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Avoiding the pitfalls



In the safety of the Monash Sports and Recreation Centre, away from the pits, Arts student Denise Woolvorton received some tips on sports car racing from sporting car club treasurer, Neville Debney, during Orientation. Denise's first interest, however, is volleyball whose enthusiasts had a display alongside the car club's. More Orientation pictures page 9.

A 1/4 million words later

On Thursday, March 22, the long-awaited Williams Committee report on education, training and employment was tabled in Federal Parliament.

The document — three volumes, 1522 pages and about a quarter of a million words — will be the subject of intensive scrutiny, and argument, for months to come.

Early reactions varied widely — from barely-concealed disappointment that the report didn't produce instant solutions to the nation's employment problems . . .

. . . to muted praise for a thorough-going study of the myriad aspects of education and employment that the Committee was (unrealistically) invited to embrace . . .

. . . to expressions of concern at the suggestion that a reintroduction of fees might be investigated . . .

. . . to expressions of relief that, if changes are to be made, at least they'll be gradual and evolutionary.

On-campus reactions, so far, have been generally favorable.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ray Martin, said (SOUND 8-79) that for the most part universities would welcome the Williams recommendations — but, necessarily, there would be some reservations.

The president of the Monash Staff Association, Dr Peter Darvall, said that, in many respects, the report was "encouraging to the academic community". It re-affirmed the national and international importance of Australian universities, and appeared to agree with much of what academic staff associations had been saying about key issues.

Here, Monash Reporter summarises some of the major recommendations the Committee makes in its chapter dealing specifically with the universities.

Williams Report: What it suggests on universities

In its approach to the role of universities, the Williams Committee drew upon four "precepts of long-standing", which, it said, had influenced the advice given to successive governments by the Australian Universities Commission and, later, by the Tertiary Education Commission.

These were:

● That every young person of appropriate ability who desires a university education should have a fair chance of getting it.

● That universities should restrict their teaching to degree and higher degree work and expand higher and research activities.

● That universities could not be efficient and economical with less than 4000 students in those providing courses in the humanities, sciences and social sciences, or less than 8000 when courses were also provided in medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, agriculture and engineering.

● That where, for reasons of location or recency of foundation, universities are of less than the optimal size, they should receive relatively higher grants per student.

The Committee concluded that the historical autonomy of universities had not been seriously diminished by the form of national planning imposed upon the AUC and TEC, although the four precepts had necessarily been qualified by the need to limit intakes in some of the more expensive fields, such as medicine, and by the higher average age level of students: 40 per cent of students now enrolled are 23 or more.

Attrition, selection

The Committee found that, although graduation rates had improved in the last 20 years, the proportion of students who failed to complete their courses successfully remained "disturbingly high".

It proposed a number of measures to improve graduation rates — among them:

● That the TEC should not propose target numbers of students that encourage universities to enrol considerable numbers with very little chance of graduating.

● That machinery be set up to collect and review information on attrition and institute research projects aimed at evaluating the information.

● That state examining bodies and universities discuss matters related to efficient selection, and that new students be given the opportunity in first term to improve their learning techniques. One possibility would be that each first year student be allocated to a "general tutor".

● That universities should consider introducing rehabilitation courses during the summer vacation, with supplementary examinations in those first and second year subjects with high failure rates.

The Committee also recommended that the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee should seek a grant to com-

mission a study into the reasons for the low graduation rates of part-time and external students.

Enrolments

Acknowledging the problems of forecasting manpower needs in certain professions, the Commission nevertheless recommended that the TEC should continue to make projections of enrolments in such specialised and expensive fields as medicine, dentistry and veterinary science.

The projections, it said, should be presented on a rolling basis and show the degree of sensitivity to such factors as population changes and immigration of professional practitioners.

Staff training

The Committee found that, with the growth in size of many university departments, teaching and examining responsibilities had fallen more heavily on inexperienced junior staff.

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Human rights in Japan — a Monash professor reports. P. 3

Williams: its uni. recommendations

● From page 1

It recommended therefore that the AVCC should appoint a working party to draw up programs for staff in the theory and practice of teaching, curriculum development and examining. It should then consider how satisfactory participation in such programs might become a normal condition of tenured appointment.

Collaboration with other institutions

The Committee said that experience at Deakin, Wollongong, Newcastle, New England and James Cook universities had suggested that there were opportunities for more collaboration between institutions.

It therefore recommended "... greater collaboration between neighbouring universities and CAEs, and in particular arrangements for joint appointments or part-time secondments of staff in the fields of teacher education."

The Committee suggested specifically that the Universities Council should reconsider current assumptions about the range of activities undertaken by a university and the size on which the present financing formula is based.

In this regard, it recommended that Murdoch University's activities might be integrated with those of the University of Western Australia, since there were doubts about the ability of Murdoch to reach the required optimum size.

Support for research

The Williams Committee came out strongly in support of increased funds for research in universities.

It said: "Of vital importance to the wellbeing of the nation is a proper recognition of the part research should play and of the need for adequate funds to be devoted to it."

"In recent years, real resources available for research have been reduced and in the projections of expenditure it has been assumed that special research grants to universities be raised from 0.7 per cent in 1978 to 2.13 per cent in 1981 as proposed by the UC."

"At the same time it is important to increase support for the ARGC and the NH&MRC; to restore the annual number of new Commonwealth Postgraduate Awards, which fell from 725 for research and 150 for coursework in 1975 and in 1976 to 555 and 125 respectively in 1978; and to review their distribution."

The Committee added that, while specialisation was normally the essence of scholarship and research, some projects required an interdisciplinary centre as a base. Such centres, it said, would call for tenured staff from universities, which should release them for a determined period by appointing temporary staff to provide necessary teaching.

It went on: "In strongly supporting expansion by universities of postgraduate research by outstanding students, the Committee has keenly in mind the contribution which such opportunities can make to the future strength of the economy and to the quality of living standards."

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

Professor B.R. Williams (Chairman), Vice-Chancellor and Principal, The University of Sydney.
Mr M.H. Bone, immediate past Director-General, Department of Further Education, South Australia.
Mr C.O. Dolan, National Secretary, Electrical Trades Union of Australia, Senior Vice-President of the ACTU, a part-time Commissioner of the Tertiary Education Commission and a member of the National Training Council.
Dr A.M. Fraser, Director of the Queensland Institute of Technology, a member of the Advanced Education Council and a member of the Queensland Board of Advanced Education.
Commissioner Pauline Griffin, Australian Conciliation and Arbitration Commission, and a former member of the Council of Abbotsleigh School, Sydney.
Miss E.M. Guthrie, Regional Director of Education, N.S.W. Department of Education.
Mr J.A.L. Hooke, Chairman, Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia) Ltd., and a member of the Defence (Industrial) Committee.
Sir Peter Lloyd, former Chairman, Cadbury Fry Pascall Australia Ltd., and a member of the Council of the University of Tasmania.
Dr W.D. Neal, Chairman, W.A. Post-Secondary Education Commission.
Mr D.R. Zeidler, Chairman and Managing Director, ICI Australia Ltd., and a member of the Defence (Industrial) Committee.

"Many of these students will follow careers outside the universities and postgraduate programs should be reviewed to provide stimulating training in applied as well as pure research."

Study leave

On study leave, the Committee said: "The subject of study leave has recently been surveyed by the TEC and various recommendations have been made."

"These would lead to direct cash savings of \$1 million in 1979 and \$1.5 million in 1980 in a budget of some \$1100 million, and are designed to counter the criticism that in some cases study leave has not been used to the institution's best advantage."

"The Committee notes that while some members of staff are granted one year's study leave in seven, the average incidence recently has been one year in 11 or 12."

"It expects the recommendations of the TEC will be assessed at the end of the current triennium in the light of the importance of maintaining:

"1. The position of the Australian universities in the international community of universities."

"2. The quality of scholarship and research during a period when the opportunities to recruit to the staff able young scholars and researchers will be very limited."

"3. The responsibilities of governing bodies of universities."

Flexibility

The Committee addressed itself to the problem of maintaining flexibility in universities in the "steady state".

It said: "In the period ahead when little growth in universities is likely, more flexible staff structures will be required if serious imbalances in student-staff ratios are to be avoided. "New courses may be introduced with relative ease when staff numbers are growing significantly and the need for innovation does not decrease when staff is stable and shows signs of concentration in outmoded fields of study."

"Further, to sustain innovation and freshness, several avenues should be kept in mind, such as the reservation of positions for visiting staff from overseas, staff exchanges between universities, the public service, CSIRO and industry, and visiting fellowships at the Australian National University."

"The Committee recommends that:

"1. To provide for desirable flexibility and innovation, universities prepare schemes for early retirement, retraining, secondments of staff; introduce more exacting criteria for the granting of tenure; increase the proportion of annual appointments; and also prepare schemes for redundancy in case such measures do not provide the desirable degree of flexibility."

"2. Arrangements be negotiated with the civil service, CSIRO, industry and other universities for exchanges and secondments of staff."

Fees

Discussing the question of fees, the Committee refers to a paper prepared by Professor Richard Blandy, of Flinders University, in which he suggests that educational opportunities had not been widened by the abolition of fees.

Professor Blandy had further suggested that, as a result of abolition, the community subsidy to young people from middle and higher income groups had increased.

The reintroduction of fees and means-tested student allowances, it was suggested, would be more egalitarian, reduce the budgetary burden and the frivolous use of costly services, while restoring some financial autonomy to institutions.

However, the Committee said, the method of allocating costs between undergraduate and postgraduate students and research in the different subjects required much further study, the implications for research funding being of considerable importance.

The Committee recommended that the proposed Centre for the Study of Post-Secondary Education include in its program a study of the feasibility of a fee system based on costs.

The key issues — as the Staff Association nominates them

By Peter Darvall,
SAMU President

The Williams Committee Report is in many respects encouraging to the academic community.

Extensive cuts in university funding over the last few years, and government-led criticism, have led to an erosion of confidence in the university system. The Report has now reaffirmed the national and international importance of our universities, and appears to agree with much of what the academic staff associations have been saying about several key issues.

Some selected, separated and rephrased recommendations which are of special interest at Monash are:

1. Support for proposals for special research grants to build up postgraduate centres at universities, and an increase in ARGC and NH&MRC funds.

2. Increased numbers of Commonwealth Postgraduate Awards.

3. That universities prepare schemes for early retirement, retraining, and exchange and secondments of staff to promote staffing flexibility.

4. That there be more exacting criteria for the granting of tenure, an increase in the proportion of annual appointments, and preparation of schemes for redundancy.

5. That the study leave position should be reviewed at the end of the current triennium in the light of the maintenance of the international reputation of the universities, the quality of their scholarship and research, and the responsibilities of their governing bodies.

6. That consideration be given to formal reviews of departmental performance.

Teaching teachers

7. The appointment of an expert working party to formulate programs for staff in the theory and practice of teaching, curriculum development and examining, and then later consider whether satisfactory participation in

such programs should become a normal condition of tenured appointment.

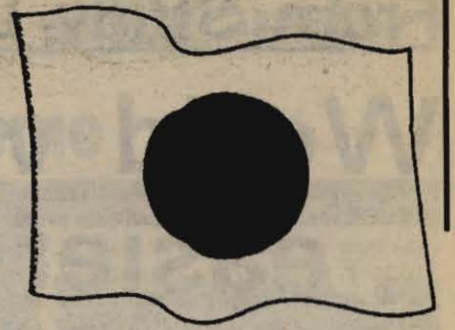
The first two recommendations on research listed above will be generally welcomed. In discussing staffing flexibility, the options of fractional appointments and voluntary demotion have been omitted. Staff associations have constantly objected to the widespread use of fixed term appointments (or "throw-away" academics) encouraged in the fourth recommendation, believing them to lead to an erosion of academic freedom and a proliferation of academic master-servant relationships and shallow research. Rigorous, but procedurally fair reviews of "probationary" appointments leading to tenure are supported by SAMU, as a necessary corollary to its opposition to contract appointments. Nor should it fear redundancy schemes, if properly formulated.

Many academics have already voluntarily taken teaching training (e.g. the Dip. Ed. (Tertiary) at Monash), and this should not be resisted as an encroachment on academic freedom.

A Monash professor of Law, Professor C. G. Weeramantry has recently written a report titled *Human Rights in Japan*.

The 177-page report covers a wide range of human rights issues, including an examination of the bench and bar, the position of women, disadvantaged groups, the role of education and the impact of science and technology. It follows a two month study which Professor Weeramantry conducted in Japan late last year. He visited the country on one of the two Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee Fellowships awarded last year to Australian academics.

The report is, as Professor Weeramantry says in the introduction, "an attempt to present to the outside world, which knows so little of Japan, a visitor's impression of the complexities, the achievements and the failings of one of the world's legal systems which is most outstandingly dedicated to the concept of the freedom and individuality of man".



Japan: leader in human rights since the War

The notion of "rights" as opposed to the notion of "duty" had been weak in traditional Japanese thinking, Monash professor of Law, Professor C. G. Weeramantry says in his report, "Human Rights in Japan".

Professor Weeramantry says that Japanese had traditionally looked upon themselves as "debtors to the ages".

He says that human rights, with the current emphasis on rights, "constituted a notion that needed the occasion and the time to be transplanted into this alien soil".

He continues: "The occasion was the traumatic aftermath of war and a revulsion against what militarism had stood for. The time has now been provided with more than a generation for acclimatisation. The transplant in taking root represents one of the greatest legal revolutions in history."

Professor Weeramantry says the starting point of the revolution, the Japanese Constitution of 1947, though considered briefly by the Cabinet and the Diet, did not emanate from the will of the people but was imposed by a conquering power, the US. However, unlike other imposed constitutions it has taken deep root and played an important role in fashioning the character of modern Japan.

Human rights provisions are spelt out in detail in the Constitution. Chapter Three of the document spells out not only traditional human rights such as equality under the law, freedom from bondage and servitude, freedom of thought and conscience, freedom of assembly and association and speech, freedom of movement, academic freedom and "due process" rights, but also spells out many rights on the economic and cultural front. Among these are the right to maintain the minimum standards of wholesome and cultured living, the promotion and extension of social welfare and security and public health, free education, worker rights, children's rights and trade union rights.

Commissioners

The Japanese Constitution aside, Professor Weeramantry says that an Act of 1949 — An Act to Provide for the Appointment of Civil Liberties Commissioners — represents "one of the most significant pieces of legislation in the worldwide history of the human rights movement". He considers that the new human rights methodologies worked out by Japan are well worthy of study and application by other legal systems of the world.

The Act created a network of civil liberties commissioners throughout the country, in each district of a city, town or village, "to promote and make widely known the ideal of civil liberties in order to protect the fundamental rights guaranteed to the people". There are more than 19,000 commissioners today.

The commissioners, who serve for two years without pay, have a duty to make known the ideal of civil liberties to the public, to make every effort to encourage the civil liberties movement among the people and to conciliate in cases of the violation of human rights.

Professor Weeramantry says that the educational system has played an important role in stabilising the recognition of human rights in Japan. The system accords high importance to the teaching of human rights and the constitutional provisions relating thereto.

Despite the generally bright picture Professor Weeramantry paints of human rights in Japan, his report deals too with the shortcomings and their victims, the disadvantaged groups.

... but international impact 'weak'

Japan's praiseworthy concern for human rights at home is in marked contrast to her lack of concern for human rights internationally, says Professor C. G. Weeramantry.

While in the national field the Japanese achievement is remarkable by any standards, in the international field it tends to fall short of expectations, he says.

In Part XI (dealing with international orientation) of his report — a report which is highly appreciative of many Japanese achievements in the human rights field — Professor Weeramantry argues that Japan's demonstrated concern for human rights and her position as an outstanding industrial nation combine to place on her the responsibility to take a more active interest in international human rights concerns.

He says: "The heightened human rights awareness of the Japanese people is an outstanding source of strength in the global struggle for human dignity. Its beneficent effects have the potential to stream out beyond her national frontiers for the universal betterment of the human condition. The dams that hold them in need to be breached."

But there are no signs of this happening.

Says Professor Weeramantry: "It is remarkable that the same degree of concern (for internal rights) is not shown by the public or the legal fraternity in regard to human rights violations abroad. The most glaring instances pass unnoticed or, when brought to the notice of authority, are glossed over.

Foremost among these is the Buraku, a three million strong group of underprivileged people who have been subjected to intense discrimination in the past. The origin of the discrimination goes back far into history and religion: the Buraku performed work that was either unclean by Shinto tradition or sinful according to Buddhism, tasks like burying the dead, slaughtering animals, executing criminals and tanning hides.

Although concerted attempts have been made at government level to redress this injustice of traditional Japanese society, social discrimination lingers on.

Professor Weeramantry says that Buraku origins often stand in the way of job opportunities and are an impediment to advancement.

Another principal Buraku grievance is in regard to marriage. The intensive scrutiny which precedes marriage in Japan makes it difficult if not impossible for a person of Buraku origin to marry someone who is not.

Among other groups Professor Weeramantry describes as being disad-

vantaged are some 650,000 ethnic Koreans brought to Japan to provide labour during the 36 years to 1945 during which Japan occupied the Korean peninsula, other "foreigners" and two legacies of World War II — "occupation babies" and the Hibaksha, or atom bomb victims.

He says particularly strong discrimination has been practised during the years since the War against children fathered by Black American soldiers.

Some of the "Amerasian" children have done well but a large majority are poor, ill-educated and mistreated by society, he adds.

Bomb victims

Professor Weeramantry says that victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki encounter strong social discrimination because they are often scarred or deformed or are thought to carry defective genes which could transmit to their children.

"The former are discriminated against by society in such matters as employment and housing and the latter are not good candidates for marriage," he says.

Top law grads.

The Supreme Court awards for Monash's top law graduates last year have been awarded.

Miss Adele Byrne, of Ballarat, has been awarded the Supreme Court Prize for the best student in final year of the Bachelor of Laws course in 1978. Miss Byrne also qualified for the Flos Greig Memorial Prize, awarded by the Legal Women's Association of Victoria to the woman placed highest in the final honours class list.

In 1977 Miss Byrne was awarded the Supreme Court Exhibition awarded to the best final year Bachelor of Jurisprudence student in 1976.

The Supreme Court Exhibition for the best final year Bachelor of Jurisprudence student in 1978 went to Derek White, of Eaglemont.

World view: university problems easier to identify than solve

The problems facing universities worldwide were much more easily identified than solved.

The Vice-Chancellor, **Professor R.L. Martin**, said in a report to Council that this view had emerged from discussions held during the 12th Congress of Commonwealth Universities held in Vancouver, Canada, last year. Professor Martin presented the full report of his three-month leave overseas last year to the March Council meeting. He presented a preliminary report to last September's meeting.

He said that the theme of the Vancouver Congress was "Reconciling National, International and Local Roles of the Universities with the Essential Character of a University".

Group discussions were held on five topics:

- The world food problem and the universities.
- Higher education in countries with federal systems of government.
- Reconciling equality and excellence.
- The public view of the universities.
- Universities and other institutions of tertiary education.

Professor Martin said that as **Sir John Crawford**, who gave one of two plenary addresses at the opening session, pointed out, the first topic had been included "as a recognition of universities looking outward with an increasing social consciousness".

Professor Martin said that **Sir John** had emphasised the need for universities in the developed world to provide

leadership in solving problems by improving and expanding the existing teaching and research relationships with the Third World.

Professor Martin said: "The remaining four topics reflect some of the problems which are of concern to universities and all were particularly relevant to the Australian scene.

"Matters discussed both formally and informally ranged widely with most being hardy perennials.

"Examples were the tension between pursuit of excellence and ease of access to universities; pressure for manpower planning and accountability by government; problems arising from regional and national funding; the choice between relevance and competence; the balance between pure and applied research; the problem of student mobility between institutions; the balance between principles and practice.

"It emerged from discussions on these and many other issues that it is much easier to identify problems than to formulate solutions."

Professor Martin continued his report: "In a provocative paper **Sir Frederick Dainton** (former chairman of the University Grants Committee, Britain) tackled the question: 'What nations will expect from their systems of higher education'.

"He suggested that the multiple roles might be as follows:

- The liberal education of selected 18 year-olds

- The continuing education of adults

- Professional and vocational training at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels

- Certification of students

- Remedial programs for disadvantaged minorities

- Research — the acquisition of new knowledge

- Preservation of the cultural heritage and the reinterpretation of past values and their contemporary relevance.

"Commenting that research is essential to the maintenance of excellence **Sir Frederick** stated: 'Those who are superb teachers and not researchers can be relied on to teach all the wrong things superbly!'

"When referring to the difficult financial climate confronting universities he reminded his audience that **Rutherford**, in similar circumstances, is reputed to have said: 'We have no money and no apparatus so let us sit down and think!'"

During his stay in North America **Professor Martin** visited **Harvard University** where he observed plans for and debate over the introduction of a new curriculum in the 1979/80 academic year to uplift the standard of bachelor's degree education.

Students will devote one year of their four year course to studying subjects selected from a carefully defined "core".

Professor Martin said: "Supporters of the change argue that American colleges have lost their sense of direction and that to enter what **Harvard**

traditionally calls its 'company of educated men and women', a graduate should have informed acquaintance with the aesthetic and intellectual experience of literature and the arts, with history as a mode of understanding present problems and the processes of human affairs, with the concepts and analytical techniques of modern social science, with philosophical analysis especially as it relates to the moral and ethical dilemmas of present times, with the mathematical and experimental methods of the physical and biological sciences and with foreign languages and cultures.

Proficiency in writing, languages

"In addition each student will be required to have a skill in mathematics to algebra level, to be proficient in expository writing and to have a reasonable facility in a foreign language.

"Debate about the proposed innovation has been vigorous: critics argue that the proposals are an exercise in pedagogic paternalism — an attempt to impose a safe intellectual conformity on students with the needs of an individual being sacrificed to the needs of society.

"Supporters claim the **Harvard** reform as a brave and belated return to academic standards and self-discipline.

"The experiment will be watched with great interest."

Academic advocates uniform Ph.D. assessment procedures

Australian universities should establish a more uniform code for handling Ph.D. degree assessment procedures, according to a Reader in the Monash department of Physiology, **Dr Colin Gibbs**.

In his study leave report to Council, **Dr Gibbs** said he had, on two occasions, encountered some adverse comments both on the quality of Australian Ph.D.s. and on our methods of doctoral assessment.

Dr Gibbs said: "In neither case was a Monash graduate involved, but as we are all likely to be tarred with the same brush, it does seem that there should be a more uniform code among Australian universities as to how they will handle assessment procedures."

He said: "On both occasions, senior and respected physiologists in two different countries told me that they had been approached to act as external Ph.D. referees.

"Both had reservations about the theses they examined and asked for clarification of material and/or additional experiments to be performed.

"In one case, the external referee

was told by the university concerned that the candidate had answered his questions satisfactorily; however, there was no transcript of the interview provided and no written material was conveyed to the referee.

"In the other, more serious case, where the referee expressed doubt as to whether some of a candidate's results were antifactual (spurious, i.e. being generated by equipment defects rather than by the tissue being examined) and where he suggested some experiments be performed to test his suspicions, once again there was no written reply to his criticism and he wasn't even informed by the university as to whether the candidate had passed or failed — he found out when he met the Ph.D. at a European conference!

"In both instances, the administrative side of the examination was reasonably well handled, the referees felt that they knew what was expected of them and both were paid promptly.

"Although neither referee complained about the fee and although most, but not all, see such assessments

as a service to the scientific community, I think it can be remarked that the level of monetary compensation is poor indeed for the time involved."

Dr Gibbs, who spent his study leave in the UK, also visited the physiology department of the Free University in Amsterdam, where he was invited to give a seminar.

Good teaching, research facilities

He said: "The department concentrates on cardiovascular physiology and has a total staff number similar to that at Monash. I have never seen such good facilities both for staff (research equipment) and students (teaching equipment) even in the best of American universities.

"I was assured by my hosts that facilities, equally as good, existed in the other major Dutch physiology departments.

"It is a worrying feature in both Australia and England that many im-

portant aspects for physiology can no longer be studied in university departments because of the high cost of setting up these research areas. Not only are the initial capital equipment costs high but they are intensive users of technological help and maintenance money.

"This state of affairs is not the best way to get advances in pure physiology and it is interesting that where this fact has been appreciated, as in the Netherlands and some other parts of Europe, the pace of fundamental research is noticeably higher than in England.

"I have no hesitation in suggesting that in the area of cardiovascular physiology the Netherlands is currently making, and will make, contributions far out of proportion to its population.

"It was interesting to note that, as at Monash, there was close liaison between the Engineering and Medical faculties, many of the doctoral and post doctoral research fellows having degrees obtained in both faculties," **Dr Gibbs** said.

Departments 'refreshed' by some new faces

University departments were "refreshed" by new appointments, and a way must be found around "steady state" staffing, Monash University Council was told at its March meeting.

Associate Professor R.S. Dickson, of the department of Chemistry, in his study leave report to Council, said one problem which academics found "particularly daunting" was the steady-state staffing situation which seemed to have been reached in most university departments.

Associate Professor Dickson said: "The need to interact on academic matters year after year with precisely the same group of people, without the refreshment that inevitably flows from new appointments, and without any prospect of offering any financial incentive for overseas colleagues to take their study leave (or whatever they choose to call it) in Australia, must ultimately cause some decay in our academic standards.

Agreement on advantages

"Much has been said already about this problem. In our 'staff club discussions' there was general agreement that considerable advantages could result from temporary but frequent exchange of teaching personnel between the Melbourne-based universities, and perhaps between the universities and some other tertiary institutions.

"It would certainly seem feasible for academic staff at Monash, Melbourne and La Trobe (and possibly Deakin also, although the extra distances could impose some financial complications) to change universities for a term or longer, thereby providing a fresh face, some new courses, and some different opinions of existing courses — all at little or no cost to the universities."

Associate Professor Dickson said his extended visit to La Trobe during study leave established the viability of the exchange idea.

Benefit from learning

He told Council: "By the end of one term, I had learned a great deal about university government, course administration and content, teaching methods, external studies programs, student performance, research activities and staff attitudes at La Trobe.

"This will certainly be of some benefit to me during the next few years at Monash.

"Moreover, my colleagues at La Trobe have indicated that my comments on their way of doing things were often of benefit to them."

During his study leave, Associate Professor Dickson virtually completed the first draft of approximately 700 typed pages of a book on the organometallic chemistry of thorium and iridium.

Thais at Monash to learn skills under Government scheme



Eleven of 12 Thai academics who are at Monash studying under the Thai University Lecturers Scheme were recently given a tour of the Main Library by Ms Moira MacKinnon (second from left). They are (l. to r.) Miss Unchalee Kongfoo, Miss Katsuda Oonarom, Miss Somchai Rattanayun, Mr N. Paget (HEARU), Miss Boobpa Anunsuchatgul, Miss Angsana Dusitagorn, Miss Hattaya Prinyarux, Miss Prasast Prachuabpaibul, Miss Suchada Vidhayasai, Miss Pimpan Pitchayaboonwong, and front (l. to r.) Mr Prasert Leungurasatien and Mr Chucheepp Praputpittaya. Photo: Herve Alleaume.

Twelve Thai academics — nine of them women — are currently at Monash as part of the Thai University Lecturers Scheme.

The academics, all from Chiang Mai University, will be aiming to increase knowledge and skills in their subject areas, academic administration and modern education techniques in a bid to improve their effectiveness as tertiary teachers.

The visitors, who will be at Monash for six months, are Miss Boobpa Anunsuchatgul (education), Miss Angsana Dusitagorn (education), Miss Unchalee Kongfoo (microbiology), Mr Prasert Leungurasatien (surgery), Miss Katsuda Oonarom (linguistics), Miss Pimpan Pitchayaboonwong (materials engineering), Miss Prasast Prachuabpaibul (chemistry), Mr Chucheepp Praputpittaya (physiology), Miss Hattaya Prinyarux (genetics), Miss Somchai Rattanayun (botany), Miss Suchada Vidhayasai (education) and Mr Som-sak Wanichacheewa (zoology).

All speak fluent English. They will be living on campus in the former Marist College building.

The program at Monash is in two parts. The lecturers will spend two days a week with the Higher Education Advisory and Research Unit undertaking special studies in course planning, teaching techniques, applications of educational technology, assessment methods and the planning of teaching resources such as student laboratories. On the other three days they will join a host department covering their own interest areas to observe and participate in its day to day operation.

The Thai University Lecturers Scheme is funded by the Commonwealth Government through the Australian Development Assistance Bureau.

This is the second year in which it has operated. A pilot scheme was launched in 1977 with eight Thai academics. The participants and those concerned with the scheme at Monash were generally satisfied with its outcome.

The need for such a scheme was perceived several years ago by Monash academics who were concerned that many Asian students were returning

home after study overseas to take up senior positions on academic staff immediately, particularly in the new universities.

Because of a lack of experienced staff these new graduates were being called upon to perform tasks for which they had little or no experience.

Organisers of the scheme believe that it will be of two-way benefit.

They say: "While those who benefit most from the scheme are the Thai lecturers it is of benefit to Monash as well in terms of the international contacts which are made and the goodwill which it generates."

Maths lectures begin

A series of nine lectures on "mathematically interesting" topics especially designed for fifth and sixth form students continues at Monash this month.

The lectures are being organised by the Mathematics department.

The first was given by the chairman of the department, Professor G. Preston, on Friday, March 23. His topic was "Mathematical paradoxes."

Professor Preston says that the aim of the series will be to discuss mathematical topics that will not duplicate work in the school syllabus, but rather are intended to arouse interest generally in mathematics.

Other lectures (all start at 7 p.m. in R1) in the series will be:

April 6, "The design of statistical

experiments. Is pasteurised milk good for you?" Professor P. D. Finch.

April 20, "Probability in theory and practice," Professor W. J. Ewens.

May 4, "Why mathematics is difficult. Some interesting, hard and unsolvable problems," Dr J. C. Stillwell.

June 8, "Mathematics of winds and currents," Dr C. B. Fandry.

June 22, "Mechanics, a central science," Professor B. R. Morton.

July 6, "Choosing the site of a school to minimise the distance to three villages," Dr E. Strzelecki.

July 20, "Prime numbers," Dr R. T. Worley.

August 3, "Laputa or Tlon — how real is the imaginary?" Dr M. A. B. Deakin.

For further information contact Dr G. A. Watterson on ext. 2550.

Education Centre parades its aid facilities



The newly established Education Development Centre at Monash held an open day last month for teachers from schools in Melbourne's southern suburbs. In the photo above, Mr Lindsay Martin, (far left), an executive officer with the Centre, demonstrates the use of a large screen projector for (standing, from left) Graham Dennis, Denise Brown, Allen Moore and Rex Thompson and kneeling, Julie Wilkinson and Leanne Jewson.

An Education Development Centre has been established at Monash with the aim of making the Education faculty's resources — both its physical facilities and staff — accessible to teachers.

The Centre held an open day late last month as a first step in making its existence known to its main group of potential users — teachers and others interested in curriculum and school development activities from state and registered schools in the south-east suburbs.

One of the chief resources the Centre will be able to offer is access to the expertise of academic staff in the Education faculty. Staff have indicated their interest in sharing expertise on topics such as the production of instructional materials, literacy and perceptual skills development, and sensitivity and awareness programs for teachers.

Use of rooms and facilities

As well, teachers will be given access to lecture, seminar and other rooms in the Faculty when they are not being otherwise used, and will be able to use (but not borrow) facilities, such as audio-visual production equipment, in the Education Services Centre. The Education Development Centre intends building up a supply of materials and equipment which members will be able to borrow.

The idea for such a centre was first suggested by senior lecturer in Education at Monash, Mr Lawrence Ingverson, who became familiar with

teachers' in-service education needs through work as an evaluator for VISEC and other in-service programs.

Under Mr Ingverson's guidance a steering committee of interested teachers from state and registered schools in the Knox and Frankston schools regions was set up to explore the possibility of establishing a teachers' centre at Monash. An interim committee was formed to draw up a constitution and negotiate access to the Faculty's resources.

Having done this successfully, the committee held a meeting late last year at which the Education Development Centre was officially launched and a management committee elected. Chairman of the committee is Mr

Rex Thompson, Principal of Croydon High School, who has praised the "excellent co-operation" the committee received from the Dean of Education and other faculty members.

"We are confident that teachers will see the existing potentials of the Centre and will take up the challenge implicit in the concept," he says.

An executive officer, Mr Lindsay Martin, has been appointed to organise the Centre's activities. Mr Martin has been seconded from the Education Department and will be at Monash three days a week.

He sees his first major task as getting into the schools and making teachers aware of the Centre. Mr Martin can be contacted on ext. 2822.

Mannix to stage Islam - Christianity conference

A conference on Islam and Christianity — believed to be the first of its kind in Australia — will be held at Mannix College on August 28-31.

The main speakers include Father Georges Anawati O.P., director of the Institute Dominicain d'Etudes Orientales, Cairo, Professor A. H. Johns, dean of the faculty of Asian Studies and head of the department of Indonesian languages and literatures at ANU, and Dr M. A. El-Erian, professor of international education and head of the department of cultural studies at Goulburn CAE.

Also invited to address the conference is Dr Hassan Bajouda, faculty of Sharia, King Abdul Aziz University, Mecca, whose acceptance was not confirmed at the time of going to press.

Conference topics include Muhammad and the origins of Islam, Islamic art and culture, Muslim views of Australian society and culture, great common themes in Islam and Christianity and the Bible and the Koran.

Further information about the conference may be obtained from the Master of Mannix College, Dr L. P.

Host Scheme seeks hosts

The Monash Host Family Scheme, which offers a little home-away-from-home hospitality to students new to Melbourne, is operating again this year.

But the scheme convener, Mrs Joy Guerin, says there is an urgent need for more families, particularly ones with a Monash connection, to act as hosts.

The scheme, sponsored by the Monash Parents Group, does not involve accommodation.

What it does involve is hospitality — an occasional meal, outing with the family, or just an invitation to visit a home in which the student can be assured of a welcome.

Mrs Guerin says that the number of students wishing to participate in the scheme could well be a record this year but invites any others who would like to join in to contact her.

Most of the students in the scheme are from Southeast Asian countries, particularly Malaysia and Hong Kong, who must be away from their own families for long periods. But students from country areas and interstate who have no social contacts in Melbourne have been invited to participate also.

Families wishing to join the scheme should contact Mrs Guerin on 82 1956.

APOLOGY

The Joint Orientation Committee and the Editor of the 1979 Orientation Handbook for Monash University wish to apologize to Jon Gorr and his family for any embarrassment they might have suffered as a consequence of an inaccurate and unfounded reference to Mr Gorr in respect of the Marijuana Action Group. Mr Gorr has no association whatsoever with the Marijuana Action Group.

Signed:
Alan S. Henry:
 Chairman Joint Orientation Committee
Dick Gross: Editor,
 1979 Orientation Handbook.

Students aid fauna management at Healesville



A series of reports prepared by second year zoology students at Monash will be used to help develop a management program for the Coranderrk Bushland Reserve at Healesville.

About 80 second year students attended a camp at the reserve in March organised by Zoology department staff, as part of the teaching program.

The reserve, which covers 350 acres, is attached to the Sir Colin MacKenzie Fauna Park, more widely known as Healesville Sanctuary.

The students took part in a variety of projects aimed at giving them exposure to a wide range of zoological study and research activities.

The projects and activities covered the limnology of Badger Creek, which flows through the reserve, a study of Leadbeater's possum, which involved nightly spotlighting forays, bird feeding strategies in the reserve and bird behaviour in the sanctuary, mammal trapping, insect collecting and ecology, and measuring blood protein levels in insects as a means of studying population variation.

The students, who spent five days camped at the reserve, rotated in groups through the various activities. Each group now has the task of presenting a report on one of the activities.

The director of the sanctuary, Mr G. George, said the reserve, which has camping facilities, including a kitchen, meeting room and toilets, was being maintained in its natural state for research purposes, and access to the reserve was restricted to recognised research groups.

Mr George said that the Monash group had drawn up lists of flora, fauna and insect species found in the reserve, and this information, plus that provided in the various reports, was valuable in assessing the area.

He said: "All the information will be of benefit in drawing up a management program for the reserve which is aimed basically at maintaining its diversity of species."

Mr George said he was pleased to see research groups using the reserve and the fauna park for study purposes.

LEFT: Bird trapping and banding in the Coranderrk Bushland Reserve was one of the many projects undertaken by students. In this photograph, David Baker-Gabb shows second year student Petra Szigat how to take the bill measurement of a yellow faced honeyeater.

BOTTOM LEFT: Students at the camp used the Sir Colin MacKenzie Fauna Park as a resource centre for observing animals. Here senior lecturer, Dr John Nelson (left front) talks about kangaroos with Darant Long (left back), Kate Jones, Robert Magrath and the director of the Fauna Park, Mr G. George.

RIGHT: One of the visitors to the camp was Professor Tim Berra (left). He met a young wombat, Tatti, and technical assistant Margaret Thomson and senior technical officer Vince Gallintri. Dr Berra, a Fulbright scholar on leave from Ohio State University is at Monash to carry out a study of the Australian grayling, a fish which was common in streams at the turn of the century. Once known as the "Yarra herring", the grayling is now found in only a handful of Victorian and New South Wales coastal streams.



Symposium looks at 'total' education

While Western societies are spending more on education than at any other time in history, mankind is no better equipped to solve its problems at a personal or social level.

This is the belief of the Helen Vale Foundation which this month is organising a symposium at Monash on 'The Need for Total Education'. The symposium will be held in the Alexander Theatre on April 7 and 8.

Some key figures in education have been lined up to participate in the symposium.

Speakers include Mr S. Desnavi, president of the Islamic Research Association in Bombay; Professor Manning Clark and Dr Frederick Emery, both of the ANU; Dr Anne Silcock, senior lecturer in education at Queensland University; and Mr Stan Dawson, assistant regional director of education in the Knox region.

The symposium will be opened, it is hoped, by the Education Minister, Mr Lindsay Thompson, and the director-general of education, Dr L. Shears will be participating also. Shri Vijayadev Yogendra will chair proceedings.

The symposium program states: "Education has in many ways become mechanical and purely job oriented. While it may assist the individual to earn a living it does little to prepare him in the art of living."

"The institutionalised educational process seems to promote rationality but not insight, knowledge but not wisdom, facts but not understanding."

"The products of this system have little opportunity to understand themselves, to develop their character or reflect on the deeper values of life. Their lack of character development

leaves them emotionally unstable and immature and thus prone to psychosomatic illnesses or 'diseases of lifestyle' which are prevalent in our stressful society."

The program says that the aim of the symposium is to discuss aspects of education in terms of the needs of society now and in the future.

It will discuss the direction of contemporary education; the means of developing a total approach to education; community education, such as parent education and health education; and the education of teachers in the light of the requirements of 'total education.'

'Service to man must be graduates' ideal'

Service to man must be an ideal to which all graduates subscribed, a distinguished medical academic told Monash engineering and medical graduates at the first graduation ceremony of the year last Friday.

Professor Emeritus Sir Lance Townsend, who received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree, said: "Universities produce an elite who become the leaders in the community.

"In doing this we must never forget that we must serve our fellow countrymen after graduation for our education has been provided by them and we can never repay to them the debt which we owe.

"If we are to do this we must have an ambition to achieve the impossible."

Sir Lance continued: "Today is a day when you should take stock. What have you gained from this University?

"Certainly a sense of achievement; this is but the beginning of another chapter in your life. You have acquired a respect for learning and a desire to search for more — you may eventually become a teacher and take part in continuing education spheres.

"You should have acquired a sense of justice as evidenced by your



● Professor Emeritus Sir Lance Townsend (Photo: Melbourne University)

teachers and examiners in their assessment of your potential and achievement.

"You should also have acquired intellectual discipline with intense personal freedom and the ideal of service to man. Service to man must be the great desire of all of us. We must strive

to give service and our ideal must be to achieve the impossible."

Sir Lance told the graduates that Monash University should continue to play a role in their lives.

He said: "We Australians have not developed the close ties with our mother universities such as exist in universities in North America. I hope that this state of affairs will not continue indefinitely for an active alumni organisation is of great benefit to both the University and the graduates."

Sir Lance Townsend has had an impressive career in obstetrics and gynaecology and as Dean of the faculty of Medicine at Melbourne University. He was Deputy Vice-Chancellor there until early this year.

He is perhaps most widely known as co-author of the Syme Townsend Report which mapped the future organisation of health services in Victoria.

He has served on a variety of bodies, including as vice-president of the board of management of the Austin Hospital and as president, vice-chairman and honorary secretary of the Australian Council of the Royal College of Gynaecologists.



New CBA manager

The Monash branch of the CBA has a new manager.

He is Mr Stan Crick who replaces Mr Ron Kerr, newly appointed to the 235 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne branch.

Mr Crick comes to Monash from the bank's Carlton branch. He has had wide banking experience having held appointments in both rural and metropolitan areas.

Mr Crick is a keen golfer and both he and his wife take an active interest in community affairs.

Local experiments in industrial democracy

Considerable experimentation in industrial democracy is now taking place in both private and public sector organisations in Australia despite many factors which have inhibited its development.

This is the claim of two academics — Russell Lansbury and Geoffrey Prideaux — in a new book, *Improving the Quality of Work Life*, published by Longman Cheshire.

Dr Lansbury is a senior lecturer in the department of Administrative Studies at Monash and Mr Prideaux is head of Administrative Studies at RMIT.

The authors say that, unlike some European countries which have enacted changes in company law to facilitate participation in corporate level decision making, Australians have shown little interest in worker-director schemes or co-determination.

The most innovative and far-reaching examples of industrial democracy in Australia have been at shop floor level, they say.

Lansbury and Prideaux write: "There has been a reluctance on the part of governments, even those sympathetic to worker participation, to legislate in this field.

"Furthermore, both employers and trade unions have been suspicious of government involvement and have preferred to work out their own arrangements.

"Participation in decision-making through joint consultation, at either the departmental or organisational level, has been the most prevalent

system of industrial democracy practised in Australia. In most cases, however, the scope of decision-making has been so narrowly defined that it has failed to generate much enthusiasm among any of the parties involved.

"Some of the most innovative and far-reaching examples of industrial democracy in Australia have been at the shop-floor level. In some cases this has involved the restructuring of work to provide the individual worker with greater opportunity to develop skills and competence.

"In other cases it has included the development of semi-autonomous or fully-autonomous work groups which control the organisation of work.

"These changes have been most successful where employees, management and unions have co-operated with each other.

"Nevertheless, some unions are critical of these developments on the grounds that they represent merely a new and more sophisticated form of manipulation by management. Certainly, in most cases, the establishment of autonomous work groups has not challenged managerial prerogatives.

"Genuine self-management seems to occur mainly in small firms where a high level of autonomy among employees already exists."

Lansbury and Prideaux warn that any new institutions which are established to facilitate greater industrial democracy should fit in with the existing industrial culture.



Chinese Academicians visit

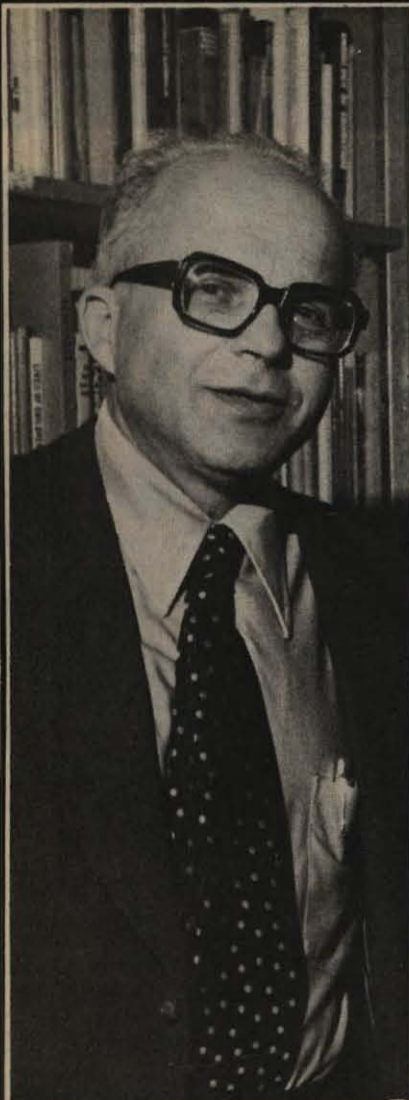
Monash was host last month to members of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, led by Mr Liu Yangqiao, First Vice-Minister of Education and Secretary-General of the Academy.

The party consisted of: Mr Zhan Wu (deputy leader), an agricultural economist; Mr Luo Yuanzheng, an expert in international economics; Mr Li Youyi, an ethnologist and expert in Tibetan affairs; Mr Li Xueqin, an historian, interested in ancient archives; Miss Zhu Hong, interpreter and Shakespeare specialist; and Miss Zhang Yipping, secretary to the delegation.

While at Monash, the group had discussions with the Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor W. A. G. Scott, then broke into groups to visit areas of special interest — education, economics, politics, sociology, geography, history and languages and literature.

● Photograph shows the Dean of Arts, Professor Legge, accompanying the visitors across the campus. Mr Liu is sharing a joke with Professor Legge.

Science being stifled by emotional critics: visitor



● Professor Joseph Ben-David

The progress of science was being stifled by restrictions — review boards, safeguards committees and the like — forced on it by those with emotional, anti-science beliefs.

Professor of sociology and social anthropology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Professor Joseph Ben-David, said this at Monash recently. Professor Ben-David, in Australia as an invited speaker to the Australian Academy of Science Silver Jubilee meeting in Canberra, conducted an Education faculty colloquium on "Science and Society Today."

Speaking before the colloquium, he suggested that there was a degree of hypocrisy on the part of people who supported restrictions on the scientist's autonomy to choose his subject for study, inquire objectively into that subject and publish his findings, yet who fervently defended "freedom of speech".

He said: "Some people are content to allow a committee to stop a scientist's work, or hold it up for half a year or so, yet they take it as a matter of course that there should be freedom of speech and action — that others should be free to publish what they like, even though it may be nonsense or incite violence."

"Let me make it clear, I am not arguing a case for irresponsibility. I

believe there are many valuable social goals. The pursuit of truth in a scientific way is one of them and it should have a fair go among the others."

Professor Ben-David criticised those scientists who were eager to fight scientific issues in the political arena.

Genetic engineering

"Take the case of genetic engineering. Scientists would be doing more to enlighten society if they debated the issue on scientific grounds then presented a considered view to the public rather than getting into the political arena and fighting on political prejudices," he said.

Professor Ben-David, whose research area is the attitudes and policies adopted towards science, said that an emotional, anti-science attitude had taken root world wide in the last 10 or so years.

"Rather than being seen as disinterested inquirers into truth, scientists are being painted as dangerous people who, having committed all sorts of mischief, have to be controlled."

"They are being accused of supporting imperialism, racism, sexism and all the rest."

"Such criticism of science is not new. At the end of the 18th century the Romantics voiced similar criticism; there was a lot of it at the end of the 19th century too."

"There was a tremendous rise in the popularity of anti-science criticism in the 1920s and early '30s by both the Communists and the Nazis. In fact, many of the Nazi writings could be sold to new Left magazines today if their origin were not disclosed."

He said anti-science attitudes often stemmed from the fear of freedom ("I am reminded of Galileo before the Inquisition") and the opposition of some people to objective and rational thought.

Professor Ben-David, as well as working in Israel, is a research associate and visiting professor of sociology at the University of Chicago. He has had the opportunity to observe the higher education scene in many countries.

He said that serious problems were resulting from the halting or slowing down of the growth of universities.

These problems were particularly acute in relation to research, he added.

With fewer students making their way to postgraduate study and fewer academic opportunities for young graduates, there was a worrying lack of new blood to stimulate research.

"It will have a bad effect on the advancement of science worldwide," he predicted.

Professor Ben-David expressed concern that academic standards were being lowered.

He said: "Many countries have a higher fraction of young people in universities than ever before. This is good in that it indicates an extension of opportunity."

"But it also means there are a large number of people in universities who are not very serious about intellectual work or study; the degree structure has adapted itself to accommodate these people."

He said that standards in the study of social sciences had been adversely affected by the student rebellions of the late '60s and early '70s and their aftermath.

"Many ideologically-based debates continue within disciplines which are not consistent with good teaching and research," he said.

Down-to-earth and up-in-the-air



There were two sides to the Orientation Program '79, as the photos above show.

On a down-to-earth note, there was the academic introduction with some 2750 new first year students getting their first taste of university life. The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ray Martin, welcomed the students in the forum on the first morning of orientation and told them: "Above all, society will look to you always to seek the truth and make it known."

On the up-in-the-air side, clubs and societies organised activities to show new students just how diverse life at Monash can be. Photographed above, PhD student in chemistry, John Murby, demonstrated the art of hang gliding during an exhibition day organised by sports and recreation clubs.



'Leo's ideas will live on'

Despite a critical state of health, the late mathematician, Leo Gleeson, had maintained a remarkable output of ideas over the last few years.

A close colleague, Professor Kevin Westfold, said this in an address at Dr Gleeson's funeral service, held in the Religious Centre on February 21.

At the time of his death Dr Gleeson was Reader in applied mathematics at Monash. Aged 48, he died from the residual effects of hepatitis contracted in 1957.

Professor Westfold said: "Leo's

enthusiastic drive and penetrating ideas have their own continuing impetus in the contributions his associates will continue to make."

Dr Gleeson came to Monash in 1961 — the first year the University enrolled students — as the Mathematics department's first research student.

He had just completed his B.Sc. at Melbourne University.

Professor Westfold said: "In his first year as a research student at Monash, Leo took an active and enthusiastic part in teaching mathematics to our first small cohorts of students. He was not only interested in students per se

but consciously saw this activity as an opportunity to ground himself more surely in the mathematical and physical sciences in which he was later to function so effectively."

Dr Gleeson undertook postdoctoral work in the US but returned to Monash in 1968 to work with Professor Westfold as a research fellow. He contributed to work on synchrotron radiation, cosmic-ray physics and the theory of geophysical prospecting by electromagnetic methods.

In his later years Dr Gleeson suffered chronic ill health necessitating long periods in hospital and major surgery.

The critics on our Shakespeare-fest . . .

Play 1: 'Measure for Measure'

Production 'sound and thoughtful'

It is refreshing to find there is not a whiff of an allegorical personage in the Alexander Theatre this week.

This *Measure for Measure* contains no sainted purity nor mysterious holiness — just a decently flustered Duke who keeps hold of the situation only by some desperate and devious improvisation.

The finest moments of a sound and thoughtful production are on that human level, as in the pained, awkward but polite surprise of Escalus and Angelo on finding themselves abandoned to their grave responsibilities by the precipitate departure of the Duke. We get, too, a quite new light on just why it is that the Law has slept in Vienna for the last 19 years. For this is a Duke who speaks of life as an after-dinner sleep with all the weight of long and personal experience.

Oddly Shakespeare's play seems to by-pass its most dramatic possibility. Had Claudio been guilty of rape then a central problem of civilisation would have been sharply raised: the necessity yet the impossibility of justice (judge not that ye be not judged). But Claudio's crime is no offence, and its condemnation merely tyrannous. As a result all the interest at the heart of the play is thrown onto the inner tensions in Angelo and Isabella.

The play: 'Measure for Measure.'
The venue: Alexander Theatre, nightly at 8 p.m. until April 11.
Prices: \$7, students \$3.50, Alex. Theatre supporters \$5.50.
The reviewer is a senior lecturer in English.

But here the production left the interest a bit thin. **John Wood's** Angelo is most convincingly of the social world of the Vienna of 1889 which is the setting director **Malcolm Robertson** has chosen for the play. But we never feel the flesh rise and the accompanying humiliation as Angelo wrestles with temptation.

And **Amanda Muggleton's** Isabella seemed curiously unscathed by what was happening to her. We didn't really feel her being driven both to anguish and censoriousness by the pressures on her. Odd — the Vienna in which the production is set is the Vienna of the young Freud.

Roger Oakley's Lucio is a key to the success — and its limits — of the production. Brilliantly conceived as an urbanely impudent lecher, he moves through Viennese cafe society, serious



Isabella (Amanda Muggleton) meets her imprisoned brother Claudio (Nick Waters)

daily paper in hand, clearly able to hold his own in its intellectual life. But this is a Lucio so consistent in his mocking detachment that we never see him drop his guard. Yet surely a Lucio who does, who is betrayed into sincerity when he speaks to Isabella or about Claudio is the more interesting character? After all only a man capable of moral indignation would have got himself into the fix with the Duke that he does at the end of the play.

The economy and efficient doubling of this production reveal an assured professionalism. **Bruce Kerr's** Escalus is admirable and **Frank Gallacher's** Duke always engaging.

If the desperate remedies of the second half are at times frantic and near-

ly farcical perhaps that is as fair a comment as any on attempts to impersonate divine providence, and demonstrates the irresponsibility of conducting scientific experiments on the living and unwitting.

But the last scene marks a triumphant recovery: its object lesson in human forgiveness is moving and convincing. It restores Isabella, the Duke and Mariana to our sympathy and it does for a moment — since to forgive an Angelo is so much harder than to forgive a Claudio — made us feel the problem of justice.

It's clearly no simple-minded matter of measure for measure.

Richard Pannell

Indoor heated swimming pool proposed for Monash campus

An indoor, heated swimming pool for Monash?

That's the proposal made by Deputy Warden of the Union, **Mr Doug Ellis**, endorsed by the Sports and Recreation Association's executive committee, and currently before the Union's planning and review and finance committees for consideration.

The proposal, contained in a 14-page document detailing recommendations on the type of pool, design features and financing, is being aired among the general Union membership, too, for consideration.

The chief recommendation is this: that a heated indoor pool complex providing for general recreation, and competitive swimming and teaching of swimming (in that order of priority) should be built north of the Recreation Hall.

The cost of establishing the complex — estimated to be about \$800,000 — would be funded primarily from the sale of 24 acres of the Bodley Street property owned by the Union, it has been recommended.

A further recommendation is that the pool be open to the general public at specific times under certain conditions to boost revenue and ensure that its operating costs — estimated to be

\$65,000 a year — not be a heavy drain on the Union fee.

"School and coaching groups clearly provide one source of paying outside users but others should be investigated," the proposal says.

Pool users

Mr Ellis identifies four types of pool users: the "serious" swimmers who wish to swim lengths or widths of the pool; those who are under instruction; those who are "playing" and socialising; and those who wish to use deep water for diving, lifesaving, underwater exercises, water polo and the like.

Meeting demands

He believes it is possible to design a pool to meet most demands.

The proposal he puts forward is for a pool in two sections — a six or eight lane section suitable for training and club level competitive swimming, 25 metres long (rather than the "ideal" 50 metres, for "cost considerations") by

15 to 21 metres wide with a depth from 1 metre to 1.8 metres; and a free form, general use section safe for non-swimmers and beginners.

Mr Ellis says that a pool which also caters for top level competition and water polo should only be considered if funding external to the Union can be obtained for both the capital and recurrent costs.

Mr Ellis suggests that special features such as spa jets and a sauna bath be included. And he suggests a joint effort with the Mechanical Engineering department at Monash to investigate the feasibility of incorporating wave-making equipment in the project.

The heating of the complex will be done by solar panels integrated into the roof structure, he proposes.

Mr Ellis emphasises that if the Union should decide to go ahead with the venture then sufficient money should be made available to ensure that the complex is properly finished and attractive.

"If this is not guaranteed then the project should not be undertaken as the income generated will not be sufficient to avoid a large annual subsidy from Union fees," he concludes.

Future use for past records

The State Library of Victoria has a message for people who have old diaries and letters and for those societies and organisations who have old records and files no longer in use.

The message: tell the State Library about the material before you throw it out. It could be important to historians now, and in the future.

A Library spokesman said old diaries and letters were examples of the kind of correspondence which documented the history of Victoria, and these papers were an important extension of the information found in official records, newspapers and books.

Equally important were the old records of societies and organisations which had shaped the history of the state.

This type of material was collected by the Library so that information was preserved and available to future historians and writers.

Anyone wishing to deposit materials with the Library or wanting further information about the manuscripts collection may contact **John Thompson**, Manuscripts Librarian, on 663 4811 ext. 277 or **Patsy Hardy**, acting field officer, on 663 4811, ext. 341.

A standard to put professionals to shame

A number of years ago Miss Ngaio Marsh, writing with some asperity about the kind of thing she had seen producers do to *Twelfth Night*, had this to say: "There had been star Malvolios and star Violas. There had been remorseless emphasis on a single character or sometimes on a single scene. The words had been trapped in the net of a fantasticated style, lost in a welter of comic goings-on, coarsened by cleverness or stifled by being forced out of their native air. I had seen Andrew wither into a palsied old, Malvolio as a red-nosed comic, and Feste, God save the mark, as bitter as coloquintida or the Fool in *Lear*. I had seen productions with choreographic trimmings and with constructivist backgrounds. I had, however, missed the production on ice skates!"

No concern

I do not think that Tim Scott's recent production of the play with students from the English department would have given her any cause for concern. He had quite clearly and quite successfully heeded her injunction to "examine the play as a whole", and avoided falling into what she calls "the stylistic error of seizing upon a single fashionable aspect of a subtle and delicate work, and forcing it up to a point of emphasis that quite destroys the balance of the production".

Balance there certainly was, and although individual players, especially of the major roles, deserve the highest praise for their performances, the whole production had clearly been thought of, and worked out as, a team effort, each part contributing in its own way to the total success. No gimmicks, no tricks, no eccentricities of speech, acting, or characterisation, but a smooth, beautifully polished production which would put many professionals to shame!

The vagaries of Melbourne's weather forced the first night indoors, but the players showed their affinity with their Elizabethan counterparts by adapting themselves to their new setting and surroundings with the minimum of fuss or confusion. Subsequent performances were in the open air — at the time of writing there are still two evenings to go, but since Melbourne's weather has now decided to behave itself there seems every likelihood that outdoor performances will continue! The setting, in grass, shrubs and trees, was ideal for Tim's purposes, and he made the very best of it. He was able to get away with the minimum of trappings, and I thought his lighting was excellent. Exits and entrances — always tricky in the open air, where actors have plenty of opportunity to get lost backstage! — went admirably smoothly.

It would be impossible to single out individual performances for special praise since, as I suggested earlier, the whole thing was clearly devised as a team effort. The speaking was good throughout, and even people unfamiliar with the text of the play should have had little difficulty in following it.

Right touch

James Ross as Orsino and Joanna Wierzbicki as Olivia brought out very well the right touch of romantic, love-sick adolescence that these characters symbolise. A beautiful performance by the very attractive Helen Pastorini as Viola was well balanced by that of Stuart Rintoul as her twin brother Sebastian, and Tim is to be congratulated on finding a pair who were so uncannily alike! Ian Hamilton's half-bewildered, half-drunken Sir Andrew Aguecheek was the perfect foil to Noel Sheppard's well-padded, more robust Sir Toby Belch. Nurin Veis's Maria was the perfect blend of sauciness in



Tim Scott directs Joanna Wierzbicki (as Olivia) in rehearsal

the presence of the men and humility in the presence of her mistress. Bill Collopy's Feste was superb, whether he was speaking or singing — the ease and speed with which he delivered some very difficult lines without missing a single nuance either in voice or in expression, the swift and smooth changes from levity and jest to a thoughtful melancholy, and the assurance of his singing all added up to brilliance.

Writing about the serious difficulties of presenting Malvolio (and they are serious), Mr R. Ridley once wrote: "He can be presented as a figure proper to comedy, but it is a razor-edge business, and any producer who can produce a justly balanced *Twelfth Night*, in which Malvolio produces the right kind of amusement and evokes the just amount of sympathy, and does not produce the wrong kind of the one or usurp too much of the other, has little to learn about one side at least of

his business." I will say only that for me at least Tim Scott as the producer and Matthew Ricketson as Malvolio fulfilled these requirements admirably.

The other characters and the musicians did all that was required of them, and contributed fully to what was for many of us a totally delightful experience.

The proof of the pudding is in the eating! Although I felt sorry for the many people to whom my secretary, Barbara Calton, had to say night after night that there were no tickets left, here was the basic indication that the play was a success — people came to see it, and an increasing number of other people wanted to see it! No producer could ask for more than that, and Tim, the entire cast, and all who were involved in any way in the production, are to be congratulated warmly.

Arthur Brown

Document outlines grants application procedures — and some points to note

A general guide for Monash researchers applying for grants — whether from ARGC, NH & MRC or other government or private sources — has been issued recently.

The document, prepared by the Assistant Registrar, Mr Bruce Shields, outlines briefly the formal administrative procedures for applying for and accepting a research grant.

It also draws potential applicants' attention to several specific items that they should bear in mind — in relation to budget, publication of findings, patent rights, ethics, scholarships and the like.

The document reminds potential applicants that all grants for research are officially grants to the University which then makes the funds available to the chief investigator in accordance with its established financial and other policies and procedures and taking into account the conditions agreed

upon between the University and the donor.

It states: "While most grants for research are very welcome, and staff are encouraged to use their initiative in seeking them, it is stressed that some might be concerned with topics (germ warfare, to take an extreme example), or involve requirements (exorbitant electricity or space needs, say) or seek to impose conditions (that all patent rights are to be the property of the donor, for example) which would affect the University adversely.

"For these sorts of reasons the University reserves the right to accept or refuse any grant which may be offered and an individual member of staff is not authorised to apply formally for, or to accept, a grant on behalf of the University."

On publication, the guide says: "Publication of research results should in general be the prerogative of the

research worker(s) through the usual channels. It is contrary to the research function of the University to accept grants for research where the control of eventual publication of the research in a learned journal or other appropriate place is solely in the hands of some outside authority.

"Where a grantor demands that nothing be published without his approval, this condition should only be accepted where the University insists upon the qualification that such consent cannot be unreasonably withheld."

On patent rights: "The broad view is that the University reserves the right on patents arising from research by staff or students in order to ensure that they are developed in the public interest."

"The University's view on this should be brought to the attention of potential grantors in all appropriate

cases so that there can be no misapprehension on this point, even should the grantor indicate lack of interest in possible patents.

"Government or semi-government donors are a special case since their policies in this matter are broadly in line with our own. Where such grantors require it, we can agree that they are entitled to an interest in any patentable discoveries, the degree of interest being open to negotiation."

On ethics in experimentation: "Where a project will require experimentation upon living animals or humans, an additional copy of the application must be provided for reference to the relevant University committees charged with overseeing such matters."

Copies of the guide, titled "Applications for Research Grants — General Information," are available from Mrs Lyn Shiels, ext. 3073.

'Miss Julie's' triumphant progress

An experiment in educational drama by a Monash group has been livening up the study of HSC English literature in schools this year.

The group calls itself Understudy and the HSC text it took as its working piece was Strindberg's *Miss Julie*.

But the exercise was more than just a presentation of the play. To Strindberg's harsh and tightly written work the group added scenes to open it up more for the students.

The show had to be mobile and suitable for presentation in most school halls, even in classrooms if no hall was available.

The group went to the Pram Factory and asked Ric Murphett to direct for them. Ric wrote a B.A. thesis on Strindberg for the Monash English department 12 years ago. At the Pram Factory he acts in and directs small-cast plays for intimate small-audience presentation. A mobile show for HSC audiences appealed to him straight away.

He gave his cast an intensive rehearsal schedule, six hours a day, five days a week. Rehearsals normally ran overtime.

He used alienating techniques to focus the actors' attention on movement and facial expression, body

language, grouping, the use of space.

The extra scenes had to be worked up by improvisation — Ric wanted to re-create the mood of the legendary first performance, in 1889, when the title role was played by the author's estranged wife Siri von Essen. He brought in Strindberg as a character, commenting on the actors' playing of their roles, interrupting the performance continually, being thrown out in the end by an enraged directress.

The final product had slanging matches between Strindberg and the actors, a feverish display of Greek dance steps, withering rages from the directress, and a mute bemused stage manager looking on with incredulity.

School audiences loved it. Performances were held in schools all over Melbourne — at Altona, Vermont, Essendon, Mentone, Brighton, Carey Grammar and Preshil, MLC and Strathmore, Dandenong, Waverley, Heidelberg, Collingwood.

The tour wound up at the Union Theatre at Monash late last month. However, its soul goes marching on and everybody who participated is keen to get back into the schools.

"It was an eye-opener, a once-in-a-lifetime experience," said one of the cast.

April 19: Solo recorder recital.

April 26: Romantic vocal music by Brahms, Wolf, Strauss and Berg.

May 3: Clarinet and Saxophone recital by Peter Clinch.

May 10: Flute recital.

New music series starts

Following the success of its free lunchtime concerts last year, the Monash Music department is staging another series this year.

The series, which begins on April 5, will be held in the department's auditorium on the 8th floor, South Wing, Robert Menzies Building. The concerts are scheduled to start at 1.10 p.m.

The concerts will offer a wide range of both Western and non-Western music, reflecting the teaching of the department.

For Western music, a variety of styles and instruments ranging from medieval music to recently composed works of Monash students, from strings to woodwinds, solo recorder to voice, are to be included.

The concerts for first term are: April 5: Medieval music performed on original instruments.

April 12: Choral music for Maundy Thursday: (This concert is in the Religious Centre).

Indonesian 'disco-ball'

The Indonesian keroncong ensemble, Pusaka Nusantara, will present a "Keroncong Ball" at the Monash University Club on Saturday, April 28 at 7.30 p.m.

Tickets for the ball, which will feature live keroncong music, disco music and an Indonesian supper, are \$7.50 single or \$14 a double. Drinks may be purchased at the club bar, and dress is neat and informal.

Pusaka Nusantara was formed in

1976 with the aim of bringing together Indonesians interested in playing keroncong music, which is now the most popular type of music in Indonesia.

The group has already staged successful concerts at the Union and Alexander Theatres on Monash campus.

Tickets may be obtained from Mrs N. Idrus on 221 5035; or at Monash, Mrs Bromage ext. 2231, Mr Zainuddin ext. 2236 or Mr Idrus ext. 3529.

"We discussed the show, at the end, with every audience. They were really involved in it, and we felt we were getting through to them.

"They were very critical. But they were also responsive and accepting. They knew we were not aiming for a straight "Miss Julie". They could see what we were trying to do and what we were deliberately leaving out.

"The audiences were thrilled by the pace and the tension. They picked up the content of the interpolations as well as their slangy aggressive style. They talked ideas all the time. They understood the problems of the play — whether Julie is inherently a weak character or a strong one, how you get class tensions across in a society which denies that they exist."



APRIL DIARY

3-6: RED CROSS MOBILE BLOOD BANK will be visiting Monash University. 10 a.m. — 4 p.m. Arts Assembly Rooms SGO2 & SGO4. Appointments can be made at the Union Desk.

3-6: EXHIBITION — "Jon Molvig — selected works 1948-1968", pres. by Monash Department of Visual Arts. 10 a.m. — 5 p.m. Exhibition Gallery, Menzies Building. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2117.

3-11: PLAY — "Measure for Measure", by William Shakespeare. Presented by the Alexander Theatre Company, directed by Malcolm Robertson. Nightly at 8 p.m. Alex. Theatre. Admission: adults \$7, full-time students \$3.50.

3: ABORIGINAL STUDIES LECTURE — "Traditional Political and Social Structures", by Mrs I.M. White. Pres. by Monash Centre for Research into Aboriginal Affairs. Other lectures in series: April 10 — "Religion and its Reflection in Current Aboriginal Ideology" (Eric Wilmot). April 24 — "Pre-History: Facts and Theories" (Dr Rhys Jones). All at 1 p.m. in Lecture Theatre R6. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3346.

4: ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM — "Jesus and the Art of Bicycle Maintenance", a re-run of an ABC radio program with discussion led by the producer (Terry Lane). Pres. by Monash Department of Environmental Science. Others in series: April 11 — "On the Edge of the Forest", film by E.F. Schumacher. April 18 — "System 6: A Fragile Nest", film produced by the ABC and CSIRO. April 25 — "The Potential of Remote Sensing", by Prof. D. Belcher, Director, Cornell Centre of Aerial Photographic Studies. All at 5 p.m. in Room 137, First Year Physics Building. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2620.

6: ORGAN RECITAL by Gillian Weir. 1.15 p.m. Religious Centre. Admission free.

LECTURE — "The Design of Statistical Experiments. Is pasteurized milk good for you?", by Prof. P.D. Finch. Of interest to Year 11 & 12 students. Pres. by Monash Department of Mathematics. 7 p.m. Lecture Theatre R1. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2550.

6: CONCERT — "A Living Sound" Spectacular, American gospel group. 8 p.m. RBH. Admission: adults \$5; students, pensioners, groups of 20 or more \$4 each; family \$10 (parents and school age children).

7: CONCERT — Sydney String Quartet with Jano Jando, presented by Musica Viva Australia. Works by Arriaga, Wolf, Brahms. 8.15 p.m. RBH. Admission: adults A. Res. \$6, B. Res. \$5; students B. Res. \$3.50.

7-8: SYMPOSIUM — "The Need for Total Education", with leading educationists from Australia and overseas. Pres. by the Helen Vale Foundation. For further information contact Gary Maller, 51 9861.

9: LUNCHTIME CONCERT — Francesca Chan — soprano, Murray Sharp — piano. Works by Copland, Barber, Huang Tzu, Lam, Roussel, Lambert. 1.15 p.m. RBH. Admission free.

11-25: EXHIBITION — "The Florentine Revolution — Teaching exhibition", pres. by Monash Department of Visual Arts. 10 a.m. — 5 p.m. Exhibition Gallery, Menzies Building. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2117.

Understudy's next production has not been decided. Under consideration are a mobile schools workshop of a Brecht play, a reading of poetry from World War I with slides, and a travelling seminar on Sophocles' *Antigone*. Members are eager to make a decision and get back to the schools, however.

20: PUBLIC LECTURE — "Athens in the Middle Ages", by Prof. Robert Brown, Birkbeck College, London. Pres. by Monash Department of Classical Studies. 12 noon. Lecture Theatre R7. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 3250.

ORGAN RECITAL by Douglas Lawrence and Paul Plunkett (trumpet). 1.15 p.m. Religious Centre. Admission free.

LECTURE — "Probability in Theory and Practice", by Prof. W.J. Ewens. Of interest to Year 11 & 12 students. Pres. by Monash Department of Mathematics. 7 p.m. Lecture Theatre R1. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2550.

20-28: MUSICAL — "Yeomen of the Guard", by Gilbert and Sullivan. Presented by the Babirra Players. Nightly at 8 p.m. Alex. Theatre. Admission: adults \$4; students, pensioners, children \$3. Bookings: 509 2470.

Enrolments now open for 1979 Saturday Club Series — a perfect introduction to live theatre for children. Red Series — 5-8 year-olds, Blue Series — 8-13 year-olds.

23: MIGRANT STUDIES SEMINAR — "Immigrant family environment and English language acquisition" by Mr D. Cahill, Monash Faculty of Education. Pres. by Monash Centre for Migrant Studies. 7.30 p.m. Lecture Theatre R3. Admission free. Inquiries: ext. 2925.

LUNCHTIME CONCERT — Windtoria Quintet. Jenny Penny — flute, Joyce Lang — oboe, Marla Swift — clarinet, Peter Marks — horn, Ian Marshall — bassoon. 1.15 p.m. RBH. Admission free.

26: MONASH PARENTS GROUP — luncheon and display of fashion jewellery. 10.30 a.m. RBH. Admission: \$3.50. Ticket secretary Mrs M. Smith, 561 1229.

SEMINAR — "Professional Negligence". Speakers include Mr H. Storey, Attorney-General for the State of Victoria, Mr E.D. Lloyd, Q.C., Prof. P.G. Nash, Monash Dean of Law. Pres. by Monash Law Faculty. 4.15 p.m. Lecture Theatre S3. Fee: (including dinner) \$51. Inquiries: exts. 3321, 3377, 3303.

28: KERONCONG BALL — disco-ball with Keroncong music and Indonesian supper. 7.30 p.m. Monash University Club. Tickets: \$7.50 (single), \$14 (double). Bookings, inquiries: Mrs Idrus, 221 5035.

29: CONCERT — The Melbourne Youth Orchestra presented by The Melbourne Youth Music Council. Conductor — John Hopkins. 2.30 p.m. RBH. Admission: adults \$2.50; children, pensioners 50c.

30: LUNCHTIME CONCERT — James Fulkerson — trombone, Sarah Hopkins — cello. Works by Penderecki, Orton, Hopkins, Fulkerson, Haubenstock-Ramati. 1.15 p.m. RBH. Admission free.

MONASH REPORTER

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Contributions (letters, articles, photos) and suggestions should be addressed to the editor, (ext. 2003) c/- the information office, ground floor, University Offices.