Light on pre-prandial punch-ups

The statistics and sayings of Associate Professor Maurice Balson of the Faculty of Education would probably scare most parents from their marital beds and teachers from their classrooms.

Consider some of the statements Dr Balson made last month during an introductory lecture to Becoming Better Parents and Teachers, a six-week evening course at Monash open to all members of the public.

Said Dr Balson: "Seventy-five per cent of families fight before breakfast"; "the curse of the earth is a good parent"; "praise is the enemy of children" and "you can't overpower a power-drunk child".

And for teachers: "In 1987, over 200 teachers had been on sick-leave for over a year due to classroom stress"; and "teaching is 80 per cent student control and 20 per cent teaching".

Discipline is the major problem, he said. As the social system has shifted from autocratic to democratic, people's values have changed.

Responsibility for a child's behavior has moved from the individual to parents and teachers. The result is strained marriages and a generation of ill-disciplined children.

The course, conducted by the Monash Parent-Teacher Education Centre, is designed to improve relationships within families and the classroom and will be in the form of lectures, small workshops and discussion groups.

The first half-year course starts on May 4 and the second on August 31.

Lectures will be held on Wednesday evenings at the Faculty of Education building between 7.30 and 10. Cost is $25 per person.

For further information, contact Anne Hubbard of the Monash Parent-Teacher Education Centre on 565 2889.

COMMUNITY ISSUE

Green Paper gets 'broad support' — with reservations

The government's Green Paper on Higher Education is to receive broad support from Monash University, according to the university's draft response, which has been provisionally approved by Council.

The draft endorses the Green Paper's two major objectives: the expansion of the higher education system and the desire to improve access for under-represented groups, such as women, Aborigines and mature-age students.

However, some reservations were expressed in the report of the sub-committee headed by the Deputy Chancellor, Emeritus Professor Joe Ireson.

Although elements of the Green Paper accord with the university's goals as outlined in the Monash strategic plan, there is some worry that the stated function of education — "to increase individuals' capacity to learn, to provide them with a framework with which to analyse problems and to increase their capacity to deal with new information" — is not sufficiently supported by the paper's proposals.

Declining funds

Of most concern is the assumption that Commonwealth funding for higher education will decline as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product over the next decade.

Monash believes that additional funding is essential if the Green Paper's stated objectives are to be realised.

While supports the recommended system of block grant funding, it does not agree that this modified system would release additional resources.

Under the Green Paper's proposals, the financial difficulties experienced by universities in recent years would only be exacerbated, says the draft. The resultant threat to existing standards is inconsistent with the paper's objectives because a higher level of funding is required to maintain and improve access to higher education.

The university has welcomed the plan's declared aim to provide additional flexibility for staff through the payment of special allowances. However, the scheme's application would be restricted without additional funding.

Neglect

Similar doubts are raised over other issues contained in the paper.

While recognising the premium placed on "broadly skilled staff", the paper appears to neglect the important role of education in the humanities and social sciences. In line with the current preference of employers, Monash has already taken initiatives to broaden educational development by providing for double degrees across faculties, as, for example, with Science/Engineering and Arts/Economics degrees.

Despite figures quoted in the Green Paper, the draft points out that far from lagging behind other developed countries in enrolments in science and technology courses, Australia leads both Sweden and the United States. (In the US, science/technology enrolments in 1982 were 20.7 per cent of all enrolments, in Sweden, 21.4 per cent, and in Australia 25.6 per cent.)

Another problem in this field is that the Green Paper adopts a 'supply only' approach to the planning of education. The government expects the provision of more places to naturally lead to an in-crease in enrolments, says the draft.

This seems an unlikely outcome, for science and engineering courses require particular preoccupations and in the past have not been shown to be a high demand area in terms of student preferences.

The draft also questions whether the pool of students who are adequately prepared for higher education is sufficient to meet the targets the Green Paper has set for Australian tertiary education.

In order to meet these targets, the draft maintains it will be necessary to tap those groups which are under-represented in universities and colleges.

Realignment

In its paper, the government emphasises the need for a realignment of research resources, both towards a different set of objectives and involving a different set of people.

But while it might appear efficient to establish "research specialist" and "teaching specialist" groups within institutions, such an arrangement overlooks the important role that research...
What it’s all about...

Monash University is an autonomous institution funded by the Federal Government. Its supreme governing body is the Council which is widely representative of groups outside and within, including students, staff and graduates, professional, commercial and industrial interests, and Members of Parliament.

It now has a population of 14,003 students (or some 12,001 ‘Equivalent Full-Time Students’) and 3043 full-time staff. That makes it Australia’s fifth largest university.

The university’s chief executive officer is the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mal Logan. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor is Professor Ian Polmear. The Chancellor is Sir George Lush, formerly a Supreme Court judge.

The Union

The Monash University Union is the hub of the campus, with 200 staff providing services for more than 17,000 members of the university community. (The term “union” goes back to early days at Cambridge and Oxford when groups of students united to form debating clubs or unions.)

The Union Building houses a variety of services and businesses including a credit union, banks, bookshops, pharmacy, post office, men’s and women’s hairdressing, dry cleaning and repair agencies, health food shop, specialist grocery and record shop. It is also the most important centre for food outlets.

The associated Arts and Crafts Centre offers courses throughout the year to the university community and the general public. The Union also hosts the Friday market which has long been a tradition at Monash.

Sports and Rec

Each year, about 19,000 university or affiliated members use the Sport and Recreation Association’s facilities which are spread over 12.2 hectares of the campus. They offer more than 50 outdoor and indoor sports.

Indoor facilities include a heated 50-metre pool, adjoining leisure pool, saunas, spa, fitness weight training and aerobics areas, squash courts, recreation hall, games hall, small gymnastic, table tennis room and sporting goods store.

The playing fields are used for a wide range of outdoor sports including tennis, cricket, Australian Rules football, soccer, hockey, rugby union, baseball, athletics, golf and jogging.

More than 5000 people from off campus enjoy the facilities each year, and local schools are made particularly welcome.

The sporting complex is open from 7.30am to 11pm every day of the year excepting Christmas Day, Boxing Day and Good Friday.

Catering

The University caters daily for up to 18,000 people from more than 40 ethnic backgrounds with a range of foods from Aussie pies to Chinese, Mexican and vegetarian — and continental breakfasts thrown in for good measure.

The largest food service, Union Catering, began in 1961 and now has 10 outlets in the Union Building and elsewhere on campus. Independent food outlets in the Union Building are the Wholefoods Restaurant and the Monash Health Food Shop.

Independent operations farther afield are the Monash University Club (for members and their guests), Alps Grove Coffee Lounge (Sports and Recreation Centre) the Refreshments Bar and the Arthur Brown Bar (Alexander Theatre).

Functions can be organised and catered for by Union Catering, the Wholefoods Restaurant, the Monash University Club, Alps Grove Coffee Lounge and the Halls of Residence.

The Alex

The Alex is one of Australia’s best-equipped out-of-town theatres. Opened in 1967 and named after the Australian philosopher, Samuel Alexander, it plays an important part in Melbourne’s cultural life.

Available to university and community groups, and with seating for just over 600 people, it combines comfort with intimacy and versatility. Seasons of student and community productions are interspersed with professional productions either mounted by the theatre or presented in association with other entrepreneurs.

Patrons now enjoy an additional service, the licensed Arthur Brown Bar, which adds to the atmosphere.

Over many years, the Alexander Theatre has made a special effort to foster the interest of children in the performing arts through its long-running and comprehensive Saturday Club series, and its holiday pantomimes.

In 1960, on the urging of the late Professor Jock Marshall, Monash adopted a policy of planting native trees and shrubs. One of the main aims was to encourage native birds to nest on the campus.

There are now more than 1200 different species of indigenous plants giving the campus a distinctive Australian appearance. It is the university’s aim to have as large a collection of native plants as possible under the climatic and geographical conditions.

Latest figures show that 111 species of native birds have been recorded on campus and about 35 species have been found nesting.

An area of about 3.6 hectares in the north-east corner of the 100 ha campus was set aside and enclosed for the study of Australian fauna. A lake was created in this area, once known as “Snake Gully” but now the Jock Marshall Reserve, to attract large numbers of water birds.

Last year the Dandenong Valley Authority established an ornamental lake between the Jock Marshall Reserve and the north-east roundabout, to act as a flood-retarding basin. The 150 metre by 60 metre lake has a permanent water level of around 150 cm.
Japan's naval gaze turns outward

The political outlooks of Japan's ruling party has undergone a profound shift with important consequences both for Japan and Australia, a visiting Japanese political scientist says.

Professor Michioshi Takabatake from Rikkyo University in Tokyo says the National Democratic Party (NDP) has abandoned its traditional rural supporters for the urban middle class. One significant outcome of this has been a start to freeing up Japan's agricultural markets.

The change also involves a growing commitment to defence, and a refocusing from domestic development to a policy of "internationalisation", he says.

"This new international emphasis of Japanese politics applies to everything from economic policy to education, and comes directly from the Government. Their interpretation includes increasing the strength of the defence forces to play an active part with their Western allies against Soviet Russia. It also means finding some way of increasing imports to correct Japan's vast trade imbalance."

Professor Takabatake is spending a year at the Japanese Studies Centre on the Monash University campus. His visit is supported by the Japan Foundation. During his time here, he will teach a course in the Japanese Business Communication program, write several magazine articles in Japanese on life in Australia and a book in English on contemporary Japanese politics.

The book will be edited by La Trobe University Dean of Social Sciences, Professor Sugimoto, and will become part of a highly regarded series on modern Japan published in English by Kegan Paul International in London. The series already has been awarded a prize by the Japan Society of Translators.

"It is my honor to be selected to write in this series and to give a year to this task."

Alumni group for Japanese

With the department of Japanese at Monash now 21 years old, there are plans to form an alumni (OB) group.

Professor Jiri Neustupny came to Monash in 1966 to set up the department and, together with one Japanese tutor, started the department in Japanese in 1967. Professor Neustupny, who is still chairman of the department, can look back upon a period of considerable growth, and says that the fact that Monash, without doubt, occupies a central position among Japanese departments in Australia.

In 1988 the department has a full-time teaching staff of 14 plus additional casual staff; students number 385 in the coursework programs in Japanese Studies. We are also expanding our postgraduate studies, having received an independent institution for Japanese Studies Centre Inc. e.t. 

"Japanese industry is still gaining a rise of the yen and cheap imported goods. The Government had to find some way of increasing imports and decreasing exports, so decided to free up trade, even for agricultural products, thus abandoning the farmers for the capitalists and consumers.

"But for the first time the Government gained the majority vote in the Totsuka urban area. The middle classes are enjoying urban life with the rise of the yen and cheap imported goods."

Professor Takabatake said that Japanese youth had a very high opinion of Australia - it is surpassed only by the US and Switzerland in popularity as a potential tourist destination.

He said they looked at it as a substitute for the West Coast of the United States, but much less dangerous. Another reason is that Australia's multiculturalism has been well and widely reported, that there is much less prejudice against Asian people than there used to be.

The Japanese Studies Centre Inc. expects to promote Japanese Studies in Victoria. It is an independent institution whose members come from many universities and colleges throughout the state. It conducts seminars, lectures and classes both for scholars and the general public.

Monash University has a student exchange program with Rikkyo University. For details contact the Academic Services Officer on ext. 2061.

For he's a jolly good fellow

Mr Bruce Knox, senior lecturer in History, says his recent election as a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society reflects the high standing of the Monash History department.

"British history has long been one of the staples of the department, with an international reputation established by two former professors of history, A.G.L. Shaw and Alan McMurray," he says.

"Yet enrolments in British history courses have slipped in recent years, and under the Dawkins' Green Paper proposals such a subject might be ignored in the 'profile' that the university is required to construct."

A specialist in 19th century British Empire and British history, Mr Knox was invited by the president of the society to apply for election.

"British history has a particular importance for humane understanding of Australia," he says.

"But the 'national needs' envisaged by Mr Dawkins does not bode well for even mainstream and long-established subjects that have fallen foul of fashion."
Your article on women professional appointments was timely, particularly after the recent controversy concerning commonly held misapprehensions about the promotion of women academics.

Your readers may care to know that Felicity Allen whose work you report fulfilled the requirements for the award but when the arrangements did not occur at the University of Melbourne and, in fact, took place rather a long time ago, in another state.

Personally, I would like to question the use of the words "not welcome" to describe women professors unless they were intended in their broadest sense of being not really noticed. Women in academic life normally maintain good social relationships even though the work of brilliant women tends to receive somewhat less instant recognition.

Monash does indeed have about as many women professors as Queensland and Sydney Universities, but the numbers fluctuate and this year Queensland has a female Dean.

On the other hand, six out of 91 is not something that I feel especially proud about. As Ms Allen's work has demonstrated, the proportion of women taking out doctorates in Australia increased by nearly nine per cent in the decade 1972-82 but the proportion of women professors increased by only .8 per cent in that period.

In 1984 at Monash we had 4.5 women professors, now we have 6. At the other end of the academic spectrum, our income as academics is derived from students who are nearly 50 per cent women. We have some way to go.

Shirley Sampson (Dr) Education

Things to do . . .

Interested in learning more about foot massage or French polishing? Or maybe you have an urge to play a musical instrument or paint a landscape?

The 1988 Autumn-Winter Program at the Monash University Arts and Crafts Centre offers students and non-students instruction in an exciting range of activities. Discounts are available to Monash fee-paying students and staff. To obtain a copy of the program, contact the Arts and Crafts Centre on 565 3180 or drop in and pick one up.

As this issue of the Monash Reporter is to be distributed within the community surrounding Monash, I felt it an ideal opportunity to explain briefly the role of those staff in universities who do not teach.

In contrast to the secondary school system where the majority of staff numbers are teachers, we have a majority of support staff — often called non-academic but preferably general staff. There are several reasons for the relatively large number of general staff in universities:

- Universities are autonomous bodies, established under State Government acts, and need to be self-contained.
- The functions and scale of a university are generally both broader and larger than other educational establishments.
- Academics (university teachers) spend a proportion of their time carrying out research, in addition and often complementary to the teaching function and this requires a varying level of support from a wide range of people.

We, the general staff, not only carry out administrative functions, but between artists and technological technicians include cleaners, reporters and solicitors.

Take, for example, a laboratory-based faculty where the general staff are those people who ensure that materials are always ready for both lectures and practical classes. This could include secretaries, clerical and library staff and many others who may not necessarily be seen by the majority of students whilst they are undergraduates.

At the postgraduate level, where students are studying for higher degrees in their chosen discipline, more contact is made with the general staff who, it is not widely appreciated, both support and on occasions participate in much of the research that is carried out in universities.

Unfortunately, there are times when the role the general staff play in a significant finding, for example in engineering or medicine, may be either overlooked or even de-emphasised. Whilst the academic members of universities are, in the main, the thinkers and the teachers, turning their ideas into a new measuring device, drug or whatever, often requires the skills and experience of a professional or technical general staff member with help from colleagues in a mechanical or electronics workshop.

Further, the co-operation, support and interaction between library staff, typists, administrative officers, maintenance staff, telephone operators and other members of staff is vital in achieving the desired goal.

Whilst I have not been specific to Monash on this occasion, I intend to do so in the next community issue of the Monash Reporter. Any questions or comments would be most welcome as it is I am sure, is the role of the university within the community was openly discussed.

Doug Rash

Chemistry

(Doug Rash is president of the Monash University General Staff Association.)
"Secret of redemption lies in remembering"

Robert Morris — Recent Paintings is now on show at the Monash University Gallery. This touring exhibition of works based on images from concentration camps was brought to Australia for the Adelaide Festival of Arts. It was opened at the Monash University Gallery by Professor Sir Leo Cunin, Chair of Law at Monash, chairman of the Standing Review and Advisory Committee on Inefficiency and partial-time Law Reform Commissioner. Professor Cunin is very enthusiastic about the exhibition for humanitarian and personal reasons.

This exhibition of Robert Morris's recent works of art — to call them "paintings" is to risk an accusation of mis-description — which I'm privileged to open is of five pieces — each of which has as its core an image taken from a photograph.

The photographs are in Yad Vashem, in Jerusalem.

Yad va Shem — a hand and a name, together meaning a memorial to point to us who come, and to name for us who see, the women, the men, and the children who perished in the fires that the Nazis lit between 1933 and 1945, and which burned most fiercely in Poland, the Ukraine and Byelorussia the heartlands of Eastern Europe before what we call today the Holocaust destroyed it.

Robert Morris was 14 when the war against Hitler ended. I was a few years younger. When I looked at his works recently, for the first time, I wondered whether he, in mid-western America, where "the corn is as high as an elephant's eye", thousands of kilometres from Auschwitz, from Majdanek, from Treblinka, saw the same newsreels I saw, six months after the war ended.

For the images in his works are like unto the images I saw in those films — rows of corpses, with bodies resembling the figures we made at school from pipe-cleaners, piles of bodies, jumbled in death — human beings brought to the altar of the Moloch of our century, and fed like billets into his incinerators, to lay a carpet of ash over the fields and forests which lay, which lie, around the death camps.

Whether or no, he has come to these photographs, to those images, and brought his talent to them. Around the images Morris has moulded, with a craft and an elegance almost demonic a frame of line, a form that is the most emphatic — human and mechanical. There are cog-wheels and levers, and a channel which may be a limb, a branch from a tree neatly laid which might have been replicated in an execution chamber, to carry away swiftly and silently the blood of those shot, or stabbed, or strangled there.

What is the artist's purpose? It is not to entertain our gentler senses, to excite, to amuse. What then?

Each of you will experience an individual reaction. I shall speak of mine.

If I speak of the Jews of Europe only, it is not because I do not know, or have forgotten, that there were millions of people who were not Jews who perished at the hands of Hitler and his venomous followers. There were Europe's gypsies, there were the Poles, the Russians, the French, the Greeks, the Yugoslavs — all the subjugated. There were the Germans — where it began.

It is because I began my life in Siedlice, in Poland, because I am a Jew, because in Treblinka — once a holiday resort, my mother's and my father's brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews were murdered. Morris says to me — do not forget what happened in Europe in the middle of the 20th century — not at the hands of those who were uncivilised barbarians, but at the hands of those who mastered space — had conquered worlds.

Morris calls out to me — how do we master time? How do we? By remembering. It was a wise, a gentle, a prescient rabbi who said:

Our exile is prolonged through forgetfulness: in remembering is the secret of the redemption.

He spoke, I think, in terms which Morris may not utter — but the message is the same, and it is one to us all. This exhibition begins on a day which brings the past and the present into an unbroken unity.

Today, 19 April 1988 is the precise anniversary of the day, 45 years ago, when the Jews of Poland's capital began what has become known as the Battle of the Warsaw Ghetto — their first real armed resistance to the Nazis who sought to sweep the remnants of that once great community into the rail-wagons whose destination was death.

Today, 19 April 1988, is the day we heard that the judges of Israel had pronounced the guilt of the man called "Ivan the Terrible", who was a guard in the Treblinka death-camp, who herded women and men, boys and girls to the gas chambers in Treblinka.

I am privileged to open this exhibition.

— Louis Waller

The Monash University Gallery is located on the ground floor of the Gallery Building on the southern Ring Road, between the Alexander Theatre and the Law School. It presents a year-round schedule of exhibitions containing more outside works, and some from the university's collection which has a strong contemporary and Australian character.

The gallery is open to the public from 10am to 5pm Tuesday-Friday and from 1-6pm on Saturday.

Recent Paintings will close on Saturday 14 May.

Professor Margaret Plant of the Visual Arts department will give a free public lecture on Robert Morris and his Apocalypse at 6pm on Tuesday 10 May in the Gallery Theatre, ground floor, Gallery Building.

Few contemporary artists bite off more than Robert Morris. His untitled works, some as large as 10 feet tall and 20 feet wide, mix painting, sculpture and architecture. They are loaded with images blurring the line between creation and destruction, sexuality and death. They are in some way about the profusion of conflicting responses and perspectives that the artist clearly believes has become explosive as a century and millennium come to an end.


Setting out for 21st century at Lincoln Cathedral

'Australia Towards 2000' will be the subject of an international conference to be held later this year in England's historic Lincoln Cathedral.

Distinguished scholars, politicians, journalists and artists from Australia, the United Kingdom, USA and France have been invited to take part in the three-day conference organised by the British Australian Studies Association.

Among the themes to be examined are 'The Economy Towards 2000', 'The Future of Australian Federalism', 'Images of Australia' and 'Australian Women's Culture'. Speakers will include Sir Zelman Cowen, Professor Geoffrey Bolton, Mr John Pliger, Mr Jenny Hocking and Dr Ross Fitzgerald.

Starring on 30 June and ending on 2 July, the conference has been timed to coincide with the university's academic mid-year vacation. Any inquiries should be addressed to The BASA Conference Secretary, Edward Tower, The Palace, Lincoln, LN2 1PU, United Kingdom. Telephone (05022) 44 544.

---

Professor Louis Waller (right) with Emeritus Professor John Legge at the opening of the Robert Morris exhibition.
Few would deny that universities should be called to account from time to time and asked to consider their goals if the system is to be sustainable. There will always be entrenched interests which will want to resist any external stocktaking, but the principle of accountability, for responsible research funds will be distributed in the future on the basis of agreed profiles of universities and colleges. The difference in research role that has been maintained between the two sectors in the past is a matter for concern.

The government will fund on "specified outputs and measurement of what is to be done". If ministerial control becomes direct and intrusive, there may be a desire to preserve "the general community good" which, in its various forms, from Universities Commission to CTEDC, did exist to the confidence of the universities.

Vice-Chancellors may have found themselves in a double bind from time to time with a Leslie Martin, a Lennox Hewitt or a Peter Karmel, but at least they were measured by the system of a substantial number of academic members, and they felt that if their job was to encourage, to judge universities, and to make recommendations to government, at least shared a view as to what a university

Similarly, in the case of the ARGS, academic participation and the practice of peer review inspired confidence even when funding cuts appeared to threaten the total research enterprise. A relationship which with the CTEDC and the ARGC have been abolished without any very clear indication of what is to be done with them, in itself, a matter for concern.

The one thing that is clear is that the minister (and presumably the ministry) is to play a more direct role in the future. Can a similar confidence really be deplored in the future between the universities on the one hand and succes- cessive ministers and their civil service on the other, as has happened between universities and the CTEDC?

Alarm

Finally there is a danger that the rhetoric in which the minister's call for a review is couched will prejudice issues and outcomes. The threat of his state- ment in the Green Paper: "The education and training for the economy of the future - the renewal and use of our national wealth - will be dominated by those who are trained in universities..." is surely of concern.

The country's educational and training system is to play "a central role in responding to the major economic challenges which confront us. This means securing graduates in what are called "key disciplines". The thrust of this rhetoric is further developed in the Green Paper. The vocabulary of both documents is the vocabulary of economic goals, priorities ("priority national objectives"). "national objectives and priorities", strategies ("strategic directions with defined objectives in mind"), mission orientation, relevance, "specified outputs and measurement of results", targets, efficiency.

They may all seem worthy goals, no doubt, but there is a risk that they may well be pursued without a sense of the importance and potential remains. What is of over- whelming importance is that these inquiries may have to be made in new terms and not in the rhetoric of relevance, economic goals and the rest.

The minister will be called to account from time to time and asked to consider their goals if the system is to be sustainable. There will always be entrenched interests which will want to resist any external stocktaking, but the principle of accountability, for responsible research funds will be distributed in the future on the basis of agreed profiles of universities and colleges. (The difference in research role that has been maintained between the two sectors in the past is a matter for concern.)

The government will fund on "specified outputs and measurement of what is to be done". If ministerial control becomes direct and intrusive, there may be a desire to preserve "the general community good" which, in its various forms, from Universities Commission to CTEDC, did exist to the confidence of the universities.

Vice-Chancellors may have found themselves in a double bind from time to time with a Leslie Martin, a Lennox Hewitt or a Peter Karmel, but at least they were measured by the system of a substantial number of academic members, and they felt that if their job was to encourage, to judge universities, and to make recommendations to government, at least shared a view as to what a university is.

Similarly, in the case of the ARGS, academic participation and the practice of peer review inspired confidence even when funding cuts appeared to threaten the total research enterprise. A relationship which with the CTEDC and the ARGC have been abolished without any very clear indication of what is to be done with them, in itself, a matter for concern.

The one thing that is clear is that the minister (and presumably the ministry) is to play a more direct role in the future. Can a similar confidence really be deplored in the future between the universities on the one hand and successive ministers and their civil service on the other, as has happened between universities and the CTEDC?

Alarm

Finally there is a danger that the rhetoric in which the minister's call for a review is couched will prejudice issues and outcomes. The threat of his statement in the Green Paper: "The education and training for the economy of the future - the renewal and use of our national wealth - will be dominated by those who are trained in universities..." is surely of concern.

The country's educational and training system is to play "a central role in responding to the major economic challenges which confront us. This means securing graduates in what are called "key disciplines". The thrust of this rhetoric is further developed in the Green Paper. The vocabulary of both documents is the vocabulary of economic goals, priorities ("priority national objectives"). "national objectives and priorities", strategies ("strategic directions with defined objectives in mind"), mission orientation, relevance, "specified outputs and measurement of results", targets, efficiency.

They may all seem worthy goals, no doubt, but there is a risk that they may well be pursued without a sense of the importance and efficiency.
Our bridges hold lessons for others

Professor Hu Chu-nong has played a major part in the development of bridge engineering in China. He is spending time at Monash during a visit to Australia, and will take part in a Centre of Engineering Education from May 30 to 28 May on the structural integrity of bridges. Professor Hu has already given a series of seminars in the Engineering Faculty.

Visiting Chinese engineer Professor Hu Chu-nong was familiar with our best-known bridges before he came to Australia. Sydney's Harbor Bridge made a "firm impression" on him from the time he first saw photographs of it. And Melbourne's Westgate Bridge collapse had "taught engineers everywhere a lot!"

Professor Hu was invited to Monash by Associate Professor Paul Grundy, of the Department of Civil Engineering, who met him again last September at an international symposium on geotechnics, bridges and structures, held in Lanzhou, China.

Professor Hu said that China had a long history of bridge construction, from the beautiful and famous stone arch Zhaozhou Bridge in Hebei Province (about 200 km south of Beijing) which was built 1770 years ago, to the Hanjiang Bridge at Ankang, in the Shaanxi Province, a modern railway bridge of the box girder construction.

The history of railway bridges in China was "rather short", as the idea of the railway was not introduced to China until late in the last century. The majority of China's railway bridges were built after the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949, Professor Hu said.

Australia wasn't the only country to have had steel box girder bridge problems. Professor Hu said that in 1969-70 there were other bridge disasters in West Germany and Britain.

The Hanjiang Bridge was itself tested by the elements in the summer of 1983 — the year after it was opened. A flood submerged the town of Ankang causing severe damage to the town itself and to the railway including a number of bridges. But the Hanjiang Bridge, the long span slant-legged rigid frame, stood intact.

Professor Hu said the Tong River bridge, built in the 1960s, was China's first trial welded box girder bridge. The Hanjiang Bridge, with a continuous girder 192 metres long without bearing support, is claimed to have the longest span of any railway bridge of the slant-legged rigid frame type.

Professor Hu said that the completion of the Hanjiang Bridge had introduced a higher level of bridge-building technology in China. Bridge engineers and steel structure researchers were planning to build a welded and high-strength bolted superstructure (across the Yangtze River at Jiujian) with a span of 216 metres.

Professor Hu comes from the Lanzhou Railway College in China. He went to England from China in 1945 and served an apprenticeship with the engineering firm Dorman Long, getting experience in structural steel work.

After three years doing research at Dundee College (then a part of the St Andrews University) he finished his PhD, returned to Dorman Long and later China. He joined the Lanzhou Railway College at its foundation.

Professor Hu's first Monash lecture included slides of China's stone arch, reinforced concrete and steel truss bridges, with special attention to steel box girder railway bridges. His second lecture covered the measurement of residual stresses in steel bridges.

---

System needs solid program of basic research

From page 1

plays in the effectiveness of university teaching. The draft considers such specialisation would only weaken the established links between research and teaching and would distance specialist teachers from the generation of new ideas and approaches. Within research itself, the Green Paper appears to be looking for more applied research at the expense of basic research.

According to the Monash draft response, the Swedish experience demonstrates that a system which is too oriented to short-term applied research will quickly run out of exploitable ideas unless it is underpinned by a solid program of basic research.

After Sweden had established a sector-based research funding system (made available to such sectors as building and energy), it soon became apparent that the applied research being carried out required a relevant basic research program and its concomitant supply of new young researchers with fresh ideas.

In its draft, Monash voices concern about the proposed organisational structure with the concentration of decision-making in Canberra.

The general has indicated that its own priorities will have a strong influence over the development of the universities' educational profiles. Although the ideas that can be justified from a government perspective, says the Monash response, the process of negotiation will be difficult to put into operational terms for universities.

Much of the argument in the Green Paper about the size of institutions centers on the notion that 'bigger is better'. But according to the draft, this overlooks the fact that it is possible to have inefficient large institutions as well as inefficient small institutions.

Although amalgamations may assist the administrative economies of very small colleges, it is not clear at what stage these economies due to the dispersion of dispersed campuses begin to set in.

Instead, says the Monash draft discussion should focus on the educational advantages of such a move. It needs to take account of the difficulties in integrating staff, subject mix and standards in colleges and universities.

In a report entitled Excellence and Efficiency: The Vice-Chancellor's Response to the Green Paper, the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee backs the Green Paper's proposals for expanded student numbers, deregulation of institutions and their increased autonomy, and a restructuring of higher education.

The AVCC's chairman, Professor John Scott, said that while the universities believed the Green Paper provided a valuable basis for higher education planning into the 21st century, some areas needed amendment. Those areas include the falling rate of funding for higher education, the plan to introduce flexible hierarchies, proposed amalgamations and the need to maintain a proper balance between basic and applied research and research in science and the humanities.

"Monash University — Strategy for the Future", published in March, sets guidelines for the university's priorities and policy decisions. Its purpose is to ensure that Monash retains its broad, liberal education while moving ahead as a 'forward and outward-looking' university and taking advantage of new opportunities.
Community support keeps Ukrainian alive

The Ukrainian community in Australia has almost succeeded in raising the $500,000 necessary to ensure that Ukrainian teaching and research continues at Monash.

The community deserved to be congratulated for one of the most impressive fundraising efforts in the history of the university, said the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Logan, at a dinner held recently at Ukrainian House in Essendon.

A three-year contract, in which the community agreed to pay for a Ukrainian lectureship at Monash, was signed in 1983 and later renewed. With $440,000 already raised, it appeared that a longer-term agreement would be signed as planned in June this year, Professor Logan said.

The university had received many benefits from the introduction of Ukrainian Studies.

"It has helped us expand our department of Slavic Languages by providing new staff members and increased research output," he said.

"It has enabled completely free research and teaching to be carried out in aspects of the rich Ukrainian culture."

Professor Logan said Ukrainians had recognised that universities had a responsibility to get to know the various parts of the community, and that this responsibility did not end with the business and industry sections; it extended to the various ethnic communities as well.

"You have seen the need for scholarship and organised a Ukrainian Studies Support Fund which has produced sufficient money to allow Ukrainian Studies to go ahead at Monash.

"I think this action is an important example for other ethnic groups, and I hope that others may follow your lead." Universities needed to specialise and develop unique features, Professor Logan said.

"Here, too, Ukrainian Studies is a good example, as Monash is one of the few locations in Australia where this subject is taught.

"This specialisation enables us to develop the library resources and other support needed and also to attract students from other states."

"As time goes by, it may be possible to strengthen this specialisation, to take on board courses in history and politics that highlight Ukraine's role in European development," he said.

"This will enable Monash to consolidate a position as an internationally important university in this area of scholarship."

Natalie Kandybko thanking members of the Ukrainian community after she was presented with the $250 Stepan Soldat Memorial Prize by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Logan. (See story at right.)

Monash student's essay a winner

An essay by a Monash undergraduate has won first prize in a competition for Slavic language students from Australia and New Zealand.

Peter Sawczak's essay was the first submitted by Monash to the competition, which was started several years ago by the Australia and New Zealand Slavicists' Association.

His essay dealt with Narkiz, a work by the 18th century Ukrainian philosopher Skovoroda. The competition was judged by Professor Katerina Clark of Yale University.

Mr Sawczak, now an honors student, has also been awarded the Joseph and Eugenia Pona Prize for the best student in third year.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Logan, presented this $500 prize to Mr Sawczak last month at a fundraising dinner for Ukrainian Studies at Monash.

Eugenia Pona of Ballarat, $50,000

However, the planning of such activities could only take place with the support of organisations like the Ukrainian community.

"The work of the Ukrainian Studies Support Fund, which set out to raise $500,000, is to be applauded," Professor Logan said.

"Prominent in that fundraising was the donation of $150,000 by Joseph and Eugenia Pona of Ballarat, $50,000 by Vasyl and Stefania Poshan."

The university has decided to name the Ukrainian lectureship in honor of Mykola Zerov, Ukrainian poet, literary historian and critic. Born in 1890, Zerov disappeared (like many of his contemporaries) in a prison camp in the Solovki Islands in the early 1940s.

EUGENIA PONA OF BALLARAT, $50,000

Science and the public

The promotion of the public understanding of science will be the theme of a conference to be held on 18 May in Sydney in conjunction with the ANZAAS Centenary Congress.

Speakers at "Promoting Public Understanding of Science — The Practice and the Perils" will examine the opportunities and difficulties in conveying to the wider community an understanding of science and technology beyond the confines of formal education.

Among those speakers representing national science organisations, 'bridging' organisations and the media will be Sir Walter Bodmer (president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science), Mr Alan McGowan (president of the Scientists' Institute for Public Information, New York) and Mr Robyn Williams (executive director of the ABC's 'Science Show').

Inquiries to Dr Peter Pockley, University of NSW (02) 697 2866. For information on the ANZAAS Congress in general, contact the ANZAAS Congress Office, 118 Darlington Road, University of Sydney, NSW 2006, telephone (02) 692 4356.

Vice-Master guest

With the retirement of the present Vice-Master of Queen's College, University of Melbourne, at the end of the year, the College Council is seeking the services of a suitable person to fill this important position.

A tertiary degree and an interest in college life are expected.

The Vice-Master's position has two major elements: senior administration and the pastoral care of some 200 students. Salary is at the level of senior lecturer in the University of Melbourne. Superannuation and a residence at reasonable rental are provided.

Applications close on 30 May. Further details from: The Master, Queen's College, University of Melbourne, Parkville, 3052, telephone 347 4899.

EUGENIA PONA OF BALLARAT, $50,000

Peter Sawczak

He presented the Stepan Soldat Memorial Prize of $250 to Natalie Kandybko.

EUGENIA PONA OF BALLARAT, $50,000

MONASH REPORTER
Minister applauds MOSA

At the opening of the new headquarters of the Monash Orientation Scheme for Aborigines (MOSA), the Federal Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Mr Gerry Hand, congratulated the university on the success of its unique program.

In 1984, there was one Aboriginal student on the Monash campus. This year there are 50 and MOSA's first group of students are expected to graduate in June.

However, the participation of Aborigines in higher education is still only 35 per cent that of white Australians, said Mr Hand. The Federal Government was committed to increasing Aborigines' access to further education, he said.

MOSA conducts a year-long bridging course designed to give Aborigines with limited schooling the knowledge and skills to handle higher education. Candidates are prepared for entry into the faculties of Law, Arts and Economics.

The scheme also offers a two-year preparation for students who wish to enrol in Science, Medicine and Engineering.

MOSA director, Mr Isaac Brown, describes the scheme's aim as "preparing Koories for university so that their own identity is enhanced and they have a basis from which to achieve their own potential as humans".

Candidates are selected on the basis of their motivation and commitment to undertake tertiary studies. Although most need to have achieved at least Year 10 level of secondary education, some have been selected with only Grade Three primary school education.

MOSA candidates from at least 40 different clans groups have joined the program from all states of Australia and the Torres Strait Islands. Most come from Victoria.

At present, MOSA has 29 undergraduates in the faculties of Arts, Economics and Politics, and Law and 28 candidates are enrolled in its bridging program.

The $365,000 annual cost of the scheme is paid for by grants from Monash, the Federal Government and private supporters.

Unique centre benefits Koories

The Aboriginal Research Centre, formed in 1964, is the only one of its kind in Australia.

Ms Eve Feat has been its director since 1981. For her part in working for the preservation of Koorie languages and culture as well as her involvement in multi-cultural affairs she was awarded the Order of Australia Medal last month.

She is a member of the Advisory Council on Multi-cultural affairs, which reports to the Prime Minister, and a member of the Australian host committee for the World Council of Churches international conference for religion and peace, to be held in Melbourne next January.

In 1986 she became the first Koorie to graduate from a Victorian University (Monash) with a Master of Arts, and she is currently a PhD candidate.

The centre has only two permanent staff, but its research work is sustained by individual contracts negotiated and supervised by the director. In the past these have involved government bodies and community groups and organisations.

Currently underway is a project funded under the Grants of National Significance which involves a feasibility study into the teaching of Koorie languages in schools throughout Australia.

The centre has been very successful in training Koories to enable them to take up jobs in both the public and private sectors. Eighteen Koories have found positions after training at the centre, which is currently providing on-the-job training for two people.

Important initiatives introduced by the centre include the Aboriginal Studies Course (an accredited first year subject for an Arts degree), and the establishment of the Monash Orienation Scheme for Aborigines (see separate story).

The centre also conducts electives in Aboriginal education at the Master's degree level for the Education Faculty.

It holds seminars on race relations and matters affecting Koories and other members of the public. Last year it introduced a writer-in-residence program.

Ministers from the Federal and State parliaments visited Monash last month to open new quarters for the Aboriginal Research Centre and the Monash Orientation Scheme for Aborigines (MOSA). Both organisations are now located in the Gallery Building. MOSA's premises were officially opened by the Federal Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Mr Gerry Hand (see story). Mr Tom Roper, the Victorian Minister for Planning and Environment and Minister for Consumer Affairs (who also has responsibility for Aboriginal Affairs), inspected the Aboriginal Research Centre's quarters on the second floor and then declared them open. Guests at the opening included a number of politicians from State and local governments.

Taking care of business

In an innovative bid to supplement its income, the Aboriginal Research Centre at Monash is offering a consultancy service in market research.

The centre's director, Ms Eve Feat, herself the founder of a successful manufacturing business, announced the venture during the opening of the centre's new premises in the Gallery Building.

She said that until last year the centre's operational costs had been largely funded by a grant from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs. As part of the cutbacks in government spending, the centre had lost this grant, and it needed to look for alternative sources of income.

Ms Feat says hundreds of small businesses are "going to the wall" every week in cities around Australia.

"If their proprietors had done market research, many of these businesses would never have been started," she said.

With government money sometimes involved, only viable enterprises should be entered into — especially by the Koorie community because the failure of Koorie projects made headlines.

Ms Feat said the Koorie people were encouraging the centre to become involved in business enterprises, and it was likely the centre would run special business management courses dealing with the problems Koorie people might encounter in business.

Greek classes

An evening class for beginners in New Testament Greek is being conducted by the Department of Classical Studies at Monash University this year.

The course has no doctrinal content or bias and is aimed at educating participants to a level where they will be able to read the easier passages of the New Testament in the Greek original.

In consists of a one and a half hour session each week over the two university semesters (28 weeks in all) and costs $150 per semester. The venue is the Menzies Building between 7pm and 8.30pm each Monday. Inquiries about next year's course should be directed to the secretary of the department of Classical Studies on 565 3250.

MONASH REPORTER Page 9

May 1988
Feminist texts don't fit the bill

by Leslie Calman

For the past several years, I have been teaching a course in women's studies entitled, somewhat grandly, "Major Texts of the Feminist Traditions". The purpose of the course is to convey to students that when feminism emerged in this country in the 1960s — before they were born — it was in fact a re-emergence: that Western feminism has a long history of political conflict and of intellectual searching. It has, too, a rich cultural and literary tradition.

In the course, students are exposed to the works of many women philosophers, classicists, and political scientists. In the first semester we begin with Mary Wollstonecraft's Vindication of the Rights of Women and end with Simone de Beauvoir's The Second Sex, whose contribution to feminist cultural and literary tradition is most surely grandly. During the second semester with Simone de Beauvoir's The Second Sex, students will encounter feminist suggestions for change and Engel's Vindication of the Rights of Women.

The course is designed to be a major text in students' intellectual searching. I have thus been convinced that I must persuade them that these women belong on a feminist reading list. I have found that students are genuinely disgusted at the idea of a feminist text by a woman who married must be housewives only, but society should not stand in the way of the exceptional woman. This is no pride.

The moral of the suppressed feminist story is clear: Professional women should hire a cleaning woman.

The purpose of the course is to convey to students that when feminism emerged in this country in the 1960s — before they were born — it was in fact a re-emergence: that Western feminism has a long history of political conflict and of intellectual searching. It has, too, a rich cultural and literary tradition.

In the course, students are exposed to the works of many women philosophers, classicists, and political scientists. In the first semester we begin with Mary Wollstonecraft's Vindication of the Rights of Women and end with Simone de Beauvoir's The Second Sex, whose contribution to feminist cultural and literary tradition is most surely grandly. During the second semester with Simone de Beauvoir's The Second Sex, students will encounter feminist suggestions for change and Engel's Vindication of the Rights of Women.

The course is designed to be a major text in students' intellectual searching. I have thus been convinced that I must persuade them that these women belong on a feminist reading list. I have found that students are genuinely disgusted at the idea of a feminist text by a woman who married must be housewives only, but society should not stand in the way of the exceptional woman. This is no pride.

The moral of the suppressed feminist story is clear: Professional women should hire a cleaning woman.

The purpose of the course is to convey to students that when feminism emerged in this country in the 1960s — before they were born — it was in fact a re-emergence: that Western feminism has a long history of political conflict and of intellectual searching. It has, too, a rich cultural and literary tradition.

In the course, students are exposed to the works of many women philosophers, classicists, and political scientists. In the first semester we begin with Mary Wollstonecraft's Vindication of the Rights of Women and end with Simone de Beauvoir's The Second Sex, whose contribution to feminist cultural and literary tradition is most surely grandly. During the second semester with Simone de Beauvoir's The Second Sex, students will encounter feminist suggestions for change and Engel's Vindication of the Rights of Women.

The course is designed to be a major text in students' intellectual searching. I have thus been convinced that I must persuade them that these women belong on a feminist reading list. I have found that students are genuinely disgusted at the idea of a feminist text by a woman who married must be housewives only, but society should not stand in the way of the exceptional woman. This is no pride.

The moral of the suppressed feminist story is clear: Professional women should hire a cleaning woman.
‘Labour Ward’ christens Monash city office

Monash poet Jennifer Strauss made history last month when the launching of her new volume of verse became the first official function in Monash’s new city office.

The book, Labour Ward, published by Pariah Press, was launched by well-known Melbourne poet, Judith Rodriguez, pictured here (centre) with Jenny and the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Logan.

The city office, at the corner of Exhibition Street and Flinders Lane, is now in business. Organisers of university functions — meetings, seminars, lectures, courses and the like — are invited to contact Jan Hewish, on 650 2500, to book space.

Tending the Graves

There are days when the dead will have nothing to do with us —

In summer mostly, when a dry wind from the north

Gusts up just as you enter the cemetery gates

And the roses are overblown, the gum trees stripping,

And you know the flowers you’ve brought will wither fast

And are besides the wrong size for the holder

And you’ve forgotten scissors, and something to carry water.

It’s not reproach. They have no need to tell us. You

Have given away my books, taken another lover into my bed.

Made of my children something I do not approve — all that

We can say for ourselves, it is absolute absence.

They are so engrossed by death they refuse even to haunt us.

We must tend the grave and walk away; unrewarded,

Unreproached, unforgiven; our feet heavy with life.

Jennifer Strauss

Prolific playwright pulls in prizes

Senior lecturer in English, Dennis Davison, won first prize at this year’s Noosa Drama Festival with his play, Parting Shot. Dr Davison is the director of Studio Players, the university’s most prolific amateur drama group, which he set up 12 years ago. He has been an actor since schooldays and began as a playwright at the age of 20 when he was playing Shakespearean roles at the Sheffield Little Theatre in England. Dr Davison came to Australia with his family in 1957.

Being an Englishman I was the natural choice to teach Australian literature at Monash, and I soon became interested in unpublished 19th century Australian dramas, which I rescue from obscurity in the public library — thanks to the Geography printer.

Mimi Colligan (former Monash student) directed me to Marcus Clarke’s unfinished comedy, Revenge, which I completed, published and staged at Monash and Ballarat CAE.

Mimi is a superb singer, and this encouraged me to direct her, Philippa Adgemis, Peter Groves, Karen Brown and Tim Scott in Weekend Affair, a comedy with songs set to music by Margaret Scott. Since then I’ve written and produced either here, at Toorak Arts Centre or Deakin University, a score of original plays and a dozen adaptations — from Turgenev’s A Month in The Country to Victorian melodramas such as Wayward Women, which I staged at a South Yarra massage studio.

Most of my plays are satirical comedies — for example, Who’s Who?, Overnight Loan Only, One Russian Summer, Forty-Love, or Maid in Australia. But Come Live With Me is a social drama, and I was commissioned to write Happy Easter, Antigone, performed in Toorak Uniting Church by my colleagues Richard Pannall, Alan Dilnot, Lorna Henry, Bruce Steele and Angela Bartholomew.

As a former play reader for Melbourne Theatre Company and now a theatre critic for The Australian (as Helen Thomson’s locum), I’ve read and seen a lot of bad plays, which makes me reluctant to offer mine to professional companies.

However, I have started submitting one-act plays to competitions and have won three first prizes, the most recent being this February at Noosa Drama Festival with Parting Shot. Another Queensland company has since asked permission to produce it.

Although I’ve acted in plays since my schooldays I only drifted gradually into writing them. When I was 20, playing Odipus, Hamlet or Mephisto at Sheffield Little Theatre, I used to compose sketches about the current play for the stage prompter.

In South Africa, playing Creon in Anouilh’s Antigone, I was asked by the director to supply a short play to fill the program.

I was teaching Middle English at the time, so hurriedly translated the native play, Secunda Pastorum. It was later staged also at Trinity College, Oxford, and toured on a horse-drawn wagon around Oxfordshire.

I saw The Provoked Wife at Rhodes University and this prompted me to complete my first original play, Beau Bella, a sort of modern Restoration Comedy.

When I moved to Armidale, NSW, I directed this in the Town Hall — it was a box-office success — and later the same year Harold Love co-directed my kitchen-sink drama, Love On The Downstairs, which was also taken to Brisbane Student Drama Festival.

The cast had a drunken orgy the night before and, I heard, turned the drama into a comedy.

In Armidale I directed some plays in French and here at Monash I’ve translated French plays and published them for my drama course. French Spoken Here I’ve staged at Monash, St Roch’s Church Hall and the State Library.

Right now, I’ve got half a dozen plays to finish. Acts One and Two I usually write rapidly, but Act Three is the hard one. Maybe I’ll stick to two-act plays in future.

— Dennis Davison

Learning to use a PC

The Monash University Computer Centre will hold a series of short courses this month on personal computers. The courses are open to everyone, and the program is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Cost Internal</th>
<th>Cost External</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PC1</td>
<td>Intro. to PCs and MS-Dos May 5</td>
<td>9:30-11:30</td>
<td>CTL-009</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CW1</td>
<td>Intro. to ChiWriter</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9:30-11:30</td>
<td>CTL-009</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SS1</td>
<td>Intro. to Spreadsheets</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9:00-12:30</td>
<td>CTL-009</td>
<td>$35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VD1</td>
<td>Intro. to VAX VMS</td>
<td></td>
<td>9:30-12:30</td>
<td>S13</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T1</td>
<td>Typing on Computer</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>3:30-5:00</td>
<td>CTL-009</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VD2</td>
<td>Intro. to Qudwig</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>9:30-12:30</td>
<td>S13</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LX1</td>
<td>Intro. to LaTeX</td>
<td>18,19,20,23,4.15-12.45</td>
<td>S13</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>$175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCZ</td>
<td>MS-DOS and Applications</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>9:30-12:30</td>
<td>CTL-009</td>
<td>$35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*This course will use VP-Planner Plus as the spreadsheet but is also applicable to Lotus 123 and other compatibles.

More information can be obtained from Marie Sierra-Hughes at the Computer Centre on 565 4750.

Registration should be forwarded to

Jacqui Smith at the centre or by telephone on 565 4765. A course schedule can be regularly forwarded on request.

— Dennis Davison

Dennis Davison

MONASH REPORTER 

MAY 1988
Heading towards an era of incompetence

The campaign to dispose of knowledge-teaching in schools has been waged for some time, its proponents advocating that students and teachers, not parents, governments or the community, should decide the curriculum, says the ICI-Monash professor of industrial chemistry, Ashbom Baklien.

Professor Baklien was speaking at a graduation ceremony in Robert Blackwood Hall.

He said the western world was at a critical juncture in techno-economical development.

"Can we run an increasingly technologically society with politicians and managers who have little or no understanding of science and technology and who are mostly lawyers, economists, or accountants?"

"As common people we may believe them admitted to the communion of sainst, but as technologists they need a long residence in a technological purgatory," he said.

The state of the arts

The Australian Studies Centre is sponsoring a series of free public lectures which is bringing to Monash some notable practitioners in the arts in Australia.

Leading novelist Helen Garner, who has recently completed a term on the Literature Board of the Australia Council, has already spoken on The Writer in This Society, and tomorrow there will be a lecture by architect Ian McDougall (5 May, 5.15pm Rotunda Theatre 2) and on 10 May by film director Paul Cox (5.15pm, Rotunda Theatre 7).

Ian McDougall, who is editor of Architect and has lectured and published widely, is speaking on Contemporary Issues in Melbourne Architecture, while Paul Cox, well-known for films such as My First Wife and Cactus, has chosen The Films as Film and Not as Product.

Second term sees an equally impressive array of lecturers, beginning with painter Gareth Sansom (7 June), writer Barry Oakley (14 June), composer Barry Conyngham (23 June) and Donald Horne (28 June).

Inquiries should be directed to Gail Ward of the Australian Studies Centre, 565 2159.

Monash troops win Oakleigh freedom

The Sunday quiet of Oakleigh's streets was briefly shattered last month by the tampering boots of the Monash University Regiment exercising its Freedom of the City.

The right to march through the streets was granted by Oakleigh Mayor, Council­ lilor Heather Norling, during a ceremony held earlier in the day at the Warrawee Park Oval.

It was a day marked with military precision and tradition.

After permission had been given to the regiment with the presentation of a scroll to Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Robert Slater by Oakleigh Town Clerk, Mr Barry Prebble, the troops began their march and were officially challenged.

"Halt, who comes here?" inquired the city.

"The Monash University Regiment exercising its right and privilege to pass through the City of Oakleigh with swords drawn, bayonets fixed, drums beating, colours flying and bands playing," was the regiment's response.

Not surprisingly, the regiment was invited to go ahead.

The granting of the Freedom of the City is a military tradition which dates back to the Middle Ages.

In the days when fortress walls protected cities from attacks by outlaw bands and feudal lords, their citizens wisely refused entry to bodies of armed men unless they were completely sure those arms would not be used against them.

The granting of permission for armed men to enter a city became a mark of trust and confidence.

Although the Freedom of a City in 1988 carries no real rights and privileges, the move by the City of Oakleigh is in recognition of the regiment's long history of service within the community.

Spaceport talk

Come along to Monash on Monday 9 May to learn more about the biggest engineering project in Australia since the Snowy River Hydro Scheme.

Under the heading, Gateway to the Galaxies, Dr John Simmons from Queensland University will talk about the Cape York Spaceport. He chaired a feasibility study into the project by invitation from the Queensland government.

The talk will begin at 1pm in Lecture Theatre E1 (Engineering).

Wrong!

Last month's review of Bill Howard and Carol Fair's new book, Industrial Relations Reform: A Policy for Australia, described it as a "loath analysis" of industrial relations issues. This was, as told, should have read "judicious analysis".

Mother and son quinella

Oakleigh Mayor, Councillor Heather Norling, inspects the Monash University Regiment at Warrawee Park.

MONASH REPORTER

Page 12

after having spent 10-12 years at school, so many of them still know nothing," he said.

Unfortunately, it is a fact that far too many education people, both in the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors, see education as philosophical, not as vocational.

"A much more worrying aspect is the increasing intrusion of ideology into our education system. Our schools are at risk of becoming ideological battle grounds with the minds of our children as the target."

"The idea was inculcated in our children that something could be had for nothing. Education was to be for life, a pleasant and lazy life, not for preparing the young people for work."

"Instant pleasure and gratification became not only goals but democratic rights. Money could be borrowed today to buy whatever you desired tomorrow."

"Everybody shares in the responsibility for this state of affairs: educators, in particular, but also psychologists, social scientists, politicians, business people, media, parents and the entertainment industry," Professor Baklien said.

"Any education that does not recognise that work is the most important part of life fails both the student and the community."

"Spelling, grammar and numeracy may start early in primary school and be continued until masterd."

"The kind of education needed by our technology-based society has changed dramatically. We need informed citizens, and our education must therefore be knowledge-based."

"We need to be competitive if we are to survive as a developed nation. We need to perform as a country and that means superior performance by the individuals," he said.
University honor for a natural photographer

When Faculty of Science photographer, Bruce Fuhrer, was told he would be awarded an honorary Master of Science degree, his initial reaction was disbelief.

"One does feel rather humbled, and I was wondering as to why I was awarded such an honor," said the popular self-taught photographer and botanist.

Events leading up to the graduation ceremony did little to allay his uncertainty. An official letter outlining protocol arrived at his home only one day before. Meanwhile, his gown flatly refused to be worn in a manner befitting an honorary Master of Science.

These events notwithstanding, anyone acquainted with his work in the field of close-up plant photography would agree that Bruce Fuhrer is a more than worthy candidate for such a title.

The degree was awarded last month in a Science and Engineering graduation ceremony at Robert Blackwood Hall. In his citation the Dean of Science, Professor Bill Munz, described Mr Fuhrer as "not only a man with photographic skills, but also an exceptional field botanist".

Since joining the faculty in 1972, Mr Fuhrer has undertaken a number of field trips with the Botany department as both photographer and member of the teaching staff. His many publications, including Seaweeds of Australia, A Field Companion to Australian Fungi and Flowers and Plants of Victoria, reflect a deep and lifelong love of the natural environment. "My joy is being out in the wilderness," he says.

His interest in photography literally began by accident. To relieve the tedium of a long period of convalescence, in Portland, following a motor-cycle accident, Mr Fuhrer began to process the local chemist's films at the town's photographic studio.

Six rolls of film a day soon grew to 300. In time, he also assumed the mantle of town photographer.

As his photographic interest gradually moved from the commercial area to natural history, Bruce Fuhrer taught himself botany as well.

Such is his knowledge, says Professor Munz, "that he is often almost overflowing with information on the identification of a particular plant . . . His publications contain not just superb illustrations, but a scientifically detailed text!"

Mr Fuhrer is currently undertaking a study of the liverworts of southern Australia. These small moss-like plants are found on tree trunks, in water, or on damp ground. On a recent field trip he discovered no less than 15 previously undescribed species of a single liverwort genus.

Later this year he will publish a guide to the flora of the national parks of Western Australia.

The quality of his photographic contributions extend from color photographs on telephone directories to color slides of Australian fungi on First Day covers and the International Botanical Congress stamp issue.

Special admissions nets first doctorate

Geoff Crawford, former prison officer and laboratory assistant, last month became the first Monash student to receive a Ph.D after entering the university through the Special Admissions Scheme.

Dr Crawford, 36, was enrolled full-time in the department of Microbiology at Monash from 1979 until 1987, and did his thesis in the area of flavivirus-specified polypeptides under the supervision of Dr Peter Wright.

By 1979, after nine years in the workforce, Dr Crawford had HSC-equivalent passes in Physics, English Expression, Chemistry and Pure Maths, but they had all been gained at different times. "As I had had many attempts at HSC (and many failures) I was not qualified for university entry," he says.

Then a newspaper advertisement for a special entry scheme caught his eye and he applied to Monash, sat for tests, was interviewed by the Sub-Dean of Science, and accepted.

He never looked back, graduating with a B.Sc (Honors) in Microbiology in 1983 and going straight into his Ph.D.

He is now working as a veterinary microbiologist for a company in Newcastle.
New booklet ensures better health care

If doctors are better informed about government programs they will be better equipped to use them more effectively.

The community can then have greater confidence in the medical profession, according to a new booklet issued by the Department of Community Services and Health on Going into Practice.

In seeking to give value for money, doctors needed to ensure that they provided effective health care, the booklet said.

It was published following a suggestion from the then chairman of the Committee of Deans of Australian Medical Schools, Professor Graeme Schofield of Monash, to the chief Commonwealth Medical Officer, Dr David de Souza.

The deans wanted to ensure that newly-graduated doctors would be familiar with the basics of government programs, even as they moved into hospital practice.

Stringent

In the booklet, doctors are told that the medical profession has established a pattern of care provided by doctors to most patients, and this "norm" is the result of an insistence on subjecting new therapies to stringent scientific analysis.

"Effective health care has thus been brought about by the medical profession improving its practices as scientific advances make this possible. This approach has contributed to the high standing of the profession and brought very considerable benefit to patients," the booklet says.

The health minister, Dr Neale Blewett, believes the booklet will prove most valuable.

Dr Blewett says that the need for doctors to be fully informed became even more important as doctors moved from hospitals to private or other practice.

"Going into Practice" says that, over the past 50 years, doctors have had to become progressively more involved in the administration of health and welfare programs as welfare and social security legislation has emerged and been followed by health legislation introducing hospital, medical and pharmaceutical benefits.

There is now, the booklet says, a legislative basis for monitoring services for which claims are made under benefits schemes, and for monitoring the professional activities of doctors.

Cost effective

"Being a doctor brings privileges and rewards. It also brings obligations to an increasingly well-informed community which demands answers that previously concerned the profession only."

The booklet says that health care in Australia last year cost well over a thousand dollars for every individual ($19,000 million in all). The amounts are so large that even a small proportional saving is significant to the economy and the community.

The community, which provides public revenue, relies on the medical profession for prudent and cost-effective decisions. Because so much expenditure is involved, doctors have been increasingly subjected to scrutiny.

The booklet says that doctors should question themselves regularly about the extent to which their services are genuinely needed, and whether their services are of a quality for which the community will wish to pay.

"Good medical practice need not be unaffordable for the community. Bad medical practice invariably is, and it doesn't help the patient either," it says.

Practical information in the booklet includes correctly-filled-out forms for direct billing to Medicare and for applications to prescribe a drug as a pharmaceutical benefit, to obtain a domiciliary nursing care benefit and for admission to a nursing home.

"Going into Practice" is being distributed to all doctors.

Its basic information could interest anyone wanting to know more about the role of doctors in the welfare society.

Climbs challenge students' beliefs

What are first year medical students Nick Scarrab, left, Marc Blackstone and Pauline Taylor doing at the zoo?

They are becoming acquainted with a close relative, the Chimpanzee (above), as part of a revamped Medical Biology course which puts much more emphasis on human evolution.

The new course included an afternoon at the zoo assessing the usefulness of form and behavior to the lifestyle of different primates. (The students also managed to sneak a look at the visiting Giant Pandas while they were about.)

Professor Roger Short of Reproductive Biology said it became apparent to him that the course needed changing the day he asked an embryology class how many of them believed in evolution. "Very few put up their hands."

He said that while he and his fellow lecturers were shocked by this — given that evolution provides the conceptual basis for much of medical science — they began to recognise that it stemmed more from lack of knowledge and interest than from any competing ideology.

Only about a quarter to a third of medical students have had exposure to biology before university.

So, with the stimulus of a change in teaching personnel, this year's Medical Biology lecturers set about designing a Human Evolution course that would stimulate and interest medical students, as well as providing knowledge that would be useful to them as doctors.

"We stressed that as medical practitioners it would be much better if they had some understanding of the creatures from which human beings evolved, than treating them as if they were just created," Professor Mike Cullen of Zoology said.

"My section of the course deals with animals with backbones. I decided that it was not appropriate to go through them all, so I moved the emphasis onto the primates which are of much more interest and relevance to medical students.

"The evolutionary forces that shaped our structure can have far-reaching medical consequences. For instance, the birth canal in primates is relatively smaller than in other animals of a similar size. Yet the human cranial size is large, all of which makes it more difficult for mothers to bear infants."

In general, the course now looks at the concept of evolution, geological time and the fossil record; primate and human evolution and reproduction; and the evolution of human parasites and disease.

And what of the reaction of the students? Well, many said they found it all very interesting, but by the same token they were not completely sure of its relevance to becoming a doctor.
Double Open Day: A chance to learn all about IVF — or pet rocks ...

One aspect of the Great Tertiary Education Debate on which there seems to be total agreement is the idea that universities must open themselves more to the community.

And that’s just what Monash proposes to do on Sunday, 7 August from 10.30 am to 4.30 pm — but with a bonus.

The new Clayton campus of the Monash Medical Centre will be joining the university in a combined Open Day...

... and catch up with gee-whiz technology

If you want to see great computer gee-whiz graphics and exciting laboratory experiments and models, don’t miss this year’s August Open Day in the department of Civil Engineering’s laboratories.

The displays are really exciting and will no doubt tickle the eyes of many youngsters.

The computer color graphics alone are incredible. Everything is moving on the screen in all sorts of dazzling colors.

For the first time in many years we will be able to show visitors what high-technology civil engineering is all about — computer simulation and experimental analysis.

People will be able to see a building frame designed (in color) with the push of a mouse button and then watch it actually being tested in the lab.

Other computers will show a skyscraper vibrating and swaying in an earthquake, how a landslide slips and drags away whatever is on top of it as shown in the photograph, how traffic jams can be avoided at intersections, and how water collects to form floods.

The age of computer color animation is here and in our laboratories on show for all to see.

Not only will computer screens flash and move objects around but everything in the laboratory will be either crashing, flowing, bouncing, rolling, slipping, or collapsing.

There will be crash tests of bumper bars and tubes (free crushed samples will be given out) and model bridges (see photograph) loaded until they collapse.

A $250,000 laser will be demonstrated measuring the speed of flowing water and lecturers will show how floods such as the one shown in the photograph can be avoided. In fact, water will be gushing through channels and over objects of all different shapes and sizes.

There is even a water fountain juggling a ball.

The demonstrations by the geomechanics group also have to be seen to be believed. They have a video film showing a 200 square metre house moving at 30km/hr on a piece of land which is slipping a couple of kilometres down a hillside. They have also set up a model showing exactly how and why this occurs.

There will be a magnificent large-scale model of the arterial link between the Mulgrave freeway and South Eastern freeway. It’s always fun to see if you can see your own house somewhere in this model.

Not only will people be able to see some of the university’s clinical departments including the world-famous IVF research unit, but at the same time they can have a look at Victoria’s newest hospital.

A shuttle service will be operating between the two campuses, so those interested can avail themselves of the large amount of parking space at the university and use the bus to get to the hospital.

On the university Campus itself, there will be something for everyone. As well as the usual fascinating displays, exhibits, lectures and advice, the children’s train will be back and you will be able to obtain your own pet rock.

And for prospective students, there’s no better way of getting a first-hand feel for what university can offer than coming to talk to those who are a part of it all.

So mark the Open Day on your calendar now, and come and see how Monash University and the Monash Medical Centre are “Helping to Build Australia’s Future”.

— MONASH REPORTER
Universities should promote justice: bishop

Bishop Peter Hollingworth, executive director of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and former member of the University Council, has written the following article for this special community issue. It is based on an address he gave in March at the annual University Service, held in the Religious Centre to mark the bicentenary of the university. Bishop Hollingworth looked at the role of a university in building justice, at the ways a university can promote justice, and the place of religion in the education process. He first considered the nature and function of a university.

There are various ways a university can be described, such as a government-funded community of higher learning, a social institution concerned with education, an administrative framework which allows for the establishment of various academic disciplines, or an academic, which refers to the sphere where Plato first taught his followers. None of these definitions gets us very far, except to note, in passing, that the structure of a university is shaped, to a large extent, by the social, political and economic demands of the society within which it is located.

When we pursue the question further and ask about the role of a university, it is clearly to do with teaching, researching and socialising the young. It is interesting to re-read the document, Monash University in the First 25 Years, which sought to summarise the major trends which occurred in that period.

Tailored

That document clearly indicated that the first goal of Monash was set by the government in endeavoring to solve the general population explosion which had produced something of a crisis in education.

Monash was the second university to be established in Victoria, over 100 years later, and the backlog in the area of tertiary education was enormous.

The second goal related to the question of Australian educational philosophy which had argued that access to tertiary education should extend beyond the elites of society, to all who wished and were able to secure the benefits of such education. The goal then was to ensure that all those who reached the minimum qualifying standard for university entrance should be able to do so.

The exciting aspect about Monash was that a whole new group of students entered the university, who were, in effect, the first generation in their families ever to have attended a university.

The third goal was to endeavor to experiment and innovate, without dropping academic standards.

When it is examined how these matters actually worked out over the 25 years, it is clear that the first goal was achieved, as was the second for a time.

Unfortunately, however, there were many students who had qualified for entry but who were blocked because of the increased numbers of students seeking to attend the university and this led to only those with higher results securing places. Thus the goal of increased access was diminished and will be further diminished if tertiary fees are introduced some time in the future.

The third goal has clearly proved a very difficult one because of the limited range of structural variations that are feasible in the case of a university, which does not make experiment and innovation particularly easy.

Turning to the students themselves, Monash's career has been an interesting one insofar as the student unrest between 1967 and 1971 was a manifestation of forces at work in the wider society.

In many respects, the students of this time sought to politicise the defects that could be identified in the society of the day and their agenda was far wider than the university itself.

The second wave of student unrest occurred between 1971 and 1974 and was much more closely focused upon issues like course content and methods of assessment. Students found it difficult to sustain interest and commitment to reform.

In the late 1970s and the 1980s concerns about reform were over-ridden as the labor market became tighter with increasing competition for existing jobs. One sensed that a new spirit of pragmatism may have taken the edge off the desire for reform.

But how does teaching and learning occur? Plainly, these are the main purp­

ose of a university. Recently, the Governor of Victoria, Dr Davis McCaughey, gave the Angus Mitchell Memorial Oration to the Rotary Club of Melbourne and he identified three models of teaching which is helpful to re-state. The first is the scientific method which deals with such matters as the content of law, custom, precedent. The emphasis is upon a formal, authoritative teaching of facts in a systematic way. There are certain divine revealed truths and the task of the teacher is to communicate them to the students, quoting appropriate authorities, upon which he might build. This method of teaching, Dr McCaughey suggests, is to do with the 'what' questions which are in students' minds.

Blocked

The second model of teaching arises from the guilds, and their successors, the universities, of the mediaeval period. These are concerned with the process of teaching the nature of emerging groups of people seeking to gather technical knowledge and formal­

ly depositing it in an institutional context which would assist in the teaching of the emerging professions and trades which they established their own freedom

and autonomy from ecclesiastical control. Generally speaking, this method of learning relates to the 'why' questions.

Thirdly, the Socratic and Platonic methods of teaching are concerned with exploring reality, of analysing concepts and of engaging in dialogue and debate. Such questions are more concerned with the "why", of seeking to understand why certain matters are so in the order of things.

It probably needs to be said that modern universities have largely rejected the first model and are currently under great pressure to reduce their emphasis upon the second model in favor of the third model. In order that national labor market requirements can be met and university education can become better tailored to the new efficiency demands.

One would want to agree with Dr McCaughey that there are dangers in this approach, particularly when some of the fundamental truths about our world are ignored and our capacity in analysing them is reduced.

Along with the church, the universities represent one of the few institutions that can truly be described as free and capable of pursuing a sustained analysis of society which may vary from the political orthodoxies of the day. That freedom is fundamental to the historic role of a university and to the sustaining of our democratic way of life.

Urgent need

I want to now examine what universities can do in promoting justice.

First of all, a word about students themselves.

I refuse to believe that today's young people lack a sense of idealism. They have not fully given themselves over to the new pragmatism, although it may be that their idealism is more latent.

* Continued p18

* Above: The interior of the Large Chapel showing some of the brilliantly colored stained glass windows designed by Les Kosatsz. Top, internally and externally, the Religious Centre is one of the most interesting buildings on campus.
Learning to weed between the pines

What exactly is a weed? Just about anything from a small trifid-like plant in the front garden to a large tree, says the co-organiser of a conference on weed science to be held at Monash later this month.

According to Mrs Andrea Lindsay of the Graduate School of Environmental Science, weeds must be defined in terms of human concerns. What may be for some an attractive creeper is for others an unwelcome intrusion.

In Sherbrooke Forest, the ever-popular ivy grows unchecked and has already smothered a number of the region's indigenous trees. Even the ubiquitous pine tree is referred to as a weed in areas where it has invaded native forests.

Organised by the Weed Society of Victoria (WSV) and the graduate school, Weeds on Public Land will be a two-day conference for people interested in weed and vegetation management.

The conference will be opened by the Minister for Conservation, Forests and Lands, Mrs Jean Lindsay. The department is responsible for weed control in the public domain.

Among the speakers will be the well-known English botanist, Professor David Bellamy, and consultant weed scientist, Dr Bill Parsons.

Weeds on public land present governments with a complex problem, says Mrs Lindsay. Affected areas can range from state forests and national parks to public reserves, roadside verges and the narrow strip of land surrounding railway tracks. In regions where they grow profusely, weeds such as blackberries often prevent access to reserves and creeks. With their rapid growth rate they displace indigenous plant life resulting in a loss of a food source for native animals.

And as some weeds, especially introduced annual grasses, tend to dry out more than the indigenous plant life in summer, they also create an increased fire risk.

With very few exceptions, weeds are exotic plants, says Mrs Lindsay.

Generally, it is only when Australian species begin to thrive outside their normal environment that they are classified as weeds. One example is the recent spread of silver wattles to southern New South Wales from their native Victoria.

Among the issues to be discussed at the conference will be the development of appropriate weed control strategies. In the past, says Mrs Lindsay, 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T were sprayed on affected public land. But as a restriction has been placed on their use, scientists must look to alternative methods.

Biological control, such as using an enemy fungus to retard a weed's growth, is high on the list. In some cases, a change in fire regime or encouraging more vigorous competition from indigenous species will have the same effect as a weedicide.

Research so far indicates that such methods may limit weed growth to a point where native flora is again able to dominate the local ecosystem.

During the conference, a book on the benefits of trees to Victorians will be launched by the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Mr Evan Walker.

Written by Monash students as part of their Master of Environmental Science degrees, and co-edited by Mrs Lindsay and Mr Rob Youl of the Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands, Victoria Felix: Improving Rural Land with Trees is intended as a reference for all land managers, including farmers, hobby farmers and even suburban gardeners.

The weed conference will be held on 19 and 20 May and costs $100 for two days (or $60 for one day). For further information, contact Madelon Lane of the Keith Turnbull Research Institute on 9178 0111.

Monash Reporter letters

1. Make sure each pronoun agrees with its antecedent.
2. Just between you and I, the case of pronouns is important.
3. Watch out for irregular verbs which have crept into English.
4. Verbs has to agree in number with their subjects.
5. Don't use no double negatives.
6. Being bad grammar, a writer should not use dangling modifiers.
7. Join clauses a good use a conjunction should.
8. A writer must not shift your point of view.
9. About sentence fragments.
10. Don't use run-on sentences you got to punctuate them.
11. In letters essays and reports use commas to separate items in series.
12. Don't use commas, which are not necessary.
13. Parenthetical words however should be enclosed in commas.
14. It's important to use apostrophes right in everybody's writing.
15. Don't abbrev.
16. Check to see if you any words out.
17. In the case of a report, check to see that jargonwise, it's A-OK.
18. As far as incomplete instructions, they are wrong.
19. About repetition, the repetition of a word might be real effective repetition - take, for instance the repetition of Abraham Lincoln.
20. In my opinion, I think that an author when he is writing should definitely not get into the habit of making use of too many unnecessary words that he does not really need in order to put his message across.
21. Use parallel construction not only to be concise but also clarify.
22. It behoves us all to avoid archaic expressions.
23. Mixed metaphors are a pain in the neck and ought to be weeded out.
24. Consult the dictionary to avoid misspellings.
25. To ignorantly split an infinitive is a practice to religiously avoid.
26. Last but not least, lay off cliches.

Monash Reporter

Summer vocations

A scheme which finds paid summer vacation work in Britain in studies-related areas has benefited more than 3000 Australian and New Zealand students over the past 25 years.

The British Australian Vocational Exchange (BAVE) scheme gives students the opportunity to combine the adventure of travel with the challenge of meaningful work experience. All BAVE jobs will be paid a minimum of 100 pounds a week and many will be paid more.

In 1988-89, BAVE expects the majority of jobs it administers to be in the fields of business studies, commerce, computing, engineering, electronics and laboratory work.

The official starting date for work placements this year is 5 December. Application forms are available from: The Graduate Careers Council of Australia, PO Box 28, Parkville, 3052.

A leaflet outlining the scheme may be perused in the Information Office, 1st Floor, Gallery Building.

Monash Reporter

The next issue will be published in the first week of June, 1988.

The department of Electrical and Computer Systems Engineering will present a range of displays covering the wide interest area of the department.

For example, in the Computer Vision and Robotics Laboratory of the department, research on Artificial Intelligence is concerned with robot vision, range sensing, trajectory planning and navigation for both robot manipulators and mobile robots. During Open Day, robots will be on display which incorporate the implementation of some of these important features.

Of particular interest in work relating to mobile robots is determining a robot's position in a room. This is accomplished using an ultra-sonic, computer-based system. A computer simulation of this position finding procedure will be on display.

- Michael Conlon

In the High Voltage Laboratory, the operation of the Tesla Coil and Impulse Generator will be demonstrated. These displays deal with the production of high voltages which are used for experimentation and testing.

As a demonstration of an Expert System, a computer-based adviser will be available for helping students with engineering career decisions.

The Electrical Machine Laboratory will include displays of electrical power apparatus, electromagnetic devices and power electronics as applied to machine speed control.
Children, music meet in RBH

Each year at Robert Blackwood Hall, more than 22,000 children are introduced to the world of music by the bands of the Australian army, navy and airforce and by orchestras from overseas.

This year's program promises a varied musical education for Victorian schoolchildren.

On Tuesday 21 June, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Band, under the direction of band leader Randy Demmon, will perform for primary and secondary pupils at 10.30am and 1.30pm.

The band is well-known in its native land and is no stranger to international travel. A typical RCMP Band concert opens with a few popular tunes and is followed by songs and music from the big band era. As well as being members of the police force, each musician is a professional in his field.

Another overseas orchestra presenting concerts for schoolchildren this year will be the Hampshire County Youth Orchestra from England. They are also a much-travelled group - recent tours have included the United States, Alaska, and Australia in between regular performances at the Royal Albert Hall and on the BBC.

The orchestra will be performing at Robert Blackwood Hall on Tuesday 26 July at 10.30am and 1.30pm under conductor Edgar Hough.

Concerts specially for primary schoolchildren will be presented by the Royal Australian Navy Band (conducted by Lieutenant Ashley Greeny) on Wednesday 7 September at 10.30am and 1.30pm, and by the Royal Australian Air Force Band (conducted by Squadron Leader Mike Butcher) on Wednesday 19 October at 10.30am and 1.30pm.

For further information and bookings, contact Robert Blackwood Hall on 565 3091.

- From page 16

... than expressed at the present time. The role of a university is surely to encourage that idealism, and to ensure that is kept alive in the face of behavior which is concerned with self-promotion rather than the good of others.

As far as staff are concerned, the critical factor is that they make a firm commitment to students. The task is to open minds, to help students explore underlying value issues and to relate those matters to wider societal questions.

Staff need to give of themselves personally to their students, in a belief that students in turn will give of themselves to others in their professional lives.

One of the great concerns today is that we are breeding a race of highly competent professionals, in a technical sense, who though they are competent, do not see a great need to give of themselves to the people they are expected to serve, or an urgent need therefore, to re-inject personal commitment and vocation in all professions, and university staff have an important role in communicating the need to students, not only by word, but by example.

By the way they shape the content of their curricula, universities can also have an important role in promoting justice.

For example, Law Faculty at Monash began teaching in 1965, and there has been a social security law, landlord and tenant law, and consumer law. As a result Monash Law School became a significant seedbed in providing the new community legal centres, with young lawyers, who are now devoting to advocacy in relation to the poor and the excluded.

The teaching of law from the point of view of the consumer has played an important part in achieving greater balance in our legal framework.

The Sociology department too, has assisted growing numbers of people in the development of skills of social policy analysis and they have taken their place in welfare organisations and research institutes which seek to serve the wider community.

I must say, too, that the Religious Centre is a unique contribution by Monash because, in an inter-faith sense, it has been a facility where students have been helped to relate questions of faith and intellect to life.

The issue of making faith relevant to life has always been a burning question and was regularly addressed in the old days of the Student Christian Movement.

Religious Centre 'a unique contribution'

... is significant to recall that Jesus "taught with authority and not as the Scribes". In other words, instead of using ancient precepts or quoting authoritative sources he said, "I say to you". We hear the Beatitudes being read: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, blessed are the peace-makers, blessed are the persecutors for righteousness' sake" and so on.

These are profound axioms which are no longer up for debate, but are passed down from generation to generation and must never be lost. The study of religion, per se, looks at the status of these axioms and then examines how people have sought to apply them in practice, both at a private level and at a public level. Throughout history, people have sought to enshrine those axioms in moral laws, which in turn have been reflected to some extent in civil laws.

When it comes to the question of faith we are reminded of the Hebrew definition of God, or Yahweh, which is "I am who I am". This brings us right back to the fundamental question of identity, to the inner core of our reality as a human being made in the Divine Image. It also forces us to ask the question: Who are we? We are united to each other in the transcending of ourselves and being transformed into the life of God. Christians uphold Jesus as the bearer of truth, of the Word of God, who stands in the place of God as the fulfiller of the law and the prophets, and who affirms that God and the universe are personal.

Having talked about the question of authority, the status of religious axioms, the faith response, and the question of faith, we now need to examine the question of ethics. This is to do with...
Engineers in ‘Bourgeois and middlebrow’

Engineers have long recognised that they suffer from a poor public image. In the keynote address at a recent course run for engineers by the Centre for Continuing Education, the newly-appointed Dean of Engineering, Professor Peter Cramton, pointed out some of the aspects of the engineering profession, as shown in this extract. The course, held at Normandy House and titled Managing for Tomorrow, was opened by Mr Jim Simmonds, the Victorian Minister for Local Government.

There is a fascinating book called The Extinction of the Pleasures of Engineering by Samuel Florman. What I am going to say for the next few minutes is a précis, and some comments on certain parts of that book.

Existentialism, in case you have never been to one, is about passions, urges and intuitions rather than on any formal philosophical framework. In the words of the hippies ‘it feels good, do it’.

In the “Golden Age” of engineering, roughly between 1850 and 1950, technology was romanticised. Engineers were the benefactors of mankind. Every new invention was greeted with wild enthusiasm. There were mighty bridges, trains, the Eiffel Tower, ocean liners, trolleybuses, subways, automotives, telephones, telegraph, telephone, phonograph, movies, radio and television, tunnels, dams, sky-scrapers, high-rises, steel, and so on. All of these wonderful inventions were seen to be the creation of men and heroes of great adventure — the great engineers. They were much admired as professionals. One can think of the mighty Crystal Palace exhibition in 1851 in London which six million people visited.

Dark Age

These bold engineers, these adventurers, these risk-takers, were contributing greatly to the welfare of mankind by their rational application of scientific principles. It was even felt that the modern politics and society could be shaped in this way by these five upstanders. It was the era of the great patriotic pride that Australia felt in the Snowy Mountains Scheme at the end of the golden age and went through to the 1960s.

Engineers clearly in that great age, the golden age of engineering, developed their work thrilling in a very deep and elemental way, in the way that we think of when we say that something is avant-garde nowadays. There is a lovely expression that was used by the US Navy Seabees, who were construction battalions. Their boast was “can do” and we still talk of people as either “can do” people or not. “The difficult we do immediately”, they used to say. “The impossible takes a little longer”.

Then came a so-called Dark Age for engineering from roughly 1950 on. Think of some of the books of this period. Vance Packard’s The Waste Makers, about work. Rachel Carson’s Silent Spring about the devastation of the natural ecosystem by mankind. Davidwell, presented some other book Unsafe at Any Speed, about the triumph of profit-making over safe-design. The Clashing Circle — how mankind was on the verge of destroying the air, the sea, the land, the planet, the entire ecosphere in fact. In this period developed a hostility towards technology.

To be an engineer was to be a despiller of the environment. Engineering fell down on the social scale in a quiet way. It was even more and even more... MONASH REPORTER

Careers in computers

The Monash University Society for Undergraduate Computer Scientists held a three-hour computing careers conference at the Alexander Theatre last month.

Speakers from the banking, manufacturing, oil, computer industries told an audience of more than 200 students what their companies were looking for in graduates — their education, experience, salary, specialisation, and so on. They were often quite down to earth and honest.

Homogeneous

The engineer is not a prophet, but his knowledge and analytical methods are perhaps lacking in policy, lacking in policy coherence. If engineers could add some sophistication to their other attributes the world would be a better place. But the tables and computations to infinitesimal societal changes, of community and government's chances of coping with its problems would be markedly improved. Engineers need to take the imperfections and absurdities of the other human beings. Consistency and tolerance, openness, compromise, integrity and a dash of sophistication — this is what the times demand of engineers.

The engineer is clearly not evil as many have branded him in the last thirty years at least. However, is he dull? He is clever people who have no grudge against technology, toys, books and activities that are fed to little girls, and the kinds of interests and manners they are expected to have. Similarly engineers are saddled with an image by society. It is moulded by the media.

How often at a dinner party when you have been asked by your neighbor what your field of work is an engineer” have you received a kind of glazed-eyed look and immediately the conversation has been turned to something else. This is because the person talking to you has never had engineers in his family and does not know in terms that they can understand. At the heart of engineering is existential delight.

An engineer experiences an existential thrill in designing, fabricating or using physical objects even in solving problems using computers. You cannot prove this to be right or wrong. It is simply felt. We have the privilege of being able to delight in a well made object or in an elegant solution to a problem.

More people would get more pleasure out of the world if they understood more about science and technology. More people should be able to savour the engineering creations of the world.

Special knowledge and skill and professional pride add further existential delight. There is nothing wrong about wanting to change the world and to get joy out of it. There is nothing wrong about a professional satisfaction from the fact that one can have in building great structures. The great medieval cathedrals are the best expression of this. There is nothing wrong about the joy of creativity which is an existential pleasure. There is nothing wrong about the gratification of helping people by providing engineering services, be they ever so simple as in the joy case of municipal engineering. The primary existential pleasure is the satisfaction of constructive activity. Many people don’t have such satisfaction. You should feel sorry for them.
Majority would not give embryos full rights

Justice Michael Kirby, President of the Appeals Court of the Supreme Court of NSW, recently visited Monash at the invitation of the Centre for Reproductive Biology to give the Centre's Inaugural Occasional Address. Under the topic, Sex, Science and Society, Justice Kirby spoke about AIDS, in vitro fertilisation, the rights of individuals and the rights of society. An extract from his address appears below.

The increasing interest of politicians and public commentators in the regulation of aspects of artificial conception has now resulted in strongly expressed opinions from many quarters: no central control of the processes of the groups in the community who believe that an embryo and a foetus are “human beings in potential” and therefore entitled to the full panoply of the law’s protection. It seems tolerably clear that this view of the moral status of the embryo is not held by the great majority of the people of Australia. For instance, a recent opinion poll showed the continuance of the shift in community opinion about abortion. A poll conducted in March 1971 had found that the Australian community was at that time significantly split on the issue. Thirty eight per cent regarded abortions as “wrong and dangerous” in any circumstances. Forty per cent considered that they were sometimes “right or harmless”.

Flimsy

Since that poll there has been a growing drift of opinion such that a poll conducted at the end of 1987 produced the following results:

To the question “do you approve of abortion?” the aggregate answers given were: Yes - 19 per cent; in some circumstances - 66 per cent; no - 14 per cent; don’t know - 2 per cent.

To the question “do you approve of abortion if the child is seriously deformed?” 82 per cent said yes, 9 per cent said no and 9 per cent did not know. A similar response was given to the question about approval if the mother had been raped.

But to the question “do people have a right to abort if unhappy with the sex of a child?” 7 per cent said yes, 89 per cent said no and only 4 per cent were undecided.

Although this series of recent polls reveals a core of about 7 or 8 per cent who would not approve of abortion in any circumstances, it also shows that the great majority of Australians are perfectly willing to contemplate abortion sometimes and, by inference, therefore do not hold the view that a fetus - still less the early embryo - is entitled to the full protections which the law would afford to human beings, including the protection against deliberate killing.

An opinion poll on approval for IVF procedures reflect similar shifts in public opinion. They show the transience of Australian public opinion on moral questions of this kind - providing a flimsy rock on which to ground prob­hibitory legislation which would appear to command no clear community support. More fundamentally, questions are now being asked concerning the role of legislators in dealing with the issues of artificial conception.

In his address to the conference on this subject, Associate Professor John Funder (Monash) has taken to the conference podium and even the airwaves to castigate the scientists and legislators for entering the field of IVF.

He thinks the subject should be left to self regulation by the scientists. So far as he is concerned, IVF should be “untrammelled by the law”. He suggests that this is so because young people should be entitled to opt for an IVF child, just as they can for a boat or a new car.

The defect in this consumerist argument is that great public costs go behind supporting the IVF program. This fact gives the community a legitimate interest in IVF, if only on economic grounds. The judge will derive relevant arguments from subsidiary premises.

Becoming doubt

But the appeal for lawyers and legislators to pack up their bags and go away is likely to fall on deaf ears. The community has opinions about the subjects of bio-ethics. Those opinions may at present be ill-formed and even ill-informed. They are constantly shifting, as the change in opinion about abortion reveals.

It is obviously desirable that before laws are made by Parliament or by judges, the decision makers should have the best possible information and arguments with which to inform their choice of law. But that this is a legitimate ter­ritory for the law’s operation is really beyond doubt.

The question is not whether law is needed and whether it will come. It is whether, in the design of our laws, we ensure that they are not knee jerk reactions, grounded in ignorance, unaware of relevant scientific knowledge, indifferent to personal utility resting on nothing more than prejudice or moral notions developed in quite different times? Or whether, by appropriate in­stitutional arrangements of law reform we can do better? You will not need to guess my preference.

I hope that the new National Committee will give a well informed lead on these subjects. It should form a legal and legislative subcommittee. It should use the techniques of public and expert consultation developed by the Law Reform Commission, in the advice it gives Governments and Parliaments on these questions.


The Monash Halls of Residence are an integral part of the university’s north­eastern skyline. Together they house 1000 students, senior residents and staff, making up one of the largest accommodation complexes in the southern hemisphere. Each of the five halls is co-educational and is supervised by a warden appointed by the University Council.

Following a tradition observed throughout Monash, the halls are named after famous Australians - Geoghegan, Far­ney, Howitt, Roberts and Richardson.

For about 18 weeks a year during vacations the halls are made available for residential conferences, family and individual holidays and for prospective students from country areas wishing to taste university life. The dining rooms can be booked separately for seminars, receptions and business functions. The halls are available for non-residential conferences throughout the year.

Separate on-campus accommodation is available to students in second year and above in the 31-flat complex opened in 1976 near the corner of Wellington and Blackburn Roads, and Monash Col­lege in Wellington Road has accommoda­tion for 220 undergraduates.
Works by another famous Lindsay

Works from one of Australia’s best known and most handsome private presses, the Fanfrolico, are now on exhibition in the Monash Main Library.

The exhibition is the second in a two-stage presentation of works from hand-presses, and contains all the books published by the press as well as a number of ephemeral items. It was opened by Mr John Arnold, La Trobe research librarian at the State Library, who provided material from his private collection to supplement the university’s Fanfrolicanas.

The Fanfrolico Press was founded in Sydney in the early 1920s by Jack Lindsay (poet, sometime Bohemian and son of Norman Lindsay) and John Kirtley (stockbroker’s clerk and collector of fine books).

Their first publication, a book of verse by Jack entitled Fantas and Ladies, was produced in an edition of 210 copies in May 1923, and was one of a number of Fanfrolico items containing woodcuts and other illustrations by Norman Lindsay.

The Fanfrolico Press: An Exhibition of Fanfrolicanas can be viewed this month on the first floor of the Main Library during opening hours: 8.30am to 10pm Monday; 9.30am to 6pm Friday; 10am to 5pm Saturday and Sunday. It is free and open to the public.

Widening the Friendship

Friends of Monash University Inc is a social and fund-raising organisation which welcomes members from inside and outside the Monash community. The honorary secretary, Mrs Yvonne Wilson, reports.

Friends of Monash University is up and running for 1988. The committee is pleased that after months of discussion and planning, the Parent Orientation Day, the garage sale and the morning coffee proved to be most successful.

Over 600 people attended the Orientation Day resulting, to date, in 210 interested people joining and more subscriptions arriving daily.

The garage sale was profitable for the Friends, the stall holders and the customers alike. The profit to the Friends was over $900, combined with a happy social event.

The morning coffee, although lower in numbers this year, still played an important role in providing an introduction to the university for those unable to attend the Orientation Day.

The Annual General Meeting of Friends of Monash University Inc was held in the Banquet Room of the Union on Tuesday 29 March. Dr Barry McGow spoke on Winds of Change in Higher Education, a very relevant topic. Question time generated lively discussion over a delicious supper.

The new office bearers and committee will hold their first social function for Over 600 people attended the Orientation Day resulting, to date, in 210 interested people joining and more subscriptions arriving daily.

The Garage: $200.00 (from sale).

Documents: $100.00 (from sale).

Annual General Meeting: $50.00 (from ticket sales).

Friends of Monash University invites all interested members of the community to join and enjoy our social functions. We are working for your university. Please return the subscription form and you will receive news and information about coming events.

FRIENDS OF MONASH UNIVERSITY
Subscriptions

I wish to subscribe to the Friends of Monash University for the year March 1988 to February 1989. My enclosure is: $10.00

as annual subscription for the family

as a donation to the work of the group

Total $______

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY:

NAME ________________________________

ADDRESS ____________________________

POSTCODE __________________________

TELEPHONE __________________________

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO:

"FRIENDS OF MONASH UNIVERSITY" AND RETURN TO:

Mr Kimberley Smith, Hon. Treasurer,
Friends of Monash University Inc.,
Ch. External Relations & Alumni Affairs,
Monash University, Wellington Road, Clayton, 3168

Donations over $2 are tax deductible.

MAY 1988
The who, what, why and where of the Etruscans

The department of Classical Studies will hold a one-day seminar next month on the origins and influence of the Etruscan people.

The Etruscans' contribution to Western culture, unlike that of the Hebrew, Greek and Roman traditions, is frequently ignored says senior lecturer in Classical Studies, Mr Saul Bastomsky. Yet the Etruscans had a lasting effect on the people of ancient Rome, both politically and culturally.

Between the seventh and second centuries BC, this highly sophisticated race inhabited part of Italy we now call Tuscany, a region abutting an area whose chief city was Rome. Indeed, Rome may have been named by the Etruscans who ruled there in the late sixth century BC, Mr Bastomsky said.

Many aspects of Etruscan life still remain a mystery. Although this race used the Greek alphabet, their language is unfortunately indecipherable. Even their origins are a matter of controversy. Were they immigrants or an indigenous people?

And if the Etruscans, whose tomb paintings are some of the most remarkable creations in antiquity, were immigrants, when did they arrive in Italy?

All these questions will be examined at the seminar, to be presented on Saturday, 19 June. It will cost $40 (concession $30) and will be limited to 35 participants.

For further information contact the department of Classical Studies (565 3250) or Mr Bastomsky on 565 3257 or 509 4765 (AHL).

The benefits of private enterprise

A second organisation has been formed at Monash to tap the commercial potential of the university's expertise and enterprise.

Unlike Montech, this one will be marketing a single commodity - information.

It will function only as a broker to commercial and industrial firms whose operations can be made more efficient and profitable through possession of the information.

A second difference is that the new group is a purely private enterprise. Income is to be distributed among the participating members and not ploughed back into the campus sods.

However, it is anticipated that the university will benefit indirectly through the general improvement in morale. Fewer fixed-term lecturers will leave halfway through a lecture when lured by offers of permanent employment at institutions like Fitzroy Crossing CAE, Surfers Paradise, College of Biblical Physics or even the 007 James Bond University.

Already one senior lecturer, denied her readership for the 26th consecutive year, has retracted her resignation and declined the offer of a personal Chair at Oxford.

It is understood that there is a move among tutors and senior tutors to abandon a planned appeal to the tribunal lest their deans' knees jerk in the conventional reflex and establishment is further reduced, preventing some tutorial staff from qualifying for inclusion in the new group.

This entrepreneurial enterprise is to recruit members from all faculties, according to operational need and opportunity.

It will utilise items of university equipment not actually in use at the time to acquire images from the latest generation high-resolution satellites. Each of these passes over Melbourne about every 10 days. Members from as yet undisclosed departments will process the images to extract commercially valuable information.

In the initial development phase, this will be restricted to coverage of the south-eastern suburbs. Information from the processed images will be selected by members from yet other departments. Using the special skills of their respective disciplines and the Yellow Pages they will identify appropriate buyers and arrange marketing of the information.

A computer locates the imagery source geographically and translates it into street-number data. Through a complex network involving an informal extension to a public telephone on the campus, it is also possible to identify by name and home address the users of the premises which have been thus located.

On a trial run of the scheme during September and October, the group located and identified 73 young upwardly-mobile professional men who, with the help of an unnamed member of the Medical Faculty, were recognised as being in the incipient stages of acute trichomadesis.

Their names and addresses found an eager market among the local hair treatment clinics and 15 of the patients have since made generous donations to the group's sinking fund. The well-known ECOPS member who devised the portfolio in which the proceeds of the sales were invested has since resigned.

The new organisation is a subsidiary of the Monash University Club Bar-proppers Collective, Inc and is registered under the company name of Peak-a-Booze Pty Ltd. Membership is open to academic staff who are able to produce satisfactory evidence of not having published anything in the last five years.

George Silberbauer
Anthropology and Sociology

IMPORTANT DATES

The Registrar advises the following important dates for students in May.

1 Second Term begins for Medicine VI (Alfred Hospital) students.
6 Graduation Ceremony — Education, Law and Medicine
First teaching round ends Dip.Ed.
9 Second Term begins for Medicine IV
14 First Term ends
23 Last day for discontinuance of a subject or unit taught and assessed in the first half year in Dip.Ed.Psych., B.Ed.Si., B.Sp.Ed. and M.Ed.Si. for it to be classified as discontinued.
If a subject or unit is not discontinued by this date, and the examination is not attempted or assignment work is not completed, it will be classified as FAILED.
In exceptional circumstances the dean may approve the classification of a subject or unit as discontinued between 18 May and the end of the appropriate teaching period.
30 First half-year resumes for L.M.M. by coursework.

The Registrar advises the following important dates for students in May.

1 Second Term begins for Medicine VI (Alfred Hospital) students.
6 Graduation Ceremony — Education, Law and Medicine
First teaching round ends Dip.Ed.
9 Second Term begins for Medicine IV
14 First Term ends
23 Last day for discontinuance of a subject or unit taught and assessed in the first half year in Dip.Ed.Psych., B.Ed.Si., B.Sp.Ed. and M.Ed.Si. for it to be classified as discontinued.
If a subject or unit is not discontinued by this date, and the examination is not attempted or assignment work is not completed, it will be classified as FAILED.
In exceptional circumstances the dean may approve the classification of a subject or unit as discontinued between 18 May and the end of the appropriate teaching period.
30 First half-year resumes for L.M.M. by coursework.

The Registrar advises the following important dates for students in May.

1 Second Term begins for Medicine VI (Alfred Hospital) students.
6 Graduation Ceremony — Education, Law and Medicine
First teaching round ends Dip.Ed.
9 Second Term begins for Medicine IV
14 First Term ends
23 Last day for discontinuance of a subject or unit taught and assessed in the first half year in Dip.Ed.Psych., B.Ed.Si., B.Sp.Ed. and M.Ed.Si. for it to be classified as discontinued.
If a subject or unit is not discontinued by this date, and the examination is not attempted or assignment work is not completed, it will be classified as FAILED.
In exceptional circumstances the dean may approve the classification of a subject or unit as discontinued between 18 May and the end of the appropriate teaching period.
30 First half-year resumes for L.M.M. by coursework.
Student Theatre group
goest for 'outreach'

The Student Theatre group at Monash is keen to swap props and costumes with local schools, the group says.

And the public is also welcome to get involved with Community Theatresports, which is held each Tuesday from 1-2pm at the Alexander Theatre.

The Student Theatre co-ordinator, Jedda, says Community Theatresports, based on the original ABC program, involves contests between dramatic groups or teams, with a Hanging Judge, Score-keeper, Time-keeper, Student Musicians, Mentics (yes, the moments-like these ones) and with professional support.

This year's Student Theatre program includes an "acting intensive" week from May 16-20 for students, non-students or students from other campuses.

The participants will receive 24 hours of tuition in theatre skills, including mask-making, improvisation and bouillon (traditional European grotesque clowning).

The fee will be $30 dollars. Interested people should contact the Student Theatre office on 565 3108, or call in and put their names down, and leave a $15 deposit.

Other diary dates are a Monash University Musical Theatre Co (MUMCO) production of Sweet Charity from June 15 to 26, a Monash Modern Dance Club (MODS) revue from June 6 to 18 and the PLAYERS Monash University revue from August 1 to 12.

Student Theatre will try to find a student MC for Theatresports in second term, Jedda said. They have obtained a paid student as pianist and he is developing his own character.

Jedda's 25-hour-a-week job involves suggesting theatre activities, advising, teaching workshops, being a resource person, handling funds and talking to students. MUMCO, MODS and the PLAYERS come under her Student Theatre umbrella.

She has an assistant who works 15 hours.

Jedda (her chosen name) graduated from Monash, majoring in English. She has a Diploma in Education. She became interested in theatre through her early training in classical dancing.

After graduation she became a drama teacher in high schools and performed in fringe theatre in Melbourne as an actress and director.

When she had time, she did freelance directing and acting. She says her main claim to fame is her motorbike ride from Darwin to London.

- Although Monash boasts a wide range of clubs and societies for its students, cross-campus dancing is not one of them. Here, Alison Louey-Gung and David Kershaw of the Ballroom Dancing Society trip the light fantastic outside Robert Blackwood Hall during orientation.

DESIGN

The events listed in this diary are open to the public. Other events of interest are described separately elsewhere in this issue.

ALEXANDER THEATRE

4: "THE MAGIC PUDDING" pres by The Marionette Theatre of Arts. School performances: until 20 May. Public performances: Sat 7, 14.10pm and noon, Sat 21.4.30pm. Inquiries: ext 2992

MUSICAL - "Bye Bye Birdie" pres by CLOC Productions until 14 May. Inquiries: 547 7877

REVUE - "Bayside Showtime" pres by Bayside Scoutorg until 28 May. Inquiries: 8PM.

THE SATURDAY CLUB - Subscriptions available for the popular Blue Series. Live entertainment program for 8-12 year old children. Inquiries ext. 3992

ROBERT BLACKWOOD HALL

8: EVENING CONCERT - "A night of musical excellence" by Bentleigh Progressive Synagogue, featuring the King David School choir, Anna Noddle, Joe Stupel, Geoff Susanum, The Maraldini Singers and the Melb. Mandolin Orchestra. 7.30pm. $10.50. Inquiries: 557 6913, 540 7871

9: LUNCHEON CONCERT - Bill Coates 33 Nepean Grove. 1.15pm. Admission free

15: EVENING CONCERT - Melb CAE Music Dept presents a spectacular 'musical mayhem'. Featuring big bands, wind symphony, clarinet, string orchestra, choirs, plus a cappella and Jazz in the families: at 6.30pm. Concert 7.30pm. Adults $7, children $5

21: EVENING CONCERT - Melb Youth Music Council Concert pres by Percy Granger Youth Orchestra, the Melb. Youth Choir and the John An­ till Youth Band. Adults $1, children $4.

Ticket inquiries: 690 8634

29: AFTERNOON CONCERT - Royal Melb Philharmonic Society Boys' Choir pres a musical afternoon to show the development of choral music based on the Kodaly Method of Teaching. Led by Andrew Blackburn. 2.30pm. Adults $5, children $3.

LECTURES, SEMINARS, EXHIBITIONS

4: ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE LECTURE - "Contemporary Issues in Melbourne Architecture" by Ian McDougall. 5.15pm. R2. Admission free. Inquiries: ext 2159

5: AUSTRALIAN STUDIES CENTRE LECTURE - "Contemporary Issues in Melbourne Architecture" by Ian McDougall. 5.15pm. R2. Admission free. Inquiries: ext 2159

6: EXHIBITION - "Food and Nutrition" by Dr Beth Obst. 1pm. R6. Admission free. Inquiries: ext 3244

7: CENTRE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION WORKSHOP - "Youth stress and the risk of self-harm". 50. Inquiries and registration: ext 4718

8: ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND WEDD SCIENCE SOCIETY OF VICTORIA SYMPOSIUM - "Weeds on public land - An action plan for today". 10am until May 20. Registration and inquiries: 785 0111

27: CENTRE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE - "Structural integrity of bridges". 795. Inquiries and registration: ext 4718

MONASH UNIVERSITY GALLERY

4: EXHIBITION - Robert Morris Recent works - Adelaide Festival of Arts Exhibition. Two-Fri (9am-5pm) Sat 1-5pm until 14 May. Admission free. Inquiries: ext 4127

10: LECTURE - "Robert Morris and his Apocalypses" by Prof Margaret Plant. 6pm. Gallery Theatre. Admission free. Inquiries: ext 4127

25: LUNCHEON SCREENING - "Hiroshima, Mon Amour" by Alain Resnais, in conjunction with Robert Morris Recent Paintings. 1.15pm. Gallery Theatre. Admission free. Inquiries: ext 4127

ROOM 232: Admission free. Inquiries: ext 4648

ABORIGINAL STUDIES CENTRE LECTURE - "Food and Nutrition" by Dr Beth Obst. 1pm. R6. Admission free. Inquiries: ext 3244

SE ASIAN STUDIES SEMINAR - "Sukarno as Artist" by Dr A. Mac­Intyre. 11.15am. Rm 515, Menzies Bldg. Admission free. Inquiries: ext 4903

ABORIGINAL RESEARCH CENTRE LECTURE - "Post-Contact History: the Reserves" by Mt Molly Dyer. 1pm. R6. Admission free. Inquiries: ext 3244

MONASH YOUNG ENGINEERS - "The Cape York spaceport" by Dr John Simmons. 1pm. E1 admission free

10: BIOETHICS LECTURE - "Lies, comforting lies" by Prof Richard Ball. 8.15pm. Senior Common Room, Monash College. Admission free. Inquiries: 544 8896, 544 8996

CENTRE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION WORKSHOP - "Identification of incest and support for families". Normanby House. 563. Inquiries: ext 4718

AUSTRALIAN STUDIES CENTRE LECTURE - "The film as film and not as product" by Paul Cox. 5.15pm. R7. Admission free. Inquiries: ext 2159

11: MANAGEMENT SEMINAR - "Pay, participation and efficiency - Restructuring office work in the Aus­ tralian public service" by Dr Chris Selby-Smith. 8.15pm. Admission free. Inquiries: ext 2400, 3248

12: ZOOLOGY SEMINAR - "Functional morphology in the avian feeding apparatus" by Dr D Homberger. 1pm. Biology Bldg. Room 232. Admission free. Inquiries: ext 4648

13: CENTRE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE - "Structural integrity of bridges". 795. Inquiries and registration: ext 4718

MAY 1988
The Monash market is open every Friday in the courtyard between the Union building and the Arts and Crafts centre. Many stall-holders are regulars at markets around Melbourne, but some, like Andrew and Tony (above) and Sarah (below right) are new-comers to the market scene. Tony and Andrew have SOMETHING for everyone, but they are rapidly learning about the laws of the marketplace. Sarah will make colourful bow ties, hair bows, cummerbunds and Hankies to order. Photos — Richard Crompton.

Universities at Expo 88

Printed by Syme Media (Incorp in Victoria) (83) 797 0222

MAY 1988

Page 24

The pavilion will also include a radio studio, from which Australia's national radio broadcaster, the ABC, will transmit daily throughout Expo.

"UNVocations" will do more than project an image of Queensland universities to a worldwide audience, according to pavilion commissioner Mr Alan Coulter, director of the University of Queensland's Prentice Computer Centre.

It will also provide course information for prospective students, and encourage more people to consider university study among their career options.

But the display's greatest contribution by far, Mr Coulter said, would be to demonstrate that universities were part of the communities they served, and that their teaching and research made positive contributions to national development.