Heretic on campus - does anybody care?

The 1996 Ethel Hayton Fellow, Dr Peter Cameron, will deliver the first of six Tuesday evening lectures on 3 September.

Dr Cameron was principal of St Andrews College, University of Sydney from 1991 to 1994.

He read law and theology at the University of Edinburgh where he later was lecturer in New Testament Studies and Semitic Languages.

He took his doctorate at Cambridge and has practised law and worked in parish ministry in Scotland.

He is probably better known, if not for his controversial views on women in the church, then for the charge of heresy that emerged from these views and the media coverage they attracted.

Dr Cameron will present a challenging series of public lectures and seminars on the theme: Spirituality and the Limits of Freedom.

In his book, Heretic, Dr Cameron detailed his confrontation with the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Since then, two books, Necessary Heresies: Alternatives to Fundamentalism and Fundamentalism and Freedom have taken up the larger and more pervasive phenomenon of fundamentalism:

He wrote: 'Fundamentalism seems in fact to be a sign of our times. The reason for its attraction is presumably a desire for certainty in an uncertain world, and for the feeling of security which obedience to a rule-book brings – an illusory certainty, naturally, and a spurious security, but then honesty is not on the agenda. What is on the agenda is the gradual elimination of individuality and intellectual freedom. Fundamentalism is a major threat to civilisation, comparable on the moral and intellectual plane to the physical threat posed by AIDS.'

As someone who has not only written about fundamentalism, but also been on the receiving end of fundamentalist accusations, Dr Cameron is well suited ‘to raise the level of public consciousness of the importance of society’s value system to its effective functioning’ – the aim of the Ethel Hayton Fellowship.

As universities become increasingly threatened by economic measures, there is a tendency to retreat to what is academically, if not economically, secure, to rely on ‘what we know with certainty’ or ‘what we do best’ in order to survive.

It runs the risk of resulting in a ‘siege mentality’ in dealing with those outside our specialisation – not unlike the stance adopted by some churches and a precursor to fundamentalism.

The previous and first Ethel Hayton Fellow, John D’Arcy May, delivered a series of lectures on Multicultural Ethics.

The numbers in attendance at those lectures did not seem to equate with the topicality and significance of the issue.

On the other hand, large numbers come to protest economic cutbacks.

Member of the Ethel Hayton Fellowship Committee, Tom Halloran, asks ‘Is a siege mentality already the mindset of the university community?’

If universities are to continue to foster diversity and dialogue, members of the university community need to come together with members of the local community to consider issues, that, while perhaps not directly related to specialist interests or immediate concerns, have implications for the ‘big picture’.

The Ethel Hayton Fellowship lectures attempt to provide an opportunity for members of the University and local community to come together, to appreciate and criticise the trends and trajectories in the attainment of cultural, personal, and spiritual values.

The six lectures will be given on Tuesdays from 7-9pm in the University Function Centre.

Light refreshments will be available after the lectures as an enticement to get those attending to stay and talk with each other. Seminars and round table discussions, intended to pursue the issues raised in the lectures, will be held on Wednesday evenings.

Come along – you may be surprised at who is there – a relaxed but challenging evening should be the result.

For further information, or to express your interest in attending the lectures and / or seminars, contact Antoinette Matarranz, phone (042) 213 069 or Executive Officer, Friends’ Chapter of the University of Wollongong Foundation, David Muscio, phone (042) 213 073.
NSW Minister for Health opens Molecular Analysis facility

The NSW Minister for Health, Dr Andrew Refshauge, opened the Molecular Analysis Facility in the Department of Biological Sciences on Friday 16 August.

The Department of Biological Sciences has attracted $500,000 in competitive research grants, enabling the establishment of state-of-the-art equipment for DNA analysis which is central to accessing the information contained in genes.

This equipment is available to institutions in the Illawarra and nearby regions.

The cooperative group of researchers using this facility is involved in a broad range of research including cancer prevention, diabetes, vaccine development, atherosclerosis, immunology and cataract study.

Partners in this facility include the University of Sydney, Australian National University, Illawarra Regional Hospital and CSIRO.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Gerard Sutton, and Dr Andrew Refshauge

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CRITACS
Centre for Research into Textual and Cultural Studies

Research Seminar Series
Second Session, 1996: Mondays at 12.30 in 19.1095
Enquiries: Margaret Nixon, ext. 3688

Monday 2 September
Michael Hayes Department of English
'Tourism and Colonialism in the South Pacific'
Michael Hayes is completing his PhD at the University of Wollongong, looking at Australian colonialism in the Pacific. He is interested in the semiotics of tourism.

Monday 16 September
Jon Elbourne Department of English
'Witches and Witch Trials in Early Modern England'
Jon Elbourne is a writer, theatre director, and post-graduate student in English at the University of Wollongong, where he is researching witch plays and witch trials in England in the 17th century.

Monday 14 October
Peter Randles Department of English
'Trivia, knowledge and ritual'
Peter Randles was awarded the 1995-96 CRITACS Summer Fellowship to explore the live trivia scene as ritual and subculture. His paper covers the culture of trivia knowledge in the Wollongong, Sydney and Newcastle areas. Peter is teaching in Screen Studies in the Department while also enrolled as a postgraduate student researching Australian popular music in the '70s and '80s.
David Rome – new Vice-Principal (Administration)

Mr David Rome has accepted the position of Vice-Principal (Administration) at the University of Wollongong.

Mr Rome was selected through a comprehensive process from a strong field of applicants.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Gerard Sutton said: 'I am very pleased that we were able to attract such a talented person with such a wealth of relevant experience. It shows in what high regard this university is held.'

Mr Rome has held Senior Executive Service Positions in the Australian Public Service since 1983.

Earlier in his career he was a Foreign Affairs Officer in Canberra, Mexico City and Caracas.

He holds the position of Senior Executive Service Officer in the Commonwealth Department of Administrative Services.

He leads the corporate services and information technology areas of the Department where he has overseen the transformation of a traditional, bureaucratic and regulatory organisation into a customer-focused, commercially-successful operation.

In the early '90s he was Business Manager at Murdoch University reporting to the Vice-Chancellor.

He was responsible for the university's finances and property and was involved with negotiations with DEET and with several initiatives aimed at improving services, increasing revenue and achieving an equitable distribution of resources.

He has a Master of Science degree from the University of Western Australia and was awarded several university prizes.

He has also undertaken post-graduate bridging units in political science, accounting, organisational behaviour, administrative and constitutional law and economics at the Australian National University.

Mr Rome will begin duty at Wollongong on 17 September.

Winners of Alumni awards

Donna Bayliss, Marcus Caton and Lai Sim Tan are the 1996 winners of the Honours Year Book Prizes awarded by the Campus Chapter of the University of Wollongong Alumni Association.

This year the Faculties of Commerce, Education and Health and Behavioural Sciences were asked to nominate an outstanding student for the award of a $300 book voucher.

These prizes are awarded annually to students from three of the nine faculties, the funding of which is raised by the Campus Chapter’s second-hand book shop at Campus East.

Donna Bayliss is a psychology student who is researching the attention difficulties of hyperactive children, Marcus Caton is surveying children's and teenagers' attitudes to playing rugby, Lai Sim Tan is examining the benefits to consumers of competition in the telecommunications industry.

Invitation to a dinner with a difference

Academics will take on students in a reverse debate (the adjudicator announces the result first and the debate goes backwards from there) at the University of Wollongong Debating Society's 1996 presentation dinner and inaugural celebration party on 11 September at 7pm in the Union Function Rooms.

The cost is only $15 per head for a three-course dinner with two free drinks for members. Dress: Black tie/semi-formal. RSVP and pay by 30 August.

Contact: Rachael, phone 269 617, or Marina, phone 261 258.

Suicide workshops help save lives for tomorrow

Two-day intensive Suicide Intervention Workshops will be held at the University to help health workers, professionals and lay people recognise and assess persons at risk, and to master a model for effective suicide intervention.

The workshops will be accredited and have been developed by Living Works Education Inc. through the University of Calgary, Canada.

Presenters are Roz Westbrook, a lecturer in the Faculty of Education who has actively promoted suicide prevention studies with post graduate education students; Regional Director of the House with No Steps, Ian Crighton, and Senior Nurse Educator, for the Illawarra Area Health Service, Robin Palmer.

These workshops are available on Friday and Saturday 30 and 31 August, 27 and 28 September, 25 and 26 October and 29 and 30 November.

The venue is the University of Wollongong Building 22 Curriculum Resources Centre from 8.30am to 4.30pm.

Cost: $35. Bookings: (042) 971 426 or (042) 213 876.
Dr Karl to speak at Union dinner

Author, media presenter and scientist, Dr Karl Kruszelnicki, will be the speaker at the Union's 31st annual dinner on Saturday 31 August in the Union Function Centre from 6.30pm.

Dr Karl, a graduate from the University of Wollongong, presents his notorious Great Moments in Science on 2JJJ.

Bookings and questions for Dr Kruzelnicki by 23 August.

Contact the Union Function Office, ext. 3781.

Tickets $30 or $200 for a table of eight.

The Friends Chapter of the University of Wollongong Foundation presents a series of lectures and seminars by Dr Peter Cameron on the theme 'Spirituality and the Limits of Freedom'

Lecture 1: 'The Necessity of Freedom'

Tuesday 3 September - 7-9pm

Union Function Rooms 1 & 2

Light refreshments available

A follow up seminar will be held at the same venue the following evening, Wednesday 4 September

All Welcome

Inquiries: David Muscio, ext. 3073, or Antoinette Matarranz, ext. 3169

Council News

The University Council met on 9 August. The major outcomes were:

1. The recommendations of the Review Committee on the Faculty of Creative Arts were approved, largely in the revised version proposed by the Faculty. The Review Committee's recommendation on the Conservatorium was endorsed and the implementation of all recommendations will be subject to budgetary considerations.

2. The Department of Management will be established from 1 January 1997.

3. Five Honorary awards were approved. Details will be released in future issues of Campus News.

4. The Chancellor's approval of recommendations of the Academic Promotions and Continuing Appointments Committee was noted. Contact Robyn Weekes, Personnel, ext. 3929.

5. The review procedures for academic units were approved. They will be transferred to the Public Information Server under Management Handbook. Copies are available from the Secretariat, ext. 3360.

6. The Halls of Residence budgets for 1997 were approved with new fee levels.

7. The 1997 University Union budget was improved with increased fee levels. Council appointed its four nominees to the reconstituted Union Board of Management and agreed, in view of representations from the current Board, to review the position of Executive Chair and the new Union Board in their second year of operation.

8. The Recreation and Sports Association and SRC charges for 1997 were approved.

Council discussed the media release of the Funding Package for Higher Education, which had been released that morning.

The Vice-Chancellor outlined the major outcomes of the Federal policy and the strategies the University would adopt to meet the reductions in its operating grant and to deal with the salary increases that would receive no Government supplementation.
Minister launches Internet transport timetable

The University of Wollongong has developed an innovative Internet program linking more than 100 bus and 64 train services daily to and from the University of Wollongong.

It was launched by NSW Minister for Transport, the Hon Brian J Langton, MP, on 14 August.

At the launch, the Minister congratulated the University for this initiative and said it could be used as a model for the provision of information on public transport generally and particularly during the Sydney Olympic Games in 2000.

He said that easily accessible information is the key to encouraging people to use public transport and to reducing the dependence on the motor car.

Northfields Ave Bus Interchange on display

This program is accessible through the University's Home Page and consolidates all public transport services available to students.

The location is http://www.uow.edu.au/general/transport/

Users select a University lecture start or finish time and suburban or landmark destination or starting point and the relevant details of appropriate services and when to board will be displayed on the computer screen.

The publication, Bus, Train and Cycleway Ready Reference Guide, complements the internet version and contains a quick reference index.

Also on display at the launch were the plans for a bus interchange in Northfields Ave.

In conjunction with Wollongong City Council the road will be widened to accommodate an area for buses to drop off and pick up without holding up traffic.

It will be constructed between the western entrance and the Union Hall entrance. There will be shelters and lighting and a covered walk way to the Union. Timetables will be clearly displayed.
Campus East runs away with City to Surf

The Campus East team

Students and staff at the Campus East residential accommodation once again proved to be a formidable force in this year's Sydney City to Surf run on 11 August.

A team of 193 participants formed what was one of the largest tertiary teams in the annual fun run. Twenty eight nationalities were represented.

Participants took part in regular training runs and braved the early morning cold to take the train to Sydney from Fairy Meadow.

For those who were repeating their City to Surf efforts, individual times were greatly improved.

Every participant in the Campus East team completed the event, with many making personal best times.

Results for the Campus East team were: 1st Ben Berriman (55min 40sec), 2nd Tim Berriman (56min 30sec) and 3rd Lyndon Chow (60min).

Participants are already looking forward to the 1997 event and plans are afoot to take an even bigger team and improve individual and overall times. Congratulations and well done to all who took part.

UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG CRICKET CLUB

Cricket scholarships for 1996/97 season

The University of Wollongong Cricket Club is offering several cricket scholarships for University students for the 1996/97 cricket season.

These scholarships, ranging in value from $400 to $1000, will be used to meet educational expenses.

Applicants should include a copy of their curriculum vitae/playing record, plus the contact details of two referees.

The closing date for the applications is 10 September, 1996

Applications should be forwarded to Dr John Pemberton, Secretary, University of Wollongong Cricket Club, c/- School of Geosciences, University of Wollongong, Northfields Avenue, WOLLONGONG NSW 2522

Further details can be obtained from Dr John Pemberton, (042) 213 425, Geoff Mettam (042) 275 757, or Barry Reid (042) 617 313.
Baltic States exhibitions in Long Gallery

Artists from the Baltic States will show their work in two exhibitions in the Long Gallery, University of Wollongong, from 29 August to 29 September.

‘Out of a Suitcase’ will feature works by artists of the Baltic and East European Communities in the Illawarra, while ‘Recent Works on Paper by Estonian Artists’ has works by international Estonian artists.

Members of the Baltic and East European community in the Illawarra have felt for some time that there was of need for a project that captured their experience and history.

The Illawarra Ethnic Communities Council’s Multicultural Arts Officer, Amanda Field, brought together work from members of the Estonian, Finnish, Polish, Lithuanian, Latvian and Ukrainian communities.

The title refers to the way that many of them arrived in Australia, with just a suitcase holding a few precious possessions.

The exhibition does not attempt to document history and heritage, but it acknowledges the significance of cultural heritage which in the Illawarra is disappearing due to increasing old age and individuals moving out of the area.

The exhibition is part of Carnivale, Illawarra.

The Lord Mayor, Mr David Campbell, will open the exhibition.

‘Recent Works on Paper by Estonian Artists’ is an exciting collection of works from artists well known in their own country, but little known in Australia.

The artists include Inga Haemagi, Peeter Allik, Avo Keerend, Kadi Kurema, Kaljo Pollu, Evi Tihemets, Vive Tollj, Liina Siib, and Eve Kask.

Although all of the artists have exhibited widely in Europe, Pollu is the only one to have exhibited in Australia.

The Estonian Consul General, Dr Malle Tohver, who has assisted in organisation, will open this exhibition on August 29 at 6.30 pm.

The Long Gallery in the Faculty of Creative Arts, is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm and Sunday 1.30-4pm.

Inquiries: (042) 213 996.
General

31 August: Annual Union Dinner. Special guest: Dr Karl Kruszelnicki.

16 September: 1996 Kirby Lecture, 6.45pm in the Hope Theatre, by Deputy Chairman, and Chairman Designate, BHP, Mr Jerry Ellis. Enquiries: Di Kelly, phone 213 612, or Rob Castle, phone 213 666.

Meeting dates for the Human Research Ethics Committee and the Animal Ethics Committee for this year are: Human Research Ethics Committee: 22 October, 19 November, 17 December. Animal Ethics Committee: 20 November. Agenda items are due two weeks before meetings. Enquiries Karen McRae, Office of Research, by email or on ext. 4457 on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday.

The Campus Alumni Bookshop is open on the second and fourth weekends of each month (Saturday and Sunday 1-5pm). Come and browse through a wide selection of preloved textbooks and fiction. Location: Campus East, Cowper Street, Fairy Meadow (opposite Science Centre). All proceeds directed towards Campus projects. Donations of material are invited. Enquiries to Alumni Office, phone 213 249 or 291 951.

Cell and Molecular Seminar Series: Held on Wednesdays in the Department of Biological Sciences (Building 35), University of Wollongong. Dates: 11 September, 23 October, 30 October. Inquiries: Associate Professor Ted Steele, Associate Professor Ross Liley, Associate Professor Mark Baker, Dr Mark Walker, Ms Wendy Russell, Dr Ren Zhang or Dr Mark Wilson, phone (042) 213 013, fax: (042) 214 135.

Creative Arts

Creative Arts productions ‘96
Each year students and staff in the Faculty of Creative Arts produce a diverse range of performances. They are presented in numerous venues across the campus depending on the nature of the performance. Following is the provisional timetable for this year. Watch Campus News for confirmation and more details.

Graduating students productions:


Australian One-Act Plays or excerpts – 4-8 November, Kate Newey, Sharon Bell, Peter Shepherd possibly to direct. Performance Space.

Art of Lunch
Every Thursday during session, from 12.35-1.25pm. Venues are the Hope Theatre, Union Hall Foyer and Faculty of Creative Arts Music Auditorium. Brochures and information are available from Marilyn Meier, ext. 3990, and Jenny Fullerton, ext. 3996.

Long Gallery
15 November-7 December: BCA Graduating Exhibition/Honours student works.

What’s On

Stop Press

Limited review of the Centre for Multicultural Studies
In accordance with the University's review procedures for academic units, the Vice-Chancellor has initiated a review of the Centre for Multicultural Studies.
This will be a limited review and will take place in early September 1996.
Submissions to the Review Panel are invited from the campus community.
Submissions, which will be treated as confidential, should reach Peter Wood, Academic Registrar, no later than 3 September 1996.
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.

Campus News is published weekly on Wednesdays. Send material, preferably by Microsoft Mail or on disk, to E-Mail account 'Campus News' by noon on Monday of the week before that of publication.
For any other enquiries contact the Editor, Gillian Curtis (042) 21 3926.
Campus News has a circulation of 3500. It is distributed on campus to staff and students. 1000 are mailed to the community and overseas including schools in Illawarra, southern Sydney and Canberra; local, Sydney and Canberra media; Friends of the University; business representatives; MPs and numerous individual requests.