Construction of the $13 million student union/technology tower complex at the Caulfield campus will begin within the next few weeks. That means the vacant site at the corner of Railway and Princes Avenues will no longer be available to the Chisholm community for parking, and the kerb area adjacent to the site will be reserved for construction vehicles.

Projects Manager, Mr Robin Bradnick, says builders' sheds will protrude on to the footpath around the Princes Avenue boundaries, and on the Railway Avenue boundary they will be elevated to allow continued use of the footpath by pedestrians.

He says site conditions will be negotiated so that heavy vehicles do not pass through the shopping centre area, gaining entry instead via Railway Avenue and Dandenong Road.

'This should minimise traffic disruption and ensure maximum access to the shopping centre and Caulfield Plaza is maintained for local residents,' Mr Bradnick says.

Traffic arrangements for the construction work were made in consultation with Caulfield City Council.

A map indicating parking lost to site development appears on page 4.

Interim measures are being taken by the Institute on the issue of Repetative Strain Injury (RSI), pending the outcome of industry-wide negotiations.

The Chairperson of the Chisholm Branch of the Victorian Colleges Staff Association (VCSA), Ms Maggie Kiley, says at a meeting of the Institute Working Party on RSI on 7 August, an interim policy on RSI was tabled, and the document forwarded to the Associate Director (Planning and Resources), Mr Gerry Maynard, for implementation.

'VCSA sees that management has taken a step in the right direction,' Ms Kiley says.

'However it must be recognised that without VCSA's prompting, these actions would never have eventuated.'

She says nine areas within the Institute have been identified in which staff are suffering from overuse injuries.

She is hopeful that individuals will come forward more readily as a consequence of the interim policy.

'I am aware that a number of staff who have had RSI injuries diagnosed have not reported them to management,' Ms Kiley adds.

VCSA's call for action arose as a result of RSI information seminars at both Caulfield and Frankston campuses during Semester 1 which were a direct initiative of VCSA raising the issue with management.

The establishment of a working party on RSI was announced by Mr Maynard at the Caulfield seminar on 6 June.

VCSA Chisholm branch has held a series of meetings calling for speedy management action on the RSI issue, and endorsing document, 'Prevention of Repetitive Strain Injury'.

During management/VCSA negotiations, management's position was to wait for the outcome of a College Councils Association of Victoria (CCAV) working party investigation into RSI at a sector level, Ms Kiley says.

She says Chisholm manages that negotiations at a local level could be contrary to the CCAV industry-wide negotiations.

VCSA's concern she says, is that RSI is not just an industrial issue - 'it's a people issue concerned with workers' health and should be addressed at the local level.'

'RSI is a crippling condition which severely affects the whole life of its victims.

'It is not just that an RSI sufferer may be unable to perform at work - severely affected people cannot even do such simple things in their daily life as peel a potato and write a personal letter without pain'.

'We're talking about a life disability'

Institute action on RSI health risk

Titration trifecta

A team of three Chisholm students took out third place in the Royal Australian Chemical Institute's annual Titration Stakes, held at Ballarat CAE.

The competition is open to second year chemistry students from universities and colleges of advanced education throughout the State.

Competitors are required to carry out two chemical analysis procedures on 'known samples', with scoring based on the accuracy of each triplicate determination.

The team from RMIT were declared winners on the day.

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See page 2 for a statement on institute action on RSI by Associate Director, (Planning and Resources), Mr Gerry Maynard.

This year's Chisholm team for the Titration Stakes were, left-right, Arlene Anderson, Sue Aranroong and Rosemary Bonacci.
Support imaging initiative. Jones tells industry

The development of computer imaging and other pioneering science and technology in Australia should be supported by government and industry to ensure Australia retained its place in the action in these fields and could profit from them both directly and indirectly.

That was the message given by the Minister for Science, Mr Barry Jones, when he opened a three day Computer Imaging Symposium at Chisholm's Caulfield campus recently.

Computer imaging was a pioneering technology with 'myriad applications - many of them beyond our imagination at present' which had already proven its practical worth in many fields, Mr Jones said.

He told scientists, engineers and industry managers from many parts of Australia and the United States that computer imaging already played a vital part in such areas as radio and visual astronomy, mapping, environmental monitoring, water resources management, crop management, national security surveillance, and medicine (CAT scanners using X-rays and Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Imagery).

Australia, though 'pure' research programs, had developed some of the basic techniques of computer imaging which they could lead to these applications.

Mr Jones said a major problem for businesses in computer imaging and other developing technology in Australia was gaining support for the necessary research.

He noted that when Charles Babbage, inventor of the programmable computer in England 130 years ago, sought further government funding for work on his "analytical engine" similar to today's computer, the Exchequer, Benjamin Disraeli, was opposed to it.

Disraeli said the only possible use he could see for the machine was to calculate the vast sums of public money that had already been squandered on it.

This view is still held by the Department of Finance in Canberra: Mr Jones said.

For all that, Australia's "aggressive, export-oriented computer industry" relied too on government assistance.

In pioneering technologies, governments are almost always the first customers.

"Private enterprise in Australia isn't very enterprising and is not very knowledgeable - it needs guidance," Mr Jones told.

Mr Jones congratulated private companies which has supported the Computer Imaging Group - and urged others in the private sector to follow that example so basic and applied research could be carried out to the nation's benefit.

It was sobering to note that "My Lords, to a length of 40 years since I led the research which led to the development of computer imaging today was carried out in the 1850s and 1950s, in Australia and elsewhere."

It is vital that Australia have a policy that maintains research 20 years ahead of immediate need; together with an aggressive program of product development, and a commitment to the use of those products by the Government and private enterprise, Mr Jones said.

"Nobody needs an image processor to see that the key to future images is the aggressive Research and Development, and entrepreneurial industry and a committed government," Mr Jones said.

From page 1: Institute moves on RSI by Gerry Maynard, Associate Director (Planning and Resources).

I would like to bring all members of the Institute community up to date with the processes by which the Institute is tackling the serious matter of Repetitive Strain Injuries, or over-use syndrome, as it is frequently called.

You will be aware that a seminar has been held on each campus to inform any staff members with the background to these injuries, how they are diagnosed, treated and prevented.

Both seminars were presented by Dr Turner of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, a group expert in such matters, and were well attended.

The seminars were held as a result of a recommendation and initiative by an Institute Working Party comprised of:

Liva Jackson, Chisholm Community Services
Maggie Kiley, Chairperson, VCSA Chisholm Branch
Sandy Kerr, Student Administration
Margaret Young, Personnel Assistant
Alex Glennie, Safety Officer
Eric Formby, Assistant Staff Officer (Convenor).

This Working Party has been augmented by the addition of Colin Cameron who has considerable expertise in this area.

The Working Party has also initiated a number of visits to the Institute by a consultant ergonomist, also from Vocational Rehabilitation Services, to examine and make recommendations on 'high risk areas' of the Institute. These investigations will begin shortly and we look forward to the resulting comments and recommendations.

In addition, Ann Turner is to address the Deans at their meeting in August and will also conduct a training seminar for supervisors at the beginning of September.

It is hoped by these and other actions taken within the Institute to reduce the incidence of RSI, and where cases do occur, to alleviate their effects. The Institute has a commitment to preserve the health and safety of its community through not only our own Working Party on RSI but also through the Working Party established by the College Councils Association of Victoria.

The intention is to attack this problem by a concentrated effort using the experience of the whole College sector.

Articles on RSI are available in Staff Branch for anyone who should be supported by the Computer Imaging Group and urged others in the private sector to follow that example so basic and applied research could be carried out to the nation's benefit.

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Protective training helps children avert adult threat

Chisholm teacher education leader Ms Guest is deeply concerned about the shocking incidence of child abuse in Victoria and is committed in the family.

And, as Frankston region representative, and member of the State advisory committee for Child Abuse, Ms Guest says the Protective Behaviour Program, she is strongly committed to raising community awareness of the issues.

Currently in use in many US states, the Protective Behaviour Program is aimed at crime prevention.

It involves training people from throughout the community to teach children, adolescents and adults, how to get out of risky situations.

Ms Guest says the police force made the decision to adopt the program early in 1984 in recognition of the alarming high incidence of child abuse and domestic violence in Victoria.

Statistics from the Victorian College of Pharmacy have recently come together to establish the Organic Contaminants Consultant Group to provide a multidisciplinary, expert consulting service to industry, government and commerce.

The group has a high quality service in the analysis and identification of organic compounds from environmental samples such as surface and ground water, domestic and industrial waste waters, soil and animal tissues.

Other comments from the seminar were:

A seminar on human rights at the recent Australian Legal Convention in Melbourne was organised by Lecturer in Law at the Department of Banking and Finance, Ms Sue Chapman.

Chapman: a lawyer with a cause

Ms Chapman

Amnesty from 1980-82, and attended its annual international meeting in December.

Formerly a corporate lawyer, Ms Chapman has been a Chisholm staff member for 18 months.

Task Force targets export education

The opportunities for Chisholm to develop courses and educational programs for overseas students is a major focus of a new Director's Task Force.

The convenor of the Task Force on Recruitment of Overseas Students, Development Director, Dr Bill Briggs, says the move is in line with the Federal Government's recent decision to encourage the export of education as a service to South East Asia, and with Chisholm's own policies as identified in the Planning Document.

Chisholm is one of the first universities to offer 100% of the teaching content in English, and to identify the need to broaden their marketing to overseas students.

Chapman: a lawyer with a cause

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Auditing experts at PIT

Accounting Lecturer, Mr Gurdarshan Gill, was recently invited to deliver two guest lectures at Phillip Institute of Technology.

They were, 'Audit Evidence and Auditor's Responsibility for Detection of Error and Irregularities' (on 30 July), and 'Materiality, Audit Risk and Sampling for Auditors' (on 6 August).

PIT approached Mr Gill following the release in March this year of his first book, 'Modern Auditing in Australia'.

Published by Jacaranda (now part of Wiley), Mr Gill says his book is unique because it is systems oriented and incorporates all the latest pronouncements and standards of the profession.

Mr Gill has been on staff at Chisholm for eight years.
Needy Chisholm students are now eligible to apply for assistance under a $43,500 Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission (CTEC) grant to the Institute. Student Administrative Services Officer, Ms Maggie Kiley, says the grant will be administered in partnership with the Institute's existing student load fund. Students who can show evidence of disadvantage are eligible to apply for a loan of up to $1600, with interest at five percent per annum on a reducing balance. Ms Kiley says the terms of repayment will be totally flexible and will be determined by negotiations between herself and the applicant at the time of application.

CTEC guidelines for administering the loans stipulate that they should be made available to students 'who demonstrate a genuine need, particularly those with few realistic alternatives for accommodation or for other circumstances where a student's continued study is in jeopardy.'

From Gerry Mithen, Equal Opportunity (Administrative) Officer.

A job vacancy advertised in the last issue of the GAZETTE raised at least two cries of 'unfair'- one on each campus. It was claimed to be discriminatory on the grounds of sex to advertise two Project Officer positions for female applicants only, under the Institute's CTEC-funded Project Welcom.

Fortunately (or unfortunately, depending on your point of view) current CEP criteria stipulate that all applicants in this geographical area must be female.

Anti-discrimination legislation does provide for a range of exceptions, one of these being the reinvention of an unwanted person from a bona fide programme, plan or arrangement designed to prevent or reduce disadvantage suffered by a particular class or disadvantaged groups. Consequently, any leftover funds from food, paper and other rubbish will stay on the floor until removed the next morning. Therefore all directions banning eating and smoking in these areas must be strictly observed, and lecturers and students must ensure that the teaching room is left in a clean and tidy condition for the next class.

Failure to do so in future could mean an extra cleaning cost being charged to the Department which used the facility.

It is the responsibility of Premices Branch to ensure the teaching and work areas are left clean and tidy. Therefore a plea of 'fair go' is addressed to all occupants and particularly lecturers to ensure the teaching and learning environment at Chisholm is kept to a high standard.

Gerry Mithen