Wollongong provides management training for NSW Police

The University of Wollongong through the Department of Management and the Illawarra Technology Corporation has won the tender to provide a major new training program for the middle management of the NSW Police Service.

The program commenced at the beginning of this month and was launched by the Minister for Police, the Honorable Terry Griffiths MP, the Commissioner of Police, Mr Tony Lauer, and Deputy Chancellor of the University, Dr Brian Gillett, at the Police Academy in Goulburn.

In his address, Mr Griffiths said that there is a growing recognition both within the Police Service and the community that police commanders and administrative managers need to have the high level skills and knowledge required to properly manage personnel and resources in a modern policing environment.

There is a parallel acknowledgment that the best way of achieving this outcome is by means of professional training.

'Within the encouragement of the Police Board and under the guidance of the Police Education Advisory Council, the Police Service began to explore this possibility,' Mr Griffiths said.

'This board recognised that the participation of universities in educating an occupation's practitioners is essential if that occupation is to achieve professional status.

'It therefore prepared a paper on 'Police Professionalism and Higher Education' and circulated it among all NSW universities for their responses.

'On the basis of the universities' responses, and with Police Board and Ministerial approval, it was decided to invite universities to tender for provision of the Command Development Program which would culminate in the award of a Graduate Management Certificate.

'This award would be developed and implemented through the creation of a Professional Development Centre.

'The concept of the Professional Development Centre provides the means whereby the Police Service and the University formally enter into a partnership of equals for the development and delivery of the program.'
Microbiology seminar attracts ‘out of town’ specialists

The South Coast Regional Group of the Australian Society for Microbiology held an evening seminar in the Department of Biological Sciences on microbe-related health topics on 3 June.

This seminar was organised by Dr Salwa Woodroffe in the Department of Biological Sciences and was sponsored by the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories and Crown Scientific Limited.

It attracted specialists from hospitals and private practices outside the region as well as the Wollongong area.

Appropriately the seminar was held in the Duncan Brown Lecture Theatre. Professor Duncan Brown was the first Head of Biology at the University of Wollongong and he promoted the study of microbiology here.

Those attending the seminar expressed an interest in increasing the interaction with colleagues at the University.

These meetings follow a questionnaire put out by William Crozier from the Illawarra Pathcentre, Wollongong Regional Hospital.

He sent the questionnaire to all microbiology departments of regional hospitals, private pathology laboratories, the University of Wollongong, and Bowral, Liverpool, St George and Sutherland hospitals.

On the basis of replies received, it was decided to hold evening meetings biannually, circulating from institution to institution and occasional weekend meetings.

The first meeting was held at The Wollongong Hospital on 27 May 1992.

The next meeting will be held over a weekend at the Jamberoo Lodge Conference Centre from 5-7 November.

Proposed topics include: water microbiology, medical microbiology, microbial serology, media O.C., S.T.D., Q.A.P. and Q.A. in microbiology.

For information phone William Crozier at the Illawarra Pathcentre (042) 201543
Premises opened for National Reference Centre for primary health

The Member for Cunningham and Federal Speaker, Stephen Martin, opened the National Centre for Continuing Education in Primary Health Care on the 1 June.

During 1992 the Minister for Health, Mr Brian Howe, announced that the University of Wollongong had been successful in its bid for this centre and would receive funding of $330,000 per year for two years. The centre’s role is to develop the primary health care workforce through promoting and enhancing continuing education and to move the focus of the health care system away from acute hospital-based care to services based in the community which improve and maintain health.

'The participation of Wollongong University in this highly innovative project is further evidence of its increasing status as one of Australia’s leading universities,' Mr Martin said.

Former Executive Director of Community Health Services Development for ACT Health, Ms Sue Kirby, was appointed Director of the Centre at the end of last year.

The University of NSW Department of Community Medicine, Illawarra Area Health Service, South West Sydney Area Health Service and Healthy Cities Illawarra, Canberra and Liverpool have recently joined the centre.

Wollongong provides management training for NSW Police

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Mr Griffiths said. 'Today, it is timely to note that the NSW Police Service has undertaken without interruption a major reform in its education system.

'It has opened the system to expert external scrutiny and transformed it from an inward-looking, skills-based approach to a system attracting university credentials.

'In my view, our record in police education is good news for the citizens of this State. Today’s launch of the Command Development Program is an ample demonstration of this fact.'

This initiative is part of the University’s commitment to forming co-operative agreements with organisations and working with them to design professional courses that were suitable to their needs in terms of content and mode of delivery - while at the same time ensuring the quality and integrity of the course.

Courses such as this fit into the overall management education strategy of the University and allows for articulation to higher qualifications such as an MBA.

Professor Michael Hough in the Department of Management is the academic co-ordinator of the program.
Rob Whelan has international profile

Associate Professor Rob Whelan has been appointed Head of the Department of Biological Sciences.

Born in the UK in 1952, Associate Professor Whelan moved to Australia in 1957, when his father was appointed Professor of Physiology and Pharmacology at the University of Adelaide.

Associate Professor Whelan went to school in Adelaide, attending St Peter's College, and matriculating to Flinders University in 1970.

He completed a degree in Biological Sciences in 1973, his mind set on continuing with Honours in plant physiology.

However, the co-incidence of study leave for the plant physiology lecturer at Flinders and Rob being drafted for Vietnam set Rob on another course - Honours in ecology, supervised by Dr Don Potts.

Moving to Western Australia at the end of 1973, Rob used his breadth of training in Biological Sciences in a six-month job working for Elders G-M; investigating the effects of overgrazing on native vegetation in Western Australian pastoral leases.

He was attracted back into academia by the offer of a scholarship to start a PhD supervised by Professor Bert Main in the Zoology Department, University of WA.

For two years of his PhD candidature at UWA, Rob was employed as a Graduate Teaching Assistant and here he gained his first lecturing experience teaching Cell Biology to non-majors.

He also gained experience in developing and running field-based student projects in ecology, marine biology and entomology.

Through some research done in collaboration with another Flinders graduate, Allan Burbidge, Rob developed an interest in pollination of native plants, especially banksias.

However, he had long been keen on the pioneering work of Professor John Harper in plant population biology at the University College of North Wales.

A visit by Professor Harper to WA provided an ideal opportunity to set up a visit to Harper's department.

In 1978, Rob and his wife Anna moved to North Wales for two years - so delaying the development of research on either fire ecology or pollination ecology.

In the School of Plant Biology at Bangor, Rob worked on slugs. He benefitted from the enormous activity in Harper's lab - which hosted many PhD students, post-docs and sabbatical visitors - developing friendships and collaborations with ecologists from around the world.

Late in 1979, Rob was offered the first Archie Carr Postdoctoral Fellowship in Zoology at the University of Florida.

Once again, he linked two disciplines by working on plants as well as animals.

The offer of a lectureship at the University of Wollongong, late in 1981, forestalled plans to pursue an academic career in the US, and Rob and Anna moved to Wollongong early in 1982.

This move saw Rob rekindling his studies in fire ecology and also moving into plant-pollinator interactions - an interest that first developed during his PhD in WA.

With the involvement of several research students and a fertile collaboration with Dr David Ayre, the Department of Biological Sciences at Wollongong is now recognised as one of the centres of research activity in pollination ecology and plant ecological genetics in Australia.

Research activity has centred on the following topics: competition among plants for the services of pollinator; reasons for low reproductive success in the plant family Proteaceae; genetic consequences of patterns of mating and fruit set in the Proteaceae; implications of small population size and isolation for conservation of plant species.

Rob was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1985 and then to Associate Professor in 1989.

These promotions both coincided with sabbatical leaves, which Rob used to strengthen collaborations in the US - in Florida and in California.

The 1989 leave was supported by a Fulbright Senior Award and included a visit to the UK to start work on a book on fire ecology - the final manuscript of which is about to be submitted to the publishers, Cambridge University Press.

'The Department of Biological Sciences at Wollongong has the potential to be one of the strongest in Australia,' Associate Professor Whelan said.

'Every member of the academic staff has an active research program and attracts postgraduate research students.

'Staff in the department contribute centrally to two very active research programs: the Biological Macromolecules Research Program and the Australian Flora and Fauna Research Program.'

'Moreover, the three undergraduate degree programs offered in the Department - BSc (Biological Sciences), B. Biotechnology and B. Env. Sci. (Life Science Strand) are strong, distinctive and have great potential for further development.

'Rob considers that the immediate challenges in the Department will be to work to remove some of the impediments to the further development of research excellence and improvement in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching.

'This includes developing more research space, updating equipment, identifying funding for postgraduate research, reducing undergraduate teaching loads and overcoming the problem of the cost of maintaining a good journal collection in the library.'
Jim Falk and Greenpeace join forces

Head of the Department of Science and Technology Studies, Professor Jim Falk, was simultaneously admitted to the General Assembly of Greenpeace and elected as one of the five directors of Greenpeace (Australia) on the 29 May.

Professor Falk said that first thing he will do is to learn as much as he can about the current directions of Greenpeace so he can make a constructive contribution.

'Greenpeace is a dynamic and adventurous organisation which I think has done a lot of good, and promises to do a great deal more,' Professor Falk said.

'I particularly like the desire by Greenpeace to advance constructive alternatives in the context of its expressions of concern, and to commission and utilise first rate researchers to give it a well-informed analysis of the issues it tackles.'

Professor Falk is a co-author of a report just released which was commissioned by the Commonwealth Environment Protection Authority (CEPA) on 'Social Equity and the Urban Environment'.

Other authors are Greg Hampton, Ann Hodgkinson, Kevin Parker, and Arthur Rorris - all members of the Technological Change and Environmental Strategies Research Group (TCES) at the University.

The report presents a significant step in framing environmental issues within their social and economic context.

The report was one of the first commissioned by the CEPA when it was set up last year.

TCES won the contract against a field of more than 40 competitors.

Russell Linke moving to Flinders University

Professor of Education and Dean of the Faculty of Education, Professor Russell Linke, has been appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor at Flinders University.

The Vice-Chancellor of Flinders University, Professor John Lovering, said Professor Linke would bring significant depth and breadth of experience to the university in academic planning, policy management and staff management.

In the last 20 years Professor Linke had worked in a wide range of policy-related capacities, not only at different universities, but in both State and Federal government authorities.

These roles had provided a broad experience in educational policy, planning and management.

These positions have included Counsellor for the National Board of Employment, Education and Training; Executive Secretary to the Review of the Discipline of Engineering (commissioned by the Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission); Senior Research Fellows for the Social Justice Project, Research School of Social Sciences at the Australian National University, and Director of Academic Planning at the Tertiary Education Authority of South Australia.

Recently, Professor Linke has been appointed as Chair of a joint working party of the Australian Research Council and the Institute of Advanced Studies at the Australian National University which will undertake a $65,000 study of measures of research performance.

His contributions, while in Wollongong, to two recent Commonwealth publications Performance Indicators in Higher Education and Report of the Task Force on Institutional Amalgamations in Higher Education has accorded him national recognition as a leader in policy and planning for higher education.

Professor Linke will take up his position at Flinders University in October.
Nominations called for Health committee

Nominations are invited for the positions of academic staff representative and substitute representative on the University Occupational Health and Safety Committee to serve for two years from this month.

In accordance with the NSW Occupational Health and Safety Act 1983 and Regulation 1984 and the constitution of the committee, one representative and substitute are to be elected through the University of Wollongong Academic Staff Association.

Candidates may be members of the association or members of academic staff who are not a member of any campus union.

Those who take up the posts will be expected to represent on the committee (alongside the other academic staff representative elected through the University of Wollongong Branch of the Lecturers’ Association) the interests of all academic staff and to report as necessary to the Executive of Staff Association.

Full-time and part-time staff are eligible to stand.

Those wishing to stand should nominate to the UWASA Returning Officer, Stewart Russell, ext. 3502, via mail or e-mail by Friday 25 June.

If more than two people nominate, or if two people nominate and neither wishes to accept the role of substitute representative, an election will be held.

UWASA members and members of academic staff who are not members of any campus union will be eligible to vote.

By law, employee representatives’ work on the committee, including attendance at monthly meetings and participation in site safety inspections, is considered a part of their University duties and is to be counted towards their administrative loads.

A compulsory training course is provided at the University’s expense.

Presentation on literacy’s myths and legacies

The Social Literacy Research Group is pleased to announce a presentation by Professor Harvey Graff

The presentation, ‘Literacy’s myths and legacies: Lessons from the history of literacy to the question of critical literacy’, will be held on 21 July from 12.30-2pm in Union Function Room 3.

Professor Graff is Professor of History, Arts & Humanities at the University of Texas at Dallas.

He has written many journal articles and books on the history of literacy and the importance of that history to contemporary issues, and more recently on the history of childhood, adolescence and youth.

His major books include: The literacy myth: Literacy and social structure in the 19th Century city (Academic Press, 1979); The legacies of literacy: continuities and contradictions in western culture and thought (Indiana University Press, 1987); The Labyrinths of Literacy: Reflections on literacy past and present (Falmer Press, 1987); and is working on Conflicting paths: the transformation of growing up (Harvard University Press).

A light lunch will be provided. Contact Bev Davis in the Graduate School of Education, ext. 3316, if you wish to attend.

General staff vacancies

General staff vacancies are available on Campus Net News (CNN), under the item titled ‘Staff Vacancy’.

When you initially open CNN, the ‘Staff Vacancy’ item may not be displayed. However, if you open up ‘show UOW master list’ under the ‘Windows’ menu, the item will be displayed.

If you are interested in regularly reading the vacancies, subscribe to this item. This is done by highlighting the folder and opening up ‘subscribe’ under the ‘News’ menu. This will ensure the vacancies item is displayed every time you open CNN. However, do not forget to save the changes when you quit CNN.

The Current Vacancies folder on the Administration File Server will no longer hold the General Staff Internal Vacancies, as access privileges have been reduced.

The General Staff Internal Vacancies will still be circulated to all Departments and a copy is always available in Personnel Services reception.
Beazley announces membership of Higher Education Quality Committee

The Federal Minister for Employment, Education and Training, Kim Beazley, has announced the membership of the Committee for Quality Assurance in Higher Education.

The committee's objective is to help maintain and enhance the quality and international standing of the Australian higher education system by recognising effective quality assurance and excellent outcomes in universities.

'Under the chairmanship of the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Queensland, Professor Brian Wilson, the committee is to conduct quality audits of participating universities,' Mr Beazley said.

'It will also advise me on the allocation from 1994 of some $76 million in new funding.

'To give it a broad perspective, the committee's members are drawn from the wider community as well as the higher education sector.

'It also has the authority to co-opt additional individuals each year to assist with the quality audit task.'

The committee will meet soon to consider its approach to its responsibilities and to the 1993 quality audit cycle.

'To assist it, I have issued the committee with guidelines based on a set of principles developed by the Government on the advice of the Higher Education Council, for its higher education quality assurance strategy,' Mr Beazley said.

These principles are:

• As self-governing bodies, institutions have the major responsibility for ensuring that the teaching process, their research efforts and their graduates are of high quality; they are funded for these purposes through their operating grants.

• Excellent outcomes in universities are a function of not only the level of resources available but also the way resources are used.

• Institutional self-assessment will be a key element of the quality audit processes to be implemented by the committee.

• Diversity in the higher education system will be promoted through an approach which emphasises quality within the context of an institution's own mission statement and its stated objectives; institutions missions, objectives and outcomes may be regional, national or international to varying degrees.

• The committee's audit framework will focus on the mission and objectives of an institution and their relationship to the national objectives for the higher education system as a whole.

Mr Beazley said that, in addition to these principles, the overall excellence of outcomes will be taken into account, including the national and international impact of the institutions research, the production of graduates with attributes which enable them to operate anywhere in Australia or overseas at standards consistent with best practice in their field, and the contribution of institutions to their various communities.

Members of the committee are:

Professor Brian Wilson (Chairman), Vice-Chancellor, The University of Queensland. Professor Ian Chubb (Deputy Chairman), Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Monash University.

Mr Chris Burgess, Director, Planning and Finance, Griffith University.

Professor Denise Bradley, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), University of South Australia.

Mr Peter Harvey, General Manager, Research Laboratory, Kodak (Australia) Pty Ltd.

Mr Paul Hickey, Deputy Secretary, Department of Employment, Education and Training.

Mr Bruce Irwin, General Manager, Education and Research, Australian Quality Council.

Professor Jillian Maling, Chief Executive Officer and Deputy Vice-Chancellor, The University of Western Sydney, Nepean.

Professor Gordon Stanley, Chairman, Western Australia Higher Education Council and Chief Executive Officer, Western Australia Office of Higher Education.

INTRODUCTION TO STATISTICS

A COURSE FOR STAFF AND POST GRADUATE STUDENTS

This course is being presented by the Statistical Consulting Service in conjunction with the Learning Development Centre.

The course is suitable for people who have little or no previous training in statistics and who may be undertaking quantitative research now or in the future. It is designed to give participants an understanding of the main statistical principles and knowledge of some basic statistical techniques.

Dates: 28 June to 2 July 1993

Times: 8.30am-12.30pm (8.30-10.30am on 28 June)

Location: 15,006

Content: Important Statistical Concepts

Exploratory Data Analysis

Important Statistical Distributions

Estimation and Confidence Intervals

Hypothesis Testing

Issues in Statistical Design

Cost $180

The course is intensive and participants will gain maximum benefit if they undertake prescribed reading and exercises. (Exercises can be done by hand but participants who have undertaken a SAS course will be guided in the use of SAS in the exercises.)

Course nomination forms are available from Kerrie Gamble, Department of Applied Statistics, who can be contacted through e-mail or on ext. 4308. For further details of the course content please contact me by e-mail or on ext. 3823.

David Steel

Statistical Consulting Service

(The Statistical Consulting Service reserves the right to cancel the course if sufficient nominations are not received)
New Security numbers  
The old Security phone numbers 3936, 3116, 3916 and 6045 are no longer in use. They have been replaced by 4555 (for 3936), 4554 (3116), 4556 (3916) and 6555 (6045).

Holiday break  
Because of the Queen’s Birthday long weekend, Campus News will have a week off. The next edition of Campus News will be 30 June. Deadline for this issue is 21 June.