Research shows that racial vilification laws pose no threat to free speech

In 1989, racial vilification was added to the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 (NSW) as a ground for complaint. The legislative addition was designed to provide victims of racial insults, slurs, negative stereotypes, abuse, harassment and intimidation with a degree of legal protection against such conduct.

Since this time the NSW Anti-Discrimination Board – which administers the legislation – has received more than 500 complaints – an average of 83 complaints each year.

However, because of the private and confidential nature of the complaint-handling process, very little accurate information has been publicly available on just how the legislation is working in practice.

As a result, the productivity of the ongoing debate about the merits of racial vilification laws in NSW and elsewhere in Australia, has been undermined.

For example, critics have argued that racial hatred laws are poorly designed to deal with the problem at which they are directed, or are an unjustifiable infringement on ‘free speech’.

New research suggests that neither of these assumptions is valid, and that while racial vilification laws are by no means a complete answer to the problems associated with racism in society, they are an important component of a wider anti-racism strategy.

Mr Luke McNamara, senior lecturer, Faculty of Law, has developed a profile of racial vilification complaints drawing from more than 150 case files handled by the Anti-Discrimination Board over two years (May 1993-April 1995).

Some of the main research findings were:

- Complaints alleged vilification of Aboriginal/ Torres Strait Islander people (20 per cent) and persons of various Asian ethnic identities (12 per cent).
- However, surprisingly, most complaints came from persons who identified as being of Anglo-Celtic origin (22 per cent).
- Men lodged twice as many complaints as women. The over-representation of men as complainants may suggest that men are more likely to suffer racial vilification (perhaps by virtue of greater exposure to the ‘public’ domains to which the legislation is limited), although it is more likely that the higher male complaint rate reflects the fact that men are generally better positioned to take advantage of the complaint-making process.
- Sixty per cent of complaints alleged racial vilification in the media (45 per cent print; 15 per cent television/radio). While this high proportion should be a cause of concern for the media industry, it should be remembered that media conduct is more likely to be the subject of complaint because, by definition, the requirement that the conduct must be public will be satisfied, and the high exposure of comments made in the media greatly increases the chance of one or more complaints being lodged in relation to a single incident.
- Only 10 per cent of complaints were settled (that is, resolved by agreement between the parties). Given that settlements rates are often taken as a major indicator of success for conciliation-based complaint handling processes, it might be argued that this figure supports the view that racial vilification laws ‘don’t work’. This would be simplistic. Settlement rates provide only one indicator of success. The legislation may have ‘worked’ for a complainant even where no formal settlement was achieved, or even where an apparently ‘negative’ outcome was recorded.
- In 38 per cent of cases the complaint was declined by the Anti-Discrimination Board, usually because the conduct complained of did not fall within the scope of the legislation. This finding counters the suggestion sometimes made by critics of racial vilification legislation that the threshold set by the legislation is too low or that it is interpreted too broadly, catching forms of speech/conduct which should not be prohibited.

Overall, the profile developed by this research shows that the racial vilification complaint process plays an important role in combating racism in the form of public conduct which incites hatred, serious contempt or severe ridicule.

Nothing in the profile suggests that the legislation represents an impediment to accurate discussion of issues associated with multiculturalism or immigration.

Rather, the legislation provides a small measure of protection to victims and potential victims of harmful and socially destructive expressions of racial intolerance.

The research was completed with the cooperation of the NSW Anti-Discrimination Board.
Wollongong academic at UNESCO Congress

One thousand delegates from 300 countries attended UNESCO's second international congress on Education and Informatics in Moscow recently.

A UNESCO congress is a democratic forum for gathering recommendations for determining UNESCO's work program for the next five years.

The first of these conferences was held in Paris in 1989 when phenomenon such as the Internet were unheard of.

Director of Educational Media Services, Associate Professor Sandra Wills, was invited by UNESCO to be a member of the International Program Committee, Commission III Rapporteur, Bureau Member and a keynote speaker on multimedia technologies in teaching and learning.

She evaluated several multimedia products she has designed that increase interactive appeal for the user by adopting a human interface.

She also showed Exploring River Nardoo developed by the University's Education Faculty, a product that creates much excitement everywhere it is shown for its innovative interface techniques.

In the face of substantial disorganisation and computer illiteracy on the part of the conference organisers, Associate Professor Wills was the only one of the world experts to persevere in using technology as part of her keynote.

This was her third international invited keynote on multimedia in 1996; the earlier ones being in Korea and Germany, in addition to keynotes in Perth, Canberra, Launceston and Sydney.

The President of the Congress was Kenelov, Russia's Vice President.

Despite it being the week of the second round of the Russian elections, he made himself available to actively support the work of the Congress, as did the President of the Bulgarian Parliament, Academician Sendov, a long-standing activist in the field of computers in education.

Russia makes substantial use of distance education techniques and has turned over its satellite network from cold war days to the needs of distance education.

Russia recognises the need to provide higher education, but the Minister for Higher Education, Meskov, estimates that universities can cater for only one-third of the two million graduate and postgraduate places required.

Distance education techniques and technologies are seen as the only viable solution.

The International Conference on Distance Education was held in Moscow at the same time, sharing the exhibition.

The needs of African countries figured most highly in the final Congress recommendations.

The needs of women, indigenous minorities, and the disabled did not get sufficient attention.

UNESCO agreed to fund the establishment in Moscow of an Institute for Education and Informatics Policy and to investigate support for a global Internet project for teachers.

Australian, Colin Power, who has headed UNESCO's Education Office for several years and chaired the Congress Bureau, said that there was remarkably less controversy and lobbying than usual at UNESCO congresses.

When compared to an event like the UNESCO Women's Congress in Beijing, computer educators achieved substantial consensus on what they want — their only problem is how to get there and how much it will cost!

Wollongong University an 'elite IT user'

The University of Wollongong has been named in the top 100 elite IT users in the nation by MIS magazine.

The magazine states that the aim of the MIS 100 listing is 'to provide the information technology community with a comprehensive listing of the information technology strategies of Australia's largest and most important computer users'.

The listing includes a description of each organisation.

Following is what was said about this university.

'The University of Wollongong has rapidly emerged as one of the country's leading educational institutions and is respected as an innovator in technology.

'During the past year one of the big issues for the University's information technology group was the beginning of the installation of an asynchronous transfer mode network which is linked to the New South Wales regional network organisation. The information technology group decided not to go with the larger network providers when it chose Xylan to develop its network, which will ultimately have 21 building clusters.

'This is a $1.6 million project which requires the recabling of all involved buildings. The resulting network will carry voice and video traffic.

'At the same time, the information technology group is also considering splitting the University's private automatic branch across its campus, with two sections linked across the backbone and extended to the student halls of residence.'
Foundation proves its value

Since its modest beginning in 1990/91, members of the University of Wollongong Foundation have pledged or donated more than $8.5 million worth of scholarships, in-kind gifts, bequests and cash.

In the present economic climate of government funding cutbacks to universities, the Foundation’s role has never been more critical. The University can no longer rely on government funding to undertake new developments or offer substantial scholarships to outstanding students.

The University has had to look elsewhere for funding - to corporations, community organisations and private benefactors. The University had to steer a course of greater independence and self-help.

The Foundation was created five years ago because the University Council identified a need for a permanent fund-raising body, employing a range of methods and initiatives to acquire an enduring corpus of income-producing assets.

More than one-third of the University’s budget comes from outside sources.

The Foundation’s initial goal was to raise $2 million and an additional $4m in scholarships over five years. In fact, the Foundation has raised more than $5 million for scholarships and $3.5 million worth of in-kind gifts.

An essential element of the Foundation’s success to date, according to its Director Peter Rose, has been the ability to bring together dedicated and talented members of the community and University and to get them involved in a range of initiatives and projects.

“We are now moving on to the next stage of development. The first stage was to get a good group of people together to develop programs that were acceptable to the University and to the community,” Mr Rose said.

“Our primary goal now is to raise funds for scholarships, and to attract in-kind gifts, unique cultural collections and bequests.

“The most successful program so far has been in scholarship bequests where funds or property are donated to the University to finance the support of academic scholarships. As well we have received more than $3.5 million in in-kind gifts and much of that was from the Shoalhaven area.”

Mr Rose said the value of the scholarships varied but usually they were around $9000 to $10,000 a year and they were awarded to outstanding students who had achieved high TERs.

“The average TER of scholarship students has, so far, been around 97.5 and we hope one day one of them will be a Rhodes Scholar,” he said.

“People tend to prefer to give to a face rather than to a building that’s why this program has been so successful.”

Mr Rose said the in-kind gifts had included a range of items such as radiation detection equipment worth more than $700,000 which came from a Russian connection on the campus.

The Foundation also has pledges valued at more than $150,000 from people who are prepared to make a commitment to the University as a future bequest.

Examples of other in-kind donations include building materials, electronic equipment, multimedia equipment, library books, scientific collections, industry specific research documents, strategic historic collection, intellectual property, and time and advice.

In-kind gifts can attract tax deductions if donated within 12 months of purchase.

All donations or planned giving by cash, bequests and in-kind gifts by corporations or private individuals qualify for membership of the Foundation.

Mr Rose stressed that much of the Foundation’s success was due to the depth of community support for the organisation and the calibre of the members of the management board and various committees including the in-kind gifts, planned giving, scholarships, and international committees.

A vital new component is the Shoalhaven chapter chaired by Integral Energy chairman Bill Hilzinger, which is fundraising for the University’s Shoalhaven campus.

When the Foundation was established, the then vice-chancellor, Professor Ken McKinnon, said: “The Foundation demonstrates the energy and enterprise which are characteristic of the University of Wollongong.”

“It will help significantly to sustain our pursuit of excellence in research, teaching and service to the community.”
Foundation enhances reputations

Mention the University of Wollongong and “doors open,” according to chairman of the Foundation’s Management Board, Mr Harold Hanson.

Mr Hanson, a prominent solicitor who for years has been actively involved in community organisations such as Wollongong City Council, Tourism Wollongong and the NSW Tourism Commission, spoke enthusiastically about Wollongong University and its international reputation.

In his role as management board chairman Mr Hanson has met many representatives from corporations and business, and said he had never failed to be impressed with the reception he and other board members received.

“There is a lot of respect out there for this university. That is why so many people have been willing to offer support whether it be for material things such as buildings or for the advancement of research or education of students,” he said.

Mr Hanson said Wollongong University was critical to the economic well-being of not only Wollongong but also the Illawarra region.

“It has brought in another spectrum of people and expansion that otherwise would not have occurred,” he said. “Tourism and tourist attractions are bringing more and more people to this region.”

Mr Hanson said the Foundation and the involvement of an outside network of businessmen and women, politicians, tourism operators, retailers, industry leaders and others was an important fund-raising arm of the university.

“Even though our prime function is to raise support money, there is another equally important facet of our job and that is to spread the word,” he said.

“People in my position have a network that spreads much broader than the university world.

“We can involve influential people and get their participation in what’s happening. Then rather like planting a seed, out of little acorns big trees grow.”

In his last annual report, Mr Hanson said 1995 was a year that saw the Foundation become of age, not only in the amounts of funds and gifts pledged but also in the development of its programs and membership of its committees.

“The last 12 months has seen a streamlining of operations and a more focused approach to fulfilling our projects and achieving our targets,” he said.

Mr Hanson said membership stood at 115 and all members were active. He said the Corporate Education Scholarships program and the new Friends Chapter would also give the Foundation additional strengths and provide extended opportunities for developing and strengthening links with the community at large.

VC endorses Foundation’s role

Government cutbacks in funding for universities means the role of Wollongong University’s fundraising Foundation is now of critical importance, Vice-Chancellor Professor Gerard Sutton said.

“An urgency in this regard did not exist before the recent Budget,” he said. “Countries such as the United States have a culture of strong support for universities from benefactors and others, but a similar philosophy does not apply in Australia, at least not on as high a level.

“Organisations such as the Foundation and Alumni Association which have the potential to be the University’s best ambassadors in the community and which have valuable academic and non academic networks, are helping to address that position.”

Urging people to consider providing the University with endowments during their life-time is a high priority but will be a slow process, Professor Sutton believes.

“If funding for universities continues to be reduced by governments, then it will have to be boosted from a variety of other sources,” he said. “The University Foundation is and will be a key player in this regard.”

Professor Sutton is confident that because of the high calibre of the people involved with the Foundation, it will be well placed to provide the extra level of support the university needs both for present and future generations.

For example, Integral Energy chairman and Nowra businessman Bill Hilzinger is playing a key role in establishment of the University’s Shoalhaven campus as chairman of the Foundation’s Shoalhaven Chapter.

Professor Sutton is confident the Shoalhaven campus will have more than 1200 students by 2000 on a new site at West Nowra.

“The emphasis will be more on diversification of the University which will be critical for its future,” he said.

As former vice-chancellor Professor Ken McKinnon said at the time the Foundation was established: “It is important to emphasise that the Foundation is to be a permanent part of the University, coordinating fund raising activities and enabling the University’s supporters — both individual and corporate — to play a positive role in developing the institution and the range and quality of its educational services.”

THE FOUNDATION

Board of Management: Mr Harold Hansen, Chairman; Mr Eric Meadows, University; Ms Susan Smith, University; Professor Clem Lloyd, University; Mr David Waters, IMB Society; Mr Peter Kell, Kell Heard McEwan, Solicitors; Dr Brian Gillett, University; Dr Ron James; Mr Bill Hilzinger, Integral Energy; Hon Stephen Martin MP; Mr David Campbell, Wollongong City Council.

In-kind Gifts Committee: Hon Stephen Martin MP, Chairman; Mr Trevor Hamilton, Nettleton Tribe Partnership; Mr Peter Fitzgerald, KPMG Peat Marwick; Mr Guy Warren, University; Mr Bruce McDiarmid, Marksman Homes Pty Ltd; Mr Steve Bowman, Graham Bell & Bowman; Ms Michele Todd, Science Centre.

Planned Giving Committee: Mr Peter Kell, Chairman; Mr Peter Tyree, Tyree Transformers; Dr Jeffrey Eisman, Redbreast Pty Ltd; Dr Margaret Denton; Mr John Erickson, Illawarra Credit Union; Mr Efrem and Mrs Giulia Bonacina; Mr Barry Wood. City Coast Credit Union; Ms Lesley White, University.

Shoalhaven Chapter: Mr Bill Hilzinger, Integral Energy, Chairman; Mr Paul Dean, Shoalhaven City Council; Mr John Wells, Shoalhaven City Council; Mr Ray Cleary, Graham Park Campus; Dr Brian Gillett, University; Ms Tracy Cox, Shoalhaven City Council.
Scholarships attract outstanding students

For students like 21-year-old **Lara Sossi** from Queanbeyan, winning a Wollongong University Foundation Cooperative Education scholarship has been a godsend.

Educated at Karabar High School, Lara was an outstanding student achieving a TER of 93 in 1992.

She was keen to study environmental and civil engineering, but because of her family’s financial position it was unlikely she could have met the cost of going to a university away from home.

Fortunately while still at school, Lara heard about the Foundation’s Cooperative Education scholarships worth $9300 a year for each year of her course and promptly applied.

Lara is now in the fourth year of a Bachelor of Civil/Environmental Engineering degree course, and is one of the many women in Engineering who have been specifically targeted for scholarships.

Funds for the scholarship were provided by the ACT Electricity and Water Corporation and it is a condition of their sponsorship that she undergo professional work experience at the end of each academic year with the organisation.

**Louise Unicomb**, 21, from Singleton won a similar scholarship at the same time as Lara, which was sponsored by the Illawarra Technology Corporation.

Louise, who is studying science/engineering, said the $9300 a year scholarship had been “my ticket” through university.

“I’ve used it for everything, from the cost of food, accommodation, entertainment and books,” she said.

Another high academic achiever, Louise gained a TER of 97 from Menai High School before enrolling at Wollongong University.

She has been doing work experience at an open-cut mine near her home and plans a career in the mining industry.

As well as being an excellent student with a TER score of 99.5, **Fiona Edwell** said that winning a scholarship had contributed to her good performance in her studies.

“It relieved the financial pressure of being a student,” she said. “I would have had to work for a year or so before starting at university and balance work and studies through my degree.”

Thanks to the Eisman Family Trust, which sponsored her Co-operative Education Scholarship, Fiona is studying an area that promises to be of significant value to society. Fiona is completing her Honours year in a Bachelor of Science in the Department of Biological Sciences.

She is working with a team that is undertaking studies of international standard into aspects of cancer. Her thesis is on a molecule, Angiostatin, which suppresses the development of blood vessels around a tumour.

Consultant for the Co-operative Education Program, Dr Brian Gillett, said the criteria for Foundation Cooperative Education Scholarships is outstanding academic achievement, motivation, interpersonal skills, evidence of leadership and participation in sports, the arts, or community activities.

The aim of the program is to develop collaboration between the university and industry which will promote joint ventures and opportunities for scholars to pursue their chosen career paths.

The advantage of the professional work experience improves employment opportunities for graduates of the program. It attracts outstanding students to the University, especially providing for students from disadvantaged backgrounds and geographically isolated locations.
Shoalhaven Chapter gives Foundation another dimension

The Foundation’s Shoalhaven Chapter is one of its most important arms.

Its principal role is to provide support for the rapidly-growing Graham Park campus at Berry which is now in its third year with more than 120 students.

Again reflecting the depth of outside talent and community involvement in the University’s growth, this important committee has a prominent Nowra businessman Bill Hilzinger as its chairman.

Mr Hilzinger, who also is deputy chairman of the Foundation’s management board and chairman of Integral Energy, has had business and political links with the Shoalhaven for many years.

He was acting Shoalhaven City Council mayor when the Berry campus was established.

“If we’re going to get significant growth in the Shoalhaven in industry and other fields, it is important we offer tertiary education for our people,” he said.

“Already the campus is running Arts and Commerce courses and we are moving to set up close links with the Defence Department because of our Naval bases at Albatross and Creswell.”

Having a Wollongong University campus near Nowra has many benefits including a considerable cost saving for parents faced with the expense of supporting a student living in Wollongong or Sydney.

Shoalhaven City Council has made a major contribution to the Berry campus.

It has provided more than $50,000 a year for the last three years and leases the Graham Park property, which it purchased 12 months ago, to Wollongong University for a peppercorn rent.

Assistant General Manager Paul Dean, also a member of the Foundation’s Shoalhaven Chapter, said the University offers 12 to 13 scholarships a year for Shoalhaven campus students thanks to the generosity of Nowra firms and individuals, such as Integral Energy and Bomaderry Bowling Club.

Mr Dean said plans had been drawn up for a new campus on land at West Nowra in an area known as Flat Rock Creek.

Campus director Ray Cleary said the Shoalhaven arm of Wollongong University was “on the march”.

The University is offering Arts and Commerce courses including subjects such as management, economics, accountancy and business systems and in Arts, sociology, politics, English and history.

“Next year we will be offering second-year subjects,” Mr Cleary said.

Each year, because of the lack of tertiary institutions up to now, most of the area’s top students are forced to move to Wollongong, Sydney, Canberra or further afield at considerable expense to continue their education.

But the Shoalhaven campus will help to stem that flow.

Planned Giving Committee reaches out to Asian graduates

Mr Peter Kell (pictured right), a prominent Wollongong solicitor, brings another dimension to the Foundation through his role as chairman of the Planned Giving Committee.

Established 18 months ago, this committee has been active in producing a video and literature promoting Wollongong University, its vital role in the Illawarra’s community and the need for community support to ensure its continuing strong growth.

One popular form of giving which the committee promotes strongly and one that has particular appeal to the giver is a bequest.

These can range from relatively small amounts to large sums, for example, for a building or an endowed professorship.

Examples of bequests include a deferred gift or real or personal property with retention of life interest to the donor or his or her nominee; general bequests which are usually sums of money donated from a person’s estate to the university; specific bequests for a specific activity or structure; scholarship bequests or residual bequests which are what remains of an estate after the specific and general bequests have been paid.

Mr Kell suggests some people might consider making a monetary donation spread over several years.

Because of the enormous contribution made by overseas students to Wollongong University, the Planned Giving Committee proposes producing brochures in various Asian languages which would urge students and their families to offer continuing financial support.

In-kind Gifts Committee’s wide ranging projects

Wollongong University, through the Foundation, is seeking gifts in-kind such as equipment and materials that will assist the development of appropriate academic and research programs.

Chairman of the In-kind Gifts Committee is Member for Cunningham, Mr Stephen Martin.

Mr Martin believes it is critical that at a time when tertiary funding is being slashed by governments, universities should turn to those in the broader community for assistance.

“That can be through scholarships, by bequests or through in-kind gifts such as materials which can be used on certain projects,” he said.

“For example, we are building new change-room facilities and a clubhouse for rugby teams at Wollongong and an indigenous peoples centre at our Shoalhaven campus.

“These are the sorts of projects in which the community can play an active role by donating something back to the University.

“In the United States there is a culture of people donating to their former university. For example, they might bequeath a book collection.”
I ACT working together with Microsoft, ACER and URSYS

The Department of Information and Communication Technology (I ACT) in the Faculty of Informatics has been involved in a joint pilot Internet Network education program sponsored by Microsoft Australia, Acer Computer Australia and URSYS Pty Ltd.

For Microsoft, this is the first project in Australia of its type supporting tertiary education and requiring cooperation between an educational institution and with other industry sponsors.

The University of Wollongong site was selected because it is a recognised leader in information technology studies and offers courses in Telecommunications Network planning and management.

The sponsors have provided equipment for an Internet gateway with a World Wide Web server, e-mail server, browsers and other software tools.

The I ACT 924/424 Advanced Telecommunications Network Planning course offers the opportunity to gain sneak previews of the latest Microsoft tools that are attracting media reviews. Students also gain first-hand knowledge of how the new networking environment can be used in the rapidly changing corporate environment, especially those planning to introduce Intranets.

Intranets, private Internets, are the latest extension of the Internet. They have become the newest field in corporate networking and the challenge for most organisations is to gain the most benefit from the new technologies.

A seminar was held last week for I ACT staff and students and project sponsors from Microsoft, ACER and URSYS to view the pilot local Internet network.

Presentations were given by:
- Ingrid Slembek and Mark Paine, ‘Designing and Implementing Broadband Medical Intranets for GPs’.

University’s draft environmental vision and objectives

The Environmental Management Committee has prepared a statement of environmental principles and general objectives for the University.

They are presented here to the University community for consideration and comment.

The vision and objectives are very general in nature as it is envisaged that more specific objectives and strategies (to be identified through further investigation by the committee) will be incorporated under these general objectives.

Feedback to the vision and/or objectives should be e-mailed to Brenda Weeks, Planning Officer, Planning Services, by the end of November.

Vision: To support sustainable management principles and practices, and demonstrate environmental responsibility in the teaching, research and operational management of the University.

Broad objectives:
- Continuing development and implementation of environmental management strategies incorporating all areas of the University, including teaching areas, offices, grounds, accommodation, residences, and campus community and commercial areas.
- Endeavour to become a community leader in the practical application of environmental principles, primarily covering the areas of energy and water consumption, waste management and building design, but also including other aspects of environmental responsibility.
- Foster programs to produce expertise in, and knowledge of, environmental management and related fields, to ensure that all graduates are environmentally literate and responsible.
- Foster programs to enhance the capability of University faculty to teach environmental literacy and responsibility to students.
- Establish a permanent University Environmental Management Committee with powers to investigate, encourage and implement change, aimed at achieving an environmentally sustainable University campus.
- Develop the ethos: “Maintenance and enhancement of the University environment is the responsibility of everyone utilising the facilities and resources of the University”.
- Increase environmental awareness among the University community.
- Establish and encourage links with outside organisations.

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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 last workshop will be held on 29 and 30 November. Cost: $35. Bookings: (042) 971 426 or (042) 213 876.

Meeting dates for the Human Research Ethics Committee and the Animal Ethics Committee for this year are: Human Research Ethics Committee: 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: Alumni Office, phone 213 249 or 291 951.

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

What's On

Eighth Annual Information Day for Careers Advisers
Thursday 20 February 1997

This Information Day is an excellent opportunity for Schools Careers Advisers, TAFE Counsellors and Consultants to gain crucial information that they can pass on to students making decisions about their future careers.

A focus of the 1997 Annual Information Day will be on Science and Engineering to redress some inaccurate perceptions in the community about careers in these areas; and the success, or otherwise, of UAC's InfoLine (introduced this year).

The program will include:

- Guest speakers:
  - Andrew Stanton, Director, University Admission Centre (UAC)
  - Roger Bartley, Executive Director, Graduate Careers Council of Australia Ltd
  - Kevin Locke, Employee Development Manager, Human Resources Services, BHP

- Other topics:
  - Working with Industry to give students' career a head start.
  - Skills Graduates need in the 21st Century?
  - Student Debate - Wollongong, the Best Choice?
  - Wollongong International College - diploma courses now available to Australian residents.

Attendees will have the opportunity to win an Avtek Mega Modem 288 (which allows your computer to 'talk' to outside computer networks such as the Internet through your telephone line) and a Microsoft Office pack, including Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Bookshelf (provides capability to create documents and tables using Word, spreadsheets using Excel, and to design catchy colour presentations for a variety of audiences using PowerPoint. Bookshelf enhances performance in all these areas through reference to a computerised dictionary, thesaurus, mini encyclopedia and atlas). Valued at approximately $500 sponsored by ITShop, University of Wollongong. The winner will be announced at an afternoon tea after the day's program at approximately 3.30pm.

Registration forms are available in schools or phone Lee-Anne Owen (042) 213 027. Closing date for registration is 7 February 1997.

Stop Press

Student exchange
Applications for student exchange to North America and Europe from Spring Session 1997 close on 22 March and on 7 March for the University of California.

Further information and application forms: Study Abroad Office, Ground Floor, Administration Building. Scholarships are available.

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.