Monash University) and Justice Priestley (Appeals Court) are also featured in the first issue.

Creative Arts writing and publishing students were also involved in the design and production of Law Text Culture. The editors plan to include further original material, including visual art and photography in future editions.

Professor Weisberg, one of the most published experts in law and literature studies in the United States, recently visited Wollongong through a funding grant awarded under the US Information Service’s Academic Specialist program.

He teaches at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University, New York and specialises in the legal discourse of the French Vichy regime.

According to Ms Pether: ‘He looks at the way legal documents were used to prosecute and round up French Jews, how lawyers signed civil rights, due process and constitutionality to draft documents that could be used for racially classification’ during the collaborationist occupation of France in World War II.

Another interdisciplinary scholar, Professor Christopher Norris, visited Wollongong on 4 October to give a seminar after his keynote address at the Law and Literature Association Conference in Brisbane.

Ms Pether and Dr Pugilese are confident that the publication of Law Text Culture will increase awareness of and interest in law and literature interdisciplinary studies in Australia.

Two students in the Perspectives in Law - English course, Law student Carl Minette and Arts-Law student Alii Richmond also commented positively about this course.

‘Mature-age student Mr Minette said ‘It definitely makes the law more relevant . . . I had always thought that law was an exact science until then’.

Ms Richmond concurred, and said ‘Nowhere else offers anything like this course . . . you get to cover so many fields’.

The main aims of the course are to open the ‘closed community’ of the law and to teach students to write expressly and clearly for the needs of their client audience.

Law Text Culture will be published annually. Price: $10 students, unemployed, concessions, $20 rpr Enquiries: Faculty of Law or Department of English, University of Wollongong.
Modern Languages lecturer to manage Spanish performers for 1995 Festival of Sydney

Associate Professor of Italian in the Department of Modern Languages, Vincent Cincotta, will be very busy behind the scenes with an internationally acclaimed company of Spanish singers and dancers at the forthcoming Festival of Sydney this summer.

Director of the 1995 Festival of Sydney, Anthony Steel, announced in September that Spain's illustrious national company, Antologia de la Zarzuela, will perform an exclusive 14-show season in the Sydney Opera House Concert Hall from 12-21 January, 1995.

The world-famous Antologia de la Zarzuela are appearing at the 1995 Festival of Sydney by arrangement with Sydney entrepreneur Andrew McKinnon, who recently presented tours by two of the most renowned opera singers, Victoria de los Angeles and Teresa Berganza.

During their premiere Australian season Associate Professor Cincotta will be professionally assigned to Antologia de la Zarzuela as their company manager.

He will be primarily responsible for the coordination of this 90-member ensemble and its stay in Sydney, handling all the logistics of their travels and needs as well as interpreting for Spanish and Australian personnel in the production.

Four thousand kilograms of stunning and original costumes will also be presented on stage and will have to be looked after backstage.

This appointment transpired from Associate Professor Cincotta's lifelong study and enthusiasm for zarzuela over the last four decades.

Zarzuela is a Spanish combination of dance, opera and theatre which is a compelling equivalent to both French and Italian comic opera and American theatre musicals.

Themes range from comic to romantic to serious and incorporate elements of Spanish folklore, folk music/dance and spoken dialogue as well as an array of orchestral, operatic and choreographic movements which make up the full arrangements of zarzuela.

In 1988 and 1993 Associate Professor Cincotta travelled Spain to undertake extensive research for a proposed book on the history of its musical theatre.

While on study leave in Spain last year he utilised the resources of the Juan March Foundation Theatre Library in Madrid, and met with music publishers and heirs to popular librettists and composers of zarzuela.

While gathering material and permission to publish it in English, he also met with Spain's foremost producer of zarzuela, Director of the Antologia de la Zarzuela, Jose Tamayo, who was already keen to make this genre accessible to the English speaking world.

Mr Tamayo also expressed a willingness to have the company perform in Australia.

Associate Professor Cincotta contacted Mr McKinnon after his return from study leave.

They approached Festival of Sydney Director Mr Steel who in turn convinced the Festival's Board of Trustees that the Antologia de la Zarzuela would be one of the biggest attractions of the 1995 festival.

The company will present a theatrical anthology of the most famous arias (which are spoken as much as sung) and dance excerpts taken from the most popular zarzuelas.

This spectacular production has toured to 62 countries and been performed before a total of more than 16 million people.

During the Festival of Sydney season the Antologia will perform excerpts from more than 20 of the best Zarzuelas of the last century.
Pacific Theatre Project makes a new entrance

From 1995, the New Literatures Research Centre (NLRC) in the Department of English will be the Australian station for the Pacific Theatre Project.

The project is a non-profit corporation designed to encourage and disseminate work by emerging literary artists of South East Asia and Pacific Island nations.

Originated by Dr Timothy Ray, a graduate of Yale School of Drama, with experience of the Philippines and the Pacific, the project has attracted several corporate grants and will build a database of artistic, literary and technical resources available to assist Pacific artists.

Stations from the United States to India update the database and act as regional resource centres for its users.

With its proximity to the focus area, the NLRC will be one of the project’s most crucial stations.

Initially, the NLRC will house the project for three years with a sophisticated computer system and a grant of $10,000 per year provided by the project to cover some operational and running costs.

Users will be able to access material such as theatre scripts, reviews, details of performances, etc. on a dedicated phone-modem line.

In 1995, the project will also produce the first volume of its magazine. The magazine will be produced in a dual format, which allows it to be played as an audio CD, producing a 50-minute radio magazine, or as a CD-ROM which combines textual, audio and visual elements.

The NLRC was approached as a potential Australian station on the basis of its reputation as a forum for studies in Pacific Literature. Dr Paul Sharrad’s Readings in Pacific Literature was published last year and he is working on a bibliography of criticism of South Asian writing.

The NLRC attracts students from the Pacific region through its postgraduate program in Postcolonial Literatures, and provides research fellowships for visiting Pacific writers and academics.

The centre administered the South Pacific Association for Commonwealth Language and Literature Studies for four years, and published its journal, SPAN.

It also publishes New Literatures Review, a major journal in the field of postcolonial studies.

NLRC members unanimously agreed to house the project because it offers opportunities to engage students in electronic text generation and overlaps with existing work on Australian/Pacific theatre and databases.

Apart from its major bibliographic projects on Australian and South Asian literary criticism, the centre is also engaged in compiling a database of Aboriginal plays.

CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC

OPEN DAY
Sunday, 6 November, 1994
10am-3pm

The Conservatorium of Music will celebrate 16 years of service to the community when it throws open the doors of Gleniffer Brae to the general public for its Open Day on Sunday, 6 November.

“Our Open Day is a true celebration of the quality and scope of activities at the Conservatorium”, said Director Penelope Chappie. The fun and entertainment begins at 10am with the official opening led by the Youth Choir and Dr Sharon Bell, Dean of the Faculty of Creative Arts at the University of Wollongong.

Activities that will be of interest to young and old are as follows:
- Courtyard concert featuring Conservatorium students and EROS Big Band at 1pm
- Flute masterclass with Rosamund Plummer (principal piccolo player with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra)
- Clarinet/Saxophone masterclass with Mark Walton (Lecturer in Clarinet at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music - courtesy of Yamaha Music Australia)
- Vocal Masterclass with Keith Hempton, former Lecturer in Charge of the Conservatorium and now Lecturer at the University of Western Sydney
- An informative talk on choosing to study music for the HSC (Pauline Langenegger from the NSW Department of School Education)
- The opportunity to observe Childhood Music Education (CME) lessons and talk to CME staff
- Displays of instruments, music, by Jurgens Music, Frank Fordham (Woodwind & Brass), Betty Parsons Music Box and John Wessels (Strings)
- Orchestral rehearsals, studio concerts, lesson demonstration, assessments for instrument/vocal/speech & drama studies
- Friends of the Conservatorium and Craft stalls

The Open Day is sponsored by the University of Wollongong Foundation, Yamaha Music and is supported by WIN Television.

Bring along the family and enjoy a sausage sizzle or picnic lunch in the beautiful grounds of Gleniffer Brae. It’s all happening at the Wollongong Conservatorium of Music. SOUNDS GREAT!

For further information please ring the Conservatorium on (042) 281 122.
2 November: Russell McLelland and Brown Public Lecture, 5.30-7.30pm, Keira View Building, Lecture Theatre 67.104, Level 1. Topic: Alternative Dispute Settling Procedures. Speaker: Professor Neil Gold. (Russell McLelland and Brown Visiting Professorial Fellow). Professor Gold is a teacher, trainer and author who has worked as an academic administrator, member of teaching staff and consultant in North and South America, Europe, Africa, Asia and Australasia. He was among the first in Canada to teach mediation, negotiation and counselling skills to law students and lawyers. He lectures and conducts training programs in the field and will speak on Mediation and Mini-Trials at the International Bar Association Conference this month.

Human Research Ethics Committee.
Agenda Deadline Dates: 9 November, 20 December.

City of Wollongong Symphony Orchestra Concerts
At IMB Theatre, IPAC, 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
Until 6 November: Bronzes, Ken Stone, Lynn Brunet. 14 November-7 December: BCA Graduating Exhibition.
For further information contact Elizabeth Jeneid at the Faculty of Creative Arts, phone (042) 21-3048.

Stop Press