**Research Infrastructure Grants:**

**Wollongong coup**

The University of Wollongong was second in the nation after the University of Sydney in the number of Research Infrastructure Grants awarded by the Australian Research Council earlier this month.

Wollongong obtained five grants — totalling $1.3m — as the principal coordinating organisation and administrator, and participated with other institutions in another three grants.

The grants are part of $20.9m nationwide funding for 1996 and are for research equipment and facilities.

They were selected from 151 applications.

The five principal grants were awarded for:

- A stable-isotope mass spectrometer for application to Quaternary science and environmental research. $300,000. (Submitted by Professor Allan Chivas, School of Geosciences).
- Enhancement of molecular analysis facilities. $300,000. (Submitted by Dr Mark Walker and Dr Mark Wilson, Department of Biological Sciences).
- Magnetic Property Measurement Systems $250,000. (Submitted by Professor Dou, Department of Materials Engineering).
- Basic infrastructure for research in steel manufacturing and processing. $100,000. (Submitted by Associate Professor Kiet Tieu, Department of Mechanical Engineering).
- High resolution fourier transform infrared spectrometer. $74,000 (Submitted by Dr David Griffith, Department of Chemistry).

The three grants Wollongong will be participating in are:

- Macromolecular crystallographic facility. $430,000. (Principal organisation: University of NSW).

Continued page two
Minister for Industrial Relations and NSW Attorney-General, the Right Honourable Mr Jeff Shaw, presented the 17th Sir Richard Kirby Lecture on Industrial Relations on 8 November to an audience of students, staff and representatives from community organisations.

The theme of the lecture was the dangers of extreme labour market deregulation and the importance of an independent system of conciliation and arbitration.

The Minister spoke in detail about the NSW Government's proposed legislative framework for industrial relations which was released as a draft in October this year.

'The bill is based upon the presumption that a strong conciliation and arbitration system (with a system of award prescriptions as its central feature) is essential for the protection of workers' wages and conditions of employment, and to provide fairness in the workplace,' he said.

'The system to be introduced in NSW, however, will include a significant element of enterprise-bargaining to allow flexibility and to encourage productivity and efficiency gains.

'In other words, the package aims to strike a balance between the needs of management to conduct a profitable enterprise and the needs of employers to be treated equitably.'

Mr Shaw paid tribute to Sir Richard Kirby, who was unable to attend the lecture for the first time in the 17-year history of the function.

'Sir Richard Kirby, distinguished lawyer, advocate and judge, served for 28 years as a judge of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission,' he said.

'He spent his last 17 years as president until his retirement in 1973.

'Throughout his career he maintained a strong belief in the centralised system of conciliation and arbitration.

'Sir Richard had a strong sense of the judicial role, yet was a firm believer in the mediation process.

'He would involve parties to a dispute sitting with him at the conference table thrashing out settlement whenever possible, working day and night in order to achieve a result in some of the major collective labour disputes of the era.

'Sir Richard believed that, whilst the system was important, it is people who make the decisions in industrial relations, so, to him mediation leading to consensus was always a key objective. A consideration of Sir Richard's contribution to Australian industrial relations lends weight to the conclusion that a strong conciliation and arbitration system is a useful safeguard against unbridled labour market forces.'

The Minister's address. Contact Gillian Curtis, phone 213 926, if you would like the full text.

During the Sir Richard Kirby function, prizes in Industrial Relations were awarded to five outstanding students:
- Hilda Kirby Prize for the best first-year essay on the previous Kirby Lecture: Michael Phillips.
- Industrial Relations Society of NSW Prize for the best overall performance: Louise Duck.
- BHP Prize for the best result in fourth year (first year offered): Tanya Bennett.
- Eric Derra Young Prize: Donna Trembath.
- Eric Derra Young Scholarship: Catherine Carvolth.

A procedure for allocating Internet usage charges recently has been agreed by the Vice-Chancellor and Deans.

As of January 1, this will involve allocating the charges accrued from Internet usage, back to the faculties and other units within the University.

Information Technology Services (ITS) is putting in place several measurement systems that will provide information on Internet usage from within general building networks, computer labs and dial-in modem pools.

In relation to dial-in services, new account and authentication processes are being put in place to enable the allocation of an individual's usage to their 'home' faculty or unit.

There are some instances of dial-in services being used for home educational purposes, for example access to the World Wide Web.

From January 1, such use will be reflected in the charges passed back to the faculties and major units.

Enquiries: Manager ITS, Greg Naimo, ext. 3850.

**Research Infrastructure Grants: Wollongong coup**

From page one

- The Italian Australian records project: a preservation, retrieval and access system, $150,000 (Principal organisation: Victoria University of Technology).
- Application of X-Ray spectrometry to geochemical studies of the evolution of the earth's mantle and crust, $100,000. (Principal organisation: Australian National University).
- Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Bill Lovegrove, said these grants would have a significant impact on the research capability of numerous research groups across the campus and that both undergraduate and postgraduate students would benefit from being able to use the most up-to-date technology.
- The outstanding success of the University in attracting these grants confirms the continuing escalation of the University's reputation as a research institution of world class standing,' he said.
Support from the Navy for student society

A visit by a Seahawk Helicopter from HMAS Albatross, Nowra, recently coincided with the reformation of the Mechanical Engineering Students Society.

It was also a special occasion for two crew members on board the helicopter who were greeted by their fathers on landing.

The pilot of the Seahawk, Lt Simon Bateman, made the most of the visit by meeting up with his father, Commodore Sam Bateman, who is Director of the Centre for Maritime Policy.

Professional Officer in the Mechanical Engineering Department and Coordinator of the visit, Mr Ian Kirby, had time to see his son, Michael, who after eight months in the Navy will start his pilot training shortly.

Ian said he had organised the visit because it was a great opportunity for students to appreciate the complexity of the technology used in aircrafts.

He said the helicopter also helped to generate enthusiasm and excitement about reforming the students society.

The society has been dormant for sometime since many active members graduated, but Head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Professor Michael West, has encouraged the students to start again.

He said: 'The society provides not only a social function, but an outlet for students to indulge in their technical interests'.
Timor and Arafura seas conference proposes management commission

The University of Wollongong was associated with a major international conference on the Timor and Arafura seas held in Darwin on 1-2 November.

The conference was organised by the Centre for Maritime Policy in conjunction with the Centre for Archipelago, Law and Development Studies, Bandung, Indonesia.

It was sponsored by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade under the Australia-Asia Institutional Linkages Program, AusAID and the Northern Territory Government.

The conference addressed oceans and coastal management issues in the waters lying between Australia and Indonesia.

These two countries share a maritime boundary in the Timor and Arafura seas more than 2000km long, as well as between Christmas Island and Java.

Some parts of this boundary have not been agreed and disputes have arisen between the two countries, particularly with regard to the activities of Indonesian fishermen.

About 75 delegates attended the conference, including 10 from Indonesia.

They represented a diversity of public and private sector interests, including fisheries, oil and gas, legal and defence.

University of Wollongong academics, including Professor Ted Wolfers (History and Politics), Professor John Morrison (Environmental Science) and Professor Martin Tsamenyi (Law), had key roles at the conference.

The keynote address to the conference was given by Minister for Primary Industry and Fisheries in the Northern Territory Government, the Hon. Mick Palmer.

Mr Palmer described recent initiatives taken by the Northern Territory to develop a special relationship with Indonesia, particularly the eastern provinces.

A Commonwealth perspective of the bilateral relationship between Australia and Indonesia was provided by MHR for the Northern Territory and the Parliamentary Secretary to the Federal Minister for the Environment, Sport and Territories, the Hon. Warren Snowdon.

Sessions at the conference covered the full range of common interests of Australia and Indonesia in the Timor and Arafura seas.

Some of the important issues raised were:

- the position of the two countries on the unresolved maritime boundaries, and the key points of their respective negotiating positions;
- the background and extent of claims to sea areas in the Timor and Arafura seas made recently by Australia's Aboriginal people;
- areas of existing cooperation between the two countries (i.e., search and rescue, oil spill response, fisheries stock assessment);
- the potential for greater cooperation, including in marine scientific research, marine environmental protection, surveillance and fisheries management; and

Conference addressed oceans and coastal management issues in the waters lying between Australia and Indonesia

- the vexed issues associated with Indonesian traditional fishing in Australian waters, including the marked increase in recent years in the numbers of Indonesian vessels arrested by Australian authorities.

The Timor Gap Treaty is the main instrument at present of maritime cooperation between Australia and Indonesia.

However, as several speakers at the conference pointed out, this treaty is very limited.

It applies only to oil and gas resources in a particular part of the Timor Sea where a seabed boundary has not been agreed.

It is not a boundary agreement but a limited duration arrangement to proceed with joint development of hydrocarbon resources.

The conference broke new ground in that while there has been some dialogue and cooperation between the two countries on particular issues (e.g., fishing and search and rescue), it was the first time that an integrated and comprehensive approach had been taken to the management of the Timor and Arafura seas.

The 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, to which Australia and Indonesia are both parties, requires that countries adjacent to the same body of water should cooperate on matters such as resource management, marine environmental protection, conservation of species and marine scientific research.

This approach is also required by the broad principles for the integrated management and sustainable development of ocean and coastal areas, including Exclusive Economic Zones, contained in Chapter 17 of Agenda 21 agreed at the UN Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.

The conference was a great success.

Representatives of the two countries gained additional insight into the views of the other country, and participants from particular sectoral interests were able to better appreciate the problems of other sectors.

A specific outcome of the conference was the suggestion of a Timor and Arafura seas commission to manage the body of water between Australia and Indonesia.

This would provide political 'top cover' for several working groups which would address particular issues: fisheries, marine environmental protection, maritime surveillance and so forth.

Such a commission is unlikely to be established in the short-term but at least the conference made a start towards such an arrangement by highlighting the benefits of wider cooperation and dialogue on oceans and coastal zone management.
Brian Ferry: outstanding achievement

Lecturer in the Faculty of Education, Brian Ferry, was recently presented with the 1995 Australian College of Education (ACE) Award for Outstanding Achievement in Tertiary Education. The aim of the award is to encourage professional development in teachers, to encourage innovation in schools or other community organisations, to recognise outstanding professional achievement in educators, and to promote the standing of the profession of education within the community.

Mr Ferry was a very strong candidate for the award with the excellent work he has done with students, local schools, the Science Centre and community groups. He is well respected by his peers and his students are very appreciative of his commitment and enthusiasm.

The innovative work in schools that has earned him the award includes the development of a science kit for primary schools run by second year Education students.

He has also designed programs for early childhood education students where they develop activity stations and then go into preschools to test their ideas.

Mr Ferry also does work with the Mt Kembla Field Studies Centre and has developed an environmental studies program for schools.

The importance of all this work is that we turn around what we do so there is not only a benefit to our students but also to the schools, he said.

In supporting the Science Centre, Mr Ferry has developed a system as part of the Primary Education degree that provides students as ‘explainers’ each year.

Here the students gain valuable experience in communicating science to children and the community, while also learning about the exhibits.

Mr Ferry also runs a program that allows Diploma students to work with gifted and talented children.

He makes it compulsory for first year students to conduct activity stations during science fairs at local primary schools each year.

With 22 years of teaching experience, seven years in primary schools and 15 years in secondary schools, Mr Ferry is well-equipped to work with the schools in these varied programs.

As a lecturer, he says it is important for university students to learn by interacting with children.

The schools provide the ideal settings for this and by working with the students the schools get something back from these programs.

As a result, he says there is a strong relationship from both sides.

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Review of the Department of Public Health and Nutrition

In accordance with the University’s review procedures for academic units, the Vice-Chancellor has initiated a review of the Department of Public Health and Nutrition.

The review will take place in February.

Submissions to the review panel are invited from the campus community.

Submissions, which will be treated as confidential, should reach Manager, Academic and Student Services, Peter Wood, by 15 December.

A copy of the procedures is available on the Administration File Server - refer to Section M of the Management Handbook in the ‘Public Information - Public’ folder.

Dean of the Faculty of Education, John Patterson, presents the award on behalf of the ACE, South Coast Branch to lecturer, Brian Ferry.
The Australian Institute of Health, Law and Ethics, established on 16 September, held its first board meeting in Canberra recently.

Associate Professor Colin Thomson and lecturer Natalie Stoianoff, both from the Faculty of Law at the University of Wollongong, were elected to the institute’s founding board of directors.

The institute was established to meet the growing need for research, education and debate concerning the relationships between health care, law and ethics.

Current issues include: natural death legislation, euthanasia, abortion, research on the embryo/fetus, care of the physically and mentally disabled, the allocation of scarce resources, product liability, patient rights, delivery of health care to persons with different cultural backgrounds, reproductive technology, confidentiality and respect of persons.

The institute seeks to foster the debate by providing leadership and research into these and other areas of health care, law and ethics.

The activities of the institute are:
- To engage in research activities relating to health law policy and its implementation;
- Encourage and promote community interest and involvement in matters relating to health care, law and ethics, including the initiation of public lectures and debates in this area;
- Conduct and promote continuing education courses for professionals in the health care, law and ethics areas;
- Monitor overseas and national developments in the area;
- Provide expert advice on matters relating to health care, law and ethics issues, including press liaison;
- Organise conferences;
- Maintain a bibliography of books and articles relevant to the area and establish a database of materials.

The work is relevant because there is an increasing awareness within the professions that law and ethics are having (and will continue to have) a great influence on medical and nursing practice.

The major benefit of the institute lies in its capacity to be involved in decision-making concerning issues of health care, law and ethics.

The institute can provide a vehicle for expert advice to governments on a variety of difficult and topical issues relating to health care, law and ethics via an interdisciplinary approach.

Governments cannot legislate in a vacuum; public opinion, the social perspective, and quality research are crucial to the development of policy in these areas.

Decision-making and research into areas of law and health care impact directly upon business enterprise, e.g., human testing of new drugs and products, the development of position papers on new protocols, developing training courses in ethics and medico-legal issues.

The institute can also provide and promote continuing education courses and can assist in the resolution of health law and ethical problems in practice.

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**Postcolonial literature on show**

To celebrate its 20th year of publication, the *new literatures review* has launched a double issue of conference papers on postcolonial writing and theory in a bright new format.

The *new literatures review* has been published from the University of Wollongong since 1987. Before that its home was at the University of Sydney where it began in 1975 and then the Australian National University.

This publication has evolved to its present focus on the criticism and theory of writing from Australia and other societies which are emerging from a history of colonialism.

It has surveyed Sri Lankan literature, New Zealand drama, the fiction of the Nigerian civil war, the Singapore short story, the Australian literary canon, Indian writing in English, the literary scene in New Caledonia and the colonial residue in Philippines literature.

This new double issue has been titled 'Factions and Frictions'.

It was edited by Karen Brooks, Michael Hayes, Greg Ratcliffe and Paul Sharrad and was launched by the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Professor James Wieland, on 3 November.

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**The First Asia Pacific Symposium on Biosensors**

*4-6 December University of Wollongong*

The purpose of this symposium is to bring together researchers and industrialists in the Asia Pacific region with an interest in the development of Biosensors. The symposium is designed to maximise interactions and exchange of ideas. As such the number of participants will be limited to 100. The program will be a single session. All attendees, including oral presenters will be encouraged to participate in the evening poster sessions.

**Topics to be covered include:**
- Advances in Immobilisation Techniques
- Novel Signal Generation Methods
- Advances in Biosensor Instrumentation
- Applications for Biosensing technologies: (Biomedical, Environmental, Food Industry etc.)

**Invited speakers include:**
- Professor Sam Adelajou (Western Sydney Uni)
- Dr Neil Furlong (CSIRO Melbourne)
- Dr A. Giuseppi-Elie (AAI-Abtech USA)
- Professor Milton Heam (Monash Uni)
- Dr Reinhard Renenberg (Hong Kong Uni)
- Dr Howard Weetall (NIST, USA)
- Professor Hans Coster (NSW Uni)
- Dr Tim Gibson (Univ of Leeds, UK)
- Dr Alan Hart (AgResearch, NZ)
- Dr David Kaplan (US Army Natick)
- Professor Malcolm Smyth (Dublin Uni)

For a brochure phone (042) 261 736.
Dr Fazel Naghdy from Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering has been awarded a grant by the Australian Academy of Science and Korea Science and Engineering Foundation (KOSEF) to visit Korea for three weeks next year.

The Republic of Korea was among the very poorest countries in the world after the Korean war in 1953. Within 30 years it has transferred from an agricultural society to a modern industrial power.

The success has been particularly significant in the area of manufacturing.

An interesting indication of this success is the growth of the employment in manufacturing. In 1965 only 9.4 percent of the workforce was employed by the manufacturing sector. This figure increased to 27.7 percent in 1988.

In comparison at the same time the employment in agriculture decreased from 58.6 percent to 20.6 percent.

The proportion of manufacturing in growth domestic product (GDP) was 31.6 percent in Korea in 1987 which was much higher than the average 23 percent in developed countries.

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The visit will attempt to achieve the following objectives:

- To study the state of research in manufacturing;
- To identify the nature and degree of contribution of research to manufacturing;
- To observe the degree of flexible automation in the successful manufacturing areas;
- To develop a conceptual model based on the observations and study the feasibility of its application to Australian manufacturing;
- To establish links with the Korean institutions and research centres for future collaborations.

The successful models observed in the Korean manufacturing in terms of research and flexible automation, may be applicable to the manufacturing industry in Australia.

In addition the established links will be utilised for possible collaborations between the institutions of the two countries in future.

This is in line with the government policy to establish links with Asia Pacific countries.

The host scientist in Korea is Professor Cho from Korean Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) who is a leading figure in the area of manufacturing and automation in Korea.

He is well known internationally and has around 200 publications in international journals and conferences.

The main aim of Dr Naghdy's visit is to study the role of manufacturing research and automation in the rapid growth of Korean industry.

Spanish and Latin American research group

Several academic staff and postgraduate students are forming a Spanish and Latin American research group.

The basic aim of the research group is to redress a large gap in research and information on Spanish and Latin American issues available to students and scholars at the University of Wollongong.

There are several staff and postgraduate students involved in research on Spain/Latin America (not to mention a Spanish language course).

It is hoped that the research group will assist in disseminating relevant information to all interested people and develop a structure of support for those scholars who are researching in some isolation.

At this stage the plan is to hold an informal meeting of all interested persons who may be able to contribute to the development of an information strategy (that is, organising seminars, identifying resources on campus, contributing to an email newsletter).

It is intended to get the group up and running for next year.

Enquiries: Patrick Brownlee, ext. 4710 or 3701, or Rene Leal (Sociology), ext. 3745.

Cultural Liberalism in Australia: A provocative book

Lecturer in Politics in the Faculty of Arts, Dr Gregory Melleuish, has published a book, Cultural Liberalism in Australia, which promises to make an important and provocative contribution to the current debates about culture, identity, and citizenship in post-modern Australia.

In this book, Dr Melleuish reclaims cultural liberalism as an important part of Australian intellectual heritage.

Arguing that this tradition is central to the Australian experience of modernity, he traces the impact of cultural liberalism from its emergence around the time of Federation to its demise during the 1960s.

Part collective biography, part intellectual and cultural history, the book describes the development of cultural liberalism, founded on rationalism and humanism, by university-educated intellectuals.

Dr Melleuish argues that a religious and spiritual dimension was also central to the tradition which became a vital intellectual influence in Australia.

He draws attention to the intellectual similarities of thinkers not usually grouped together, including Francis Anderson, Christopher Brennan, Marjorie Barnard, Elton Mayo and Frederic Eggleston. Others, such as Manning Clarke and James McAuley, who inherited the tradition but repudiated it, are considered as well.

The publishers, Cambridge University Press state that as liberalism becomes a dominant ideology of the 1990s, this discussion of a brand of liberalism which emphasises the need for a rational and humane social order, rather than the liberalism of economic rationalism, will be timely.
1996 development leave applications now open

Development leave provides general staff with opportunities to revitalise their performance as well as gain new skills and experiences through a carefully planned and individually tailored program of activities.

The development leave scheme aims to:

i) provide an opportunity for new experiences of skills development not readily available in the workplace;

ii) facilitate new work contributions; and

iii) provide opportunities for the generation of new ideas and approaches to work.

General staff may seek development leave in order to attend those conferences or courses that have demonstrated direct relevance to the work of the staff member and are of demonstrably high quality.

Leave may also be taken for the purpose of undertaking brief visits to other institutions or employers to observe work practices as well as to gain additional relevant work experience with other employers.

Leave of up to four weeks paid leave and an assistance grant of up to $3000 for costs incurred are available.

The development leave policy and application guidelines are available on the Public Information File Server under General Staff.

Further information and advice is available from Career Development Coordinator, Pam Piela, ext. 4712.

Applications for 1996 development leave close on Friday 8 December.