Business college to offer Monash degree

Monash University has approved an affiliation agreement with the Australian Management College, Mt Eliza.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Logan, says the agreement closely follows the agreement already made with the Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education.

The Council of the college had sought to affiliate with the university to develop and expand links between the two institutions and "specifically to offer at Mt Eliza a Monash MBA degree", he said.

Autonomy

This degree would be "prepared collaboratively", but Monash would retain full control of standards and quality, and would assume responsibility for much of the teaching.

The Monash-College MBA would be distinguished from the Monash MBA in the university's degree nomenclature, Professor Logan said.

The affiliation agreement would also provide for exchange of staff and sharing of facilities between the two institutions.

Professor Allan Fels, director of the Monash Graduate School of Management, said the agreement marked an important step in cooperation between the two institutions.

"But it preserves the autonomy and separate character of the Australian Management College, which is the largest provider of non-degree senior management education courses in the country," he said.

"The Graduate School and the college are complementary in their human and physical resources, educational offerings and teaching styles."

Among those at the ceremony were the Federal Minister for Employment, Education and Training, Mr John Dawkins, who praised the "clearsightedness" of the two institutions.

"This merger could not have occurred without the White Paper, but it did not happen because of it," he said.

"It came about from within — through the organisation of ideas and the realisation of the benefits.

"Having perceived the advantages of providing more and better opportunities for staff and students, the parties overcame the kinds of parochial views which sometimes obstruct."

Mr Dawkins said the affiliation ceremony was the first he had attended, and it gave him great pleasure to participate in, and witness, the marriage of such unlikely partners.

"If a list of preferred amalgamations had been drawn up, as many people suggested, we would not have contemplated a situation of linking these two."

"The idea came from within, and parties worked out the problems themselves," he said.

"It's an object lesson to many others in Australia."

Mr Dawkins praised the Gippsland Institute for its past record and future plans in distance education.

He said that the newly-merged Gippsland-Monash group was "very much in the running" for designation as a Distance Education Centre.

It was pleasing that so many regional TAFE colleges had welcomed the affiliation, he said.

"We want more transfer of credit between the higher education institutes and the TAFE sector."

"We are going to see different patterns in the shape of higher education, ones which are more appropriate to particular circumstances and to the future."

Dawkins praises clearsightedness of Gippsland merger

The affiliation of the Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education and Monash University was marked by a formal exchange of documents last month at the institute's campus in Churchill.

Also present for the occasion were the former State Premier and Minister for Education, Mr Lindsay Thompson (who officially opened the institute in 1976), the chief executive officer of the Victorian Ministry of Education, Ms Ann Morrow, state and regional politicians, senior public servants, senior staff from both institutions and representatives of Gippsland business, industry, local government, education and community groups.

The ceremony marked the beginning of a process whereby the institute will become a constituent college of the university (probably in 1990).

When the formalities were completed, many visitors from Monash took part in a two-day program to introduce them to the Gippsland campus. This included a visit to the Weekend School and a briefing on the external studies program.

INSIDE

- Mid-life retraining: the pitfalls
- Dinosaurs on the Strzelecki coast
- Honorary doctorate for Monash graduate
- Haute cuisine through the centuries
- Rowing with Cambridge
Welcoming service for new chaplain

A formal Commissioning Service for the newly appointed Ecumenical Chaplain to Monash, the Reverend Steven Russell, was held last week in the Large Chapel of the Religious Centre.

Bishop John Wilson presided at the ceremony, which was attended by members of the Council for Chaplaincies in Tertiary Institutions in Victoria, and Chaplains from other campuses.

Members of the Anglican community at Monash took part in the service, and special music for flute and harpsichord was played by Associate Professors Ian Donald and Bruce Steele.

Reverend Russell came to Monash from Flinders University in South Australia where he undertook postgraduate research in politics. He originally studied theology at Ridley College and was ordained in Perth. Before returning to full-time study at Murdoch University he had parishes in Kalgoorlie and Mukinbudin.

Reverend Russell and his wife, Beth, have three children.

Honorary degree for Noel Murray

Professor Noel Murray’s work on stability problems in thin-walled structures has been internationally recognised.

The University of Essen has conferred a Doctor of Engineering Science (Honorary) degree on Professor Murray, chairman of the Monash Department of Civil Engineering.

In a tribute, the university said the award acknowledged not only Professor Murray’s 60-odd publications, two textbooks, and his involvement in research and teaching, but also the close relationship between Australians and the Faculty of Building and Construction at Essen.

During the developmental phase of the Essen Faculty, Professor Murray “contributed decisively to the variety of teaching subjects through his seminars on the stability of thin-walled assemblies”, the tribute said.

At the degree-conferring ceremony in late January, the commendation was given by Essen Professor Georg Thierauf, who works closely with Professor Murray.

Bodi takes German prize

The German Academy for Language and Literature at Darmstadt has awarded the Friedrich Gundolf Prize for German Studies to Emeritus Professor Leslie Bodi.

The $5000 fellowships, announced in March, are to enable students to continue their studies in economics through their honours year.

The prize was awarded in particular for Professor Bodi’s book, Tauweller in Wien (Thaw in Vienna), and also in recognition of his activities as a mediator “who has stimulated in Australia great interest in German and Austrian literature”.

It will be presented in May during a special session of the academy at Bremen.

Professor Bodi was chairman and professor in the Monash Department of German from 1963 until his retirement at the end of 1987.

Yugoslav visitor

Professor Pavle Ivic of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and the University of Belgrade and Novi Sad, centre, with Dr Paul Cubberley of the Department of Russian and Language Studies, University of Melbourne and Dr Milicent Vladiv, Acting Chairman of the Department of Slavic Languages at Monash.

Professor Ivic was guest speaker at a joint public lecture organised by Dr Cubberley and Dr Vladiv and held recently at the Babel Building, Melbourne University. Dr Vladiv and Professor Ivic’s topic, The Influence of Contemporary Yugoslav Society on the Development of the Serbo-Croat Literary Language, was timely “in view of recent political developments in Yugoslavia and the problem of nationalities and national languages within the multicultural and multilingual federation”. Monash is recognised as specialising in the teaching of community languages, including Serbo-Croatian, and Professor Ivic spent four days of his Australian visit at the Monash Department of Slavic Languages, at the request of his sponsors, the “Matica” Cultural Organisation of the Republic of Serbia.
Monash is the centre of understanding, says Alatas

During his recent visit to Australia, the Indonesian Foreign Minister, Mr Ali Alatas (centre) nominations Monash University as the venue for a special no-holds-barred conference with academics.

He chose Monash because it was "the centre of knowledge, understanding and appreciation of Indonesia as nowhere else in Australia", he said.

Mr Alatas was welcomed by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Logan (left) and Professor Merle Ricklefs (right), chairman of the Department of History.

He responded to questions from 25 Victorian academics assembled in the Council Chamber, on topics including press censorship, East Timor, Cambodia, the north-south dialogue and cultural exchanges.

Professor Ricklefs said the choice of venue was "a major coup for the Melbourne area".

Photo - Richard Crompton.

Mid-life retraining does not meet expectations

One of the most enduring images of worker patiently teaching an apprentice. But a recent study by a Melbourne academic suggests that training the teacher can sometimes prove as difficult as schooling the pupil.

For two years, Dr Robert Mealyea attended classes with 17 mature-age tradespeople studying for a Diploma of Technical Teaching at the Hawthorn Institute of Education where he lectures in psycholinguistics.

He was a participant observer, gathering notes for his Ph.D thesis on the transition of tradespeople to teachers. The thesis was supervised by Dr Peter Gronn, a senior lecturer in the Faculty of Education at Monash.

The group included experienced plumbers, carpenters, and sheet metal workers - all eager to pass on their skills to students in secondary schools. For many the call to teach was strong enough to ignore a drop in salary.

Reality

The course was conducted on the "internship model", where the student teachers spent two days at the institute and three days in a secondary school.

But problems soon arose when the trainees' expectations of secondary education began to clash with the harsh reality.

"Before they enrolled at Hawthorn they had been calling the shots," Dr Mealyea said.

"They were organisers, people in positions of authority. Now they saw themselves as relegated to apprentices.

"Their driving force was vocationalism. All they wanted to do was teach their particular skills to the kids."

"They had been brought up in a generation of full employment and saw vocationalism as the main purpose of secondary education.

"But it's not required in the secondary context today, where the emphasis is on different sorts of making and doing."
Restore theology as ‘queen of the sciences’

The Auxiliary Bishop of Melbourne, Bishop George Pell, has called for Melbourne universities to run courses on the intellectual claims of Christianity.

“Tertiary institutions, especially universities, must be places where people learn to use their minds, to weigh evidence, to see inner connections and advance towards a more general view,” he said.

“In other words, they must be places where young adults are helped to be better people, good members of society; people who are not coerced by local custom into avoiding ultimate questions, and people who know, at least in basic terms, what is evil and why it is evil.”

Bishop Pell was speaking on God and the Universities at the Annual University Service at the Religious Centre.

He said theology was once known as “the queen of the sciences”, and that this was reflected in the motto of Oxford University: Dominus Illuminatio Mea (God is my light).

“Most Australians are unaware that the institution of the university first developed in medieval Catholic Europe, that many of the most prestigious American universities are Protestant foundations, and that there are hundreds of different Christian tertiary institutions in the United States alone.”

“Hans Moi, the Australian religious sociologist now working in Canada, once claimed that there are 10 times the number of atheists and agnostics on the staffs of Australian universities, in comparison with the Australian population generally.

“I suspect this situation is more the fault of Christians than of the universities. We have been content with flying the flag occasionally in Australian academic and cultural life, rather than being a regular and noticeable participant.”

“We have been tempted to adopt the style of those few people who are seriously anti-religious; to remain silent about our unseemly claims to the reality of the supernatural, our mystical tradition. And silent also about the good consequences of Christian living which follow in public life and in the lives of individuals,” he said.

Universities could improve their public image if they helped students towards the goals of being better people — “people who loved our society while being aware of its imperfections, who do not think greed is good, who will be aware of social issues beyond the threat of tertiary fees”.

If this were so, Australian society would be grateful to universities “even if research, pure or applied, limped a bit,” Bishop Pell said.

The Annual University Service is held at the beginning of the academic year to bring together Monash students, staff and friends.

It is organised by the Chaplains to the University, with the support of the Vice-Chancellor and the Religious Centre Advisory Committee.

- Bishop Pell (below) graduated M.Ed from Monash in 1982.

A place to rest

- The Friends of Monash Inc recently donated these teak benches to the university for the Botany System Garden. They were presented to the Vice-Chancellor by the organisation’s president, Dr Edward Shen (below), at a garden party for university dignitaries. The system garden, a teaching resource for Botany students, contains a selection of plants from all over the world arranged together in plant families.
Strzelecki coast yields up its fossil remains

If time and tide are on the side of the prospectors, Cape Otway's rich dinosaur bone beds may soon have a counterpart on Victoria's eastern coast.

Over the next two or three years, the rocky coastline between Inverloch and San Remo could yield as many clues to Australia's paleontological past as the entire Strzelecki coastline for fossil remains from the Cretaceous Period, the geological time-zone that began 125 million years ago and ended 60 million years later.

Greenhouse danger

"It's a large job but we've had some successes, although until now we've found only isolated bones," Mrs Kool said.

"We haven't discovered anything like the Dinosaur Cove bone beds; it's only a matter of time."

But the project is, in fact, a race against time. Hanging over the realisation of the area's potential is the looming threat of the Greenhouse Effect.

"Over the next 20 to 30 years the seas in the region are expected to rise about 1.5 metres," said Mrs Kool.

"If that happens, the foreshore we're exploring will be under water."

Compounding the problem is the relative softness of the dinosaur bones embedded in the coast's cliffs and shore - a fossil 100 million years old can disappear in the space of a year if exposed to the elements.

When the tides are right, which is about every fortnight, Mrs Kool journeys to the area to resume prospecting, or, in the case of some sites, reprospecting. Many bones can be hidden by sand or seaweed, and can be visible one day, and hidden the next.

It is back-breaking work that requires good eyesight and judgement. Quite often the dinosaur bones will blend in with the grey conglomerate sandstone in which they were deposited about 100 million years ago.

Michael Cleeland, a geography teacher at nearby Newhaven College, and Jenny Monaghan, a research assistant in the Earth Sciences Department, are also involved in the search.

The Strzelecki coastline first came to the attention of scientists at the turn of the century when a dinosaur claw was found in a region known as Eagles Nest.

The area remained virtually unexplored until 1978 when interest was revived after the discovery of some fossil remains by Monash graduate, Tim Flannery, and fellow student, John Long.

According to Mrs Kool, the most significant find to date has been the jaw of a labyrinthodont, a small amphibian that became extinct during the Jurassic Period (the geological period that preceded the Cretaceous).

The San Remo labyrinthodont is believed to be the youngest specimen in the world, some 60 million years after those found in Queensland several years ago.

Mrs Kool hopes the project will eventually emulate the success of the more well-known Dinosaur Cove excavation, a major dig being conducted by Dr Pat Rich, a senior lecturer in the Earth Sciences Department, and her husband, Dr Tom Rich, of the Museum of Victoria.

"The object of the search in the Strzelecks is to get the bones out as soon as possible. Then we can add them to the jigsaw puzzle and gradually build up a picture of which animals were around during the early Cretaceous Period," Mrs Kool said.

Sunway results 'near top'

The results achieved by Sunway College students in Malaysia last year show that a "twinning arrangement" with Monash has got off to a good start, says Professor Gus Sinclair, Dean of Economics and Politics (ECOPS).

It was the first year that the privately-owned institution in Kuala Lumpur provided facilities for teaching part of a Monash Bachelor of Economics degree.

"The percentage of Sunway students satisfying all requirements to proceed to second year was only slightly lower than that for the faculty generally," Professor Sinclair said.

"All the successful students achieved higher grades than average, and two obtained exceptionally good results."

"Ben Sui Ching came very close to being Monash's top first year B.Ec student, and Leng Chi Meng was also very highly placed."

Professor Sinclair said that B.Ec teaching staff at Sunway had been appointed on the recommendation of Monash University, and were monitored by Monash staff teaching equivalent subjects. (Subjects offered were Economics, Economic Statistics, Accounting and Finance and Mathematics.)

The courses were identical and the final examination papers from Sunway were sent to Monash to be marked.

Seventeen of the 21 students initially enrolled had sat the final examination and would take the second year of their degree at Monash this year.

Enrolments in first year at Sunway have risen to more than 30 this year, Professor Sinclair said.
Affiliation offers new dimension in learning

In his speech at the affiliation ceremony, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Logan, said it gave him great pleasure to announce the merger, which would eventually lead to the designation of the Gippsland Institute as a College of Monash University.

In taking this step, Monash has recognised some important new directions in tertiary education at the national level, especially those involving efforts to increase the overall participation of the population in tertiary education.

The affiliation of Monash and Gippsland can achieve that through a range of opportunities in distance education, increased flexibility in credit transfer and access to greater resources in terms of space and staff.

In particular, the affiliation will improve the access of both young and mature students to Monash's courses in science and technology and the professions, another key concern of Government.

In negotiating the affiliation with Gippsland, at Monash we have recognised the important areas of common interest between us and Gippsland Institute.

We both serve the population of the south-eastern part of the state, not only in terms of student demand, but in other ways like hospital services where the Monash Medical Centre acts as the key element in the state's medical infrastructure in this part of Victoria.

The energy and technology base of the Gippsland economy has attracted the attention of Monash staff in recent years.

We have a major interest in coal to oil technology and offshore engineering; in other courses across the university, Gippsland figures prominently in both research and teaching.

The links between us will be facilitated by present-day improvements to the road system, which will eventually provide a direct freeway link almost door-to-door.

In more general terms we also share other characteristics in common.

Both Monash and Gippsland have put considerable effort into attracting disadvantaged groups into tertiary study, with special attention to mature-age students, Aborigines and students from disadvantaged schools.

Monash has also been conscious that the Gippsland Institute has heen a leader in this activity, and its experience will be valuable to the development of Monash.

Perhaps the most important potential in the affiliation lies in the experience and resources that Gippsland can provide Monash in distance education.

Strengths

Distance education is critical to national objectives in improving the participation in tertiary studies, as it provides opportunities not only for those in rural areas, but also those whose chances to attend standard tertiary institutions are limited by work or home commitments.

Monash can make a major contribution through distance education, as it can offer a broad range of courses, especially in professional areas and in science and technology.

An important contribution will be in continuing education, through professional upgrading in areas such as law, medicine and management, as well as specialised courses in new and emerging areas like Asian languages, tourism and information science.

In this way, the affiliation between Monash and Gippsland Institute provides a new direction in distance education, as Monash's breadth in subject offerings has not previously been available to students throughout Australia.

This will strengthen the contribution tertiary education can make to the restructuring of Australia's economy.

Work for this approach has already started with new courses in social work being available this year across Victoria, through the collaboration of the Monash Social Work Department and Gippsland Institute.

Finally it is important to see this affiliation as a step towards improving the links between the various components of tertiary education in this state.

For too long each institution has been planned separately and operated independently, which has not been to the benefit of students.

The latter often need more flexibility and the confidence they can start at one level and if successful move on to another level at another institution.

This is especially important for younger rural area students who may want to study closer to home for, say, first and second year, but then look for a broader set of options and perhaps the scope to go on to honors or even a higher degree which may only be available at a metropolitan university.

At the same time, some students may begin a course by distance education, but then move over to finish the course at another institution.

The affiliation we have negotiated with Gippsland Institute provides the scope to set out conditions so these new approaches can be followed and so will provide an important new development in the organisation of tertiary education in Victoria.
This Affiliation Ceremony is a major and positive outcome of the Green and White Papers released by Mr Dawkins.

In these papers a new vision has been outlined for a Unified National System which will take us into the next century and beyond.

Mr Dawkins has argued that higher education, among its many roles, has to make a more dynamic contribution to the development of a more highly skilled and flexible workforce to assist in the restructuring of the Australian economy.

He has also argued that the distinction between universities and colleges of advanced education should be less apparent and, by preserving the strengths of both systems, there should be a process of bringing together the important work of our higher education institutions. We essentially agree with the major thrusts of these papers.

The Gippsland economy, with its energy, timber and agricultural industries, is very sensitive to the world economy, and we share the understanding that Australia has to improve its competitive position.

We accept that higher education, along with other institutions in our society, must respond to this pressing need, and we support the bringing together of the university and college systems.

Research undertaken by the Graduate Careers Council of Australia has shown that college graduates have been welcomed and accepted by industry and professional bodies. This is important, as not many people fully realise that the majority of higher education students today are presently in the advanced education network.

Colleges such as the Gippsland Institute have also been involved in applied research and have been making an important contribution to industry and economic development.

Mr Dawkins' plan has called for the rationalisation of external studies in Australia with the proposal that the present 40 or so providers of external studies in Australia be significantly reduced.

As the sixth or seventh largest provider of external studies in Australia, we have carefully considered this part of his plan.

Given the dispersed population of the Gippsland region, external studies was adopted by the foundation Council of this institute to open up higher education to the wider Gippsland community.

The success of this program was recognised when, in 1982, the State Government directed the Gippsland Institute to become a state-wide provider of external studies in Victoria.

We have been committed to opening up higher education to the rural population of Victoria, to shift workers, and to those who — because of family or work situations — have not been able to attend traditional on-campus courses.

Our pioneering work in external studies in Victoria has been acknowledged throughout Australia.

Without external studies the Gippsland Institute could not fulfil its mission, and a major factor in our decision to seek an association with Monash University was the commitment by Monash to distance education.

This commitment enables the Gippsland Institute to join with Monash University to extend the range of educational opportunities, not only for the people of Gippsland and of Victoria but, as a Distance Education Centre, for the rest of the nation.

It will also enable the two institutions to extend their role in the Asia/Pacific region.

Monash offers Gippsland a depth and breadth of experience, resources and expertise that will enhance our role.

Above all, Monash has a richly deserved international reputation for learning and research that will place us here in Gippsland in the forefront of higher education in Australia.
Penny Fisher died after a long illness on Tuesday, 31 January 1989; she was 35.

She had graduated in Economics from this university in 1974 and in the same year joined Australian Archives (Vic­torian Branch). There she came under the tutelage of Margaret Jennings (Records Management Officer, University of Melbourne) whom she was to succeed as officer in charge of the Survey and Disposal Section in 1978.

On Tuesday, 3 January 1989, Penny Fisher died after a long illness. She was 35.

She had graduated in Economics from this university in 1974 and in the same year joined Australian Archives (Victorian Branch). There she came under the tutelage of Margaret Jennings (Records Management Officer, University of Melbourne) whom she was to succeed as officer in charge of the Survey and Disposal Section in 1978.

A foundation member of the Aust­ralian Society of Archivists (1975), Penny was secretary of the ASA Melbourne Branch in 1979 and convener in 1980.

During 1980-1981 she also led the committee responsible for the biennial national conference of the ASA in 1981. The success of this conference con­firmed her place in the respect and affec­tion of her professional community.

Penny succeeded Doug Bishop as Monash University Records Officer and Archivist in November 1981.

Always charming and astute, she worked hard to improve conditions for her staff and raise the status of her department.

She solved a most pressing short-term storage difficulty by converting current records housings from over 50 four­drawer cabinets to lateral filing units which effectively doubled storage capacity within one-third of the space occupied by the old cabinets.

At the same time she reviewed the whole of the administrative correspond­ence series, retiring hundreds of in­active files and restructuring others, pending long-awaited conversion to the computerised file registration system recently implemented by Kerry Gordon.

Amongst other things, Penny played a leading role in developing university procedures relating to the implementa­tion of Freedom of Information legisla­tion after 1982.

Tragically, her health began to deter­iorate in 1985. She left Monash in March 1986 but continued to work as a consultant for more than a year.

In the firmament of records admin­istration specialists working in Australian tertiary educational institutions, Penny Fisher was a star.

- Penny Fisher: star archivist

Lock up your garden shed

One of Australia’s most unusual sculpture competitions is on again.

The IPEX Sculpture Award ’89 has only one requirement: the sculptures must be made from plumbing materials — anything from plungers, taps and gratings to piping, traps and toilet bowls.

The competition is open to all tertiary art and sculpture students. First prize is $1000 cash.

Application forms are available from Bruce Pollack Management, 47 Eliza­beth St, Paddington, NSW 2021, telephone (02) 331 5276. Applications close on 21 July.

A selection of rare cookery books spanning four centuries, including a book of recipes published in 1654 and a compilation of dishes written by a soldier in a Japanese prison camp, forms the current exhibition in the Main Library.

The valuable collection was donated to Monash by Sandy Michell, a well­known Melbourne cookery expert who is also an honors student in history at Monash. (Her thesis? Bread in the 18th century in Paris, of course.)

The exhibition includes five books by Careme, a French chef who made his mark on his country’s culinary history in the early 19th century when he started using sophisticated menus matched by elaborate table centrepieces made entirely of food.

Haute cuisine, says Ms Michell, began with Careme, who was known at the time as “the king of cooks and the cook of kings”.

Another book in the display reflects the less fortunate side of life. Published in France in 1795 during a bread shor­tage, it is devoted entirely to recipes using potatoes.

Ms Michell began collecting early cookery books when, as a student at the Ecole Cordon Bleu in Paris, she chanced upon a small bookshop in Paris which had cornered the gastronomy market.

Many titles later, Ms Michell decided to donate part of the collection to Monash after it was threatened with destruction during some home renovations.

The rescued books provide an interest­ing look at cookery through the ages. “Many recipes haven’t changed over hundreds of years, although they have generally become more specific,” Ms Michell says.

“In the 17th century, for instance, the authors would suggest you take a piece of veal, but if that wasn’t available, lamb or pork would do.”

The display of 69 books, 42 from Ms Michell’s donation to the library and the remainder from her own collection, can be viewed in the library’s exhibition sec­tion on the first floor until 30 April.

- The rescued cookery books, part of Ms Michell’s collection, are on show at Monash University Library.

- The competition is open to all tertiary art and sculpture students. First prize is $1000 cash.

- Application forms are available from Bruce Pollack Management.

- The competition closes on 21 July.

- The rescued cookery books are on show at Monash University Library.

- Top: Fruit and preserves as presented in Nouvelle Instruction pour Les Confitures (1726).

- Above: The redoubtable Mrs Hannah Glasse’s Art of Cookery was a best seller in the 18th century.

- Left: Mrs Isabella Beeton (1836-1865), author of the Book of Household Manage­ment, one of the most influential cookery books of her time.
Honorary doctorate for Monash graduate

For the first time at Monash, an honorary doctorate has been awarded to
a Monash graduate. Cinematographer and scientific film maker, David Damien Parer, who graduated B.Sc from Monash in 1967, was last week admitted to the degree of Doctor of Science honoris causa at a Science graduation ceremony at Robert Blackwood Hall.

In presenting him to the Chancellor, the Dean of Science, Professor Muntz, said David Parer had a rare talent in that he could communicate "the importance, the interest and the elegance" of science to the wider public.

He had achieved distinction in Australia and overseas as a producer and maker of scientific films.

Antarctic

"After completing his first degree, majoring in Physics, David Parer worked as a cosmic ray physicist with the Antarctic Division of the Department of Science at Mawson until 1973," Professor Muntz said.

During his time in Antarctica, he also served part-time as the official movie photographer at the base, making a series of films on the geological and geophysical activities there and on the wildlife and ecology of the region.

He began his association with the ABC when he was seconded to its Natural History Unit to supervise editing and post-production of two films in Antarctica, one of which won an award from the Australian Film Institute.

David Parer is perhaps best known for photographing the Australian and New Guinean segments of the BBC documentary series Life on Earth, and

Students on exchange

- The Education Abroad Program at Monash this year attracted eight students from overseas universities — six from the University of California, one from Rikkyo University, Japan, and one from the University of Illinois. Looking forward to spending a year on campus are, from left, Lara O'Farrell (Berkeley), Steve Magoe (Berkeley), Carol Lingenfelter (Davis), Chris Tocco (UCLA), David Seaman (UCLA), Craig Balk (Illinois), Mikiko Iida (Rikkyo) and Jeff Jordan (Berkeley).

Create your own spare time

If you think you are too busy to take on a leisure activity at the Monash University Arts and Crafts Centre, one of the new winter courses could help you find the time.

The Melbourne School of Memory will be conducting seminars at the Arts and Craft Centre which, it claims, will teach you how to do two hours of study in 10 minutes.

And what better way of employing your newfound free time than in exploring some of the 40 other new courses which will be taught at the centre from 13 June to 3 September.

The Winter Winners brochure lists several cooking courses such as sausage-making, pate and terrine-making and authentic Chinese cuisine. Then there are courses on gardening, personal well-being and the more traditional subjects such as pottery, painting and music-making.

The centre has organised special courses for those who are over 50, and to take the pressure off during school holidays there is a holiday program for children.

Give the centre a ring and put your name on the mailing list for the Winter Winners brochure.

For further information, call Toni Wallace on ext. 4171.
PARKING PROBLEMS...

The implication of the headline in Monash Reporter 1-49 concerning parking was that the pressure on permit-only areas last year was such that the committee "had little choice" but to convert the sealed free parking area north of the Mathematics building to permit-only designation.

Approximately one-third of that parking area in 1988 was designated permit-only and the remainder as free-parking. The cartoon at no time during 1988 was the permit-only section filled (generally during term it was less than 50 percent filled, whereas, as one would expect, the free-parking section was invariably filled to capacity.

During the year people who decided that the regular search for a free-parking space was not worth continuing found that they were not allowed to purchase a permit because "they had all been sold". With area, parking was now to be done by the problems in the area and to ensure that the space in this car park is more effectively used?

Divided

My observations suggest that the change in designation of the parking area, and the space being less utilised than in 1988, and therefore pressure on other parking area will be increased.

The change has increased the availability of a resource which was previously non-existent, but at the same time totally removed a resource for which demand far exceeded the supply.

Rather than simply criticise what has been done without suggesting some alternative, let me suggest an idea which the committee might consider for the future. It is to try to overcome the general problem of balancing the varying demand with the geographically distributed resources. Each sealed parking area should be divided into four possible areas according to demand — numbered spaces, permit area, overflow parking area, and free-parking. Two classes of permits should be sold — designated space permit (at a premium price, say $200) and designated car park permit (at current or possibly reduced price).

The latter permit would allow parking in the designated space, any permit area, overflow permit area or free-parking area.

The designated car park permit would allow parking in the permit area of the designated car park or in overflow permit areas of specified adjacent car parks.

Permit requests will therefore have to nominate one or more car parks and maximum numbers of both types of permit will be available for sale on a first-come-first-served basis. The limits on the permits sold for each car park would be set according to demand so as to provide as fast as an equitable service for each permit type irrespective of the location.

Harpsichord recital

A recital by well-known Melbourne harpsichordist, Elizabeth Anderson, will be held in the package store (first floor, Menzies Building) at 1.15 pm on Thursday 23 March.

My dear patrons and perform the Goldberg Variations by J.S. Bach. The recital has been presented with the assistance of the Vera Moore Fund.

Peter Howell
Computer Centre

Peter Howell
Computer Centre

...and again

Before work begins on the $10 million multi-storey car-park foreshadowed by Dr Ogden (Monash Reporter February 1989), readers deserve to be made aware of how the University Council has kept them from access to people-centred, environmentally-sensitive solutions to the parking problem.

Solutions they paid for!

In response to the parking situation at Monash, the Parking Committee passed a motion that "all sealed free car-parks be converted to permit-only car-parks, and that sufficient funds from the resulting increased revenue be used to fund a full-time Transport Information Officer".

Such an officer would have been involved in organising an efficient car-pooling scheme, promoting public transport and the use of bicycles, and the encouragement of "more efficient use of car-parking space available at Monash University."

When these recommendations went to University Council, the permit fee was imposed. The SIO million multi-storey car-park appears the only answer because people and information have been left out of the solution chosen for us by Council.

Lack of funding is a frequent excuse for lack of attention to environmental concerns. There was no such lack of funding in this case — only mismanagement of funds. We should all be very angry. Let's use it effectively. (See Let's Wife for advice on action.)

Jim Black
(MAS Parking Regs)

WHERE ARE THE BINS?

We represent the environmentally concerned members of this campus in expressing our fears that recycling efforts at Monash will fail due to lack of adequate funding.

Having spoken with Harry Wright, the administrator presently responsible for recycling (among other things), we are convinced that the task of involving and coordinating the thousands of people throughout the university requires a Recycling Co-ordinator.

Providing more bins is important, but only half the solution. Informing and involving people in recycling is essential. Where are the bins? What are they for? What role do we play?

An effective recycling scheme enables our personal involvement, and aims at promoting a general sense of awareness and purpose throughout the campus.

We are not so naive as to believe that such a scheme is on its way. Recycling and waste reduction does not yet hold the position on university agendas that it deserves.

For this reason we are launching a campaign to build and demonstrate strong support for a more comprehensive recycling scheme — in a scheme that should prove self-funding once established.

We invite all supportive readers to join us. 'I want to Recycle, FUND A RECYCLING CO-ORDINATOR?' That is the message we will be making clear to the Vice-Chancellor and to each other.

We can provide advice, banner making, folders, ink stamps, support and encouragement. Join us. Make contact on ext. 4670.

Andrew Black
Recollecting Collective
Monash Conservation Group

PRICE LIST FOR RVG

What's on at RBH

The following activities are scheduled for Robert Blackwood Hall in April:

MONDAY 17: 1.15pm
LUNCH-TIME CONCERT
Tony Gould and Brian Brown present a concert of Australian music.
ADMISSION FREE.

MONDAY 24: 1.15pm
LUNCH-TIME CONCERT
Presenting artists from the Japanese city of Kobe.
Featuring instruments: Shakuhachi — vertical bamboo flute, Koto — fingered zither, Shamisen — three-stringed lute
ADMISSION FREE

FRIDAY 28: 8pm
MONASH UNIVERSITY CHORAL SOCIETY presenting African Sanctus by Fennsawe. Conducted by Faye Dumont.
Merlyn Quaife — Soprano.
Tickets $20 for afternoon session. Evening session $24 includes supper.
For further information and tickets please contact 561 3155, AH 799 1891.

SUNDAY 16: 8pm
CELEBRATION OF 100 YEARS OF FREEMASONRY IN VICTORIA
Featuring Dennis Walter — vocalist, and Paul Jennings — comedian/impersonator.
Tickets $20 for afternoon session. Evening session $24 includes supper.
For further information and tickets please contact 561 3155, AH 799 1891.

SUNDAY 29: 8pm
BENTLEIGH PROGRESSIVE SYMPOSIUM presents A Night of Musical Excellence.
Concert: Geoff Sussman.
Musical Director: Joe Stupel.
Featuring Scott Horton, Anna Nagel, Leon Segal, Andrew Kolb, Andrew Black, Audrey Mendelson, Joel Reicher, Ger-
Historic autumnal visit to China

Australia's springtime heralds an historic autumnal visit to China by Monash University.

In association with Nanjing University, Monash is organising a visit to China from 16 September to 6 October. It's open to any graduate or staff member of Monash or Gippsland Institute of Education, and others associated with both institutions.

The tour leader is Mr John Fyfield, former Sub-Dean of the Faculty of Education, who has led previous successful tours to the People's Republic.

The ancient city of Nanjing is the starting point, and visits to the neighboring cities of Suzhou and Hangzhou will follow. The tour finishes in Beijing with the exciting bonus of a two-night stopover in Hong Kong.

Because of Monash's close relationship with Nanjing University and other Chinese institutions, the group will be warmly welcomed, and will have special opportunities — not usually available — to visit schools and tertiary institutions and to meet people involved in teaching, research and educational policy formulation.

Five pre-departure briefing sessions have been planned for the evenings of 18, 17 and 24 and 31 August and 7 September. They will be led by specialists in the fields of politico-economics, education, Chinese music and opera, art and geography.

Inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Beck, Director of External Relations (tel. 807 3518 until 10 April).

Don't Worry Be Yuppie

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Dr Gillian Crook

EDITOR — In Gut Feelings (6 January) John Hughes condemns the labelling of sex with condoms as "safe sex", and states that sex with a lifelong mutually monogamous partner should be regarded as the only form of sex that is "safe" with respect to the spread of HIV.

However, even John Hughes' version of safe sex is not entirely safe as the lifelong partner may acquire HIV by a non-sexual route and then transmit it sexually.

Clearly, there are degrees of safety and John Hughes' version of safe sex is safer than the condom version. The real question is how much safety do we need? A simple answer is that the safer the better, but the question deserves a quantitative answer.

Consider the following simplified discussion of the spread of HIV through the community.

If each individual infected with HIV on average spreads the infection to more than one other individual, then starting with one case of HIV infection the numbers will increase progressively until eventually the whole population is infected. Conversely, if we start with a pool of HIV cases but on average each infected person passes the disease on to less than one other person, then the epidemic will taper off and the disease will eventually disappear.

The average number of people an infected homosexual in the developed countries infects in his/her remaining lifetime is unknown, but the figure is thought to be close to the critical value of one and is probably a little above one at least for a more promiscuous subset of the homosexual population.

Given this situation, the widespread adoption of a method which results in even a modest decrease in the transmissibility of HIV will make an enormous difference to the ultimate numbers of people infected.

In real life, there are a number of complicating factors and detailed mathematical modelling is required to predict the effects of various levels of condom use, but the basic conclusion that increased condom use has the potential to arrest the AIDS epidemic is likely to remain unchanged.

David Kault

Department of Mathematics
Jim Cook University
Townsville, Qld
— from Australian Dr Weekly,
24 February 1989
(courtesy Monash University Health Service)

Stranger danger on campus

The director of the University Health Service, Dr John Green, has warned female students and staff against accepting lifts from strangers.

He is particularly concerned about reports of a man driving a white camper-van type vehicle, possibly with ladders on its roof. The man may be wearing overalls and seek directions on how to get to Monash. He may then produce an envelope with a Monash address and ask his victim to get into his car and show him the way.

Dr Green urges any person approached by this man to decline his offer and note the registration number of the vehicle.

If anyone has been approached in such a way, they should contact either Dr Green, ext 3175, or the Student Welfare Officer, Sally Betts, ext 3126.

Antigone for Easter

The Society of the Classical Studies Department (CLIO) will present two plays by Dennis Davison, on Wednesday 22 March.

Happy Easter, Antigone! is a "serious treatment of religion and freedom, but written in a satirical, comic manner". We Open in Melbourne is a comedy about a group of third-rate English actors aboard a ship bound for Melbourne in 1957.

The plays will be presented in Room S603 at 7.30pm. Admission is free.

MARCH 1989
Monash to coach Cambridge

Last minute donations from the Vice-Chancellor’s fund and Merrill Lynch Australia Pty Ltd made it possible for the Monash rowing crew to accept an invitation to train with Cambridge University.

The team, now on a four-week visit to England, has a string of recent victories in Australia including the Grand Challenge Cup at the Australian Henley and Head of the Yarra.

It represented Australia in the inaugural World Boat Race at Brisbane last year, against competitors which included Cambridge.

“They beat us, but were impressed by the way we rowed,” said Monash team spokesman, Andrew Cohen.

“Because we’re very new and untested, we knew that we would have to work hard to get the best possible result,” he said.

Their coach asked if we would go to the UK in March to be their training partners for the race against Oxford.

The team members include students from the faculties of Law, Science, Medicine, Arts and ECOPS, as well as two graduates.

“With the new semester system, we only miss 10 days of lectures,” says Mr Cohen. “And we’ll be hoping that deans and sub-deans will treat us kindly.”

After two weeks at Cambridge, the crew will be official guests at The Boat Race, to be held on the Thames on March 25.

The next two weeks will be spent in London where Monash will compete in the Kingston Regatta and the Tideway Head of the River.

With study and training, it is very difficult to work even part-time.

“We are very grateful to our sponsors.”

Team members include students from the faculties of Law, Science, Medicine, Arts and ECOPS, as well as two graduates.

The Monash University Regiment was granted Freedom of the City of Waverley this month.

It is the second time in less than a year that a local city has conferred the traditional honor on the regiment.

In May 1988 the City of Oakleigh allowed the regiment to “pass through the city with swords drawn, bayonets fixed, drums beating, colours flying and bands playing”.

The 90-minute ceremony in Waverley was no less spectacular. To the skirl of bagpipes, the regiment exercised its Freedom of the City after being granted the right by the Mayor of Waverley, Councillor Laurie Ryan.

Or Ryan presented the honorary Colonel of the regiment, Lt Col Peter Nattrass, with a Freedom of Entry scroll, incorporating the Armorial Bearings of the city and the insignia of the regiment.

The granting of the Freedom of the City dates back to the Middle Ages when the citizens of protected cities refused entry to bodies of armed men unless they were sure those arms would not be used against them.