Staff, students to get more say

Academic Board will each meeting of Council in June.

Under amendments to the graduates of the Institute when making recommendations.

Council from 22 to 26 with internal representation rising from 61:39 external:internal membership ratio.

Some of the changes in Council also accepted the Ministerial guideline and allow the new medium to have to make some accommodation to the technology.

Dr Pearcey proposed that Chisholm establish a pilot tele-education structure and present subject material in the United States. Most interactive for the remote, underprivileged and handicapped student, Dr Pearcey said.

Dr Pearcey told Council his proposal was for courses to be increase in enrolments was so forth. He believed the new medium would be a 'stimulating challenge' to academics.

Dr Pearcey emphasised that while tele-education approaches would have applications in the sort of distance education currently run by such bodies as RMIT, Warrnambool IAE, POSSI Ie'.

He had looked at a number of approaches and was recommending the tele-education alternative using the telephone telecommunications system as the 'cheapest, most reliable, most accessible, most flexible, and most interactive for students. Depending on the way it would provide high quality education to students at about 50 percent and 70 percent below current costs per student.

Dr Pearcey said his proposal was directed towards formal education funded by the State and Federal Governments. But it also would be applicable to privately run, fee collecting education such as continuing education courses, corporate short courses, and so forth.

He emphasised that while tele-education approaches would have applications in the sort of distance education currently run by such bodies as RMIT, Warrnambool IAE, Gippsland IAE, and Deakin University, he was not proposing that Chisholm enter that field.

His tele-education/on-campus mix was designed basically to meet a different need - to stretch the existing resources of the institute to meet the demand for enrolment in the relatively small geographical area from which it currently drew the majority of its students.

She says at present there are very few artists who can use this particular combination.

Her work involves both hot processes (shaping, colouring and cold processes (shaping, colouring and decorating) in addition to firing processes to cement enamelling and painted colour.

Over the next few weeks she will visit colleges and studios in Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide and then return to her small kiln near Chisholm's glass studio to continue her experiments.

Kazuko returns to Japan at the end of November to resume her work as Chief Designer with an Osaka glass company.

Glass artist, Kazuko Eguchi, casts a critical eye over a newly fired piece of work.

Kazuko Eguchi

Eguchi glass

Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide on the glass arts of modern Japan.

She was invited to return and further develop her skills at Chisholm and successfully applied for a grant from the Australia-Japan Foundation.

The works which Kazuko produces combine shaping techniques such as 'slumping' and 'free blowing'.

Council gives go-ahead for tele-education planning

Council has unanimously endorsed the concept of tele-education and approved further development of a proposal for a pilot tele-education program.

It has asked the Director, Mr Patrick Leary, to report back on developments by October this year.

The endorsement by Council at its June meeting came after a number of developments by October this year.

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Dr Trevor Pearcey, on his proposal for tele-education and by the Associate Director (Administrative and Educational Services), Dr Graham Trevaskis, on his investigation into tele-education in the United States.

The President of Council, Dr Clive Coorlan, hailed 'the proposal as epoch making'.

However, Dr Pearcey was not convinced that tele-education would improve access to tertiary education to the remote, underprivileged and handicapped student. Dr Pearcey said.

Dr Pearcey said the increased enrolment was essential to ensure Australia's per capita participation rates in tertiary education did not slip further, to provide Australia with the enhanced educational levels and expertise it needed in all sectors for national economic recovery, and to meet community pressure for more places with an increasing number of young people completing secondary education to tertiary entrance level.

The proposal was directed towards formal education funded by the State and Federal Governments. But it also would be applicable to privately run, fee collecting education such as continuing education courses, corporate short courses, and so forth.

Dr Pearcey proposed that Chisholm establish a pilot tele-education project 'as soon as possible'.

It should continue for at least three years to pursue and provide the answers to a large number of questions in the light of practical trials and experience.

More Page 2
Institute aims for better SSAU package

Staffing Committee has deferred for a further two months its decision on the Chisholm participation in the SSAU superannuation scheme.

Executive Officer of the Committee's SSAU Working Party, Mr Tim Smith, said the decision was made after lengthy deliberations at the meeting on 25 June, to allow the Working Party more time to negotiate an improved benefits package with the SSAU.

The Staffing Committee decision included the wake of concern expressed at four ASACIVCSA membership forums attended by up to 200 members. The forums endorsed the view that these benefits were inadequate for significant categories of pensioners, and that until the scheme provided adequate income security for staff who work on grounds of age, ill-health, or adequate provision for dependents, any agreement in the event of a staff member's death, the Institute should refuse to join the scheme.

The ASACIVCSA view subsumed that the Staffing Committee meeting was that the Institute should not join SSAU until such time as the SSAU package for better staff membership forums was improved.

Mr Smith said the Institute's view was a simple one: 'If the SSAU package is inadequate, then the whole scheme is inadequate.'

The recommendations of the Committee's Working Party were that the Institute's concern was endorsed for transmission to the Institute Council.

The Committee should request the Working Party to seek a new SSAU package in an effort to redesign a superannuation package, with improved provisions, for available staff with age 60 retirement after 30 years service being the norm.

In line with this, the staff elected representative on the Staffing Committee, took up the Institute's advocacy of this question at the meeting.

Mr Maynard said under any SSAU provisions, that pay the Industrial Supplies Division had first paid concern that any protracted delay could disadvantage existing staff.

"If existing staff wishing to join SSAU are to take advantage of the favourable transitional arrangements available, the Chisholm must decide to join SSAU before 1 January 1986," he said.

Institute Council member, and Convenor of the Working Party, Mr Jack Campbell, agreed.

Speaking after the meeting, Mr Campbell said Council priority must be to protect the best interests of staff and to maximise the superannuation options for existing staff.

"It is essential that the Staffing Committee and Council resolve this matter once and for all in August," he said.

Staff associations will be asked to join in the Working Party forthcoming negotiations with SSAU.

PEACEY CENTRE SHORT COURSES

In computing continue to be an Institute success in 1985.

Executive Director of the Centre, Mr Doug Burns, says already this year around 700 students have taken part in a range of short course activities.

The popular micro-computer courses were booked solid for 24 days during September, and the overall gross income of about $1000, says Mr Burns.

The Centre's micro-computer laboratory has been equipped with 26 fully interfaced IBM PCs, and in the seminar room an instructor's computer has been connected to two new high resolution colour monitors.

Mr Burns says another area of increasing importance to the Centre is research, carried out through the Division of Information Technology's new Expert Systems Laboratory.

Mr Burns says the Centre is also actively pursuing a role as a consultant to a range of business and industry.

He says although the Centre does not advertise its consultancy services, there is little need to seek it out. "Often businesses just ring up and say, 'we think we need to buy a computer', and our role is to consultants starts from there."
Minister urges industry support for new Centre

Chisholm's Timber Engineering Technology is an example of the Institute's willingness to take on the important task of forming links between technologists and industry, according to the State Minister for Conservation, Forest and Lands, Ms Joan Kirner.

Speaking at the launching of the new Centre at Caulfield campus, Ms Kirner said such links would promote the development and particularly the application of technology, were very important to the nation.

She praised Chisholm for its 'out front' development of Centres for research and development in a variety of areas from robotics to water science.

A feature of the Timber Engineering Technology Centre, a joint venture by the Institute and the Timber Promotion Council, Victoria, was that it would bring a multi-disciplinary approach to timber technology, Ms Kirner said.

The importance of this could be seen already in techniques developed at Chisholm to the aid of the timber industry.

The Centre has three important aims, the Minister said. They were:

- To promote knowledge leading to a better informed industry.
- To increase the quality testing services available to the industry so that timber would be more acceptable as a construction material.
- To research and develop new and more efficient use of timber which was a relatively scarce resource.

Ms Kirner said the Centre was being launched 'in what should be days of considerable optimism for the timber industry.' She would soon receive a report on the industry which would be the basis for consultation aimed at establishing a long-term, planned approach to the exploitation of timber and stabilisation of the industry.

She believed a State Government strategy for the industry would be in place by the end of the year.

Ms Kirner urged the timber industry to support the new Centre at Chisholm - the Centre had much to contribute but it could be successful only through the co-operation of the government, the industry and the Institute.

The Vice-President of Chisholm College, Mr Lionel Ward, told the gathering of industry and Institute representatives at the launch that Chisholm was striving to establish a much closer working relationship with industry and the community.

There were two reasons for this.

The first was that the Institute was delighted to play a role developing scientific and technological knowledge and transferring it to the community.

The second was the reality of government funding restraints over several years which meant the Institute had to go out and win funds from other sources.

The new Centre, like other Chisholm Centres for research and development, would serve both these aims by bringing in funds and providing the industry and the community with access to knowledge in the area.

Mr Ward praised the timber industry for supporting the Centre.

'The industry now is making a commitment to the whole process of technology transfer - something which has been missing in Australian industry generally for many decades,' Mr Ward said.

He hoped others would follow the timber industry's example.

Mr Ward said the Institute's $13-million Technology Tower soon to be built at Caulfield, would promote further contact between industry and the Institute's research and development services.

The Centre's Executive Director, Dr Bob Milner, said the new Centre would place Chisholm in the vanguard of educational activity in timber engineering structures.

Timber structures had an important future; using new techniques timber had the potential to be more economical than steel or concrete in many structural applications, he said.

The new Centre is receiving industry sponsorship to the tune of $120,000 over the next three years, with an extra $40,000 per year expected to be generated by the Centre through research projects.

One current project is the development of a low cost 'roof grading machine' designed for use by small sawmills to accurately grade sawn timber.

Dr Milner says the prototype, built at Chisholm, is now ready for practical testing.

The Centre is also continuing research into innovative house roof frame designs for the Timber Promotion Council.

The designs enable home builders to construct large open rooms without having to use huge timber beams or prefabricated trusses.

Dr Milner says the Centre is also providing assistance to a range of companies in testing and development of products.

Banking on an expert system

Expert systems not only store knowledge, they draw conclusions in the same way as a medical diagnosis is made.

Arthur Andersen believe a big field of growth in computer expert systems will be in this area, says Mr Jack Greig, Head of the Division of Information Technology.

'We, as the foremost computing group in the country,' he says, 'have a huge potential to develop an expert system.'

When Arthur Andersen approached Chisholm about this bank project, expert computer experts here jumped at the chance of a joint venture.

According to Mr Greig, 'there's an extreme lack of expertise in this area in Australia, yet it's THE growth area of the future.'

He says the potential of expert systems is 'enormously extensive, and he predicts developments in the area will be 'as big as any computing development to date.'

The joint research and development project was the first such major project involving the Division's new Expert Systems Laboratory, established late last year as a special interest research group.

In the project, Mr Greig and Mr Craske, a Lecturer in Information Technology, if something goes wrong with the bank's system and the computing group in this area in Australia, yet it's THE growth area of the future.'

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Awards, grants

TRAVELLING SCHOLARSHIP

The English Speaking Union (Victorian Branch) is offering the award is non-academic, and is open to all members of the community within the prescribed and travelling.

STUDY IN JAPAN

The Japanese Government is offering a number of awards to young Australian teachers of French, or final year students who intend teaching French in future, who wish to take-up positions as assistants in French, high schools for eight months from October 1986.

APOST AWARD

The British Council is offering a number of awards to University staff and management, to study at a University in the United Kingdom, with the purpose of advancing their knowledge of English, and of the culture and social environment of the United Kingdom.

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APLEX FOUNDATION

The Apex Foundation for Research into Mental Retarda­ tion is offering a number of awards to individuals or research teams for grants in support of research projects related to the causes, diagnosis, preven­ tion, and treatment of mental retardation and allied condi­ tions.

Applications close July 31. The Foundation is also offering two studentships to postgraduate students in 1986.

For more information, contact the Aplex Foundation, 312-12 Caulfield or telephone ext 2111.

In-house training

The General Staff Development Committee is planning the General Staff Development Committee is planning the General Staff Development Committee is planning for the first time to sponsor a series of in-house training sessions for administrative staff in Semester 2.

Committee Secretary, Mr Ed Formby, says departments throughout the Institute were asked to submit ideas for courses, and as a result the follow­ ing will be offered:

- Introduction to Micro-Com­ puters - for managers, users and staff who have either recently purchased micros or intend doing so.
- Introduction to Word­ Processing - for typists/ secretaries. The course would be useful to departments wishing to have ‘back up’ exper­ tise available in secretarial staff.
- Information Engineering/ Systems Implementation with Data Base 3 - for computer personnel or managers who need to know how to use their own computer systems. No prior knowledge is assumed.
- Touch Typing - for anyone expected to use keyboards in the future.

Further details of all courses are available from Staff Branch; from Ken Greenhill, don, for the touch typing course; and from Doug Burns, Peercare Centre, for the remaining courses.

Applications for all courses should be made through Mr Formby, Staff Branch, on a General Staff Development Application form.

Details of dates and times will be available after applic­ ations have been received.

P.K. Rodan, says the Committee proposes to run in-house training courses for general and academic staff and management in the second half of 1985.

FESTIVAL OF SCIENCE


The Congress will involve 130 formal sessions at Monash, and a Conference on Science and Technology Program at a further 150 sites. The programme is designed to promote scientific exchange between ASEAN and Australasian countries.

Registration cost is $64. For more information, contact Mr Murray Mesparrt, a member of the ANZAAS Victorian Division, and write to ANZAAS, P.O. Box 873, Sydney, N.S.W.

CHEMISTRY IN FOCUS

Chemistry its Beauty And/Or Significance is the theme of a national photographic compet­ ition organised by the Royal Australian Chemical Institute. Prizes are worth up to $250 in cash, plus cash prizes of from $50 to $100, and $200 in cash prizes for the University of Melbourne.

Entries close Friday, 2 August. For more information, contact the RACI Photographic Com­ petition, School of Mathemati­ cal, Physical Sciences, Murdoch University, Western Australia.

LINCOLN OPEN DAY

Lincoln Institute of Health Sciences is holding its open day on Sunday 7 July, from 4pm to 6pm in the Dining Hall, 2 Slater Street, Melbourne.

Classifieds

HOUSING

CORDLESS TELEPHONE Walkabout MK1 & base station. Excellent condition. Telecom permit $200. Contact Mr P. Janssen at our C.P. Switchboard 5252.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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P.K. Rodan, says the Committee proposes to run in-house training courses for general and academic staff on a regular basis, and suggestions for courses are invited. Staff members in all areas are welcomed by the Committee.

WHAT'S ON

The Festival Of Science accommodation at Monash Univer­ sity from 30 August to 2 September 1985.

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