New book challenges bias in legal training

Monash has achieved another 'first' with the publication of a teaching manual that breaks new ground in Australian legal education.

The Process of Law in Australia: Intercultural Perspectives, written by Research Fellow in Law, Greta Bird, takes as its starting point the uniqueness of the Australian legal system.

It introduces new perspectives on traditional topics: the reception of English law, cultural heritage, migrants and workers' compensation, access and equality, migrants and education, summary justice, and much more.

Its purpose is to change the bias of legal education, and to encourage changes in the legal process itself.

The book has been welcomed by the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, who says its carefully argued analysis is a challenge to readers.

In his foreword he writes: "It is as necessary for the law to understand the community as it is for the community to understand the law.

Welcome clarity"

"(Greta Bird) has set out, with welcome clarity, the complex factors which constitute but also complicate the inter-relationships between the legal system and various Aboriginal and immigrant communities.

"Although primarily designed to assist law students, this text merits a wider audience, both among legal practitioners and the general community.

"Its clear and direct style, together with its wealth of social, historical and case detail, makes it accessible to the lay reader."

The book was written while Ms Bird was employed as a research fellow for the Law: Aboriginal and Ethnic Communities project at Monash.

The three-year project, initiated by the Faculty of Law and overseen by a committee drawn from a number of Aboriginal and ethnic organisations, saw the incorporation of multicultural material into some first-year law courses.

Stable society

It soon became apparent to Ms Bird and others that traditional law textbooks were ignoring whole groups of Australians.

"The legal system must be developed to reflect the complexity of a multicultural society," she said.

"If we are going to have a stable society we have got to have all groups contributing.

"Most lawyers and law students come from comfortable English-speaking backgrounds and have had little contact with Aborigines, Greeks, Vietnamese and other groups.

"They have not realised that these people face special linguistic and cultural problems with our legal system."

Students often mistakenly believed that the "received" system of British justice was the same now as when it was introduced in 1788, she said.

"The system has already evolved — it was fairly brutal then. Many of the people sent out to administer justice were those who would not have been appointed in England.

It followed her to Monash one day . Open Day to be precise. Andrea Lintott's fellow in Law, Greta Bird, was 25,000 visitors to the university and the Monash Medical Centre on Sunday 7 August. Despite — or perhaps because of — the appalling weather, it was the biggest Open Day crowd anyone could remember, and those helping took things in their stride with remarkable spirit and efficiency. Open Day director, Professor Roy Jackson of Chemistry, said: "From talking to people at the various demonstrations, I got the impression that most wouldn't have planned to visit. It's a great day for visitors. And there is no doubt that the counselling areas were overloaded." Photo — Tony Miller.

Author to head centre

Greta Bird, Monash graduate and author of The Process of Law in Australia: Intercultural Perspectives, has been appointed director of the new National Centre for Cross-cultural Studies in Law.

The centre, to be based at Monash, is part of the Multicultural and Cross Cultural Supplementation Program initiated by the Office of Multicultural Affairs. It is being administered by the Department of Employment, Education and Training.

It will be run in cooperation with the University of Melbourne, which has a well-established Asian Law Centre.

The Federal Government recently announced that funding of $253,000 over three years would be provided for the project.

Ms Bird was awarded an LL.B (Hons) in 1984 by Melbourne University, and received her LL.M from Monash in 1980. She gained an M.Phil at the University of Cambridge in 1984 and completed an Aboriginal Studies Unit at Monash in 1986.

She was recently commissioned to write a major policy paper for the Office of Multicultural Affairs, and she is the author of The 'Civilising Mission': Race and the Construction of Crime (No 4 in a series on Contemporary Legal Issues published by the Monash Faculty of Law).
The title of Senator John Button's speech may have sounded like the catchcry of an optimistic explorer, but his opening remarks suggested someone had lost the map and compass.

"Regarding the title of my talk, Technology, Where are we, where we are going and how we are going to get there, the short answer is, I don't know," confessed the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce.

His candor surprised the lunchtime crowd of Faculty of Engineering staff and students jammed into the Alexander Theatre.

But admission gave way to explanation as the senator put the technology debate into an economic context.

"There was a time when manufacture didn't have to worry about doing things well in this country," he said.

"They knew that if they ran into difficulties they could go to the government and get a tailor-made tariff that would prevent competition in the Australian market."

But high protection resulted in the absence of competitiveness in manufacturing and a lack of interest in good marketing, quality, design and innovation.

"Technology also experienced similar problems," said Senator Button.

"We had bodies like the CSIRO which enjoyed international recognition, we had an excellent record of research publications and a world standing in a number of fields, such as radio astronomy, immunology and medical research.

"But all the research and development was concentrated in the government sector."

When Labor came to office in 1983, little interest was being shown in technological advancement and product development and the country was rife with 'museum piece' production facilities, Senator Button said.

Researchers worked in isolation, seemingly unaware of the activities of their counterparts in other laboratories.

While that may be changing, we have a long way to go before we can emulate the Swedish example of closely-linked universities and industries which give the country its competitive edge.

"Australia needs to implement the technologies that are likely to be important to our economy, not just the high-technology sunrise industries," said Senator Button.

He cited experiments in genetic engineering being carried out by the CSIRO on Flinders Island's blow-fly population. By changing the blow-flies' sexual habits, scientists were confident that the pest would be wiped out in two years' time.

Such research would translate into millions of dollars worth of benefit for the Australian agricultural industry, Senator Button said.

"I think it's important that in trying to change this country, it's a good idea to have a point in the future to focus on."

"We have to look ahead to what we might be doing 10 years from now, what we might be doing best, and what we might be most competitive at in world terms." — John Clark

---

**Spolet0 Visitor**

The distinguished Irish novelist Jennifer Johnston, who has been invited to visit Melbourne for the Spoleto Festival, will visit Monash on Wednesday, September 14.

She will give a reading from her work at 1.10pm at a venue to be announced. Everyone is invited to attend.

Ms Johnston's novel The Old Jest won the Whitbread Prize for Fiction and Shadows On Our Skin was short-listed for the Booker Prize. Another novel, The Railway Station Man, is on the current curriculum list for VCE English.

Her visit to Monash has been arranged with the co-operation of the Literary Arts Board of the Australia Council and the Spoleto Festival organisers.

---

**Timely look at immigration**

The Victorian Minister for the Arts, Mr Ian Cathie, recently opened an exhibition at Monash which traces the history of migration to Australia.

Curated by Ms Srebrenka Kunek of the Centre for Migrant and Intercultural Studies, the exhibition comprises a selection of primary and secondary source research material from the university's Ethnic Collection.

Its title refers to the means by which many migrant families and their possess such things as — the family aboard a ship with their personal documents packed in shoeboxes.

"While that may be changing, we have a long way to go before we can emulate the Swedish example of closely-linked universities and industries which give the country its competitive edge," said Senator Button.

The exhibition at Monash which traces the history of migration to Australia.

Ms Srebrenka Kunek, left, and Dr Elani Stamiris, director of the Mediterranean Women's Studies Institute, Athens, who is visiting Melbourne for a series of Australian-Greek women's workshops. Photo — John Clark.

---

**The Process of Law in Australia: Intercultural Perspectives**, is published by Butterworths (RRP $39). It will be launched in Melbourne this week by Mr Justice Gobbo of the Supreme Court.

---

**MONASH REPORTER**

Page 2
The Faculty of Engineering at Monash has been praised for its aims and objectives in the Williams Committee's Review of the Discipline of Engineering.

Under the chairmanship of the former Vice-Chancellor of Sydney University, Professor Sir Bruce Williams, the committee investigated all schools of engineering in Australia, and its three-volume report was released in July.

In a review of Monash, the committee said the faculty's aims and objectives are to some extent visionary, but their achievement is supported by achievements to date.

The committee attributed the faculty's success to a strong industrial support for research which was reflected in an international level of teaching.

However, the review contained a note of caution. It said that "further developments may impose additional constraints on resource allocation, requiring more effective measures of performance to assist in the assessment and decision-making at both the faculty and departmental level".

On the positive side, the review noted:
- The Mechanical Engineering department provided the clearest statement and understanding of aims and objectives for mechanical engineering in an Australian engineering school, and "strives conscientiously toward these aims with commendable success".
- All departments placed a high importance on academic achievement and student success.
- The departments of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Engineering maintained very strong and productive external relations with other departments, industries, and professions.

Double degree
- The contribution of external resources to facilities, equipment, and staff of the faculty has had a significant influence on the achievement of academic standards in graduates and postgraduates.

The flexible degree is an attractive option, particularly the BE/BEd program, which is a welcome initiative for the training of engineers in management roles.

The overall performance of academic staff is relatively high and student publication rates in most fields and consultancy rates in mechanical and materials engineering are well above the national university average. (Publication rates of books, monographs, refereed journals and conference papers by academic staff in the faculty are among the highest of all Australian engineering schools. In fact, the faculty produces almost twice the national average in each category. Consultancy rates are similarly impressive: the Monash faculty has the highest consultancy rate of all the engineering schools surveyed.)

The review also pointed to some deficiencies within the faculty. It found that:
- Considerable efforts have been made to attract female students to engineering, but while the proportion in Chemical Engineering is relatively high (greater than 30 per cent), the overall proportion of female students in the faculty is only about 10 per cent.
- Chemical engineering requires computer equipment in areas of process control and research.

MONASH REPORTER
Page 3

Nuclear arms research ‘a crime’

Professor Christie Weeramantry has taken on some extra responsibilities this year.

He spent 12 months leave of absence from the Monash Faculty of Law examining the responsibilities of scientists who produce nuclear weapons. In addition, he deliberated over a country's obligations to a former trust territory.

His work on nuclear weapons received critical acclaim in November 1987 when his book, Nuclear Weapons and Scientific Responsibility, was launched at the United Nations building in New York.

Instead of basing the case against the manufacture of nuclear weapons on moral considerations, Professor Weeramantry's pioneering treatise introduces the possibility of international law in relation to the obligations of scientists.

His book argues that the deliberate participation by scientists in the nuclear weapons enterprise constitutes, under international law, a crime against humanity.

"My basic theme is that the Nuremberg principles are binding," Professor Weeramantry said.

"They state very simply that if there is the possibility of a crime against humanity involved in your work, your first loyalty is to humanity."

"And that overrides your responsibility to the state and state law."

Although these matters have already been argued in the general context of international law, they have not been dealt with in relation to the responsibilities of the scientists who make nuclear arms, he said.

"I expect that my book will trigger off a lot of discussion, mainly because the scientific establishment is so sharply divided."

"There are those who say: 'Don't interfere with what scientists are doing, they know what they're about'."

"The other point of view is that making nuclear weapons is an activity which has a tremendous social impact, and consequently the law and society should have a lot to say about it.”

At a conference in Stockholm in April, Professor Weeramantry was elected co-vice-president of a new group called the International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms.

One of the association's most important tasks will be to seek an advisory opinion on the legality of nuclear weapons from the International Court of Justice.

"If this object is accomplished, then we will have gone very far in throwing the burden on states that want to make nuclear weapons."

"But the difficulty is that the International Court must be approached by a state before a vote can be taken in the General Assembly of the UN."

"Although we believe a majority of states will vote for an advisory opinion, it will be hard finding a state that's prepared to stick its neck out."

"No matter how much a country might be committed ideologically against nuclear arms, it will always feel that there might be repercussions from the 'nuclear club'."

However, Professor Weeramantry believes that within two years the gauntlet will be taken up by an African or Pacific nation.

"We've got to start somewhere, especially because nuclear weapons beyond doubt have the capacity to destroy humanity."

Nauru report

From the spectre of nuclear war to phosphate in the Pacific . . . the Nauru Commission led by Professor Weeramantry will submit its report to the Nauruan Government later this year.

Established in January 1987, the commission considered the feasibility of rehabilitating extensive areas of Nauru devastated by phosphate mining during the island's colonial period as well as the later period of trusteeship.

The inquiry also considered the question of responsibility for the massive task of greening the small coral island of 5000 people.

The report will extend to more than 15000 pages and involves the disciplines of international law, economics and a number of sciences, including geopolitics, hydrology, and engineering.

Professor Weeramantry said: "What we have put together is a very full picture of what Nauru is, how it made its first contact with the west."

Wall Street visitor

Richard McDermott, Adjunct Professor of Corporate Finance Law at New York University Law School and partner in the New York law firm of Walter, Conston, Alexander and Green, is visiting the Department of Accounting and Finance at Monash this week.

He is taking part in graduate and undergraduate Law Faculty classes, downtown seminars (including one sponsored by the Centre for Research in Accounting and Finance, titled Update on Securities Industry Law), and in the annual Companies and Securities workshop organised by the Centre for Commercial Law and Applied Legal Research, in which he will be a main speaker.

Further information can be obtained from Mr Paul Latimer, senior lecturer in law, department of Accounting and Finance, ext. 2379.
If Australian universities have a poor public image, there is no one to blame but ourselves.

Given the almost deafening silence from within the university on the White Paper, it is worth asking why this is the case.

In the academy, the training of a critical intelligence is fundamental to each and every discipline. This is our 'product'.

It is reasonable to expect that the White Paper's complex, far-reaching, and structural proposals for changes to the tertiary system should be based on evidence that presently things are going in the wrong direction. This is not the case.

Changes have been determined from the political centre for vaguely utilitarian motives. These will effect radical changes in the direction, quantity, and viability of university research.

The recommendation of the academy and the society it serves is an unequal one: we do not control the latter, but we are supposed to be its central critical resource.

The horizons of the university are neither national nor international: they are both.

In spite of its repeated motherhood clauses about the central importance of the Humanities, the White Paper proposes a scientific model both for future research and for future funding.

I can only assume that half of the university is happy with that. The other half, by nature quicker to suspect the motives of political arithmeticians, is still trying to find out where we have allegedly gone wrong.

But certain implications are all too clear.

Research funds will be redistributed. But where will funds for some sectors currently funded come from if the ARC starves these by funding others at an enhanced level? With a scientific model, more funding will flow to those areas already capable of generating non-governmental monies.

Worse than this, the chairman of the Humanities and Social Science committee of the ARC remarked recently at Monash that it is already pointless to submit applications for research grants for less than $5000, since it costs more than $1000 just to handle the paperwork. No wonder that there is not a single representative of the humanities on the ARC committee.

Research in the humanities is relatively cheap and a highly individualised activity: the proposed system discounts it almost completely.

The new razor gang proposes major surgery not only on the humanities, but on all those research activities which fall below a certain cost and outside certain centrally-determined (and as yet astonishingly vague and unco-ordinated) areas of 'national priority'. Where is the argument of quality to be made in this context?

A policy for reform usually stands on a demonstrable case of inefficiency or error: we have seen the first, but we have never seen the latter simply because it has not been attempted.

The Green Paper became a White Paper by the simple use of a photocopy. Although its proposals on articulation, amalgamation, and on enhancing the quality of teaching may be broadly welcomed for future scrutiny, it does not address the question of whether our society currently utilises Australian graduates in the most efficient way.

There is evidence that it does not, but in any case the ARC's proposals suggest that such a question was never considered in the first place.

The quality of their social policy is to be judged by their monetarist proposals: fund the universities at a lower rate; increase participation; make the tertiary sector squabbly internally for 10 per cent off the top, and hey presto, we have a leaner and more competitive system.

But competitive for what socially useful purpose? Has it ever been the case that important research is undertaken simply and only because funds for doing it are available?

In the end, the White Paper exhibits an irrationality which is not against any of the humanities, but against research in an area which makes such a question obsolete.

But competitive for what socially useful purpose? Has it ever been the case that important research is undertaken simply and only because funds for doing it are available?

In the end, the White Paper exhibits a sense of fear from the university that it will not control the development of the university. This is a fear which has been with the university for much of its history.

Monash, when it was established, had no right to control the curriculum. It had no right to control the courses taught. It had no right to control the quality of teaching.

The university is happy with that. The other universities are happy with that. The other universities are happy with that. The other universities are happy with that. The other universities are happy with that.

But competitive for what socially useful purpose? Has it ever been the case that important research is undertaken simply and only because funds for doing it are available?

In the end, the White Paper exhibits a sense of fear from the university that it will not control the development of the university. This is a fear which has been with the university for much of its history.

Monash, when it was established, had no right to control the curriculum. It had no right to control the courses taught. It had no right to control the quality of teaching.

The university is happy with that. The other universities are happy with that. The other universities are happy with that. The other universities are happy with that. The other universities are happy with that.

But competitive for what socially useful purpose? Has it ever been the case that important research is undertaken simply and only because funds for doing it are available?
Cyclists demand more say

A submission is being prepared, calling on the University Council to extend the Parking Committee’s Terms of Reference to expressly include the needs of cyclists parking bicycles on campus. As with motor vehicle users, cyclists have opinions, suggestions and complaints to express about their parking requirements. However, unlike motor vehicle users, cyclists cannot have their parking concerns considered by the Parking Committee.

The Parking Committee Terms of Reference were formed in 1978, bicycle commuting in Victoria has more than doubled. Major organisations such as the Bicycle Institute of Victoria, the needs of cyclists are now far more recognised at most levels of government. Bicycle Parking, a document published by the State Bicycle Committee, makes it clear that the provision of appropriate infrastructure for bicycle parking is an essential part of any attempt to encourage cycling.

Some sympathetic administrators are tackling this matter through the Buildings Department, but without recognition of bicycle parking concerns by the Parking Committee, the legitimacy of cycling as a form of transport to Monash is, in effect, denied.

At a time when the Parking Master Plan (now available for comment), describes the motor vehicle parking situation on campus as “approaching its planning capacity”, and with one in six Monash commuters coming from only 5km away or less, the Parking Committee, with its responsibility for parking planning, must have bicycle parking matters included within its Terms of Reference.

Monash students and staff can show support for this recommendation by signing a petition at the M.A.S. office. Andrew Black

Monash Reporter, 23rd September

Crossed wires

An unfortunate crossing of wires at the presentation ceremony for British Southwell’s retirement led me to refer to the ‘Lindsay Clark’ collection of papers.

No one at the time seems to have noticed, but I have since realised my error. I was referring to what I should have called the very generous donations over a number of years by Mr Lindsay Shaw. (See the most recent Annual Report.)

(Arthur) Lindsay Clark has, of course, been Professor of Paediatrics since 1965. I offer my profuse apologies to both gentlemen.

Ron Knightley

Spanish

Friendly chat

Greetings to all postgraduates. Would you like to meet other postgraduates for a drink and a friendly chat on a regular basis and meet people from outside your own area of study?

By its very nature postgraduate study is an individual process which can lead to solitary habits in those who are undertaking it. Getting together with other postgraduates whom you would probably not meet in the normal course of your research is a great way to overcome such isolating tendencies.

MAGS is therefore reinstituting its Friday afternoon Postgraduate Get-together at the University Staff Club. You are invited to join the MAGS staff and committee for a drink and a chat any time between 4.30pm and 6pm on Friday afternoons. (Non-members can be signed in.) We look forward to seeing you there sometime soon.

Telephone the MAGS Office, extensions 3196 or 3198 if you require further information.

Patricia Antonius

Executive Officer

Medici motto

While I like Harry Stalininsky’s idea of the new motto ‘Experimem sum’, (Monash Reporter, August), I am afraid it would be excluded by our ‘New Corporate Image’.

The motto in English would be correct: “am an still existing”, of which the Italian translation is “Ancora guadagnino”. This is doubtless be attributed to the Medici, who invented banking, so this motto has the virtue of preserving Corporate Image, original motto language, and Florentine source.

Gordon Trong

Physics

Strange twist

I wonder how many members of staff are aware of the nickname of the “Artful Dodger” in Oliver Twist?

The answer will certainly provide much mirth!

Neville Turner

Medical graduates given a brush-up

Queensland’s Port Douglas provided the setting for the Faculty of Medicine’s first refresher course for members of the medical profession.

The purpose of the July meeting was twofold: to offer an opportunity for the review of a range of medical topics of contemporary significance; and to enable participants to be developed in an informal setting.

In addition to a clinical program of general interest, there were also overseas courses which included bioethics, computers in medicine, back pain and spinal surgery, and practice management.

All sessions were very well-attended and attendees of the course were a resounding success. Forty advance bookings have already been received for next year’s course.

S.T. Knight, Professor of English, University of Melbourne.

Colin MacKerras, Professor of Chinese Studies, Griffith University.

Derick R.C. Marsh, Professor of English, La Trobe University.

John Mulvaney, Emeritus Professor of Prehistory, A.N.U.

G. Norlick, Professor of Philosophy, University of Adelaide.

Michael Roe, Professor of History, University of Tasmania.

K.K. Rutbuen, Professor of English, University of Melbourne.

John Salmon, Professor of History, La Trobe University.

Peter Singer, Professor and Director Centre for Human Bioethics, Monash University.

Hugh Streeter, Reader in History, University of Adelaide.

L.W.B. Thornton, Professor of Zoology, La Trobe University.

Chris Wallace-Crabbe, Professor of English, University of Melbourne.

The intention to enlarge access to higher education is a laudable one (even implicitly in the Dawkins policy). However, it is of little educational benefit if the minister has a great degree of control over higher education. The intention to enlarge access to higher education is a laudable one (even implicitly in the Dawkins policy). However, it is of little educational benefit if the minister has a great degree of control over higher education. While the motives may be good, the means of implementation is not. The Dawkins Green Paper, or in his other

Our view is that the fundamental principles of university education have been recognised at most levels of government. While the motives may be good, the means of implementation is not. The Dawkins Green Paper, or in his other
When you need somebody to talk to

Teaching staff in the departments of Japanese and German at Monash have confronted one of the many problems that continue to frustrate language students: the need for a regular conversation partner.

As many students have discovered, finding a suitable partner for conversation and comprehension practice can prove a difficult task.

But both departments have devised a series of innovative teaching programs that have been able to bring students and native-born speakers together.

At an Information Exchange Forum last month, department representatives compared notes on their use of community resources in language teaching.

One such program is "conversation partners", an immersion course in German that helps to bring students and native-born speakers together.

During the course, a student meets with a member of the German community every three weeks and converses regularly with members of Melbourne's German community every three weeks and converses with them the chance to think of how things can be discussed and what sort of questions might be asked.

The German Department's annual German Week provides another unique opportunity for students to develop their proficiency in the language.

Since 1981, one week of lectures and tutorials in first-year German has been replaced with talks on German, Swiss and Austrian issues by representatives of the German media, German clubs, churches and companies.

Dr Akito Ozaki of the Japanese Department agreed that frequent conversation practice was the only way to learn a language.

Like the German Department's "conversation partners", students in Japanese are encouraged to meet regularly with members of Melbourne's Japanese community.

Private funding is having positive results

In the latest issue of Unvation, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Logan, warned that corporate funding of university research was having a positive effect on the system, despite the pessimists. But he also warned that routine, contract research should never become the raison d'etre of the university.

A decade or so ago some Australian academics began warning of the danger which private funding of research posed to academic freedom and the open communication of results.

Industry and commerce might be prepared to put up the cash, they argued, but would scarcely tolerate "their" breakthroughs being announced airily at conferences or published in scientific journals before the licensing deals were tied up.

What in fact has happened? Certainly, much more private money has come into the universities. There are two reasons for this. Many of the better researchers who require large grants have developed innovative ways of interacting with business and industry, somewhat along the lines of their American counterparts. Further, there is a growing commitment by business and industry to foster and support university research, especially research of an applied nature.

Of necessity in some cases there are certain restrictions on rights to publish when the research is closely oriented to company needs. But in my experience such restrictions are relatively rare, and even where they do apply researchers find ways of coming to terms with them.

It is true that some academics, while recognising that external corporate funding is essential for the survival and growth of Australian research, lament the passing of a purer age. Then there are others who relish the new opportunities. Many academics are in fact very entrepreneurial people who are as stimulated by dialogue with business leaders as by discussions with their peers.

Tradition

In universities with large professional schools — law, medicine, engineering for example — there is a long tradition of applied research, and the boundary between pure and applied research cannot always be easily drawn.

Far from being a negative factor the commercial imperative is encouraging universities to do what they have often failed to do in the past — to transfer their discoveries from the conference hall to the market-place.

Put simply, the traditional approach to research, untainted by any commercial links, is no longer valid as the sole guide to university inquiry. That is not to say that the injection of private research funds into universities is problem-free, nor to suggest that there is no need for open-ended funding of projects without the pressure to come up with a marketable product. Fundamental research is essential for the nation's future.

One of the problems, and one which can only be handled at the institutional level, is the danger that universities will become caught up in routine research simply because there is money in it. That is to say, the research agenda will be determined by the availability of money in certain fields.

The temptation to sign a lucrative contract for work which is more suited to a commercial testing unit than to an experimental laboratory is a real one. But once again, universities need to exploit the possibilities rather than reject them on the grounds that they do not match their traditional values.

Routine research must never become the raison d'etre of the university. But there is nothing to lose and plenty to gain in its becoming a profitable adjunct to activities, one which can actually generate funding for more basic research. Here it is the responsibility of the institution to monitor the direction of privately sponsored research.

Rather more difficult is how to ensure that the increase in private funding, and the consequent reduction in peer review, does not result in a lowering of standards of academic integrity and quality. At the ANZAAS Congress this year, speakers on the topic of scientists' fraud warned that the demands to produce quick, marketable results carried a danger of academics judging the figures.

But then industry must recognise that in the long term its credibility can only suffer if the research which it sponsors is seen in any way to be second rate.

Oxford exchange

A house and car exchange is sought by a couple from Oxford who will be visiting their daughter in Melbourne for four to eight weeks early in 1989.

No 11 Tackley Place, Oxford, is situated in a quiet residential street, close to shops and buses, less than two kilometres north of the city centre and near to all university departments.

Further information can be obtained from the owners' daughter, Mrs Heather Payne, on 529 2159, or from Alan Sharp Paul on 3523 3525.
Glen takes out gold

Glen Craig, second year carpentry apprentice in Maintenance, has won the Gold Medal in the Melbourne Regional section of the 1988 Work Skill Australia Competition. He is pictured above with his winning entry — a window frame. Glen will go on to compete in the Victorian State section of the competition and, if successful, in the National and International sections.

He was named Best First Year Apprentice 1987 in carpentry at the Holmesglen TAFE College, following the footsteps of another Monash carpentry apprentice, Brad Simcoe, who won the title the previous year.
Joy, the title poem tells us, is present, but must be labored at amidst the grief of living: ‘It’s there, but you need a visa.’ No-one will issue it; You must bear it yourself.

Living in the midst of death is a current that runs throughout the volume. Visiting her dying mother in A Weekend in the Country the speaker notes that ‘Twenty lovers’ deaths and Funerals have drawn her down this road. However, ‘The balance is tipping’ and this time she notices the omnipresence of death:

The green and gentle hills Of the western district
Where larger blotches of white Are lambs. Not my affair
To count how many will never get up.

Instead of the transparent consolations of the Biblical shepherd, there is only ‘a farmer in streaming waterproof’;

The wind-lashed, my car
Turns their backs on the wind
And on the one that’s down.

* * *

In *Labour Ward* the themes of love, death, continuity, resistance to repressive structures are subtly intertwined.

However, the poems affirm the continuity of life, that the dying live in the blood and veins of the living. Poetry’s task is to remind us of that fact. In *Inheritance* the speaker affirms the living presence of her ‘husband’s mother’s mother’, who ‘At Riga in the January of nineteen-forty-two ... Fell, fell, lay, flew to death from an upstairs window. ... across the Pacific seas And down the blind forgetful years. Some stubborn signal of her self-dispersed soul Growing towards mankind and a heritage...

Similarly in *Pine-cones and My Grandmother*, the speaker recalls her own ‘sharp-tongued grandmother’ who ‘Taught to a timid child/ Something of the wire fence’ and that pine-cones are best for the fire: ‘Because they burn at the heart/ And burn long,/ Smothered with earth.’ Years later ‘In a house whose familiar patterns/ Resemble her’, the speaker wonders ‘What fuel she burned? /To warm her years of widowhood/In that vast, crumbling house.’

Grandmother, grandmother, it’s true I bear forever
Your sloping Victorian shoulders, / But the heart in the ribcage
Under the shoulders
Is a different model.
It cannot burn under ash.
It has made up its mind
To lie with a lover
And unimpressive managerial fuss,
Until to murmur “what are you thinking?”
breathless
Is only a game, words
and unimpressive
as the quietest of waves
breaking light.

Cages of other kinds permeate the poems, symbols of entrapment which suggest the way that power structures infiltrate our lives. As Horatio’s wife says: ‘... when the great have problems, we all know./ It is the ordinary lives that pay.’ ‘Abused children repeat the behaviour;’ is a recurring motif in *Collage: The Personal is Political: / ... your experts/ torture leaves no marks // only an image burnt deep/ in the mind of the tortured.’

The Anachronist Cages, Munster — where the bodies of the executed anabaptists were hung in iron cages from the steeple of St. Lambertus’ is a grim reminder of the violence done in the name of religion. A girl recalls her lover’s gentle hands and her anger:

They churned his bones in the teeth of the waves.
They flayed him living with red-hot tongs. I rowed the day they set his corpse
To dangle on their ‘House of Love’ I’ll never think of God again.

Four centuries later the tourist looks
At the cages on the steeple. ‘Quiet as a birdcage after the bird has flown’, notes: ‘Terrible things are done, now as yesterday ... Leaving Europe, I pack away a Manichean postcard: // The world as God’s cage for heretics."

In Love Notes the bruise on a finger is the history of a love: ‘Your lover’s hands for a time of closeness that is beyond words and wanting:’,

Here is something that women want specially, truly; / to lie with a lover a whole afternoon / on the sand, the skin / knows boundaries only / by knowing contact / and the mind surrenderers managerial fuss, // until to murmur “what are you thinking?”
broken
Is only a game, words
and unimpressive
as the quietest of waves
on tide-washed sand.

* * *

Perhaps separation’s essential, like sleep, or like sex, but women want something to lie a whole afternoon awake, without wanting.

There are subtle interconnections throughout the volume; the personal experiences of love and death are inextricably linked to institutionalised power. Poems like Bluebeard Re-Scripted Version III, and Wife to Horatio continue Strauss’s exploration of the generally silent figures of myth and history.

In Bluebeard Re-Scripted Version III, the two lovers remarry, yet: ‘Sister Anne records her resistance to the part she has been given: ‘I’m refusing my cues, am not convinced by male parallelisms ... I’ll walk, I’ll sleep/ When I wake up, history will start’. Similarly, Horatio’s wife speaks:

So not that I criticised
My husband’s friend; I told that friendship’s noble.
Ophelia was my friend — we laughed a lot, I know that Hamlet had great difficulties. And when the great have problems, we all know.
It is the ordinary lives that pay.
Ophelia was my friend — but she was dead.
And the live child is in my belly jumped
When the king frowned.

However, this Ophelia will be prepared for the vicissitudes that befall her: ‘We needed action. There’ll be no bowing here./ I’ve been to it that she knows how to swim.

* * *

Labour Ward is a richly rewarding book; clear-eyed and affirmative in the face of transience and loss, the poems affirm the continuities that link people together, they resist the oppressive structures that menace ordinary lives, they honor those who have given their lives to this resistance and those who are struggling to find their power; they celebrate the frill, fickle beauty of sensual love, bravely undertaken in these troubled times. Life, the book tells us, is a labor of love.

Joan Kirkby
Macquarie University
Monash joins research group in Athens

Monash has joined the Australian Archaeological Institute in Athens, a move which will provide many benefits, says Professor Alan Henry of Classical Studies.

The institute was set up in 1981 by Professor Alexander Cambitoglou, of the University of Sydney, to promote Greek studies in Australia and to make a base in Greece for Australian postgraduate students and staff.

It now owns a building in Athens — bought with money raised by the Sydney Friends of the AAIA — which accommodates an office, a small hostel and a library.

Professor Henry said the institute did not deal only with ancient Greece.

“It supports research in many areas including classical art, history and literature as well as Byzantine and modern Greek studies.”

“It also has a permit for an annual excavation, which is presently being undertaken at Torone, in northern Greece, by researchers from member universities.”

Money for the excavation is provided by the institute itself, the Australian Research Grants Scheme, the Association for Classical Archaeology, the University of Sydney and private benefactors.

The research team spends two months — July and August — at the site each year, and later publishes reports on its progress.

Professor Henry said the institute was getting support from a number of Australian universities and that the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Logan, had been very keen for Monash to become involved.

In addition, postgraduate students can apply for the annual AAIA Fellowship, which is currently worth $7000.

The British, German, French and American Schools of archaeology have been in Athens for a century or more.

“Australia has had a fairly strong connection with the British school, which has been host to Commonwealth scholars, but until recently Australian researchers had no home of their own,” Professor Henry said.

Member universities are visited annually by the AAIA director, Professor Cambitoglou, who gives lectures on the excavations. He will be at Monash on Tuesday 11 October, when he will speak on recent finds at Torone.

The institute also appoints each year a distinguished overseas scholar as Visiting Professor, who makes a tour of institutional members giving lectures on various topics.

A meeting will be held at Monash later this year to form a “starter group” for Monash Friends of AAIA.

US guests give views on life

The architect must have had enormous faith in the young artist’s talents — no plans or sketches had been submitted prior to the commission, and at no stage did anyone bother to view the work in progress.

As it turned out, the 20 windows brought Mr Kossatz fame without fortune.

“The work gave me not so much a financial break as some notoriety,” he said.

But rumours of erotic references among the shards of colored glass were completely unfounded, said Mr Kossatz, of the work he describes as being a perfect example of late ‘60s pop-art.

He explained that in keeping with the chapel’s ecumenical theme, each window was an expression of unity reinforcing the circular nature of the building.

Speaking of his recent appointment to the Gallery Committee at Monash, Mr Kossatz said he was gratified to see that the university was still committed to fostering young and talented artists.

He hoped that continued support would also be provided by local businesses in the form of donations and commissions.

He said he was confident that “the sheer nature of the university would attract commercial support”.

The Rongman word guide


In its Japanese version, the title reads Rongman Ooyo Gengogaku Yoogo Jiten (Longman Applied Linguistics Terminology Dictionary) and the names of the authors are rendered J. Richaaru (Richards), J. Puratto (Platt) and H. Leebba (Weber).

The original English version of the dictionary was runner-up for a Duke of Edinburgh prize awarded by the English Speaking Union.

Sculptor Les Kossatz beside the gallery’s most recent acquisition, Alexander Danka’s The Melancholy.

Professor Ferenc Feher, above, and his wife, Professor Agnes Heller, both of the New School for Social Research in New York, presented seminars and lectures on society and culture during their recent month-long visit to Monash. They were hosted by a number of different Monash groups including the European Studies Centre, the Institute for Public Sector Management, the Centre for General and Comparative Literature, Thesis Eleven and the department of Anthropology and Sociology.
Learn about technology

An Information Technology Week will be held at Monash from 12-14 September (second week of third term), with three lunchtime seminars (1-2pm, Rotunda 3), and a mini-exhibition.

The event is being jointly organised by the Society for Undergraduate Computer Scientists, the Information Systems Society, the Personal Computer Club and Monash Young Engineers. Sessions are free and all members of the university are welcome.

The seminar program will begin on Monash 12 September with a talk by Mr Peter Grimes of Cray Research Australia on Supercomputer — The Cray X-MP. The next day, Mr John Burke from the Commission for the Future will speak on Technology and Lifestyles beyond the year 2010, and on Wednesday, 14 September Mr David Wilde from the Australian Computer Society will speak on The Evolution of Information Technology.

The exhibition of personal computers will be held on Wednesday 14 September in the Upstairs foyer, Union Building.

Smithsonian lectures

Brochures for the Smithsonian Bicentennial Lectures, to be held in Melbourne from 12-17 September, can be obtained from Phyllis Valasius, Ministry of Arts, on 649 8784.

The lectures are being presented by Smithsonian National Associates and Seminar Program as an endorsed Bicentennial activity sponsored by a large number of Australian organisations.

The program includes James Cook’s views of South Pacific cultures, the shared heritage of Australia and America; an introduction to remarkable sea animals; American landscape art; telescopes for tomorrow; the fate of rainforests, and Black American music.

Tickets can be purchased through BASS. A single lecture ticket is $6, and a series ticket $24 ( concessions are available for co-sponsors, students, unemployed and pensioners).

IMPORTANT DATES

The Registrar advises the following important dates for students in September:

- Third Term begins
- Second semester for L.L.M. by coursework resumes
- Last day for discontinuance of a subject or unit taught and assessed over the whole of the teaching year for it to be classified as discontinued (excluding Medicine III, V and VI)
- Last date for discontinuance of all studies by diplomats, bachelors’ degrees, masters’ degrees by coursework, and by not-for-degree and masters’ preliminary candidates, to qualify for 25% refund of 1988 Students’ Amenities Fee (not applicable to candidates taking Summer Terms only)
- Third Term begins for Medicine I and II
- Term begins for 4.4 Medicine IV
- Third Term ends Dip. Ed.
- Third Term begins for Medicine III
- Last date for lodgement of applications for the Caltex Woman Graduate Scholarship
- 26 Last day for discontinuance of a subject or unit taught and assessed in the second half year of it to be classified as discontinued
- Closing date for applications for Commonwealth Postgraduate Research Awards and Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plans Awards
- Applications close at 5.00pm for entry to Bachelor of Social Work course in 1989
- If a subject or unit is not discontinued by 5, 26 September or 3 October as the case may be, 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 the appropriate date above and the end of the appropriate teaching period.
AULLA calls for speakers

The 25th congress of the Australasian Universities Language and Literature Association will be held at Macquarie University from 9-12 February 1989. The congress will feature a special program entitled Discourse, Text, Medium which will be devoted to new interdisciplinary developments in the study of language, literature, film, television and theatre.

The last date for registration and submission of abstracts is 30 September. Registration forms can be obtained from: The Congress Secretary, Mr Gerry Reginald, School of Modern Languages, Macquarie University, NSW, 2109, tel. (02) 805 7026.

Hurry to join Great Race

Entries close on Friday (September 9) for The Great Race — Monash Style. Departments and groups of individuals associated with Monash are invited to enter a team (five males and five females) for the 10-event fancy dress relay.

It will be held around the lake, with heats in the third week of term (September 19-23) and the final on Wednesday 28 September, to be followed by a barbecue for participants.

The entry fee is $5 per team and prizes will be awarded for best costumes, overall winners and runners-up.

For entry forms and further details, contact Carolyn Battersby, Bulk Sales Officer, on ext. 4107 or 4111.

SEPTEMBER DIARY

ALEXANDER THEATRE

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ATTENTION — "Sleeping Beauty" presented by Young Dancers' Theatre. Until 1 Oct. 10.30am, 2pm weekdays. Sat 24, 2pm, Sat 1 Oct, 10.30am, 2pm. Adults $11.90, child $9.90. Credit card bookings and inquiries: ext. 3992.

ROBERT BLACKWOOD HALL
8: LUNCHTIME CONCERT — Monash University Choir and The Julian Driscoll Quartet with Simon Pilbrow present a selection of original and standard jazz repertoire. 11.15pm. Admission free.

9: LUNCHTIME CONCERT — Presenting members of the Monash University Music Department. 11.15am. Admission free.

10: AFTERTIME CONCERT — 17th Annual Sunday Afternoon Concert Series presents the Young Performers. 2.30pm. Admission free.

LEcTURES, SEMINARS, EXHIBITIONS
7: ARTS AND CRAFTS CENTRE — Springtime classes begin soon. Courses inc. keyboard skills, porcelain doll making, painting and many more. Inquiries: ext. 3109.

8: SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES SEMINAR — "Current developments in the Kampuchean Crisis" by Ben Kiernan. 11.15am. Rm 515 Menzies Bldg. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 4993.


17: SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES SEMINAR — "The New Modernists in Southeast Asia" by Peter Brody. 11.15am. Rm 515 Menzies Bldg. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 4993.

18: RELIGIOUS CENTRE RECITAL — "Pilgrimage". Traditional and contemporary Brazilian music. 1.10pm. Large Chapel. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3160.

19: SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES SEMINAR — "The New Modernists in Southeast Asia" by Peter Brody. 11.15am. Rm 515 Menzies Bldg. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 4993.

20: RELIGIOUS CENTRE RECITAL — "Pilgrimage". Traditional and contemporary Brazilian music. 1.10pm. Large Chapel. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3160.


22: RELIGIOUS CENTRE RECITAL — "Pilgrimage". Traditional and contemporary Brazilian music. 1.10pm. Large Chapel. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3160.

23: RELIGIOUS CENTRE RECITAL — "Pilgrimage". Traditional and contemporary Brazilian music. 1.10pm. Large Chapel. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3160.

24: RELIGIOUS CENTRE RECITAL — "Pilgrimage". Traditional and contemporary Brazilian music. 1.10pm. Large Chapel. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3160.

25: RELIGIOUS CENTRE RECITAL — "Pilgrimage". Traditional and contemporary Brazilian music. 1.10pm. Large Chapel. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3160.
Whiz kids take up the Challenge

Learn to be a good host

Monash crew takes on the best in the world

Pictured after winning selection are: top left, Tom Sanchez, Eugene Kininmonth, Simon Quirk, Warwick Hooper; middle, Jason Platt, Simon Langenbacher, David Winter, Andy Cohen; front, Chris Dane (coach and Monash graduate), Graham Barnes. Another Monash rower, Simon Spriggs, has replaced Tom Sanchez for the race.

Monash has been officially declared the Collector of Victorian Rocks for the 1988 Olympics. Thanks to the department of Earth Sciences at Monash and other collectors around the country, Australian athletes bound for Seoul will be burdened with more than their nation's hopes — they will also be carrying samples of selected rocks.

The exhibition is divided into five sections: promotion of public awareness (including old posters and pamphlets); the hidden side of war; treatment; legislation; and laboratory diagnosis.

The first edition of Venereology, co-edited by senior lecturers in the department of Microbiology, Dr Ian Denham and Dr David Plummer, was launched at the conference by the Federal Minister for Health and Community Services, Dr Neil Blewett.

As the official publication of the National Venereology Council of Australia, the journal will examine the gamut of medical problems related to sexuality — clinical, microbiological, historical, behavioral, epidemiological and educational.

A lot of rock... and a bit of Seoul

Monash has been officially declared the Collector of Victorian Rocks for the 1988 Olympics. Thanks to the department of Earth Sciences at Monash and other collectors around the country, Australian athletes bound for Seoul will be burdened with more than their nation's hopes — they will also be carrying samples of selected rocks.

The rocks, like those provided to the athletes of other countries, will be used to build a national monument during the opening ceremony, and they will be incorporated in a permanent multinational monument at the end of the Games.

Victoria's contribution to the athletes' luggage will include a sample of gold-bearing quartz vein in slate from the central goldfields and traditional blue-stone from the Western District.

The rocks were displayed at the university last week before being airfreighted to Sydney by Australian Airlines.

Printed by Syme Media (Incorp in Victoria) (03) 797 0222

Page 12