The pre-occupation of early '83?

The weather
Politics aside (for the moment)

How the drought affects Monash

It has been no ordinary summer. Usually the somnolence of the "silly season" is broken by nothing louder than the peck of a ball off a cricket bat. This year, however, we've faced drought and the associated tragedy of election in south-west Tasmania - and a Federal election.

At Monash, two of the issues - the Franklin and drought measures - were brought together rather neatly when a local environmentalist attached a "No Dam's" sticker to one of the "Watch your step - dam water being used" signs that have sprung up around the campus.

A less socially-concerned wit has written indignantly under another "Dam water being used": "What, no bloody ice!"

That dam, by the way, is the University dam adjacent to the south-east car park. It collects the run-off from the car park and nearby sports grounds and has a capacity of 4.6 million litres. Water from the dam is being pumped up to the Forum pool and from there to garden beds in the vicinity. Elsewhere on campus, two tankers - one of 2275 litre capacity, the other of 900 litre - are being used to cart the dam water to vegetation.

The "Southerly Buster" is the local name given to the strong southerly wind change associated with the front. The weather phenomenon, which occurs in spring and summer and affects the coast from Gabo Island north to Port Macquarie, can be a danger to small craft. It can also have an impact on bushfires and their control.

Nine Monash students working on Geophysical Fluid Dynamics in the Mathematics department joined members of the CSIRO Division of Cloud Physics and the Sydney office of the Bureau of Meteorology in an observational program over three weeks in November-December. Data were gathered during two "events" and will be used to construct an improved dynamical model of the phenomenon.

The Monash group, based in Nowra, was led by Ph.D. students Peter Howells and Michael Reeder, under the supervision of Dr Roger Smith, senior lecturer.

The students' participation in the NSW project was invited on the strength of the expertise the GFD group has established in its cold fronts research program.

In past years, Monash students have joined CSIRO and Bureau of Meteorology teams in observational programs of cold fronts along the western Victorian coast. The GFD group has also organised expeditions to northern Australia to observe the spectacular squall cloud form, the Morning Glory.

"You will find that some of the controls and restrictions that governed your actions at school suddenly disappear when you enter university. As adults, you will enjoy freedoms that you may never have known before.

"But be warned. Much will be expected of you. University is very much a "do-it-yourself" place, and unless you learn quickly to develop initiative, resourcefulness and self-discipline, it could turn out to be a very difficult place.

"Data were gathered during two "events" and will be used to construct an improved dynamical model of the phenomenon.

The Southerly Buster is most easily identified by a large roll cloud perpendicular to the coast which is often, but not always, associated with it.

The aim of Orientation is to give new students the opportunity to meet each other, become acquainted with their new learning environment, and encounter the diverse range of "extra-curricular" activities that can make University life so much more rewarding.

Details of events planned are in the yellow Orientation Program.

Additional orientation activities have been scheduled for part-time and mature age students - a "family day" barbecue on Monday, March 14 at noon in the Sports and Recreation Centre and a faculty night-social evening in the Union on Thursday, March 17 at 7.30p.m.

And there will be an orientation for parents of first year students Organised by the Monash Parents Group, this will be held on Sunday, March 20 and will take the form of campus tours starting at 11a.m. with a barbecue to follow. For further information contact ext. 3079.

In an introduction in the Orientation Handbook, Professor Martin says: "During Orientation you will be exposed to a whole new range of experiences and opportunities. Make the most of them. You will find that university is NOT just a place of scholarship where you spend every waking moment studying for a degree to the exclusion of all else."

"You will find that some of the controls and restrictions that governed your actions at school suddenly disappear when you enter university. As adults, you will enjoy freedoms that you may never have known before.

"But be warned. Much will be expected of you. University is very much a "do-it-yourself" place, and unless you learn quickly to develop initiative, resourcefulness and self-discipline, it could turn out to be a very difficult place.

"But, as I have said, Monash offers much more than the opportunity of gaining a degree. It offers unique opportunities of establishing new friendships, and of expanding your life in myriad ways."
The information office

What we're all about

MONASH REPORTER is one of a number of publications and services provided by the University's information office. Although a part of the Vice-Chancellor's section, the office exists in accordance with its original charter 'to develop and maintain a system of communications within and outside the University' to service the needs of the campus as a whole. It tries to do this in a number of ways:

First, MONASH REPORTER... This is primarily an internal publication, published nine times a year, and distributed throughout the campus and affiliated off-campus institutions. It is edited by Graham Erbacher, who can be contacted on ext. 3087. The person to contact about these.

Another major publication is MONASH REVIEW, a periodical devoted to publishing — mainly off-campus — the University's achievements. It is edited by Frank Campbell and, in recent years, has been published quarterly. This year, however, to cope with the ever-growing volume of material, it is proposed to produce five issues — in March, May, July, September and December. Frank Campbell can be contacted on ext. 3087.

SOUND is another information office publication. Sub-titled 'The official broadsheet of Monash University', this modest journal appears on average 42 times a year. There are no fixed deadlines, and items for publication will be accepted at any time by the information officer, Keith Bennett, or the secretary, Mrs Ruth Keeler. They can be contacted on ext. 3087.

THE MONTH AT MONASH, the advertisement listing University events to which members of the public are invited, is another information office responsibility. Compiled by Mrs Vicki Thomson, the ad appears around the turn of the month in The Age and a number of suburban weeklies. In normal circumstances, copy deadlines are 5 p.m. on the third Thursday of the preceding month. The extension to dial is 2002.

Other information office services include:
- Press Cuttings, a regular compilation of news clippings dealing with Monash and the education scene generally. This is distributed 2-3 times weekly to all departments.
- This is Monash, the annual visitor's guide to the campus. The 1983 edition is due off the presses shortly.
- The Facts leaflets — a series of information leaflets about various aspects of the University.
- Press releases and publicity matters generally: the office is pleased to assist in the preparation of releases and to advise on publications.

The office also is involved in maintaining liaison with the Monash Graduates Association and with school tours of the campus. Vicki Thomson is the person to contact about these.

On the Buster trail

The strongest Busters often arrive after a period of hot northwesterly winds from dry inland areas. The temperature difference between this air and the cold air channelled up from the south can be greater than 20°C. Indeed, in one of the 'events' the team observed, the temperature fell from 42°C to 22°C in a matter of minutes. The Busters normally move up the coast at about 25 knots although speeds may be rather higher, gusting to 40 knots.

The Buster is related to the progress of cold fronts over southern Australia. If the front has a northwest-southeast orientation, which is common, it meets the Great Dividing Range behind the NSW coast at right angles. The front is deformed in an S-bend, pushing up on the eastern side of the Range as a 'coastally trapped' current and slowing down on the west.

It is a low level phenomenon with a depth to the height of the mountains. Above this, synoptic flow is normal.

During the observational period the Monash team's task was to gather wind data. This was done by tracking double theodolites the position of significance as a weather phenomenon, and using anemometers along the coast. South Island of New Zealand, the direction, humidity and turbulence.

The exercise was assisted by the southern coast or Chile and the eastern direction, humidity and turbulence.

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On one side, the State and protection of national security. On the other, the individual and his civil liberties. Two Monash lawyers are conducting a study on this issue — and guidelines on how the interests may be properly balanced should result. Page 5.

DO GRADUATES go on to do Dip.Eds. because there's nothing else to do? And do medical students have a task risk of crucial health problems — their own? Some comments, page 8.

THE MONASH Legal Service has a name, form and a wider role. The story, pictures page 9.

MONASH REPORTER
The answer: no. Valuable insight: yes.

For some, it would be better left until Professor Sinclair is no stranger to Monash.

An alumnus of the University in its second year of teaching as a senior lecturer in Economics. He returns via appointment at La Trobe University and Flinders, Adelaide to take the position left vacant by the retirement of Professor Don Cochrane last year.

Professor Sinclair's recent publications include "The Process of Economic Development in Australia".

A Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia, he has been for the past 10 years editor of the "Australian Economic History Review", the recognised journal in its field.

Points of controversy

Questions to put to the new Dean in an interview are raised by two recent newspaper pieces.

An editorial in the Financial Review last year coined a group name for Australian economists:

"The irrelevance of economists is targeted by them, lamenting: ‘Many of the most able and highly trained economists have lost faith in their ability to say anything very much on how economies work and where they are going. The orthodoxies of today and yesterday are only really believed by small numbers of zealots who are not too fussy about evidence."

The mainstream of the economics profession in Australia has largely lost its sense of direction and its sense of relevance.

A disillusionment with economics is not confined to journalists reflecting, perhaps, unformed public opinion.

From within the profession, a recent quote from the internationally-known Cambridge economist Professor Joan Robinson: ‘I've spent my life in economic theory and it has come to pieces in my hands. I don't believe in it any longer.' (National Times).

Economic historians

The interview starts close to home and the growth of Gross Domestic Product.

"The country in terms of the availability of source material." He would like to see more historians

"The mainstream of the economics profession in Australia has largely lost its sense of direction and its sense of relevance." He believes there are gaps in our economic history because the emphasis of scholarship to date has been on the Australian economy as a whole.

"There are, I believe, new insights to be gained by treating Australia as a series of connected regions. The regional dimension brings out more clearly important aspects of economic development."

SA history

His starting point has been an economic history of South Australia from the foundation of the colony. He will publish a volume on the topic to coincide with SA's Jubilee in 1986.

Another major area of research has been the position of women in the urban labour force.

And Collingwood's chances in 1983! Professor Sinclair is looking forward to a strong recovery there, in line with that of the Australian economy.

Volunteer's Insight: no.
This committee can assist Monash authors

The manuscript is underway. The scholarly and creative input is from your experience...

But what about publication?

What are the most appropriate publishers to approach? Are your interests sufficiently protected by the contract or publisher? Are the firm's distribution plans adequate? Is, indeed, publication only a "go" if you can attract a subsidy?

There is at Monash a body which can help staff and graduate students tread as safe — or perhaps, sensible — a path as is possible through the minefield of publishing.

Chairman of the Publications Committee is Mr Brian Southwell, University Librarian, who says that there are two forms of assistance the committee can give Monash authors in obtaining publication. One is financial; the other, editorial.

The committee has as its members academics existing in publishing. It also draws on the expertise of its secretary, Mrs Lee White, Monash Publications Officer, and the University's Legal Officer, Mr John Pilley.

Mr Southwell says that the committee has a small annual grant — $10,000 — to assist publication through subsidies.

Often publishing houses regard such subsidies as the linchpin of publication of a title, but it is envisaged for the small, specialist audience.

Certainly the subsidy can be the vital element in a publication reaching the market at a "reasonable" price.

Mr Southwell points out that the committee has an open mind on the purpose of such assistance.

"We operate within guidelines but there is no blueprint. Each request is a different case," he says.

To give different examples. A Monash subsidy has enabled the book "Tom Mbaya: The Man Kenya Wanted to Forget" by David Goldsworthy, Reader in Politics, to be published in a cheap paperback edition for sale in Africa.

In the case of "The Golden Age of Australian Opera: W. S. Lyttel and His Companies 1861-1880", by Harold Love, Reader in English, a subsidy enabled the retention of scholarly chapters and, at the same time, sale at a reasonable price.

Joint venture

Mr Southwell says that subsidies are usually repayable as a first charge against profits.

As well as granting straight subsidies, the Publications Committee at times enters into a joint publishing venture with a firm, sharing the risks and profits (if any).

Financial involvement in a project can give more security. Mr Southwell says a stronger voice in important negotiations — keeping the project on time; maintaining standards and ensuring adequate distribution, for example. This last concern is particularly important when publishers at the "vanity end" of the market are involved. Their name notwithstanding, such publishers can play a worthwhile role in the publication of specialist appeal material.

Mr Southwell says there are several factors which, in providing editorial assistance, the committee can give authors. For example, it can:

- Give advice on publishers likely to publish in a particular type of work.
- Assist with negotiations with a publishing company.
- Legally vet publishers' contracts.
- Act as a "go-between" between the author and publisher if difficulties arise during production.
- Advise on what are and are not author's corrections and evaluate the effect of changes on costs to the author.
- Offer advice for authors looking to use new technology in their work such as producing typeset material from material on computer or word processor.

A University Press?

Mr Southwell says that a formal approach to the committee for a subsidy or legal review should be made after a manuscript has been accepted but before a contract has been signed. Informal contact is invited at any time, however.

Mr Southwell says there are several forms of editorial assistance the committee can offer authors.

"That's the starting point of Test-Tube Conception," he says. "It is sub-titled: "A guide for couples, doctors and the community to the revolution in fertility in Australia's first test-tube baby and, since 1980, has led one of the world's foremost IVF programs — the Queen Victoria Medical Centre / Monash University / Epworth Hospital service.

Ann Westmore is a freelance journalist specialising in medical matters. Her book "Test-Tube Conception" is the first which gives comprehensive information on the "how, why and where-to" of the process.

It explains the place of the "test-tube baby method" in overcoming infertility, the demands the procedure makes on couples, the current success rate, and ethical and legal aspects. It also looks at future developments which may flow from current work.

"Test-Tube Conception," published by Hill of Content Publishing Company Pty Ltd., has a recommended retail price of $8.95.

Psychologists published

Two Monash academics have had a book, "Human Cerebral Asymmetry," published in the Prentice-Hall Century Psychology Series.

They are Dr John Bradshaw, senior lecturer in Psychology, and Mr Norman Nettleton, lecturer in Education.

Their work is directed at both the general and specialist reader.

It gives an overview of human (and animal) cerebral asymmetry in the context of brain morphology, clinical, neuropsychology and normal findings, language mediation by the mirror hemisphere, mechanisms or functions which may underlie or mediate cerebral asymmetries, sex differences and determinants and manifestations of limb and receptor asymmetries, developmental aspects, reading difficulties and how they may relate to anomalies of lateralisation, other clinical syndromes, cognitive style and clinical and educational implications.

The authors say it is a comprehensive, up-to-date and integrated account — the only work to cover the field in depth.

Diverse new works on shelf

A Monash linguist, Dr Michael Clyne, argues the case for a national language policy for Australia in a recently published comprehensive study of community languages titled "Multilingual Australia.

Dr Clyne, of the German department, says that flexibility will be the key to success of a policy on CLDIEs (community languages other than English), the need for which is being considered by a Senate Standing Committee on Education and the Arts.

"Different facilities may need to be made available in different languages and on different levels of language policy," he says.

In most cases, planning will need to operate at the regional or local level, but at the state level, take into account larger units to protect the interests of smaller and less well-off ethnic groups.

Dr Clyne says: "Within a flexible and imaginative framework, a language policy for Australia can be developed which is of benefit to all and which recognises the multicultural nature of society and the idea of multiculturalism.

A relatively simple series of operations.

"The cost will probably emerge as low compared to the benefits in more efficient communication in many spheres of life, improved quality of life, and resources of the national and international arena."

"Multilingual Australia" (River Seine Publications Pty Ltd) is one of several books recently published with assistance from the Monash University Publications Committee.

A second one is "Tom Mbaya: The Man Kenya Wanted to Forget" by David Goldsworthy, Reader in Politics (Helmans Educational Books Ltd / African Publishing Company).

Dr Goldsworthy traces the remarkable career of Tom Mbaya, aged 38 when he was assassinated in a Nairobi street in 1969, from its beginnings in Kenyan trade unionism in the Mau Mau era to its end in the seizure of power in Kenya's state. A national and international identity for the best part of 15 years, Mbaya is one of the most controversial political leaders Africa has produced.


The book is very largely a Monash effort. It is the result of "The Billings Method" book, published by the University of California Press.

The book tackles a significant subject — Man in the nuclear age and reviews the relationship of Progress to Nihilism in modern civilisation.

Mr Redner says a senior lecturer in Politics.

The Publications Committee has also assisted publication of the Australian Journal of French Studies. Vol. XVIII no. 3 edited by Wallace Kiroup, Associate Professor of French, and "Professional Burnout: Papers presented at a seminar at Monash University on 22 March, 1983," edited by Peter Bond and Norman Smith of the Social Work Department.

At the launching of the book, Professor Carl Wood (left), "test-tube baby" parents Len and Brennan, and daughter Pippin, and Sir Gustav Nossal.

Test-tube baby book

"Teams involved in the test-tube baby program do not make life; they assist in creation by using God's materials — the sperm cells of the husband, the egg of the wife and the idea of the scientists, doctors and many others."

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National security
vs
Civil liberties
Study aims to balance interests

There is, say Monash lawyers Dr Hoong Phun Lee and Mr Peter Hanks, a study of the issue in his

World experts in the science and practice of rock engineering are to assemble in Melbourne in April for the International Congress of the International Society for Rock Mechanics.

Professor Walter Witke, of West Germany, a distinguished civil engineer, is the International President of the Society, and other experts coming to the Congress include geologists, geophysicists, mining engineers, petroleum reservoir engineers and specialists with a scientific interest in rock engineering.

The Congress, which is being held at David Brocks Hall from April 10-15, is being held in Australia in recognition of the major contributions in the field by Australian geologists.

Advances in rock engineering in Australia have been made in the work of

MONASH REPORTER

Rock engineers talk solid facts

Snoopy Mountains and Tasmanian hydro-electric schemes, in metal mining at Mt Isa and Broken Hill, in coal mining in NSW and Queensland, with machine tunnelling in Melbourne by the Board of Works, and in the work for the Melbourne underground rail loop.

The Congress Chairman, Professor Lance Endersbee, Monash Dean of Engineering, says developments to be reported at the Congress include:

• Improvement to the safety of large underground metal mines through rock reinforcement.
• Techniques for control of gas outbursts in coal mining.
• Control of rock slides in deep open cuts.
• Developments in the design and construction of large underground power stations.

• Rock behaviour around underground storages of radioactive waste.
• Developments in rock construction practices, including drilling, blasting and machine tunnelling.
• The greatly expanded use of tunnelling and underground construction for services in cities, notably for rail transport, for freeways, interconnections, for underground systems for public utilities such as water supply, waste water and electricity, and for storage of oil and gas.

Professor Endersbee says that this increased use of underground "space" in cities reflects both the costs and environmental objections to surface construction, as well as the development of new techniques in rock engineering.

The host for the Congress is the Australian Geomechanics Society.

In the Fairfax case of 1980 concerning publication of "secret" foreign affairs documents, the High Court took a critical approach to Government claims of publication being "against the public interest".

Decisions in the Toothey's case (1981), the FAI Insurance Ltd v Wienieke and the Church of Scientology case (both 1982) give further clues to the judiciary's role in a highly sensitive area.

In their book Dr Lee and Mr Hanks will consider whether there is a need for doctrinal change in the courts' approach.

Surveillance needs

While the lawyers show a concern with the civil liberties side in "the balance of interests", they do not deny that there is a legitimate role for government in activities such as political surveillance.

"There are groups in our society which see violence as a means of expressing political opinion. As Australian society becomes more heterogeneous it is importing other people's conflicts," they say.

"A responsible government cannot ignore these facts. Whether its intelligence gathering resource is known as a 'Special Branch' or not is largely a matter of semantics. It will always exist.""
Staffing need is paramount

Funding cutbacks — and their toll on staffing levels — are now threatening the high standard of teaching and research achieved by Monash in its first two decades.

"The area of staffing is seen by the University as its major problem at the present time, and the area where relief in the triennium 1985-87 must be forthcoming unless there is to be a marked loss of quality and a serious decline in morale," says the submission.

It requests that the base level of the recurrent grant for the next triennium be restored in real terms to the supplement level provided for 1979. Recurrent grants sought in each of the three years are $75.9m, $76.4m. and $77.1m. (at December 31, 1981 levels).

The submission points out that Monash has responded to the problem of reduced funding by economies in its non-staffing budget.

"Nevertheless, since the late 1970s it has been impossible to prevent a deterioration of student/staff ratios," it says.

"Only essential academic vacancies have been filled, promotion prospects of continuing staff have been much reduced, and technical and support staff for teaching programs have been cut back. Each of these moves has had an adverse effect on the quality of the University’s teaching and research. Together, these effects have begun to compound because more positive developments which might have offset one of them are no longer forthcoming."

It continues: "In 1982, staffing — on which we expend more than 84 per cent of our recurrent grant — fell by 150 positions. Despite our best efforts to maintain academic staff levels, 22 positions have been lost, and we currently operate at the highest student-staff ratio in Australia, 13.9 — in a University containing the intensive-teaching faculties of Engineering and Medicine."

As a result, programs and subjects have been cancelled, course options reduced and tutorial teaching restricted.

The University asks that its grants be increased to allow it to achieve at least the average student/staff ratios for the fields of study in which it is engaged.

Student changes

In the next five years Monash’s student population will contract slightly and the mix will become more science-oriented.

In accordance with a directive from the Commonwealth Tertiary Commission, the University is planning to reduce its total student load to 12,800 EFTS (equivalent full-time students) by next year — the end of the current triennium. The load last year was 13,447 EFTS and this year it is planned to be 13,010 EFTS.

After a 1984 "low", it has been proposed that Monash’s population should grow again to 12,950 EFTS by 1987.

At the same time as Monash is planning to reduce its total student load it is planning to increase its science-based student number from 31.3% of total enrolments in 1983 to 33.9% in 1987. This will be achieved by an increased intake of students in the faculties of Engineering and Science and a reduction in the humanities-based disciplines (Arts, ECOsPS, Education and Law).

The submission points out that additional funds will be necessary to meet the projected increase in enrolments in the science-based faculties.

On another aspect of the student population profile, the submission says that Monash is attracting a growing proportion of the top HSC students.

Last year some 36% of entrants were in the top one-eighth of HSC candidates — those with scores of 300 or above. In 1980 the figure was 27%.

The most dramatic rise in quality of entrant has been in Engineering, where last year some 52% of the intake scored 300 or better, compared with 23% two years earlier.

The overall demand for places in Monash’s undergraduate courses has increased by between 20% and 24% since 1979.

This competition for places is shown by rises in the selection cut-off HSC scores in all faculties except Arts (in part attributable to an increase of 100 in that faculty’s quota). The 1976 cut-off score compared with the 1982 score in each faculty was: Arts 254, 242; ECOsPS 258, 272; Engineering 226, 282; Law 297, 311; Medicine 305, 315; Science 240, 258.

The submission says that the planned reduction in total student load in Arts by 1987 will mean that its HSC selection score could rise from 242 in 1982 to about 260 by 1987.

Research ‘pivot’

Monash will continue to place an emphasis on research in the coming years. It is the one activity that distinguishes universities from other tertiary institutions, says the submission.

"Whether it be of a basic or applied nature, the benefits of research are passed on to the community at large as well as to the undergraduates of a university who are taught by men and women shaping ideas and developing new concepts at the present limits of knowledge," it says.

"Monash University, since its opening in 1961, has set out to encourage research and research training as the central feature of its development.

"In pursuing this objective it has won distinction, both within Australia and internationally, for the achievements of its staff in research and scholarship, working both in teams or as individuals. Its staff are in constant demand as consultants to industry and government and to serve on government committees."

Monash urges the Universities Council to press strongly for an increase in Commonwealth funding of the two major sources of research funds, the Australian Research Grants Committee and the National Health and Medical Research Council.

The submission says that, in addition, the Commonwealth Tertiary Commission’s Special Research Grant has made an important contribution to the University’s research activity. This grant has been increasing and by 1984 will reach a sum equal to 1.7% of Monash’s recurrent grant. The University requests a further increase — to 3% — by 1987.

Monash also points out that it has made a major effort in research training through the funding of its own Monash Graduate Scholarships.

"We shall continue to support graduate student research, but a 31% increase in MGS stipends in 1983 imposes a major burden on recurrent funds, although these stipends will still be below the level of Commonwealth awards."
Top capital need in
Queen Vic.
relocation

The relocation of a Monash teaching hospital, the Queen Victoria Medical Centre, from the city to a site in Clayton, close to the campus, prompts one of the University's major building needs.

Monash has requested capital funds from the Commonwealth for the construction of a four-level building to house sections currently at Queen Vic., including the departments of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Paediatrics and the Centre for Early Childhood Development.

The whole Queen Vic. relocation project is to be completed by late 1986 at a total cost of $44.36m (in June 1982 terms). Included in the plans are a full casualty service, 463 inpatient beds and day surgery facilities.

Other projects

The second major capital request is for an extension to facilities at Prince Henry's Hospital. The submission says that Prince Henry's shares clinical teaching equally with the Alfred but was not built as a teaching hospital. There is an urgent need for additional tutorial, seminar and clinical demonstration rooms.

Detailed requests are made for five other projects: Engineering Building 7 (for the departments of Civil and Mechanical); a lecture theatre/tutorial room complex (adjacent to Medicine and for use primarily by that faculty, Science and Law); a hazardous processes and wet minerals laboratory (for Chemical Engineering); a multidisciplinary centre (west of the Ronunda), to meet demands for additional accommodation for groups such as the Higher Education Advisory and Research Unit, the Centre for Continuing Education, the Aboriginal Research Centre, the Graduate School of Librarianship, the departments of Social Work, Geography and Visual Arts and the Exhibition Gallery; and a computing laboratory (south-west of Mathematics).

Three more projects are listed briefly in the submission and “most certainly will be put forward in subsequent submissions”. They are a new building at the Alfred Hospital Clinical School, completion of extensions to Engineering Building 6 and laboratory accommodation for the department of Geography.

Proposed developments
build on current work

The health of a university — and, in turn, that of the community it serves — rests on its ability to institute new developments.

These, of course, can be only of limited scope while universities operate within a financial straitjacket.

However, as the submission points out, a significant degree of rationalisation and inter-institutional sharing of resources have freed limited funds and made some new developments possible.

In recent years, Monash has established at minimal cost, for example:

- The Centre for Human Bioethics which brings together contributions from the Arts, Medicine, Science and Law faculties;
- The Centre for Textual and Bibliographical Studies which draws on existing expertise in the language departments as well as History and Librarianship.

The departments of Japanese, History and Music and the Faculty of Law have been prime movers behind the new Japanese Studies Centre, formed by members drawn from all Victorian tertiary institutions teaching courses or conducting research on Japan.

The submission describes developments proposed for 1985-87 as evolutionary in character. “They seek limited funds, being largely defined by the course of current progress in research,” it says.

These are the major proposed new developments, faculty by faculty:

Arts

It is planned that Centres of European and Australian Studies be established. These would draw together the expertise of members of departments in English and History. Also under consideration is a redeployment of resources in the language and literature departments to enable inter-departmental co-operation in teaching.

The faculty also proposes to expand its activities in Aboriginal Studies.

Economics and Politics

A new development could follow the recommendation of the Ralph Committee of Inquiry into Management Education that Monash house one of the “regional” management schools.

The faculty sees its department of Administrative Studies as the nucleus of such a school. A recent report of the VPEEC Working Party on the Ralph Report did not support the recommendation, however.

The chairman of the CTEC subsequently advised the University that he proposed to recommend to the Commission that the course should be located at SMIT. At the time of going to press, the University was still awaiting the decision of the Commission and of the Minister for Education.

Education

Fields in which this faculty plans to expand its work include school curriculum, administration and measurement, and computer education. Training programs in research methodology are also being reorganised to enable the faculty's strengths to be co-ordinated and used more effectively.

Engineering

In recent years the Engineering faculty has been catering for postgraduate professional training for practising engineers in its M.Eng.Sc coursework programs. It now proposes to augment these by offering in consecutive years graduate diplomas in Mining Engineering, Extractive Metallurgy and Public Health Engineering. These courses will draw on the expertise of staff from Law and Science.

Law

The faculty endeavours to cover in its curriculum topics on which society is placing greater emphasis — social welfare law, for example. Other topics of growing importance include compensation law, human rights and civil liberties.

Medicine

Four new clinical developments are proposed for incorporation in existing departments: chairs in clinical oncology, community geriatric medicine, clinical pharmacology and therapeutics, and occupational medicine.

University support for them is conditional, however, on the costs of their establishment and maintenance being met from non-recurrent funds.

The submission says that the developments "might properly be met" from the Commonwealth health budget.

"The research findings that could flow... could be expected to help contain the escalating costs associated with these areas."

Science

This faculty has experienced a growing demand from students wishing to study Chemistry, Mathematics, Computer Science and Genetics — a demand that has not been met because of restricted funds.

Says the submission: "This is particularly noticeable in Computer Science where almost half of the qualified students applying for entry have been excluded by quota constraints imposed by funding levels. The discipline is seen by its practitioners as science-based whereas the CTEC funds it as a mathematical discipline."

"Subject to the provision of adequate funds, the University seeks an increase in student load to meet this demand."

New centre underway

Work has begun at Monash on a building to accommodate the recently-established Japanese Studies Centre.

The $171,000 building, designed by Monash University Architect, Mr Alan Scott, in the Japanese style, is being constructed opposite the Medical faculty, south of Ring Road South.

The Centre, a joint undertaking involving Monash, Melbourne and La Trobe universities and Swinburne Institute of Technology, was set up in June 1981 to provide a focus for the study of Japan in Victoria.

It has attracted financial support from such sources as Toyota, the car firm, the Commemorative Association for the Japan World Exposition, the Australia-Japan Foundation, the William Buckland Foundation and CRA Limited.

The new building is expected to become an invaluable resource centre, drawing together a considerable amount of research material and expertise. It will also provide a base for visiting Japanese scholars.

It is a counterpart of the Monash Japanese Centre which has been operating in Tokyo for the past 12 years.

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MARCH, 1983
Survey slams myth of 'poor excuse' teachers

A Monash survey scotches the commonly held view that graduates turn to teaching careers with low motivation — because they "think teaching better to do". The survey was conducted among 131 people who completed the Diploma in Education at Monash in 1981 by the people who completed the Diploma in Education at Monash in 1981 by C&A, says that most respondents were highly motivated towards a teaching career with 70% listing it as their main ambition. Some 81%, even bothering to apply for alternative courses," the report adds.

Many of the diplomates (83%) believed that teaching offered high job satisfaction. Only one of the respondents was unemployed as at April 30, 1982. Some 14 were emergency teachers and seeking permanent employment.

Good prospects

Says the report: "We would infer from this that teaching offers very good prospects of employment but would point out that we are not endeavouring to compare the Monash diplomates favorably or otherwise with graduates from other places."

The survey found that nearly three-quarters of the respondents were Monash graduates on entry to the Dip.Ed. course. The most common first degree was Arts (51%). The most popular teaching methods selected in the course were history and English with mathematics making an increasingly strong showing.

Just over one-third of the respondents had had full-time work experience before entering the course; about three-quarters had worked nine to 10 months in casual or part-time employment.

This is the third time C&A has surveyed Monash Education diplomates. Information was obtained from two questionnaires — one used by the Monash Careers Coordinator in Australia in their annual destinations survey, another designed by C&A incorporating suggestions from the faculty of Education, the Catholic Education Office and the Glen Waverley Teachers' Centre.

The study was conducted with support from BHP.

Dip.Ed. employment remains buoyant

The outlook for employment in secondary teaching remains reasonably bright for the immediate future, according to a Monash educationalist whose research interest is in enrollments and teacher employment.

In an article in the Careers and Appointments Service report on Monash Dip.Ed. enrolments, Dr Burke says that the number of jobs is very sensitive to the size of the resignation rate of teachers and to government funding for both State and non-government schools.

Improved levels

For example, the number of jobs for new primary teachers in Victoria at the beginning of 1983 was unexpectedly doubled by a decision of the State Government to sharply improve levels of school staffing.

"Similar events may well happen in the future." he says.

Dr Burke says that the number of jobs is very sensitive to the size of the resignation rate of teachers and to government funding for both State and non-government schools.

"Anyone considering teacher training should appreciate that the predictability for future employment may not be very different from that for medicine, law or engineering.

"Students considering a course of teacher education should not place too much faith in projections of shortage or surplus.

"The best advice seems to be to undertake the course if it interests you but to try to keep open your options of employment."

Dr Burke says that, rather than a surplus of teachers, in some disciplines such as mathematics and physics there has been a continuous shortage.

"For a number of other areas there has been quite a strong demand so that jobs have been available except for teachers who were very restrictive about the location of the school they were willing to teach in."

"Even in areas in which the numbers trained have been greater than the jobs available in teaching, the graduates appeared to have found employment outside teaching."

In the secondary area, employment has strengthened in the last two years, says Dr Burke, because of the increase in the resignation rate and increases in school enrolments.

Total secondary enrolments in Victoria are projected to continue to rise until 1985, after which they are expected to decline.

"But this could be partly offset if retention of pupils to the end of secondary school continues to grow as in the last three years," he adds.

Superman’ doctors overlook a health problem - their own!

"Physician, heal thyself" is a "totally unreal and cruel" axiom which, unfortunately, is being abandoned in the same time as measures are being introduced to help doctors with their health problems.

In an occasional address delivered late last year, at a Monash graduation ceremony, Professor Wallace Ironside, of the department of Psychological Medicine, blasted the "superman myth" that doctors are never ill. He suggested it was a contributing factor to a high incidence of suicide in some groups of doctors and widespread alcohol and drug abuse.

Professor Ironside said: "It is difficult for a doctor to admit to illness and seek treatment. And when he does admit to it he had better beware."

"Paradoxically he is at risk of being shortchanged, his punishment for exposing the superman myth. And should he seek help for an emotional, psychological problem he is at even greater risk of not having the appropriate treatment."

"This, I suspect, is a factor contributing to the high incidence of suicide in some groups of doctors. With appropriate treatment the suicide rate would drop."

Professor Ironside said that doctors were urged to have some problems to a greater degree than others with the same background and levels of education but in other walks of life.

A long-term study into the health of "an admittedly small" number of Harvard graduates pointed up:

- Abuse of mind-altering drugs three times greater in doctors when seen 40 years after graduation.
- Alcohol abuse the same.
- Permanent damage from both alcohol and drug abuse 15 times greater among the doctors.

He said: "No one really knows why this group studied should have been afflicted in this way, nor whether it is an isolated phenomenon and has no relevance for the profession as a whole.

Work stress

"However, impressionistically, it is generally held that their work stresses doctors more than most professionals. "Suggestions are that doctors have the grave responsibility of life and death to cope with, that their work is often perplexing with no clear answers to problems, that advances in knowledge and techniques are difficult to keep pace with, and that they have personalities which strive for perfection in circumstances when perfection — for example, a complete cure — cannot be achieved."

Professor Ironside said that doctors should take good care to seek proper treatment despite the resistances within themselves and their colleagues to provide it.

"In the current social climate women doctors are more at risk than men. Thus the woman doctor must take special care to protect her health."

Seminar on tenure

Tenure for academics is a "hot" issue, particularly in light of the recent Government inquiry on the matter. The Higher Education Advisory and Research Unit is organising a seminar on Tenure to be held on Friday, March 25, 2.15 p.m. to 5 p.m., in R6.

Mr Les Wallis (FAUSA) will give an overview of the report and Dr Terry Hore and Dr Leo West (HEARU) will show the possible effects of a 90 per cent and 80 per cent tenure ratio on this University. It is anticipated that Senator Robert Ray will attend from 3.30 p.m.

For further information and enrolments contact ext. 3270.
New name, home and role for legal service

The Monash Legal Service has a new home and a new name.

The Service, which started life in the Law building and since 1979 has operated from Nonanassy House, has now moved to 60 Beddow Avenue on the western perimeter of the campus.

The University-owned weatherboard house is being converted into a fully-fledged law office.

The move has been made possible with the support of the University, the Legal Aid Commission and Oakleigh City.

Says Dr Guy Powles, co-ordinator of clinical legal education in the faculty of Law, "This move and the possible re-orientation of the Legal Service to meet the needs of the wider community as well as those of the campus, and to provide better facilities for all clients."

"Behind the move is the concept of a partnership between the University and the City of Oakleigh which, it is hoped, will further fostered with community legal education and legal 'outreach' programs."

The Monash-Oakleigh Legal Service provides free legal assistance to members of the Monash and general communities. It has more than an advisory/referral role, providing the full range of services of a solicitor's office.

The Service has a newly appointed lawyer co-ordinator, David Sharrack, who supervises the work in the centre of fourth and fifth year Law students in the subject Professional Practice.

Dr Powles says that this subject, which has been offered since 1975, enables students to acquire vital skills of a lawyer - handling facts, files and people - which are not always learnt in an academic environment.

Students spend part of their week working in either the Monash-Oakleigh Legal Service or the Springvale Legal Service at 5 Osborne Avenue, Springvale.

It is a form of community involvement with two-way benefit.

Under close supervision, students interview clients, advise them of their legal position and, if appropriate, open a file for an ongoing matter.

The student is encouraged to develop skills involving judgment, the recognition of issues, the analysis of problems and situations, the use of tactics and decision-making generally.

The on-the-job learning is backed up with formal teaching through seminars and case presentation.

Matters both Services most frequently encounter relate to motor accidents, divorce custody and maintenance, hire purchase agreements, tenancy, summonses and court actions, and police prosecutions.

The Monash Oakleigh Legal Service conducts client interviews in four sessions a week - Monday and Friday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday 6 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. Telephone hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

The contact number is 541 3368.

The Service has a secretary, Jan Brown, but with its expanded role it has an urgent need for typing assistance.

Anyone with typing experience who is willing to do voluntary work for one or more half days or evenings a week or fortnight should contact Guy Powles on ext. 3361 or David Sharrack on ext. 3358.

SEMINARS

The Centre for Continuing Education is continuing its series of seminars on pertinent welfare and health issues - aimed at professionals working in the field. The first half of 1983:

1. The series will begin on "Living with Cancer" and is being offered in conjunction with the City of Cockburn. The Royal Theological College of General Practitioners. It will be held at Monash on April 18, 4 p.m to 9.30 p.m.

Among contributors will be Professor Neil Carson and Dr Alan Rose of Monash's department of Community Medicine.

Other seminars have been planned on Financial Counselling (May 23), Sudden Infant Death (June 1), Death and Dying (June 27) and Crisis Intervention (to be advised).

For further information contact ext. 3717/3718.

The Continuing Legal Education office of the Law faculty has also planned a busy year of activities for members of the legal and accounting professions.

The faculty will run its regular series of lectures in such areas as taxation, company law and family law.

As well, it will introduce a number of intensive courses on taxation, company law, international trade law, international air law and family law. These courses will run over a 12 week period and the registration fee is $300.

MONASH REPORTER

SETTLING IN at 60 Beddow Avenue are David Sharrack (right), lawyer/co-ordinator of the Monash-Oakleigh Legal Service, and Law students, Robert Mailardt (left) and Doug Learner.

For further information contact Mrs Zoe Pank on ext. 3329. A new catalogue of publications which has resulted from Continuing Legal Education programs is also available.

The Graduate School of Environmental Science has organised a brief series of forums on environmental topics in first term.

Each forum begins at 5 pm in the GSES seminar room.

The first two (March 9 and 16) are of most interest to students in the Environmental Science course. Of more general interest are the following:

March 23, "Conservation v Depressive Economics?" Philip Sutton, Department of Mines and Energy; March 30, "Environmental Lobby Groups Under Labour" John Dick, Conservation Council of Victoria; April 6, "Future Studies", Goran Backstram, Secretariat for Future Studies, Stockholm; April 13, "Land Degradation in Victoria"; Ian Sargeant, lecturer in GSES; April 20, "Expectations and Possibilities for a Sustainable Forestry", Tony Maedendor, Forest Commission of Victoria; April 27, "Changing Attitudes to the Environment - 1950s Onwards", Professor G. W. Leeper; May 4, "Radical Agriculture", speaker to be confirmed; May 11, "Environmental Planning and the Planning Profession", W. Chandler, immediate past president of the Royal Planning Institute (Victoria) and member of Loder and Butty Consulting Group.

Diamond Jubilee

Former students and staff of Kiltfangton Baptist Girls' Grammar School - your Alma Mater would like to hear from you.

The School this year is celebrating its Diamond Jubilee. It is compiling a comprehensive mailing list so that it can inform ex-Kiltfingtonites of activities.

It is also seeking items of historical interest - letters, documents, photographs, uniforms, exercise books, text books, school reports and programs (sports, music or drama). If you can assist contact Mr G. M. Andrews, Administrator, Kiltfington BGGS, Car Lella and Katandra Roads, Ormond, 3163. Telephone: 578 6231.

Appointment

A Monash environmental scientist has been appointed Co-ordinator of the Victorian Energy Plan.

He is Dr David Crossley, who has been a senior research fellow in the Graduate School of Environmental Science since 1980.

The Co-ordinator is a member of the Senior Executive Service in the Department of Minerals and Energy, responsible for the formulation of a long-term energy strategy for Victoria.

As well as contributing to teaching in Environmental Science, Dr Crossley has been principal investigator for three research projects on various aspects of energy policy funded by the National Energy Research, Development and Demonstration Council. He will continue to supervise one of these projects.

Engineering Congress

The Sixth International Conference on Wind Engineering will be held at the Gold Coast from March 21-25 and at Auckland, New Zealand, from April 6-7.

Chairman of the organising committee is Professor W. H. Melbourne, of Monash University's Department of Mechanical Engineering.

More than 200 delegates are expected to attend the Conference, which will discuss a range of problems involving wind engineering, including wind characteristics: strong winds and tropical cyclones, wind loading of tall buildings and low rise structures, wind loading of chimneys and bridges, and questions of safety.

The conference will be opened by the President of the Institution of Engineers, Australia, Mr. John McIntyre. Keynote speaker will be Professor Alan Davenport, of the University of Western Ontario.

One of the delegates will be Mr. Kit Scrutton, formerly of the National Physical Laboratory, U.K., who founded the series.

MARCH, 1983
Monash’s Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ray Martin, has expressed concern at a change in the direction of university research funding towards “strategic or mission-oriented” research at the expense of basic research.

Professor Martin, who chairs the AVCC Inter-university Committee on Research, said recently: “Few would deny that research in the fields of medicine, energy, marine science, primary industry etc. should be supported strongly. However, this support must be largely in addition to and not at the expense of — basic research in universities.

“If the infrastructure of basic research is not well-fertilised, the fruits of mission-oriented research will inevitably wither.”

Professor Martin was delivering a paper to a forum on “Future Directions for Australian Research” organised by the Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations at Melbourne University last year.

He said that there was an urgent need to restore the level of basic research funding to at least the level of 1975. Basic research he defined as “curiosity-driven research that enables the fundamental secrets of the universe to be unravelled, the basic insights into knowledge to be gleaned by men and women who pursue enlightenment largely for its own sake and who are motivated primarily by their intellectual curiosity. It must never be forgotten that basic research is the fountain from which ideas and discoveries flow, providing the pool of knowledge on which our technologies and industries are based.”

“Strategic or mission-oriented research, on the other hand, has been defined as “research directed into specified broad areas in the expectation of useful discoveries. It provides the broad base of knowledge necessary for the solution of recognised practical problems.”

Research expenditure

Professor Martin said that the total expenditure on strategic or mission-oriented research, rather than declining, had increased by about 50% from 1973 to 1981. But, he said, it was instructive to dissect the total identifiable research expenditure (TIRE) in terms of the sources of funds provided by the Australian Research Grants Commission (ARGC), the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), and the National Energy, Research, Development and Demonstration Council (NERDEC), are also major providers of funds. In addition, both the Commonwealth and State governments contribute funds to university research through statutory bodies. Finally, research income is also gained from donations, grants and other non-government sources.

Two of these sources — the CTEC and ARGC — provide expenditure for basic research.

Professor Martin pointed out that the proportion of TIRE from CTEC funds had declined by 26% following a peak in 1977. And the proportion from ARGC had “dropped dramatically” by 36% since 1975.

He said: “It is noteworthy that between 1975 and 1978, the total proportion of funds provided by the CTEC and ARGC accounted for more than half (about 52%) of the total dollars provided by State universities on their research. This proportion has declined sharply since 1978, decreasing to only 40% in 1981.”

By contrast, the NHMRC contribution to TIRE has increased by 55% since 1975. So too has the contribution from State governments and other Commonwealth bodies, and from donations, grants and other miscellaneous sources of support.

Professor Martin said: “The driving force of this change of direction is the Government’s fall in demand in relation to universities; namely, the power to determine the level of funds provided.

“The Government is responding to a call from industrialists and politicians for research to be more closely related to what is perceived by them to be immediate national needs.”

Canadian competition

Australian students are in the running for prizes in Canadian film, poster and photographic competitions being held later this year.

The prizes, totalling $14,500 Canadian in value, are being offered by the organisers of a cultural festival which will be held in conjunction with the World University Games in Edmonton, Alberta in July.

Student athletes from 85 countries will be competing in the Games named UNIVERSIADE ‘83.

The competitions are open to university students and other post-secondary educational institutions and amateurs in comparable learning environments.

Details and entry forms are available through the Canadian High Commission in Canberra, ACT.

MIND project

Jeni Fernando, of the Main Library, has been appointed convener of MIND (Meeting Information Needs of the Disabled) — a project sponsored by the University and College Libraries Section of the Library Association of Australia.

MIND was initiated by Dr. Glenn German, an Associate of the Monash Education faculty, and was particularly active during the United Nations International Year of Disabled Persons.

For further information contact ext. 2228.

V-C warns of the need for basic research

Monash acquires rare German Bible

Dr. Maureen Mann, assistant rare books librarian, examines the Biblia latina.

The Main Library has acquired a copy of the Biblia latina, printed in Germany more than 500 years ago and once the possession of Charles Talleyrand-Perigord, French political figure of the 18/19th centuries.

The Bible, printed by Anton Koberger of Nuremberg in November 1478, is the Library’s second incunabulum, i.e. a book printed before 1501.

It was purchased at the instigation of the Friends of the Monash University Library and complements the Library’s first incunabulum, a Bible printed in Venice in 1476 by Fracius Rinnar. The book was presented by the Friends to the Library in 1980 as its millionth volume.

The Biblia latina now in the Monash rare books collection was sold in “The Talleyrand sale” in London in 1816. It has since been in private hands in England and Australia.

The display has been organised by the department of Slavic Studies in association with the Library and with the support of the State University of Australia. Items come from Monash holdings as well as private and Church collections.

The exhibition closes on March 31.
THIS NOTABLE HISTORY of MLC is a story told with love and scholarship.

Alisa G. Thomson Zainu'ddin combines the perspectives of one who never attended another school, and never wished to, with that of an historian of education currently senior lecturer in the Monash Education faculty.

In the Preface she relates how "she wrote her first history of the school and of her own schooldays in the summer vacation of 1944, looking back over the past eleven years with nostalgia..." Much of Ms Zainu'ddin's life, indeed, might be thought of as preparation for this book, or as an addition to her inside knowledge of the school (as Old Girl, member of the school Council and mother of two MLC girls) and her on-going work as an historian of education, she has drawn upon over a decade's meticulous research of primary sources and secondary sources.

In the form the book is a straightforward chronicle of events, personalities and relationships, decisions and achievements, with divisions and chapters according to major and minor dynasties (the Principals and female equality, expressed in the interaction between female teachers and male Principals (and largely male Councils), the status and pay of female staff, the curriculum and the provision of facilities.

But in the space remaining for the reviewer there is one disappointment, that Ms Zainu'ddin chose not to take up the connection with particular topics in the history of the school.

The central achievement of any school is its "education product" (as any economist would say). There is much in the history to contribute to the objectives. But what have been its achievements? Is it possible to say that there is a distinctive MLC product? One is led to the hypothesis that this may be the case. But one would have profited from Ms Zainu'ddin's explicit reflections.

Another topic that is intriguing is the sheer scale of the school. While successive Principals and Councils have discerned advantages in size, it was Dr Wood who presided over the explosion of numbers in the 1960s. From the 700-old he inherited in 1939, the numbers rose to 1000 in 1944 and over 2000 in 1958.

For Dr Wood the decisive consideration was that this opportunity need not be lost to others. The female world is wider than the home; and the Council, in light of the growth of numbers in the school, has had to provide the opportunities for girls from lower income families to attend those schools.

And finally, there is the related topic of fees and fee structure. Throughout its history MLC has striven to keep fees at the lower end of the range for independent, non-Catholic schools. It has also had an unusually high proportion of girls on scholarships and bursaries. As Ms Zainu'ddin tells the story, there is a great coherence and continuity that come from a consistent philosophy and from the core of MLC families.

No doubt another reviewer will take pleasure in discussing the manner in which the author systematically relates this history of one school to the large developments and controversies in Australian education. One notable theme is the struggle for female equality, expressed in the interaction between female teachers and male Principals (and largely male Councils), the status and pay of female staff, the curriculum and the provision of facilities.

The dream of those who founded the Methodist Ladies' College in 1882 was that they should establish a modern school of the first order, a college on the lines of those in Europe. In the Introduction of this book, Ms Thomson Zainu'ddin gives us an account of the background of this school, and of the fact that in 1928 at the end of the Fitchett era, only 35% of girls paid full fees; of the decision by the Methodist Conference in 1967 that 75% of per capita State aid grants to independent, non-Catholic schools should be used to assist children from lower income families to attend those schools. But a more systematic view is tantalisingly absent.

Perhaps, it might be ventured the criticism that the author fails to discuss in explicit fashion the nature of the MLC product— the changing and increasingly central function, the sources of finance and the incidence of cross-subsidisation.

Perhaps these final comments are appearing too late. Each person must write his own history, but perhaps Zainu'ddin might venture the criticism that the author fails to discuss in explicit fashion the nature of the MLC product— the changing and increasingly central function, the sources of finance and the incidence of cross-subsidisation.

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Perhaps these final comments are appearing too late. Each person must write his own history, but perhaps Zainu'ddin might venture the criticism that the author fails to discuss in explicit fashion the nature of the MLC product— the changing and increasingly central function, the sources of finance and the incidence of cross-subsidisation.
Marlowe tragedy epitomises Man

A season of Christopher Marlowe's tragedy "Doctor Faustus" starts the theatrical year at Monash.

The Shakespeare Society is mounting a production of the play in the Union Theatre from Tuesday, March 22, to Saturday, March 26.

The director is Peter Lawrence who says that the real Doctor Faustus was a wandering conjuror who lived in Germany in the early 16th century and was generally believed to have sold his soul to the Devil.

Marlowe's play, first performed in 1588 and published in 1604, presents Faustus as a tragic figure.

Says Peter: "Brilliant and successful, admired and lauded for his skill and knowledge as a physician by his contemporaries, Faustus yearns for esoteric knowledge and power over the world. Offered absolute control through Mephistopheles, his tragedy is that of a man whose freedom is ultimately limited by the pettiness of his own personality."

The intensity of anguish and fear as Faustus faces the inevitability of the final scene one of the great moments of English drama, the director says.

"Faustus epitomises Man: he is the fallen Satan, Icarus, Adam. As last full realisation of his damnation comes and he sees that in spilling his own blood to satisfy his agreement with Lucifer he has lost any chance he had of redemption through Christ's sacrifice."

With Angela Lansbury in a lead role, Stephen Sondheim's new musical version of the dark Victorian folk tale "Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street" opened to critical acclaim on Broadway in 1979.

Award-winning musical opens at the Alex.

The musical, which subsequently toured the US and went on to London, won the Drama Critics' Circle Award in last year's production of "The Knight of the Burning Pestle".

All performances began at 8 p.m. and are available from the English department office, seventh floor, Humanities building (ext. 2160). Prices are $3 and $2 (concession).

The Australian premiere of "Sweeney Todd" will be on April 8 in the Alexander Theatre. Its season will run until April 23.

The production is being mounted by the Cheltenham Light Opera Company under the direction of David Wilson.

Wilson has directed in Melbourne another Sondheim work, "Company", a production which impressed "Sweeney Todd"; Broadway producer Hal Prince when he was here for the staging of another of his hits, "Evita".

He arranged for Wilson to obtain copyright of the new work which takes its place alongside "Gypsy", "Follies", "Pacific Overtures" and "A Little Night Music" in confirming Sondheim's reputation as the finest lyricist and composer in contemporary musical theatre.

Unfortunately, Sondheim's work is not always comfortable for both safe and Australian commercial entrepreneurs have been reluctant to gamble on it.

The sets for the ClOCC production have been designed by the Alexander's resident designer, Graham McCaffie and are based on those of the overseas productions.

For booking inquiries contact 555 3269.

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