

# Tourism could be the way to go at Monash next year

In a move that could change the nature of the local tourist industry, Monash University will next year introduce Australia's first postgraduate course in tourism.

Students enrolled in the university's new postgraduate diploma in Australian Tourism will be able to choose from subjects ranging from the natural sciences and Australian history to the visual arts — in other words, the cultural and educational aspects of Australian tourism.

Preliminary discussions between course organisers and tourism-related bodies have indicated that graduates will be in considerable demand.

Among employer organisations which have expressed an interest in the program are Qantas, the Victorian Tourist Commission, the Japan Travel Bureau and the Victorian Arts Centre.

According to recent figures, tourism is one of the fastest growing sectors of the Australian economy — its contribution is now equal to the combined contribution of the textile, footwear, clothing and motor vehicle industries.

## Rapid growth

But the increasing popularity of Australia as a tourist destination has created problems for tour companies.

In a submission to the Australian Government Inquiry into Tourism in 1986, the National Tourist Industry Training Committee said: "It is highly unlikely that the training system, given its current resources, will be able to adequately respond to the needs being generated by the industry's rapid growth.

"The problem is not just about numbers to be trained — it is also about developing new training programs for areas such as tour guiding and handling Japanese visitors."

Recent research has shown that many Japanese tourists visiting Australia are interested in the local history, natural history and culture.

With the increasing numbers of Japanese visiting Australia (it has been predicted that 1.5 million could holiday here in 1992), it is not surprising that tour guides with a high competence in the Japanese language and a wide knowledge of Australian studies are in great demand.

One of the features of the new postgraduate diploma will be a subject called Tourism Japanese for students with an undergraduate major in Japanese.

## Awareness

The course, which recently attracted a grant of \$200,000 from the Victorian Education Foundation, represents one of the first curriculum developments of the National Centre for Research and Development in Australian Studies, established at Monash in June this year.

The diploma will be offered by staff from the Faculties of Arts, Science, and Economics and Politics.

At an information session held last month for interested students, the Dean

of the Faculty of Arts, Professor John Hay, said one of the aims of the course would be to identify aspects of distinctiveness about particular regions of Australia.

"The course will provide much more than training in hospitality management — it will create an awareness, an understanding and a consciousness of the area in which we live," he said.

Students in the diploma will be able to select from a range of optional subjects which have a predominantly Australian content, such as Australian history, geography, the visual arts and natural sciences.

The course's two compulsory subjects, Tourism Industry and Management, and Field Interpretation, will provide students with the necessary practical skills to prepare them for employment in the tourist industry.

Tourism Industry and Management, which will be offered by the Faculty of Economics and Politics, will give an overview of the industry's structure.

According to Dr Robin Shaw of the Graduate School of Management, the subject will examine the operation of tourism institutions, from the running of an airline to the managing of an hotel.

The second core subject, Field Interpretation, offered by the departments of Zoology and Botany, has been designed to develop skills in the presentation of tourism products such as guided tours.

Dr Terry O'Brien of the department of Botany told the information session that Field Interpretation would teach students the skills involved in packaging a tour, as well as how to use the educational materials at their disposal.



• Professor Hay.

# MONASH REPORTER



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• Michael Kmit's *The Evangelist John Mark*, winner of the 1953 Blake Prize, is on view at the Monash University Gallery until 15 October as part of the *Body and Soul* exhibition. See story page 7.

## Why research at all?

The Federal Government's decision to give the Australian Research Council the power to set national research priorities has sparked a lively debate in academic circles.

And now politicians and university policy-makers are beginning to question the issue of research itself.

Should the government decide research priorities or is this a job for the academics? Are the social sciences worth researching or should we emphasise the technologies?

And perhaps the most implausible: Why research at all?

In an attempt to restore some balance to the debate, the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee has urged the media to examine the current state of research in Australia by going directly to the laboratories and the libraries.

Under the slogan 'If you think research is unnecessary, try guesswork', a recent press release from the AVCC says "all too often the practitioners are ignored by the media, forgotten in the debate".

The release goes on to say that the researchers "all have stories to tell — not just of their own projects, but of the

joy of research and the delights of discovery. Some of them are concerned about life after the White Paper but others are excited by the opportunities".

In an accompanying set of profiles of university researchers willing to discuss their projects with the press, Professor Peter Singer, the director of the Centre for Human Bioethics at Monash, summarised his thoughts on the research debate.

"I am concerned that the character of our universities may be changed by the Dawkins initiatives and that they may lead to an over-emphasis on what serves the nation's economic needs, to the exclusion of other values.

"We must avoid a narrow definition of what is good for the nation. It is a mistake to define this solely in economic terms and thus to reduce the significance of contributions to the cultural, intellectual and ethical life of the community."



## A symposium for your birthday?

Professor Noel Murray, Foundation Professor and Chairman of the Department of Civil Engineering at Monash, will celebrate his 60th birthday on November 5.

As a tribute to his role in building up from scratch one of the country's leading teaching and research schools in civil engineering and in recognition of his contributions to the international literature on structural engineering, his colleagues are organising a two-day symposium entitled *Thin-Walled Structures: Developments in Theory and Practice*.

Guest lecturers will be Professor Patrick Dowling, Imperial College, London; Professor Norman Jones, The University of Liverpool; Professor Georg Thierauf, Universitat Gesamthochschule Essen; Professor Alastair Walker, The University of Surrey.

These four distinguished engineers and academics have collaborated with Noel Murray on a range of research projects and are looking forward to renewing their relationships.

They will be supported at the symposium by 16 Australian authors, or groups of joint authors, all with established expertise in the field of thin-walled structure analysis, design or construction.

Contributions to the symposium will be published in the journal *Thin-Walled Structures*, followed by a hardcover bound volume for international distribution.

In addition to more conventional thin-walled structures the special class of crashworthy structures will be treated in some detail.

The symposium will be held on Thursday and Friday, 3 and 4 November (at the end of Melbourne Cup week) with a celebratory dinner on Thursday evening.

Anyone not attending the symposium may book separately for the dinner, to be held in the Banquet Room, Union Building (6.30 pm for 7 pm), at a cost of \$30 per head. The guest speaker will be the Dean of Engineering, Professor Peter Darvall.

Inquiries about the dinner should be directed to the Centre for Continuing Education, ext. 4718, 4704 or 4716.

Details of the symposium can be obtained from Associate Professor Ian Donald, department of Civil Engineering, on ext 4954.

● As part of their preparation for the local retail world, executives of a new Japanese department store opening in Melbourne in 1991 are receiving English language training in the Monash Faculty of Education. When the Daimaru store opens at the Melbourne Central complex it will be the largest of the company's 10 international outlets. Daimaru is currently Japan's second biggest retailer. Photographed with Daimaru staff during a recent visit to the university are (back row, second from left) Professor Jiri Neustupny, chairman of the department of Japanese Studies, (front row, left) Ms Helen Marriott, senior lecturer in Japanese, Ms Cathy Jenkins, tutor in the Faculty of Education, (second from right) Mrs Robyn Kindler, director of the English Language Teaching Centre, and Professor Lance Endersbee, Pro-Vice-Chancellor. Photo — Richard Crompton.

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The Japanese Studies Centre at Monash will hold a public seminar on 26 October at 7.30pm, when the speaker will be Ms Sandra Wilson, a lecturer in history at La Trobe University.

Ms Wilson will be speaking on *People and politics in Japan in the 1930s*.

## Session on SIDS

The Centre for Reproductive Biology, with researchers from the university and Monash Medical Centre, are presenting a public information session on cot death this month.

Monash University and Monash Medical Centre are currently the centres of Australian research into Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, which last year claimed the lives of 700 babies in Victoria.

Factors which increase the risk of cot death, and why it hits one family and not another are some of the issues which will be considered at the meeting.

Recent research findings will also be presented.

The information session will be held in the Main Lecture Theatre, Monash Medical Centre, at 7 pm on Thursday 20 October. Cost is \$15.

Further details and registration information can be obtained from Ms Patricia Rogers of the Centre for Reproductive Biology, telephone 565 2765.



● Professor Murray.

## Asian immigration

To provide some facts with which to sift the rhetoric, the Centre for Migrant and Intercultural Studies and the Asian-Australian Resource Centre has organised a one-day conference on Asian Immigration for Saturday 8 October in the Rotunda Theatre (R3).

Eleven experts from both centres will try to put the present debate in context and will discuss the Asian experience in Australia. They include the chairman of History, Professor Merle Ricklefs and representatives from the Chinese, Indo-Chinese and Filipino communities.

Registration will take place between 9 and 10 am and the conference will conclude at 6 pm. For further information, contact Radha Rasmussen on 565 2958 or Chooi Hon Ho on 565 2680.

## The word on gender

A university publication containing everything you always wanted to know about gender-inclusive language (but were afraid to ask) was launched last month.

The authors of *Language Guidelines*, members of a working party attached to the Equal Opportunity Advisory Committee, believe the university's commitment to equal opportunity should be evident in official Monash publications

and communications.

Pronouns, titles and salutations, occupational titles and roles, language use for minority groups and visual illustrations are all put under the gender-neutral microscope in the new publication.

Copies of *Language Guidelines* may be obtained by contacting Dr Margaret James on ext. 4090, or Ms Rosemary Bowen on ext. 4084.

## Workshops for women

A series of workshops held recently by the Centre for Migrant and Intercultural Studies provided the opportunity for second-generation women of Greek origin to share their experiences of life in Australia.

The workshops, opened by the Victorian Minister for Ethnic Affairs, Mr Peter Spyker, were part of the Mediterranean Women's Program co-ordinated by Ms Srebrenka Kunek, a Ph.D student in the centre.

The 76 women at the conference discussed their lives and what it meant for them to be Greek-Australians.

One of the outcomes of the workshops was the establishment of a network connecting women of similar experience in the community, academe, bureaucracy and the government.

Participants at the workshops were also informed of the work of feminists in their country of origin.

A report from the workshops will be launched later this month by Senator Margaret Reynolds, the Minister advising the Prime Minister on women's affairs and Minister for Local Government.



● A guest speaker at a recent meeting of the Centre for Women's Studies was Dr Robyn Rowland, director of Deakin University's Women's Studies Institute, who gave a feminist analysis of reproductive technology to an audience in the Gallery Theatre.

## Ethics in review

The Centre for Human Bioethics will host a conference on Tuesday 15 November on the topic, *Can Ethics Be Done By Committee?*

The conference, to be held at the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, will look at the role, methods and nature of institutional ethics committees.

The registration fee of \$60 (\$45 for associates of the centre, \$30 full-time students and unemployed) includes lunch.

Inquiries should be directed to the centre on ext. 4279.

# New centre to tackle costly rust problem

The fight against the nation's \$3000 million problem of corrosion took a significant step forward last month with the opening of the new Australasian Corrosion Centre (ACC).

The centre, a direct outcome of studies undertaken at Monash in 1981, was opened by the Deputy Premier and Minister for Industry, Technology and Resources, Mr Robert Fordham.

Associate Professor Brian Cherry, of the Monash department of Materials Engineering, who conducted the feasibility studies in the early '80s, said that as a result of those inquiries, and approaches from the Australasian Corrosion Association, the Victorian Department of Industry, Technology and Resources had agreed to provide seed funding amounting to \$549,500 over five years to establish the ACC.

The centre, with a staff of three, occupies temporary quarters in the CSIRO Division of Materials Science and Technology in Normanby Road, close to the university campus.

Its aim is to educate industry and consumers on corrosion prevention strategies.

Associate Professor Cherry says: "One of its major objectives is to change the community's attitude to the

slow and highly destructive process of corrosion.

"It will produce specialised publications which focus on corrosion solutions in the factory, the building site, the home, in motor vehicles and in marine situations.

"Corrosion protection and prevention technology has been available for years in the form of better design, correct materials, specifications, protective coatings, inhibitors and cathodic protection. The difficulty has been that engineers and chemists have not had ready access to good hands-on corrosion control information.

"The ACC aims to remedy that," says Professor Cherry.

Services offered by the ACC include:

- Several industry courses, including a certificate course for coating inspectors.
- Co-ordination of national research efforts into corrosion prevention.
- Investigation of failures attributable to corrosion.
- Provision of a 24-hour consulting and referral service.



● Julie Fraser's picture shows the Deputy Premier, Mr Fordham (second from left), discussing the problems of corrosion in concrete reinforcing bars during a tour of the department of Materials Engineering. With him, from left, are the Dean of Engineering, Professor Peter Darvall, postgraduate student Marita Allan, and Associate Professor Brian Cherry.

## Ship for the World not all plain sailing

Two students in the department of Japanese Studies will be cruising the Pacific early next year, thanks to a youth program sponsored by the Japanese Government.

Ms Janice Alexander and Ms Carolyn Mei Ramsay will be among 100 Japanese and 145 other students taking part in the 'Ship for the World Youth Program', which will visit Mexico, Peru, Venezuela, Ecuador, Columbia and Hawaii between January and March.

The trip will not be all plain sailing — a major feature of the two-month cruise will be a series of lectures, discussions and special activities.

Ms Alexander, a fourth year student of Japanese, and Ms Ramsay, a second year student, are among 10 Australians selected for the international crew.

The Victorian representatives were chosen by a selection committee established by Monash's Japanese Studies Centre.

According to the Committee's convener, Ms Helen Marriott, applications from Monash female students were of such a high standard the committee decided to invite three students from the Japanese Studies Department to take part in the final selection.

Unfortunately, said Ms Marriott, the performance of the Monash male applicants was not as notable — not a single one made it through to the preliminary round.



● Janice Alexander.

Ms Alexander was also successful in a competition sponsored by the Consulate-General of Japan, when last month she came second in the national final of the 19th Annual Japanese Language Speech Contest.

## Stock up on trivia

Students with an eye to a free holiday in Tasmania next year should already be stocking up on trivia, says David King, a member of the Monash team which recently took part in the ABC's *University Challenge*.

The televised competition provides contestants with round-trip airline tickets to Hobart, accommodation at the University of Tasmania, and meals.

In exchange, they spend their days in the studios either competing or making up numbers in the audience.

Their evenings are free and fun, says Mr King, with "much intervarsity revelry and generous donations to the Tasmanian economy through the nearby casino".

Sadly, Monash was knocked out of this year's competition fairly early.

As one of 10 chosen teams taking part, it had an exciting win first against Macquarie University, but lost the second game to the University of Sydney.

Mr King recommended that future players brush up on current affairs and Australian history.

"Australian questions were more prominent this year and there were questions about new movies," he said.

"But as well as needing a good general knowledge, we found that speed on the buzzer was very important."

The team members were Emma Watson and David Klempfner (Arts), Marcus Brumer (Ecops), David King (Science). They were accompanied by non-playing captain-coach Warren Batchelor, a member of the Monash team in last year's competition.

"For those who hadn't taken part in a television program before, it was a revealing experience," said Mr King.

"Retakes were frequent and one poor competitor, whose team was being heavily beaten, had to give the same wrong answer four times before the audio was perfect."

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The *University Challenge* series is being televised on Monday nights. It began on 19 September.

## Learning more about school policy

A new degree that links educational policy and administration will help overcome the increasing complexities of educational management, says Dr Lawrie Angus of the Monash Faculty of Education.

The Master of Educational Policy and Administration degree, currently awaiting final approval from VPSEC, is one of the faculty's responses to the changing requirements of teachers, administrators and policy-makers.

An extensive feasibility study carried out in 1987 by Dr Angus and colleagues, Dr Judith Chapman and Mrs Kirsty Williamson, found that changes in school administration and the gradual devolution of authority highlighted a need for specialised training in policy and administration.

"There is an increasing need to see educational management within a social, economic and cultural context, which includes a broad range of policy issues such as gender, integration and

social justice," Dr Angus said.

"This new course will provide various theoretical positions and deal with practical administrative problems, as well as help people to develop a more coherent view of educational policies."

Dr Angus believes the course will also assist school-level decision-makers in formulating school policies in a climate of changing community expectations.

Mr Mick O'Brien, a former principal of Parkdale High School and now a member of staff at the Centre for Continuing Education, said that maintaining a balance between government policy and the wishes of school councils was often a difficult task.

"There are many groups on a council and all have a say in the formation of school policy, yet principals have to administer a policy within the Ministry of Education guidelines," Mr O'Brien said.

"Policy formation and good administration must go hand in hand, and this

course will give practitioners in the field an opportunity to see how closely the two are intertwined."

He said the course would also prove useful for people involved in determining policy at the ministry level.

"In recent years it has become clear that people at the top need to learn a lot more about what is going on in schools.

"The location of the ministry in the Rialto 'ivory tower' tends to typify the attitude of some administrators to people at the 'chalk face'."

The new course may be taken on either a full-time or part-time basis — full-time students will be expected to complete the course in two years, and part-time students in four years.

A broad choice of units will be offered, from which students will be encouraged to specialise in the major areas of curriculum, school administration, educational policy, and social and administrative theory.

# Poetry day forges links with Slavs

A competition established at Monash on behalf of the Slavic communities is keeping Slavic poetry alive for more than 300 Victorian schoolchildren.

The children, from about 20 ethnic schools representing Croatian, Macedonian and Serbian groups, gave recitations during the recent Slavic Poetry Day at the university.

All received participation certificates and more than 60 were awarded book prizes by the patron of the competition, Mrs Toni Logan, who represented the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Logan.

Speakers at the prize-giving ceremony included Mr Ian Adams, assistant general manager of the School Programs Branch, Victorian Ministry of Education, and the Consul-General of Yugoslavia, Mr Nikola Nesovski.

There was also an address by three International Teacher Fellows from Yugoslavia — Ms Acija Alfirovic, Mrs Sofija Mitreva and Mr Milovan Rapajic.

## Potential

The competition is held under the auspices of the department of Slavic Languages, whose acting chairman, Dr Millicent Vladiv, said: "The massive organisational effort was worthwhile and necessary as an extension activity of the university.

"The Monash coat of arms appears on the participation certificates, helping to establish the university as a place with a particular strength in the Slavic community languages," she said.

"The student potential is considerable and through functions such as these it can be mobilised.

"The competition is such that any number of other communities can be incorporated in the future and we hope the Polish community will be able to join in next year."

The Slavic Poetry Day is modelled along the lines of the Goethe Prize, Pushkin Prize and Alliance Francaise poetry competitions, which are already established in the Victorian school system.

This year's major prizes were presented in the names of well-known poets Dobrisa Cesaric (Croatia), Braka Miladinovci (Macedonia) and Vuk Stefanovic Kradzic (Serbia).

There are about 20 schools in Victoria servicing the language maintenance needs of the Croatian, Macedonian and Serbian communities, Dr Vladiv says.

One of these is the Saturday School of Languages run by the Victorian Education Department as a major supplementary outlet for children with an ethnic language background.

It allows them to study the language of their home culture outside normal school hours, but within the normal school curriculum.

The department of Slavic Languages at Monash provides expertise in the final secondary examination of a great majority of students involved in the competition through the VPSEC Panel of Examiners for Year 12 Serbo-Croatian Group I subject.



● Dr Millicent Vladiv, acting chairman of the department of Slavic Languages, Mrs Toni Logan, Patron of the Monash Slavic Poetry Day, and Ms Ivanka Petrovska, teacher, who helped to organise the competition.



● "The old world is dead and the new world is struggling to be born." Not an aphorism from a revolutionary tract, but an accurate description of the current situation in the Soviet Union, according to Professor Bohdan Krawchenko, director of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies. Professor Krawchenko was speaking at a recent seminar at Monash as guest of the department of Slavic Languages. An expert on the issue of nationalities in the USSR, he said Soviet society had never experienced such dynamism, nor its people such a degree of freedom of expression. He said it was significant that there was no serious political figure in the Soviet Union opposing the changes.

The results of last week's election might have been vastly different if we'd had this poem in time:

## Election guide for the newly naturalised

### Option A

We stand for Christian charity,  
For mateship and for fair goes,  
For levelling disparity,  
For pensions when the hair goes.  
And, if we find a millionaire  
Has now become our neighbour,  
We love him too and let him share  
The charity of Labour.

### Option B

'Liberal' means 'Lefty' in the U. S. A.,  
In Britain it means 'somewhere in the middle',  
Here it means the Party God intended to hold sway,  
If others get elected it's a fiddle.

### Option C

Greeting Landed Privilege the tongue takes on a civil edge,  
The silver tail conceals a heart of gold.  
Steadfast to Queen Victoria, we Nationals will give a pledge:  
We cherish still the views She used to hold.

### Option D

Our Party was, for those who mock,  
A chip off the old Liberal block,  
But now, of those dull ties bereft,  
We outflank Labour on the Left,  
For we, with artful statesmanship,  
Have learned to block off that old Chipp.

### Dissident

Tweedledum and Tweedledee:  
Options are as normal.  
I, although they wheedle me,  
Staunchly vote informal.

Hector Monro

## Geography display marks 25 years

Monash geographers are holding a small exhibition of selected books and monographs by past and present teaching staff as a tribute to 25 years of geography at the university.

The exhibition, on view in the Main Library until 26 October, will focus on environmental and developmental issues in Australia and neighboring regions.

According to the acting chairman of the Geography Department, Dr Joe Powell, the display is representative of the work carried out at one of the largest and most respected geography teaching centres in Australia.

Accompanying the display is an exhibition of recent British scientific literature on geography, presented by the British Council and the Royal Society.

This display of 400 books and journals, which was first shown in Australia at the 26th Congress of the International Geographical Union in Sydney last August, will be on view to the general public at only two Australian universities — Monash and the University of Queensland.

More than 2000 delegates and visitors from 40 countries attended the congress in Sydney, the first time the four-yearly gathering of world geographers has been held in Australia.

Several Monash geographers gave papers and convened conferences at both the congress and an associated series of symposia held throughout Australia, New Zealand and Southeast Asia. Dr Powell gave a plenary address at the Sydney meeting.



## Concert Hall venue for management conference

A management conference organised by Dr Mike Knowles of the Graduate School of Management attracted more than 320 local and interstate delegates to the Melbourne Concert Hall last month.

Distinguished speakers from Australia, Great Britain, West Germany, China and Japan and the United States covered a variety of management-related issues against a backdrop of the work of Elton Mayo, an Australian who pioneered organisational psychology in the 1920s.

Among the speakers at *Managers of Tomorrow* was Dr Anna Bodi (pictured above), a lecturer in the department of Administrative Studies at Monash.

# The Herald breaks new ground

Two of Melbourne's leading print media figures broke new ground last month when they spoke at an informal information session in the Monash University Club.

They were *The Herald* editor-in-chief Eric Beecher, and former managing director of *The Age* Ranald Macdonald, currently a media commentator and journalism lecturer. They are pictured here with the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mal Logan.

The topic of the visitors' talk was "The declining power of the written word, and how *The Herald* is fighting it".

Earlier, *The Herald* had sponsored a series of events in the Union, including an exhibition of photographs and historic front pages, and a lunchtime concert.



## Big demand for course information

Visitors to the Monash stand at the Young Australian Expo in the Exhibition Buildings kept the university's photocopiers running hot. More than 14,000 items of information about the university, including 4000 copies of the prospectus, were given to people inquiring about courses at Monash. Describing the display as 'very successful', the deputy director of Careers and Appointments, Mr Brian Barwood, said invaluable assistance was provided by the academic and administration staff who operated the stand for 11 hours each day during the week-long exhibition.

# Twinning scheme stands up to inspection

Monash University's 'twinning arrangement' with Malaysia's Sunway College "appears to be working very well indeed", said the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Logan, after a recent visit to Kuala Lumpur.

"We were all impressed by the dedication of the Sunway staff and by the enthusiasm and performance of the students," Professor Logan said.

Sunway College has 17 students enrolled in the Faculty of Economics and Politics at present, and it is expected to offer the first year of the Bachelor of Engineering program in 1989.

Under the agreement with Monash, students from Malaysia and nearby regions are enrolled in their first year at the college, and complete their courses at the university on a full-fee paying basis.

The twinning arrangement gives the 'host' university full control over enrolment procedures, course content, teaching materials and assessment.

The first meeting of Sunway College's Academic Advisory Committee was held in Kuala Lumpur in August. Pictured at the meeting are, second from left, the Dean of Economics and Politics, Professor Gus Sinclair, the Registrar, Mr Tony Pritchard, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mal Logan (centre), and, third from right, the Dean of Engineering, Professor Peter Darvall.



# A cock-or-hen-and-bull-or-cow story

I enclose an unsolicited review of the pamphlet called *Language Guidelines* which has just been issued by the Equal Opportunity Advisory Committee.

Many an emancipated feminist must be glad to lend an ear to the university's Equal Opportunity Advisory Committee. The committee has now produced a silk purse.

It is a very handsome purse, full of arguments to confound the porcine prejudices of ordinary discriminatory language. It is a handsome fourteen-page pamphlet with the words 'Monash University' and a big university crest on the front, well calculated to make clear to the recalcitrant that the contents are All Very Official and not to be ignored.

Further, the cover is in the Monash turquoise formerly declared bad for our 'corporate image' but now restored (*Sound*, 26-88). Very significant, this. It supports the inference that the real reason for the rejection of the Vice-Chancellor's blue is its sexist significance — blue for a boy.

## No draking

There is no ducking or draking the fact: if any proponent of old-fashioned standard English tries to ignore the juggernaut of Non-discriminatory Language that is trundling inexorably towards him or her, this pamphlet signals that before he or she can say Jill or Jack Robinson, he or she will find that his or her goose or gander has been well and truly cooked for him or her.

The authors launch their attack with finesse. Early pages coax the reader gently to recognise the advantages of 'gender-inclusive language', and then they give lists of expressions which are to be avoided. Each example is accompanied by non-discriminatory variants which are suggested for consideration.

The unreconstructed reactionaries may cavil, raising all sorts of trifling criticisms that merely expose their petty pedantry for the pathetic thing it is. They may pretend to wonder what is wrong with expressions like 'man and wife' or 'cleaning lady'. They may profess to be confused when they are told that a sentence like "All men are created equal" errs in making women invisible, while 'usherette' and 'lady doctor' err in making them too visible.

They may even object that many of the suggested recommended alternatives to discriminatory language do not bear scrutiny as equivalents to the expressions stigmatised. 'Hours' and 'working hours' are dangerously vague as substitutes for 'man-hours', they may bleat, and to 'answer the telephone' is not at all the same thing as to 'man' it. ("I've been answering the telephone all morning, but nobody rang," said the chair, sinking exhaustedly into a chair. "Really, it's a dog's (or bitch's) life.")

But of course such quibbling is missing the point: the real purpose of these numerous examples is to soften up and confuse. It is all part of the thought remoulding that must go on before the reactionaries can function as respectable members of society.

Thus, anybody contemplating writing a book called *The Archaeology of Early Man* is enjoined to reject this title in favor of something like *The Archaeology of Early Human Origins* (p.11).

Then, while he is puzzling desperately over what may be the possible meaning of **middle** or **late** human origins, he is vulnerable to the swift succession of hammer blows that the authors administer as they demonstrate with case after case that prejudice and discrimination lurk in the shadow of every stock phrase, every carelessly expressed

thought, every innocent-looking epithet.

For that is the real point — there are more important things to worry about than such trivia as grammar or precision of meaning. Indeed, if we are to be really serious about Non-discrimination, every sentence is a minefield.

There is almost no subject that is not riddled with pitfalls. People must be referred to only by the terms that they prefer, and "the careful editor or author must become sensitive to what the groups described prefer" (p.12). Thus, of course, 'the disabled' is to be avoided; we must say 'people with disabilities'. Aborigines should be called 'Koories' if they live in the south-eastern states (*ibid.*), and if they live elsewhere no doubt it is up to us to find out what they like to be called there.

I would like to suggest an extension of this principle. The people of Bharata, Chung-kuo, Sverige, Magyarország, Suomi, Sakartvelo and so forth would surely like to have their countries properly so called. If not, they can be persuaded to do so by a swift educational campaign mistressminded by the Monash Equal Opportunity Advisory Committee. It should then be no great task to rid the English language of such old-fashioned racist words as 'India', 'China', 'Sweden' and all the rest.

Having established the majestic pervasiveness of Non-discriminatory Language, the authors warn us solemnly that it should be used, not only in all university forms, papers, student reading, reports and so forth, but in

speaking as well, "especially in formal settings such as lectures, meetings and seminars (p.13). How will the practitioners of old-fashioned standard English cope with that? With a bit of luck, they will soon be reduced to gibbering wrecks. (*Quem dea vult perdere, etcetera.*)

## Koala

But there is more! The authors ram or ewe home their advantage with the injunction that, in all illustrations to guides, handbooks or other documents, "care should be taken to ensure that men and women are represented and that both shown [*sic*] in positions of authority" (p.12). That's really socking or pantyhosing it to them, baby! But why stop there?

I suggest that every photograph in a Monash publication should, to be completely non-discriminatory, include 2.74 per cent of an Asian and 0.13 per cent of an Aboriginal. The fractions could be handled by having people lean elegantly into the side of the picture, showing parts of their faces.

Further, I propose that every photograph should include a koala (as a representative of an endangered species), and in due course we should make a point of having an obligatory whale in the background. This project could be monitored by a new unit to be set up by the Vice-Chancellor. The university can well afford to fund such meritorious programmes, Q.E.D.

Of course, with the publication of this pamphlet, our enemies may be roused. They may attack us with shafts of ridicule; they may deploy treacherous



weapons like a knowledge of grammar. They may mutter that a committee cannot legislate for English usage, or some such cock-or-hen-and-bull-or-cow story.

Against their perfidious counter-attacks we must hold up the shield of rectitude (Whoops! Sorry, left-handers, I should have said 'rectitude or sinisterity'). We shall thwart their knavish and puerile schemings (don't miss the Affirmative Action significance of those words 'knavish' and 'puerile!'), their sinister (or rectitudinous) subterfuges. And we shall persevere unto victory.

As the authors say — it is their last word — "The Guidelines and their implementation will be reviewed by the Equal Opportunity Advisory Committee in 1989" (p.13). "Implementation"! "Reviewed"! The writing is on the wall. Before long, the usages recommended by this excellent little personal will be absolutely personatory.

The message will not be lost on the diehards. One night, as they lie fearfully in their beds, they will hear the tramp, tramp of big black boots as the Commissioners of Equal Opportunity come to wrinkle them out. That'll give them nightstallions! Soon we shall attain the promised land

... where every prospect pleases,  
And only 'man' is vile.

Ian Mabbett  
History

## This makes education herstory

Over the years conventional bibliographies have largely ignored the history of education for Australian women.

So much so that when the subject 'History of Education for Women' was introduced in the Faculty of Education in 1975, teaching staff had difficulty producing an adequate reading guide.

But now this area of study has its own comprehensive survey of historical resources and research with the publication of *Gladly Would They Learn and Gladly Teach*, compiled by Dr Ailsa

Zainu'ddin and Dr Marion Amies, with the assistance of Mrs Kirsty Williamson.

Since 1975, research into the history of education for women has produced an abundance of source material. According to Dr Zainu'ddin, a senior lecturer in the Faculty of Education and founder of the History of Education for Women courses, the only problems encountered in the book's compilation were the constraints of time, space and content.

*Gladly Would They Learn and Gladly Teach* comprises three bibliographies: select British background; historiography; and Australian sources.

The extensive Australian bibliography, which provides background for the history of education and the history of women, is divided into a number of sections, including histories of schools, home education, early childhood education, sex education, and autobiographies and reminiscences.

*Gladly Would They Learn and Gladly Teach* (available from the general office in the Faculty of Education at \$12 a copy) was published with the assistance of the Monash University Publications Committee.

## Monash Reporter

The next issue will be the annual "Graduates' Special", to be published on Wednesday, 9 November.

Copy deadline is 21 October, but earlier copy would be appreciated.

Contributions (letters, photos) and suggestions should be addressed to the editor, Lisa Kelly, Information Office, University Offices (ext. 2085).



• 'The graces' — eurhythmics class at Melbourne Teachers Training College, 1922.

# Brilliant sense of color and composition

The work of an artist who "brought some elusive soul to the body of late 1950s art in Sydney" provides the focus for a new exhibition at the University Gallery.

*Body and Soul*, at the gallery until 15 October, features the work of the late Michael Kmit, a Ukrainian-born painter who derived his inspiration from traditional Slavic folk-art forms and the Byzantine icon.

Migrating to Sydney from Austria in 1949, Kmit's brilliant sense of color and composition found him immediate acclaim in his adopted country.

In 1953 he was awarded the prestigious Blake Prize for religious painting for *The Evangelist John Mark*, now in the Art Gallery of New South Wales and included in *Body and Soul*.

There followed a succession of prizes through the 1950s, including the 1954 Perth Prize, the 1956 Darcy Memorial Prize and the 1957 Sulman Prize.

A nine-year absence from Australia accompanied by a change in the artistic climate led to relative obscurity in his later years, although he continued to exhibit until his death in 1981.

Michael Kmit is represented in the exhibition by 20 figurative and abstract works covering the years from 1949 to 1968.

Among the other artists in *Body and Soul* are Asher Bilu, Leonard French, Donald Laycock, Elwynn Lynn, Sidney Nolan and Fred Williams.

The exhibition, initiated by Dr Marko Pavlyshyn, a lecturer in the department of Slavic Languages, has been arranged to commemorate the millennium of Christianity in Ukraine. Dr Pavlyshyn also contributed a biographical sketch of Kmit to the exhibition catalogue.



● Mrs Norma Kmit pictured beside her late husband's *Self Portrait* (1954). Photo — John Clark.



## Thesis-inspired paintings on show

*A Semantic of Colors* was the title of an unusual exhibition of paintings by Ma Aurora Keon held at the Arts and Crafts Centre.

The works are a visual dimension to Mrs Keon's Politics department doctoral thesis on the language, culture and politics of a grouping of Philippine mountain people.

They were painted in some two months following completion of the thesis.

Art historian and critic Richard Haese described the paintings as 'a refreshingly direct and vital expression of feeling', with 'a graphic spontaneity and boldness . . . marked by a strong sense of an authentic and articulate sensibility', and showing 'many parallels with the more gestural art of Europe and America, as well as . . . Eastern calligraphy'.

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## 'Serious reservations' on graduate tax

Members of the Australian University Graduate Conference have expressed serious reservations about the graduate tax.

They say that while the principle of graduates having to meet some of the cost of their education is a reasonable one, the Tertiary Contribution Scheme as outlined "contains anomalies and injustices in its application".

They have called upon the government to achieve a system of contributions without resorting to the graduate tax, "bearing in mind that this balance has been achieved in the past with less cost and pain".

The AUGC meets each year to discuss issues of importance to tertiary education. It is made up of representatives from graduate bodies at most Australian universities.

Recommendations about the graduate tax and about general trends in higher education were made at this year's meet-

ing, the 22nd, held recently at the University of Western Australia and focusing on the Dawkins "White Paper".

In a press release, the AUGC's executive secretary, Mr Peter Andersen, said the meeting had acknowledged "that the government is entitled — despite its lack of constitutional power — to press for changes in educational policy".

But the meeting had declared itself "entirely opposed to State direction of existing processes to achieve these aims", and noted "with considerable pleasure the unequivocal and public support of the Hon. John Dawkins for this view".

Mr Andersen said the meeting had welcomed the government's commitment to increasing the allocation of the Gross Domestic Product to higher education to 1.06 per cent, and asked that the process of allocation be set out in detail.

It had noted "with some concern"

that the allocation of increased funding would be the responsibility of bodies outside the universities "with corresponding risks to the teaching of universities and research conducted within them".

The AUGC also agreed with the need to increase retention rates at schools and to encourage members of lower socio-economic and other disadvantaged groups to participate in tertiary education, said Mr Andersen.

"However, it considers that there is a need for research to determine how best this is to be done, and in particular considers that there is evidence that the work needed to achieve this result may best be done at schools, and that funds for that purpose should be applied for and used by schools," he said.

The meeting "strongly recommended" that all university graduate bodies seek to have a minimum representation on their university's governing bodies of 30 per cent.

## Indonesian Ambassador at Ramayana

● Among the audience at the Music Department's recent production of the *Ramayana* saga was the Indonesian Ambassador to Australia, His Excellency Mr Roesman. He is pictured (right) with Mrs Roswita Khaiyath of the Centre for Southeast Asian Studies.



# Exile in the 'cosmic symbolical desert'

Tutor in English, Dr Irina Pana, reviews the recent production at Monash of Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*.

The recent production of *Waiting for Godot* presented by the English Department, directed by Richard Pannell and produced by Robin Gerster, is an original, consistent and resourceful re-reading of Beckett's text, confidently spoken and visualised from a new perspective: the Australian outback.

The new *Godot*, set in the "difficult country" — the blurred "map of landscapes still unmapped" — explores the despairing but fruitful endurance of ordinary couples whose sameness resembles the exile in the "cosmic symbolical desert".

The interpretative suggestions are mapped out in a carefully designed program meant to put the spectator in a perceptive state of mind. With Vladimir and Estragon as Mum and Dad and Lucky as lackey/Jackie and Pozzo as Vosso, all clearly dedicated to a colonial ethos, we are in highly recognisable country.

But the fertile reality of time and space invested in the Australian adaptation helps to bring out with more clarity, relief and sense of purpose than in the traditional productions, the shape of the Beckettian idea, the forms of solitude and dependency, the poignancy of a dilemmatic situation.

The Monash production has discipline of movement, sure and inventive direction and good acting that avoids token naturalism.

The Australian coloring is stylised rather than tamely antiquarian: vulnerable worn-out bodies match clothes in a state of disrepair; sagging trousers, a stained shapeless frock, sadly comic headgear, swollen bare feet and, of course, the ill-fitting boots of Estragon complement the bare road and the one tree and communicate the predictable permanence of improvisation.

This *Godot* exploits the energy of skilful juxtaposition of comedy and melancholy, disjunctive monologues, active and contemplative life, language undulating rapidly between conversational mannerisms and genuine emotionality.

Silences, pauses, the non-language of expression, the presence of a forgotten "elsewhere" sustain emotion. Scene changes are not rushed through, words are clearly spoken and audible, but at any moment their thin crust might break and mere breath be found underneath.

A diffuse, elusive and inherently slow play, *Waiting for Godot* gives the impression of spontaneity and relies on an excellent cast with a flair for economy and concentration.

Tom Bradley (Vladimir) comes very close to the ascetically pure Beckettian puzzle. He wears an oversized shirt, the resigned droop of his mouth speaks of face-to-face encounters with a number of unwelcome truths, there is the sudden sagging at the knees, the withdrawal of the head at yet another of fate's blows.

He combines bizarre and intelligent humor with a delicate lightness that conveys Beckett's delight in paradox. It is a Beckettian feat to make genuine 'feeling' farcical and Tom Bradley marks the rhythm of foiled expectations.



Fiona Blair plays a memorable, cleverly modulated Estragon, fleshing out the quirky details of the genial and implacable ironies of the situation with character and lively presence.

She stimulates a view of Beckett's work that emphasises hope over despair and provides a secondary, if understated, commentary on deprivation in robust, rich and lucid tones. She manages a hypnotic effect of repetition throughout the play.

Pozzo/Vosso is the superman of surprisingly broad and frank comedy. Richard Pannell plays him as the equivalent of a strutting, colonial robot, insultingly smug and self-satisfied.

Gillen Wood plays an emaciated, ageless, sexless Lucky, reduced to habit and perpetuating the inertia of subjection. A consistent and powerful presence, Gillen Wood brings uneasy and bitter laughter from the audience and exploits the enormous possibilities of her character's speech in Act Two with relish and gusto.

Spotlights and darkness (lighting design Mykkel Mynster) speak sometimes of trance, sometimes of the simplified details of a time-machine ticking away.

The boy/girl messenger of *Godot* (Mae Yin Szeto) is a faceless, tiny, timid, baffled scrap of a soul, a white voice walking about in the dark speaking of Godot's firm promise.

The play does not end on a note of despair or with a moral tag. The tree has sprouted four or five leaves, it is alive, and it is up to each spectator to read a meaning into it.

The English Department's production of *Waiting for Godot* is for the Australian scene — a wintry desert "where come poets and explorers to die". It is a disturbing drama articulating the unimaginable dilemmas of remoteness and the credo of survival in a world changed beyond recognition.



● Tom Bradley (Vladimir) and Fiona Blair (Estragon) sit out the longest wait of all. Photo — Scott Fitzpatrick.

## First English version

The world premiere of the English version translation of Seneca's *Trojan Women* opened at the Alexander Theatre last week.

Translated by Mr Tony Boyle, a senior lecturer in the department of Classical Studies, during a visiting professorship to the University of Southern California earlier this year, the university's production is directed by Bronwyn Williams and features Sue Dodd as Andromache, Barbara Calton as Hecuba and Saul Bastomsky as Agamemnon.

*Trojan Women* ends its season at the Alex on 8 October. Tickets may be obtained from the theatre (ext 3992), and the cost is \$12 for adults and \$8 student concession.

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● One of the highlights of the September school holiday program was a series of talks on fossils and dinosaurs presented by a community educator from the National Museum. Here, children in the Elwyn Morey Centre come to grips with a model of a dinosaur's foot. Photo — Tony Miller.

## Fifth best in the world

The Monash Men's Rowing Club was placed fifth at the inaugural World Boat Race in Brisbane last month.

Crews from Oxford, Cambridge, Princeton, New Zealand, Australia and Japan competed over a period of seven days in the 4.5 kilometre event held on the Brisbane River.

After losing their heat to Cambridge (the eventual winner) and the subsequent repechage, the Monash team won the petite final that determined their eventual placing.

Although disappointed by the result, members of the Club believe the experience will stand them in good stead for future international competition.