The Chairman of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party Caucus Sub-committee on Education, Mr Peter Staples, is urging people in tertiary education to get involved in the political process and lobby hard for increased funding. He was speaking to the Gazette after his committee met with a tertiary education delegation led by the Chairman of the Victorian Conference of Principals, Dr Geoffrey Vaughan.

On the same day, the committee had met with a student delegation from Victoria College.

The committee agreed to present the student case to the Finance Minister, Mr Dawkins, recommending that every possible assistance be given to Advanced Education in fracting the financial needs for the 1985-87 triennium and in determining budget priorities.

Mr Staples said the committee was very happy to see the delegations, but a lot more lobbying and pressure was needed to get the numbers in the government behind advanced education.

"Tertiary education bodies, institutions, staff and students should all be involved in the process," Mr Staples told the Gazette.

"They should be putting their case through every available avenue, including Ministers and local members of both the Federal and State parliaments, government and party committees and the media.

"The more politicians and the public are made aware of what the scope is in tertiary education the better the chances that the sector's needs will be met.

"Mr Staples noted that there was a general realisation in the Labor government that the tertiary sector was under pressure.

"We realise that a lot of money has to be put into tertiary education to accommodate the need which is already evident for increasing enrolments and to redress the balance of the GP."

"But the extent to which that need would be met in budget planning depended on how hard the tertiary sector pushed its case through parliaments and the media.

"When there are lots of competing interests governments operate on a noise principle, the noisiest sector gets the highest priority," Mr Staples said.

"Mr Staples urged people in tertiary education to write to their local members in both the Federal and State parliaments then to follow up with personal contact to put the tertiary education case.

"It is clear that members of the nursing profession are now looking to tertiary institutions for leadership in matters related to the changes that they believe will face the profession in the immediate future," he said.

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The Director, Mr Patrick Leary, told the Institute Council at its May meeting that the issue had taken a new turn recently in the light of the recent establishment of a Victorian Post Secondary Education Commission (VPSEC) Working Party to examine the transition of nursing Education to tertiary institutions.

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He said Chisholm's long-standing interest in the area was well known.

"Both the former Caulfield Institute of Technology and SCV Frankston have made clear their commitment to a change in nursing education strategy as long ago as 1976.

"At Caulfield approaches by Dandenong and Moorabbin hospitals led to a seminar in 1976, which resulted in the Institute's commitment to a change in nursing education strategy as long ago as 1976.

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Bacon, eggs and runners’ legs

Top management restructured

A restructuring of senior management in the Institute has been approved by Council.

As well as reassigning responsibilities within the current Directorate, a proposal is being considered for an Assistant Director to be responsible for co-ordination of planning and development of the Frankston campus.

Details of the changes were announced by the Director, Mr Patrick Leary, in a memo to all staff on 15 May.

The Director said they were being made to increase the advisory role of the Deans, to broaden the high priority being given to the planning and development of the Frankston campus, and to increase the need for greater integration between the Institute’s application for resources and its advice to the Commonwealth Government.

Mr Leary said the proposal for an Assistant Director was formulated by the Chief Executive Officer, Mr Peter Ross Homes, and had been approved by the Directorate.

He also expressed his thanks to the staff for their efforts in assisting in the preparation of the proposal.

The delegation

The members of the delegation which met with the Federal Parliamentary Labour Party Caucus Sub-committee on Education were:

Deputy Director/Vice-Chancellor, Dr Geoffrey Vaughan, (Chairman, Vice-Chancellor of Principals of Colleges of Advanced Education (VCOP). The delegation was made by the Chairman of VCOP, Dr Geoffrey Vaughan, following the tabling in Federal Parliament on 10 May of the CTEC blueprint for tertiary education planning for the next three years.

Dr Vaughan said there was some good news for tertiary education in the budget announcements, but it still came as a shock to come to grips with the needs in relation to the social and economic goals of both the Federal and State governments.

He said the Federal government’s attempt in its budget would be a test of its commitment to its own programs.

The good news is that CTEC has recommended the first real increase in tertiary education funding for six years," Dr Vaughan said.

"But the bad news is that the increase is not nearly enough.

"It does not provide for the growth in enrolments being demanded by both governments and prospective students. It represents a perpetuation of the previous government’s plans for marginal funding."

Dr Vaughan said VCOP had consulted key industries, professional, community and disadvantaged groups as a matter of urgency to alert them to the grave dangers of the CTEC proposals.

He was astonished that CTEC had disregarded the advice of its own councils and the Victorian government on funding levels.

The Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission (CTEC) is out of touch with Australia’s national objectives and tertiary education needs, according to the Victorian Conference of Principals of Colleges of Advanced Education (VCOP).

The accusation was made by the Chairman of VCOP, Dr Geoffrey Vaughan, following the tabling in Federal Parliament on 10 May of the CTEC blueprint for tertiary education planning for the next three years.

The CTEC report under fire

The members of the delegation which met with the Federal Parliamentary Labour Party Caucus Sub-committee on Education were:

Mr John Scott
Secretary, Australian Committee of Principals of Colleges of Advanced Education

Dr Lawson Lobb
President, Federation of College Academics

Mr Ross Homes
Secretary, Federation of College Academics

The delegation asked the commission for an increase in funding for Colleges of Advanced Education, taking into consideration the following:

- The advanced education sector is at a two-year low point of no growth and/or loss of funds in real terms in recurrent expenditure.
- Another zero growth period would be disastrous due to the acceleration of academic standards at a time when increased participation is being encouraged.
- To support access and participation the government must increase funding on a full per capita basis. Below-cost per capita grants will force mediocrity throughout the system and should be terminated. The system has taken in some increased student loads on a marginally funded basis, but this cannot continue.
- Government policy rightfully emphasises access to higher education for disadvantaged and minority groups. Marginal funding in this area promotes further disadvantage because, in reality, disadvantaged students require a higher than average per capita grant to allow for better student/staff ratios, higher access to equipment, library and other teaching facilities.
- The capital program (buildings and major equipment) has reached a crisis point. Immediate injection of funds is required to catch up on the stagnation of a no growth period.
- The Minister for Science and Technology has indicated that higher education is central within the recently announced technology strategy plan. An increase in participation of four percent to nine percent of school leavers proceeding to advanced education has been included in these plans.
- The diversity of the advanced education sector is its strength. The sector can move quickly to meet government and community needs, but can only do so if it is properly funded.

The delegation urged increased support of advanced education throughout Australia as in the best interests of the community generally and a necessary step towards realisation of the goals of the present government.

Legal eagle appointed

Chisholm has appointed its first full-time legal officer.

He is Mr Andrew McKenna, formerly a solicitor with the Victorian Legal Aid Commission.

Mr McKenna was appointed as the Institute Legal Officer in April, with effect from 1 November, the Information Office.

He described his new job as ‘a dream job’, involving advice on legal work which comes to the Institute’s way, and offering executive support and as a solicitor member of the ‘cost consultation’ and the ‘cost consultation’ and to establish a link to Australia’s national objectives and tertiary education needs, according to the Victorian Conference of Principals of Colleges of Advanced Education (VCOP).

The accusation was made by the Chairman of VCOP, Dr Geoffrey Vaughan, following the tabling in Federal Parliament on 10 May of the CTEC blueprint for tertiary education planning for the next three years.

Dr Vaughan urged the Federal government to take heed of these vital roles played by CTEC and to be guided by it in the future.

Both the Federal and State governments have explicitly stated the vital role a sharply increased tertiary education sector has to play in achieving Australia’s economic and social goals.

By 1990, under the CTEC recommendation, all we will have achieved is the same level of participation in tertiary education that we had in the mid-70s but with lowered academic standards through insufficient funding.

This cannot be 'cuddled up as progress when everyone knows and government is publicly acknowledging that Australia has an urgent need to become a more highly skilled society.

How the Federal government handles this report will be a real test of its commitment.

"Margarine funding represents marginal commitment," Dr Vaughan concluded.

- If this did eventuate, the cost of a complete transfer of nursecare should be substantially higher than the $59 million figure.
- The Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission (CTEC) recommends that the line pursued by the Sax Committee in 1978 be taken up.
- The CTEC report adds that the Commonwealth Department of Health has estimated that by the end of the century, the number of nursing graduates required will be approximately double the current level.

"We certainly could establish a course here at short notice, at Caulfield Hospital, in conjunction with the Victorian Nurse Training Hospit-

al in the area, the Alfred, Moorabbin, Royal Southern Memorial and Frankston, or at least in conjunction with Dandenong and Frankston Hospitals."

But the department was well equipped in terms of basic needs for such a course," he says.

Mr Leary told Council the significant issues in the case of nursing education in the advanced education sector had been acknowledged by the establishment of the VPFEC Working Party, under the chairmanship of Dr Graham Allen.

A report on the feasibility of a complete transfer of nursing education in Australia to the tertiary sector would provide nurses with a formally accredited credential, commensurate with the work done by other health professionals, similarly recognised as being achieved through an appropriate section of the hospital-based courses."

The report was critical of the recent government decision, largely because it had assumed ‘the Commonwealth Government will provide TEAS allowances to what would be approximately 40 percent of the 7500 nursing trainees involved.’

"On this basis the cost to the Commonwealth of additional allowances alone could be in the order of $8 million annually," the report noted.

The debate continues.
Prison life through the eyes of the experts

It's very much a sympathetic view of the prison's lot, and for that, Mr. Ellmen makes no apology. In his opening remarks he explains: 'I have tried to reflect, as accurately as possible, their story as it was told to me. In doing so I acknowledge my bias.'

'In the enclosed suspicious world of prison it is difficult enough to do research with prisoners, without having to walk an uneasy gauntlet between the potentially hostile camps of the keepers and the kept.'

Mr. Ellmen's years of close involvement with prisoners have left him with very definite and often scathing views of the penal system. Prison, he says, is a place of despair and brutality only. It is an unnatural place where people are both physically and mentally oppressed. It is violent, bitter, suspicious, stressful, lonely and degrading.

Mr. Ellmen says through his research he came increasingly to the contrary belief that the best thing one could do was to go about reforming the individual and preparing him for responsible citizenship. The best way he found was to use radio and TV to release the outside world. He rejects the notion that the system leads to rehabilitation rather, it is 'deliberately... destructive in human terms'.

'We have got to look at what it purports to do, and what it actually does,' he says. The next stage of Mr. Ellmen's research was a post-graduate thesis, but after discussing his work with Alan Marshall, the noted Australian sociologist, Mr. Ellmen opted for a summary of the research which would appeal to the public at large.

'I wanted to tell the prisoners' story to every person who ever got to hear it to tell other people what it is like to live in a place like Pentridge.'

Mr. Ellmen has been a member of the Chisholm Institute staff for 11 years. One of the courses he teaches is the sociology of Prisons', another related initiative in this field, which focusses on the effects of technological change on society.

'Doing Time' is his first book. "Doing Time" was first published by William Collins in paperback form.

Extracts of the book will be reviewed in the "Australian" beginning on 26 May.

Standards under threat says Leary

Higher Education standards would be under threat if the Federal Government accepted the recommendations of the Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission (CTEC) for 1985-87, Ms Leary said today. (Thursday 17 May)

Speaking at the Institute's graduation ceremony at Dallas Brookes Hall, Mr. Leary said Chisholm Institute's resources had been cut in real terms by six years of no growth, and that the result was a "tremendous decline" of the government's social and economic goals.

Without any further support for the Federal Government, Chisholm and other Colleges were in danger of losing their best students and staff and were unable to train the much-needed new generation of researchers.

Industry Company Awards

Representatives of some of Australia's leading institutions will present cheques amounting to more than $3000 to Department of Banking and Finance students at a graduation ceremony at Melbourne's Caulfield campus on Monday 25 May.

The 11 Industry Company Awards will be presented to eight of the Department's top achievers in all of the specialist Banking and Finance subjects.

In addition, the City of Caulfield will present an award for the best first year business student. The winning firms for the Awards are: Westpac, Commonwealth Bank, National Australia Bank, Standard Chartered, Prime Computers of Australia, Schroder, Darling & Co., Statewide Building Society, Australian Institute of Management and the Australian Finance Commission.

Included in the awards are prizes for the best full-time and part-time students, and the top graduate overall.

The leading prize winner is Mr. Terry Pascoe, who won himself the top undergraduate and top graduate student awards along with another subject prize.

Mr. McCaughey is the new General Manager of Treasury at the Australian ASI/Hardie & Bank. He is also a tutor with the Department.

People outside (prison) only know what the media tell them and the media often tells them sensational things.

If anything good is done in here we don't get much of a write-up, but if anything bad is done it's slammed all over the newspapers.

People look at us as if we're animals. We're not!'
Kennedy’s trip begins with an overseas tour of duty on Chisholm’s behalf by Deputy Director, Dr Tom Kennedy. He embarked on the three month tour on Friday 11 May.

Dr Kennedy’s trip ends with a programme of events in Australia. On Tuesday 22 May, Dr Kennedy and his entourage will arrive in Melbourne, where they will visit the University of Melbourne. They will then travel to Sydney, where they will meet with the Chancellor of the University of Technology, Sydney, and visit the University’s Institute for Management. The tour will conclude in Canberra on Friday 25 May, where Dr Kennedy will attend the National Academy Awards ceremony and the National Advisory Committee meeting.

Chisholm’s Jewish Students Society celebrated Independence Day (Yom Haatzomut) on Tuesday 8 May with a luncheon party at the Council for National Academic Accreditation process. Free food and Israeli dancing were a highlight of the celebration.

Public speaking club will help untie your tongue

If the mere thought of delivering a talk to a group of people is enough to leave you with weak knees, sweaty palms and a tied tongue, take heart... help is on the way.

Depending on the amount of support and interest shown, Chisholm could soon have its own public speaking club.

A three week trial run has been organised by Finance Branch staff member Keith Harrex, and student, Brett Mory, who are both Rostum Club members.

Mr Harrex says the two most important rules in making any speech are preparation and delivery, and by following a few simple guidelines, anyone can learn the secret of success.

If you have any interest in this type of activity, please contact Keith Harrex, B2.18, or Alex Glennie, through Heads of Department.

The General Staff Development Committee is looking for more staff who need development.

Assistant Staff Officer, Dr Eric Formby, urges staff not to be shy about putting in proposals because they appear too expensive. The Committee is more interested in the significance of programs than the cost. He says, "Don't worry if your bank manager would say "no", the Committee could well say "yes".

So far, the Committee has received and dealt with about 30 applications and committed about $12,000 of its budget of $25,000 for this year.

Inquiries should be directed to Mr Formby at B2.18, Caufield Campus.