

Study shows population proposals are unrealistic

By SHELLY SIMONDS

Proposals for Australia's ideal population have ranged from halving to doubling in size and come from across the political spectrum.

Now a study by ANU demographers claims the more radical of these recommendations are simply unfeasible.

The only population target attainable for Australia within one generation is around 24-26 million people, Rebecca Kippen and Prof Peter McDonald, of the Demography Program in the Research School of Social Sciences, said in their report published this month in the journal *People and Place*.

Their findings echo recent predictions from an Australian Bureau of Statistics study that the population will reach 24.9 million by 2051.

The ANU authors analysed the

Research backs figure of 25m by 2051

feasibility of recent suggestions made by former Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser that Australia's population should reach at least 50 million. They also examined suggestions by author and environmentalist Tim Flannery that the population should shrink to 6-12 million — based on the country's capacity to sustain its people. The ANU report found both scenarios to be unworkable in one generation.

"These targets require either enormous migration, which is not possible given the impact on society, or they require outward migration to the tune of 100,000 people a year — which again is impossible since you can't ask citi-

zens to leave the country," Prof McDonald said.

They said the fertility rate in Australia was about 1.8 births per woman, below the replacement level of around 2.1.

"If the birth rate falls more than this you need to rely heavily on migration to maintain the population at any given level. There is also the difficulty that the population ages much more rapidly," he said.

However, Australia's birthrate is higher than many industrialised countries including Italy, Spain and Portugal — where fertility rates are around 1.2 births per woman — and Japan with around 1.4 births.

Unfortunately for those like

Fraser and Flannery who want a dramatic change, there is little public policy can achieve when it comes to long-term population targets.

Prof McDonald said government could not control outward migration nor could it control fertility rates — which are influenced by a complex mix of policy, personal preference, social norms and economic considerations.

One Nation leader Pauline Hanson recently suggested a policy of zero migration into Australia. However if this were implemented, the ABS said the population would reach 20 million by 2025 and then begin to decline.

"The real difficulty with zero migration is that we would quickly

see the population decreasing," Prof McDonald said.

Once fertility rates drop to very low levels, it becomes difficult to turn them around.

"To have any long-term population outcome, other than the one we are heading towards now, is very difficult because of the tendency to overshoot. Determining future population is difficult because it either increases a lot more than you wanted or it decreases more than you wanted."

Once any policy is put into motion, the age distribution means it gains a momentum which takes a long time to stop, Prof McDonald said.

"The notion of an ideal population is a pipe dream anyway. It's good to have targets in mind but they can't necessarily be achieved," he said.

Things that go bump in the lab ...

Scientists usually manage to explain away unusual phenomena, but for one ANU physicist a mysterious noise is playing havoc with his research.

Over the past few weeks, Professor Trevor Ophel of the Nuclear Physics department has come to work and noticed his equipment being disturbed by the unexplained "white noise".

The noise is preventing him from making accurate analyses of ultra-thin materials.

It is not the effect on his highly-sensitive equipment that is at issue however — it is the inability to trace its source.

Prof Ophel knows the noise is caused by fluctuations in electricity and grounding problems, but what causes these fluctuations is still a mystery.

It is not an isolated problem either, Prof Ophel has seen scientists the world over scrutinising equipment for similar unexplained occurrences.

Like the "instinct" explanation for other mysteries of nature, scientists have put this one down to "earth loop problems".

Having done some of his own investigations, Prof Ophel has a more prosaic explanation.

"It only occurs between 10am and 5pm weekdays, not after hours nor on weekends, so it must be connected to human activity," he said.

At this point Prof Ophel is stumped and has asked anybody with information on "funny business" occurring in the Nuclear Physics building to contact him.

JULIAN LEE

Jazz for Arts' sake



Photo: Stuart Hay, ANU Photography

The Canberra School of Music's Jazz Big Band last week joined in a week-long protest over ACT Government cuts to funding for the Institute of the Arts. The protest, timed to coincide with the government's budget estimates hearings, was organised by the ANU Students' Association.

Orchestrating a response, Page 8

ANU joins consortium to build solar power plant

By JULIAN LEE

A new initiative to produce cheap, clean solar power has received a boost following the awarding a large grant from the Renewable Energies Industry Program.

A consortium of The Australian National University's Photovoltaic (PV) Research Group, the university's commercial arm ANUTECH, Solahart Industries and Western Power Corporation, has been given \$300,000 from the program.

The grant, combined with more than \$500,000 contributed by the consortium, will go towards the construction of a prototype solar power station in Western Australia.

The 20kW demonstration plant — expected to be able to supply around 20 homes — will be built using technology based on research by the PV Research Group at the ANU.

The station to be built near Perth, will use a system of mirrors or "solar trough" to gather and concentrate sunlight — intensifying it by up to 30 times — onto a thin strip of solar cells.

"Because the mirrors track the sun from morning to afternoon, this system increases the output by over 30 per cent compared with conventional photovoltaics," Dr Gaelle Giroult of ANUTECH said.

"By replacing most of the solar cells — which account for almost half the cost of a photovoltaic solar system — with glass mirrors to concentrate the light, the cost of

the system is significantly reduced," Dr Giroult said.

The solar trough system has presented its own challenges however, the intense light also generates significant amounts of heat — enough to damage the seal surrounding solar cells.

To avoid this the PV Research Group will attach cooling fins, much like those used in a car radiator, to the undersurface of the cells.

"The major market in Australia is predicted to be remote towns and mining camps," Ulrich Theden, business manager of the PV Research Group, said.

"Our system will augment, and eventually replace diesel generators in these areas."

The major cost of conventional electricity production in remote regions comes from fuel and transportation costs of around 12-35 cents per kilowatt hour. Sunlight is plentiful in these areas and is there for the taking, Mr Theden said.

"The ANU system has been designed to generate solar electricity for less than 20 cents per kilowatt hour and will be competitive against conventional diesel generated electricity," Mr Theden said.

The next stage of development is to build a larger installation that would deliver 200kW to 500kW — enough to supply a small town.

"By 2000, we hope to be well placed to meet the boom in demand for renewable energy which is currently underway," Dr Giroult said.

Presumption of racism inappropriate

ANU staff and graduate students received an email from the VC's office on June 22, with the text of a letter sent to the major newspapers in Australia and Asia.

While obviously I have no objection to condemning racism and creating a safe environment on campus, the purpose of that letter being sent to "All Staff" at this particular time seems a bit dubious to me.

"The policies and principles espoused by the One Nation Party ... are certainly not acceptable in Australia's tertiary institutions", the letter says. "The racism, bigotry and xenophobia of a minority have no place in the international community of scholars and equally have no place on any Australian campus."

The second sentence is a true and commendable statement if taken on its own, but the equation "One Nation supporter = racist" which is implicitly assumed here is only a matter of personal opinion, because the ONP is a movement that has chosen to contest democratic elections and has always officially claimed to be opposed to racism.

Of course one can fiercely disagree with the ONP, but shouldn't a tertiary institution be a place where freedom of thought is encouraged, both on the Left and on the Right, as long as violence or racism are not actively advocated? The idea of a Vice-Chancellor implicitly telling all staff members which party not to support if they don't want to be branded as racist, bigot and xenophobic makes me feel uneasy.

Besides, the VC's letter is rather patronising towards the many Queensland electors who chose to vote for the ONP. Prof Terrell informs us that "it is important to remember that the outcome of the Queensland election owes much to the particular circumstances of that State and is not, I believe, indicative of the thinking of the majority of Australians". Yet, at the polls, the vote of a Queensland pig farmer is just as worthy of respect as that of a Canberra VC, whatever the particular circumstances are. I don't think the ANU should apologise to any Asian nation for the results of a free, democratic election in an Australian state.

Finally, the idea that Pauline Hanson's electoral success can frighten Asian students and induce them to stay away from our Universities is ludicrous and does not do them justice. Asian students are mature enough to take into account academic standards and job opportunities when they choose a tertiary institution. In fact, Asian enrolment at the University of Queensland is rising, despite Hanson's scare.

Roberto Soria
Mount Stromlo Observatory

First things first

I went to the National Gallery of Australia with an Australian friend. The exhibition, "Beauty and Desire in Edo Period", was well organised and we enjoyed the "ukiyo-e" and beautiful kimonos.

I, however, was very disappointed when I found all Japanese painters' names were wrong. For instance, Katsushika HOKUSAI, Hishikawa MORONOBU, Kikugawa EIZAN and so on. They are totally wrong.

According to Japanese name order, a family name is first and a given name is second. So, KATSUSHIKA Hokusai is correct, not Katsushika HOKUSAI. I am Japanese. The name order in Japan, Korea and China is different from that in Australia, as you know. I have often been called "Keiko SHIMONO", although I want to be SHIMONO Keiko at all times.

At the Australian Econometric Society Meeting at ANU (8-10 July), I had the same experience. Why do Australian people automatically change my name without permission? John Howard is John Howard in Japan, Korea and China as well as in Australia, isn't he?

I would like to know the ANU's policy for students' and staffs' names.

Dr SHIMONO Keiko
Economics, RSSS

Probabilist's work still quoted today

By **PETER BROCKWELL***

J.E. (Joe) Moyal, one of Australia's greatest probabilists and mathematical physicists, died in Canberra on May 22, aged 87. His highly original contributions initiated and continue to stimulate research in the fundamental fields of random processes, statistical physics and quantum mechanics.

Born in Jerusalem on October 1, 1910, Joe was educated at Tel Aviv High School, studied electrical engineering in Grenoble and Paris in the early 1930s and worked until 1945 as an engineer.

In 1945 Joe began his academic career in the Mathematical Physics Department at Queen's University, Belfast. He was promoted to a lectureship in 1946. In 1948 he was appointed to a lectureship in mathematical statistics at the University of Manchester. In the following year he published highly influential papers on statistical physics and the foundations of quantum mechanics. The latter work continues to stimulate fundamental research and is very heavily cited by theoretical physicists to this day. The term "Moyal bracket" is now part of the vocabulary of quantum mechanics.

As a result of his contributions to probability and physics, Moyal received invitations to visit research centres throughout the world including Columbia University, Stanford University and the University of California, Berkeley. A year spent as visiting Reader in the Department of Physics at the University of Sydney attracted him to Australia, and in 1958 he joined The Australian National University's Institute of Advanced Studies as Reader in Statistics.

In the early 1960s Moyal wrote a fundamental paper on the mathematical theory of "population processes",



OBITUARY
PROFESSOR JOE MOYAL

formulating a precise probabilistic model for population growth which takes into account both the size of the population and the characteristics of the individuals in it. At the ANU, Moyal also trained a number of graduate students who later became professors in Australia and the US.

In 1964 Moyal was appointed to the position of Senior Scientist at the US Atomic Energy Commission's Argonne National Laboratory, near Chicago, Illinois.

He returned to Australia in 1973 as Professor of Mathematics at Macquarie University, where he remained until his retirement in 1978. In 1997 The Australian National University conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Science, on the grounds of "his distinguished creative achievement as a scholar in mathematical statistics and mathematical physics".

A keen student of philosophy and history and a wine connoisseur, Joe Moyal was also a highly adventurous snorkeller and diver.

Joe is survived by his first wife Suse, their two children Orah and David, and his second wife Ann.

*Peter Brockwell, a former student of Prof Moyal, is Professor of Statistics at Colorado State University.

Lead the way with values

The wonderful lead story in your June 17 issue concerning the promising anti-cancer drug PI-88 developed in the JCSMR, was thoroughly spoiled by an atrocious headline.

Is the purpose of current ANU research to make money, as the writer seems to suggest, or is it to benefit the community, in this case, cancer sufferers? Is the unhealthy preoccupation of Australian universities in general, whereby money assumes the role of a goal in itself, rather than a means to an end, now also dominating ANU thinking?

After reading your story and the letter from Richard Grove in the same issue of the ANU Reporter, express-

ing concern at the present directions of the ANU, I looked at the the mission statement of the ANU and its professed guiding values, and thankfully found remarks on excellence, integrity and creativity, the sort of things that underpin any great institution of learning.

Perhaps stories emphasising these principles, rather than the latest financial coup, would do more to enhance the reputation of the university and at the same time reassure alumni like myself, and the public in general, that the ANU hasn't lost its way.

Robert Robson
School of Computing
James Cook University

What's On at University House

Huge Cellar Clearance

Our wine cellar is overstocked again and we must make room for new stock, so on **Saturday 8 August, The Cellar Bottleshop** is clearing out such fine labels as:

Henschke - Orlando - Grange - Eileen Hardy Penfolds - Grant Burge - E&E Black Pepper Yalumba - John Riddoch - Bowen and many, many more.

So, that's **SATURDAY 8 AUGUST, 9AM - 1PM**

Credit cards welcome — Eftpos available
Sorry, no discounts or rainchecks.

Balmain Crescent, ANU
(Building 1 on Campus Map)

Telephone: 6249 5288



VC's VIEW

Seoul search for collaboration

The Australian National University and the University of Sydney are the only Australian universities invited to join the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU), with 21 other distinguished institutions from Canada, Chile, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Russia, Taiwan, Thailand and the United States.

I attended the Second Annual Meeting of APRU in Seoul, Korea, from June 23-25, which discussed the role of communications technologies in stimulating collaboration, the role of higher education and collaborative research in the Pacific region, and APRU's relationship with APEC.

Dr Martha Piper, the President of The University of British Columbia, is chairing the APRU-APEC Committee, while I am chairing the Collaborative Research Committee, which includes the California Institute of Technology, UC Irvine, Osaka University, The National University of Singapore, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, and The University of Science and Technology of China. We are preparing APRU's input into November's APEC meeting in Malaysia.

Resource collaboration and regional cooperation are key issues as universi-

ties throughout the world face high-cost technological advances and seek critical mass and maximum benefit from high-cost infrastructure.

They reinforce parallel moves towards research collaboration.

At ANU, collaboration is already well advanced. The stocktake of collaborative activities provided by Deans and Directors for me to take to APRU was impressive. I am grateful to the Deans and Directors who provided such a clear picture of our collaborative activities. Alongside similar stocktakes from other participants, it demonstrated that collaborative efforts in our institutions are already formidable.

We agreed that we must maximise the opportunities to get the greatest value from the major facilities in our region and draw on natural areas of research strength. The scope to do this increases with advances in information and communication technology. But we also need to define the areas of natural expertise.

It may be that our areas of natural strength will be in global climate change, the financial and economic analysis of Asian and Pacific economies, bioinformatics (a view shared by the OECD) and radioastronomy. Others will no doubt emerge as we gather

information and intensify our collaborative effort.

APRU will sample the span of possible areas and then reduce those to a program that can be put forward with justification for seed funding.

We will also address the issue of library networking. All universities at the Seoul meeting experienced similar problems in maintaining adequate library resources. We will examine the scope for broadband networking to meet spiralling library costs.

We must not only achieve, but actively seek to achieve in collaboration with other institutions in our region, to provide multi-dimensional benefits through synergies.

This will be pursued at APEC and a conference at the National Taiwan University in November on "Higher Education Opportunities and Challenges in the 21st Century", where I will deliver a paper on these issues.

In the meantime, I will be seeking the input of my colleagues at the ANU. We have an excellent opportunity to position ourselves collaboratively. We should not miss it.

Deane Terrell



Milner warns of One Nation damage

By SHELLY SIMONDS

One Nation threatens to destroy one of the greatest foreign policy initiatives in Australia's history — its engagement with Asia, Dean of the Faculty of Asian Studies Professor Anthony Milner said at a recent symposium.

"This is disastrous because engagement with Asia is no recent, faddish thing. It is a rare, broad-based, long-term national policy that seeks to ensure that Australia will not become an isolated Western outpost at odds with its powerful Asian neighbours," Prof Milner said during the symposium entitled *Pauline Hanson's One Nation and the Future of Australian Politics* sponsored by the Department of Political Science in the Faculty of Arts.

He said Hansonite policies confused recent initiatives and long term national processes in a rush to reject

what Hanson supporters saw as elite-inspired reforms.

"An urgent task now, as we proceed with our painful national debate, is to disentangle these various elements," he said.

Australia's Asia policy is not an urban elite policy, forced upon the country by the Keating Government and maintained by the Howard Government, Prof Milner, a member of the Foreign Affairs Council and former Director of the Australian Academy of Social Sciences' Australian-Asian Perceptions Project, said. Rather, Australia's engagement with Asia has been a national policy since the 1950s, supported by all major political parties — including rural voters.

The 1957 Trade Agreement with Japan was an important milestone achieved only a few years after the

Pacific War.

"This was in part a national or country party initiative, a policy from the bush, because the leader of the Country Party — John McEwen — was central to this reconciliation with Japan," he said.

The anger behind the rise of Pauline Hanson could be understood, he said, in the context of falling farm profits which have been slashed by 80 per cent over the last two years. However, rural Australians have invested too much in developing Asian markets for Australian products to turn their backs on Asia.

In addition, Pauline Hanson fails to understand that withdrawing from Asia would undermine relations with Australia's traditional Western allies, Prof Milner said.

To a large degree, Australia's knowledge of Asia in government, academic and business circles represents the key to our standing with the

United States and the United Kingdom. Asia is Australia's asset when it comes to dealing with traditional Western allies, he said.

"The mere possibility that racist behaviour, including anti-Asian attitudes, might damage Australia's so-called traditional relationships is likely to be a chilling thought for many Australians.

"How clear is it in the minds of Hansonite supporters — or Hansonite appeasers — that anti-Asian thinking will actually damage our United States and European relationships?" he asked.

There is evidence One Nation has already damaged Australia's relations in Asia, he said. In a recent survey of Asian business executives published in the *Far Eastern Economic Review* 70 per cent said the performance of One Nation negatively affected their perception of Australia.

Frost finding pours cold water on plant greenhouse theory

By JULIAN LEE

The findings of an ANU team of plant scientists have added a troubling twist to the debate among scientists as to the outcome of increasing greenhouse gases.

Many scientists believe increased carbon dioxide — a major greenhouse gas — will result in more prolific plant growth due to the fertilising effect of the gas.

However a team led by Dr Marilyn Ball, of the Ecosystem Dynamics Group of the Research School of Biological Sciences, has found that increased carbon dioxide may also make plants more susceptible to damage by frost.

"The results of our study show that a doubling in carbon dioxide — expected to occur late next century — predisposes plants to frost damage. Twice as much damage from frost was seen in plants grown in elevated carbon dioxide conditions," Dr Ball said.

A high carbon dioxide atmosphere and a 2°C increase in average temperatures will not necessarily decrease the incidence of frost damage, the team found.

Increased carbon dioxide levels means higher average temperatures, but greater variability in temperature is also predicted and therefore plants may be subjected to greater temperature extremes, Dr Ball said.

Dr Jason Lutze, a post doctoral fellow in the group discovered the link between elevated carbon diox-

ide and frost damage during a study on snow gums — one of the most frost tolerant plants in the world.

The plants were being grown in open air chambers designed to test the effects of elevated carbon dioxide on plant growth.

Most open air chambers are unable to match outside temperatures reliably, however chambers built by Dr John Roden, also a post doctoral fellow on the team, were "tweaked" to match natural weather conditions.

Half the chambers were flushed with normal air, while the other half were filled with double the present carbon dioxide levels.

After a cold spring frost, Dr Lutze and colleague Jack Egerton found 34 per cent of leaves grown in normal conditions were frost damaged while nearly 68 per cent of leaves were damaged under elevated carbon dioxide.

The reasons for these differences remains elusive, but is the subject of further investigation by the team.

If these findings hold for other plant species, it could have serious commercial and ecological ramifications in areas subject to frost.

"Although the frequency of frost may decline with global warming, an increase in sensitivity to frost could have significant commercial impact as it only takes one night of frost to wipe out a crop," Dr Lutze said.

WHO WROTE IT?

... Napoleon ordered the almost empty bins in the store-shed to be filled nearly to the brim with sand, which was then covered up with what remained of the grain and meal.

On some suitable pretext Whymper was led through the store-shed and allowed to catch a glimpse of the bins. He was deceived, and continued to report to the outside

world that there was no food shortage ..."

Bill Watson won last issue's Who Wrote It, identifying the excerpt from *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald. The first entry identifying the above piece and its author, drawn after the close of entries on Monday, August 3, will receive a \$30 voucher from University House.

IN BRIEF

The Australian National University is to invest \$1 million to foster a program of antibigotry studies in schools and the broader community. The program will extend an initiative run through ANU's Humanities Research Centre (HRC) and includes public lectures and materials for schools. Funding will come from its Endowment for Excellence to partly match a promised private endowment from a Sydney-based couple, Herbert and Valmae Freilich, who have assigned their personal legacy to this visionary purpose. Freilich Program activities at the HRC in the last three years have included annual public lectures by notable intellectuals, as well as a series of colloquia by visiting professors from Oxford and Chicago Universities. Last month the Freilich public lecture by Father Frank Brennan raised key ethical and practical implications of the Wik debate. Vice-Chancellor Professor Deane Terrell said future plans to expand the Freilich program included a specially commissioned series of public lectures by frontier historian Professor Henry Reynolds.

Vice-Chancellor Prof Deane Terrell marked the start of building of the new Graduate Management Programs Facility in a "turning of the sod" ceremony last week. The building, due to open in July 1999, will house the Australia Asia Management Centre — formerly the Managing Business in Asia program — the Graduate Program in Public Policy and the Australian National Internships Program. Professor Glenn Withers, head of the Graduate Program in Public Policy said the new facility would enable the co-located programs to expand quality activities in teaching and research. "This will provide great opportunities for more students, new courses, new degrees and new collaborations," he said.

The Australian National University recently sold a large site in Garran for the sum of \$6,880,000. The 5.9-hectare property was offered for sale by tender with a development approval in place, providing for a proposed mix of 294 apartments and townhouses. It was bought by BISA Developments of Manuka. "The funds from this successful sale will assist the University's Capital Management and Information Systems programs and will be applied to enhancing our on-campus facilities used for research and teaching purposes," Mr Chris Burgess, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Administration), said.

The recent settlement of legal constraints has allowed the ANU to pay the ACT Government \$2.2 million in municipal services charges. The constraints in the University's enabling Commonwealth Act, were overcome during negotiations with the Commonwealth and ACT Governments over the last two years. "In 1993/94, the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department and the Australian National Audit Office decreed payments by the ANU in the form of general rates and taxes illegal," Mr Chris Burgess, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Administration), said. "This has caused the ANU great difficulties in meeting its good corporate citizen responsibilities in respect of local government activities over the past few years."



Photo: Darren Boyd, Coombs Photography

School boards: ACT primary school students competing in the ANU Chess Festival last Wednesday. St Monica's won the Primary School competition, while Marist won the Secondary Schools' Championship on Thursday. The festival also included The University Co-Op Bookshop Simultaneous Match on Friday, when International Master and last year's ANU Open winner Ben Martin played 20 people at once, and concluded on the weekend with the ANU Open which attracted players from throughout Australia, including some of the country's top-ranked players. The approximately 100 players were seeded according to their Australian rank.

Project to boost PNG forestry

By SEAN DALY

Papua New Guinea is gaining greater control over one of its most valuable natural resources following the successful completion of an ANU/AusAID joint project.

ANUTECH Development International, part of the university's commercial arm ANUTECH, is the lead agency in a \$13.5 million project sponsored by AusAID to develop skills in PNG's forestry industry.

The four-year project, which includes the establishment of degree and diploma courses in forestry at the University of Technology (UT) in Lae, was started in 1995. The first students in the courses, developed by Professor Peter Kanowski of the ANU's Department of Forestry, will graduate in 2000.

One of the aims of the project was to improve the attraction of forestry work, traditionally seen as a poor career option in the country, and address a gender imbalance by encouraging more women into the sector. The project has also introduced a system of training, testing and certification of forestry workers to improve logging operations.

ANUTECH Development International general manager, Robert Crittenden, said the project had wide repercussions for the country — with most of PNG's 4.5 million people relying on varying degrees on their land resources.

"You could argue that 80 per cent of the population are primarily de-

pendent on a quasi-subsistence economy — the formal employment sector in PNG is very, very small so the majority of people depend upon the land resource whether it be agriculture or forestry," Mr Crittenden said.

Project manager Mark Simpson said the sections of the project that the ANU was involved in, including the curriculum development, were already implemented and showing results.

"Part of the work that the project was doing was to look at the curriculum for both the diploma and the degree courses in PNG which were being taught in two different institutions — both owned by the UT — and to look at the best utilisation of resources and finances," Mr Simpson said. "Given the strain on the PNG economy at the moment, higher education's been hit very hard."

"So, through consultation with the UT, the consultants on the project, specifically Peter Kanowski from ANU and Peter Shepherd from Creswick School of Forestry in Victoria, developed an integrated course — common first and second years and then divided third and fourth years to try and maximise resources and minimise the cost of training a student."

Professor Kanowski said there were several challenges in designing the course. "One of the problems is that the courses were modelled on what we had been teaching here and perhaps not as relevant to the PNG situation as it



Photo: ANUTECH Development International

Future growth: The ANU/AusAID course will improve forest management

might be," he said. "You've got to account for, in particular, the institutional structures, societal structures of PNG. The Melanesian system of land tenure has a very profound impact on how forests are managed, and how decisions on forests are made."

He said it was difficult to quantitatively gauge the success of the diploma and degree courses until the graduates were out in the field. He hopes to see, in the later years of the course, the benefits of the refinements made in the earlier years to produce graduates who were more up to date with modern forestry management practices.

Aside from improving PNG's forestry industry, the project is building valuable links between the ANU and

PNG forestry management and workers. The ANU's role includes twinning arrangements with the UT, hosting PNG lecturers and sending ANU academics to improve teaching techniques.

Mr Crittenden said the twinning concept was an important factor of ANUTECH Development International's project.

"The idea is you've got a project that has a beginning and an end. When it ends, very often, these projects just stop and the activities stop because the funding's gone. This twinning, is in fact quite an innovative element which AusAID is supporting in other projects, such that when this project finishes we expect the professional link to continue."

Internet answer for innovative law course

By SHELLY SIMONDS

Lacking funds to start a new course in the ANU's Faculty of Law, two lecturers devised an innovative solution. Ian Holloway obtained a grant from the Canadian government to offer the course via the Internet to students at the ANU and also in British Columbia.

Comparative Legal History was offered for the first time last year by Mr Holloway and Simon Bronitt, in conjunction with the Universities of British Columbia and Victoria in Canada. Funding came from Canada's Faculty Enrichment Program to promote Canadian studies in Australia.

There were 50 ANU students enrolled in the class and another 25 from the two universities in Canada. All course material was posted on a Web site, which only enrolled students could access. The site also contained a discussion group where lecturers and students could share notes and ideas for assignments.

Honours law student, Anthony Bettanin, said the course offered students a comparative look at how English common law had evolved and was adapted to meet each country's needs.

"We had the benefit of having the Canadian perspective on the Canadian

system, while they got the Australian perspective on Australia."

The first three weeks of class revolved around lectures given by Mr Holloway, Mr Bronitt and a visiting professor, John McLaren, from the University of Victoria. Seminars led by students made up the last 10 weeks.

The course is due to run again next year and thereafter every second year. Lecturers hope to add a video link component to the course for student discussion groups.

But Mr Holloway stressed that the human teaching component was crucial to student learning in the class.

Workshop encourages women to work in IT

By KAY BARNEY

Senator Kate Lundy earlier this month launched the "Women in Information Technology (IT)" workshop at the ANU, designed to encourage more young women to choose a career in IT.

Fifty-five young women from ACT colleges and NSW regional high schools participated in the two-day workshop involving such activities as designing their own Web page, hands-on cyberspace tours and discussions with female industry professionals about IT careers.

"Workshops like this one show that we are beginning to head down the right path by actively promoting increased female participation in IT, an area that will be the world's fastest growing industry by the year 2000," Senator Lundy, Labor's spokesperson on IT, said.

Women in Engineering and Information Technology Program coordinator, Ms Sue Emmett, said

the organisers wanted to show young women at the workshop that IT is a profession which benefits people and society and offers women the opportunity for worthwhile and fulfilling careers.

"With Canberra developing as Australia's IT capital (and Fyshwick the 'Silicon Valley' equivalent) the ANU is the ideal place to study with opportunities for industry links and employment on the doorstep when they graduate," Ms Emmett said.

Introducing Senator Lundy at the launch, the ANU's Vice-Chancellor Professor Deane Terrell, announced the renaming of the Women in Engineering Scholarship to become the "Lisa Brodribb Women in Engineering Scholarship" in honour of Dr Lisa Brodribb.

Dr Brodribb is a Director of M Brodribb Pty Ltd, a Melbourne-based engineering company and has served the ANU as a member of its Finance Committee for the past 14 years.

PEOPLE

Professor Mike Osborne has been appointed Acting Head of the Centre for Mathematics and its Applications in the School of Mathematical Sciences, from July 1 to December 31 1998.

Michael Green and Denis James Evans have been elected members of Council by the deans and heads of research schools. Derek William Robinson has been elected a member of Council by members of the academic staff of the Institute of Advanced Studies. They will serve from September 30, 1998 to September 29, 2000.

EVENTS

The inaugural lecture and progress report on the formation of the ANU Alumni Association, ACT Chapter, will be given by Emeritus Professor John Smart, AC. The lecture will be preceded by Professor Deane Terrell, the Vice-Chancellor, and Daryl Maddern, the Chapter Convenor, who will each present a brief report. The lecture will be given in the Manning Clark Lecture Complex on August 12 at 6pm. RSVP to Daryl Maddern on 6288 1892 or Di Whitehead on 6249 5004 by August 7.

The Australian Academy of Science and Alliance Française (Canberra) have invited French philosopher and writer Professor Michel Serres of the French Academy to give a talk titled, "Ethique et sciences". Spoken in French, the talk will be accompanied by an English translation. The lecture will be followed by a debate in English and French. The talk will be given at Becker House, The Australian Academy of Science on August 5 at 8pm. RSVP on 6247 5027. Prof Serres will also be visiting the Department of Modern European Languages at 4pm to discuss his book, *Le Contrat Naturel*.

A colloquium at the Research School of Physical Sciences and Engineering titled, "The role of physics R&D in BHP" will be given in the Huxley Lecture Theatre today at 11 am by Professor R.O. Watts. Prof Watts is chief scientist at BHP and a former member of the Atomic and Molecular Physics Laboratory.

An exhibition of recent paintings by Melbourne artist Julia Ciccarone and Brisbane artist Anne Wallace titled "in absentia" will be displayed at the Drill Hall Gallery. The exhibition, curated by Karen Hall and Katarina Paseta will be open until August 16.

Applicants are invited for the 1999 Coral Sea Scholarship to investigate a problem or opportunity relevant to Australian business or industry in the United States. For further information and application forms contact the Australian-American Education Foundation on 6247 9331. Or go to <http://sunsite.anu.edu.au/education/fulbright>.

The CSA Gallery will host an exhibition "In & Out: Contemporary Chinese Art from China and Australia", curated by Binghui Huangfu, LaSalle SIA, Singapore, from August 6 to September 4.

ANU EVENTS

Literary Lunch

Russia: Which Way Paradise?

Wednesday, 5 August 1998, 12.15pm for 12.30pm

by ABC Journalist, Monica Attard
Common Room, University House
Tickets \$25 from ANU Ticketing
Tel: 6249 5491

Public Lecture

The Inaugural Anthony Forge Memorial Lecture
Style and Meaning: Yolngu and Abelam Art Compared

Wednesday, 5 August 1998 at 6.00pm

By Howard Morphy
Introduction by Professor RD Terrell, Vice-Chancellor
Manning Clark Centre
Enquiries: Phone 6249 2434 Email: admin.ccr@anu.edu.au

4th Lions Oratory Contest for ANU students

Wednesday, 5 August at 7.00pm

Manning Clark Theatre 1
Enquiries: ANU Public Affairs 6249 0794/2229

Enquiries: (02) 6249 2229

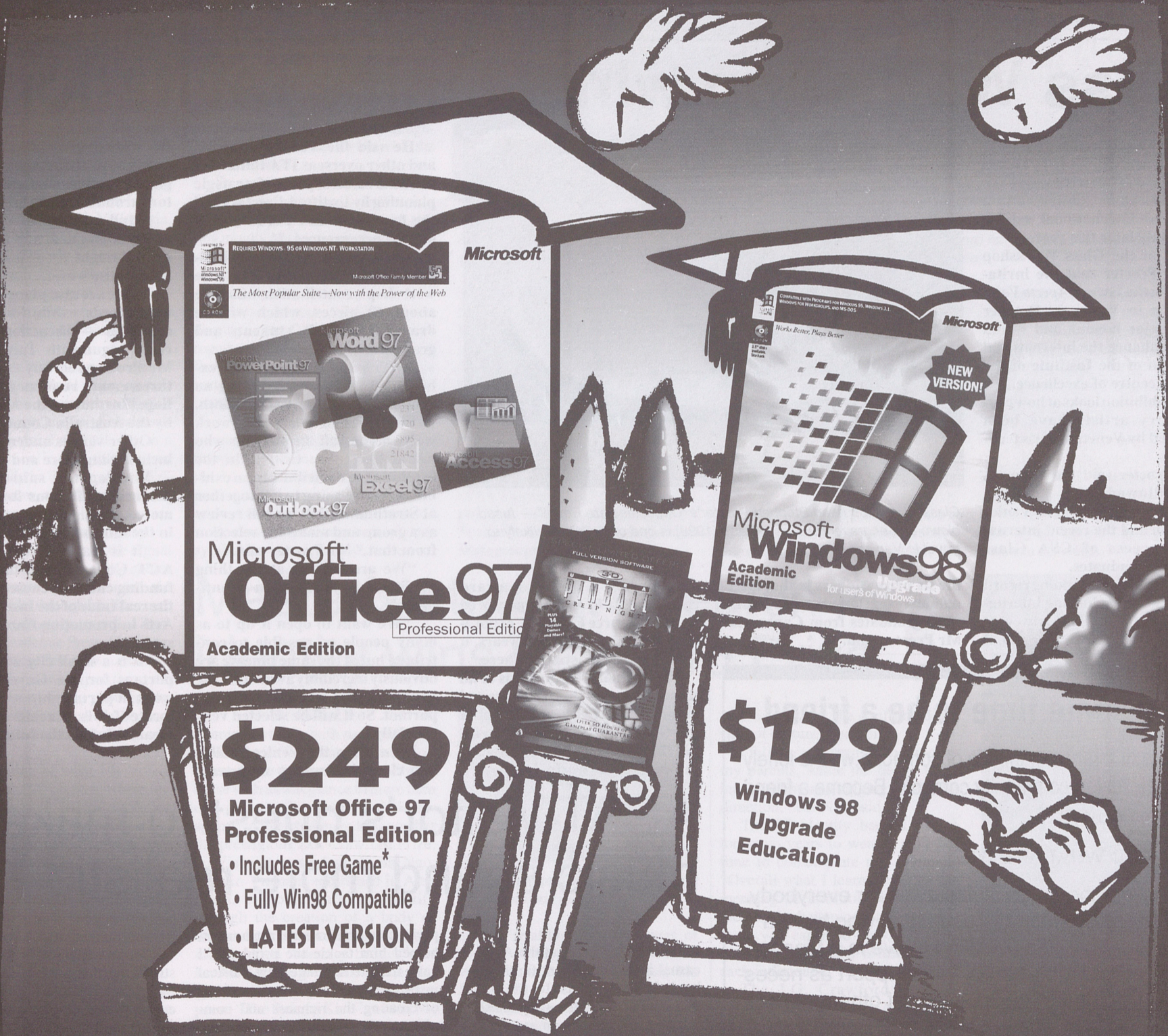
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The Canberra Institute of the Arts amalgamated with The Australian National University in January 1992, becoming the Institute of the Arts under the Australian National University Act 1991.

Within the Institute are the Canberra School of Art (CSA), the Canberra School of Music (CSM) and the Australian Centre for the Arts and Technology (ACAT).

Located on the ANU campus within walking distance of the city, the Institute has impressive purpose-built facilities, including the Llewellyn Hall for Music and the Canberra School of Art Gallery. The Jazz and Composition Departments of the School of Music are housed in

Fostering excellence in artists

the original School of Music buildings at Manuka.

The Institute's 1996 enrolments were approximately 403 art, 288 music and 14 electronic arts higher education students. In addition, 500 students are enrolled for part-time non-award studies in art, and 337 in non-award part-time studies in music.

The Institute's principal function is to conduct an educational institution for the purpose of fostering the achievement of excellence in the study of music, and the academic governance of the visual arts and crafts at tertiary and other levels.

The two Schools meet the needs of students not only from the ACT, but throughout Australia and overseas.

The Institute uses its facilities and resources to advance and develop knowledge and skill in the fields of art and music, and promotes the development of community awareness and appreciation of the arts.

In carrying out this work, the Institute cooperates with other educational institutions, associations, organisations and authorities with similar concerns. This work is not confined to the Canberra campus. The Institute has special relationships with similar institutions

throughout Australia and overseas.

ITA Handbook, 1997



Glass Workshop wins Venice invitation

By SEAN DALY

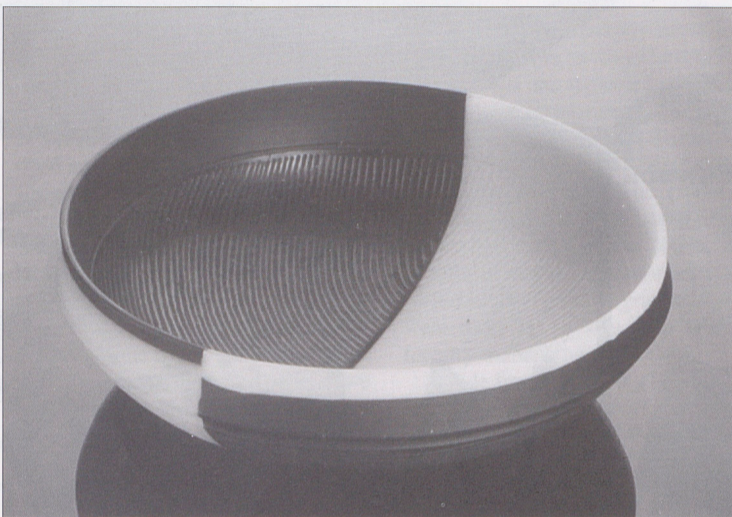
The Canberra School of Art's Glass Workshop has been chosen as the only school to be showcased in a prestigious international exhibition in Italy later this year.

Head of the Glass Workshop Stephen Procter said the invitation to join the *Venezia Aperto Vetro* exhibition in Venice in October was a major honour and would further enhance the international reputation of the Institute of the Arts as a centre of excellence.

The exhibition looks at how contemporary artists have been influenced by Venetian glass techniques.

Mr Procter said the opportunity followed the school's participation in the 1996 Venice exhibition and the recent international success of CSA Glass Workshop graduates.

"We have an outstanding record of our students achieving internationally. There's a 10-yearly event that occurs in Denmark ... and of



Glass Workshop head Stephen Procter's "Opposites are Equal" — fused, blown and engraved Bullseye Glass (1998) is one of the pieces likely to travel to Venice.

the six prize winners in that international event last year, two of them were graduates from Canberra," Mr Procter said.

"There's a national award called the RFC Award sponsored by the Resource Finance Corporation and, for the last two years, it has been won by students here.

"It's actually on the basis of all these things that they're interested in having the Canberra School of Art Glass Workshop as representing the best of education in glass throughout the world."

He said the Venice invitation and other overseas ITA initiatives were the result of years of strategic planning by Institute directors and the faculty — and were not just one-off occurrences.

The organisers of the exhibition said they expected the workshop's contribution to include about 40 pieces, which will be drawn from staff, students and graduates of the school.

Participants in the school's exhibit will be chosen following an exhibition in Canberra this month.

"In order to select that work we've invited all the students who would like to participate in the exhibition to contribute to an exhibition we are going to put together at Strathnairn that we will review as a group and make our selection from that," Mr Procter said.

"We are looking at the thing qualitatively rather than quantitatively.

"We want to open it up to as many people as possible to contribute but at the same time we are obviously incredibly aware that the quality of that work is really important. So it will be selected very carefully."

Even when the Venice exhibition closes in January next year,

the workshop's contribution will continue to attract the attention of glass collectors and gallery curators around the world.

A full-colour book of the exhibition is planned, and is expected to be bought by glass collectors around the world.

There are also plans to take the workshop's exhibition to other countries — discussions have already begun with Taiwan, where Mr Procter recently completed a three-month residency at the National Institute of the Arts, funded by the Australia Council.

Other venues under discussion include Singapore and London.

Mr Procter said all these planned exhibitions further promoted, not just ITA, but Canberra in the international arena.

"It is extraordinary that the ACT Government, through its funding cuts, has chosen to ignore the real value of the Institute of the Arts in promoting Canberra," he said.

"It is a small city and it is important for the Government to work in partnership with its electorate if it is to achieve anything meaningful for the future."

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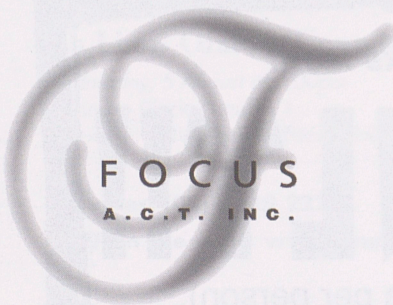
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ACAT visitor's quest to make music sound more realistic

By JULIAN LEE

For one music lover at the ANU, a casual interest in scientific theories has led him on a chase for the digital musician's holy grail — a synthesiser that can fool the human ear.

Reading about chaos theory, Dr Mark Pearson, a visiting fellow at the Australian Centre for the Arts and Technology in the Institute of the Arts, realised how it could be used to overcome the lack of depth and warmth he found in off-the-shelf keyboards.

Traditional synthesisers create sound out of simple "wave forms" which, when added together, do not give the feeling of "life" that real instruments have, Dr Pearson said. In thinking of ways to improve on this, he realised that the dynamic patterns that physicists were finding on the edge of chaos and applying to living systems, could be applied equally well to sound production.

This idea, combined with his ex-

perience with acoustic instruments, helped him tackle the problem. "I have tried to simulate how musical instruments actually vibrate as a way of creating the richness and complexity of sounds heard in real instruments," he said.

"In old synthesisers, every time you pressed a key, the note would sound exactly the same. My software, however, takes into account that playing one note will have an affect on subsequent notes," Dr Pearson said. "For example, a note struck on a piano will alter the sound of the next note, even if only subtly. But it is this subtlety that brings music alive."

The software he has developed — the result of five years of research — is on its way to recreating the sound from any musical instrument. The exciting aspect of this software however, is that the instruments are virtual and therefore a composer can also create instruments that could never

be made in real life, Dr Pearson said.

"It is even possible to make instruments that evolve as you play them, for example a guitar with a constantly moving bridge. These instruments are dynamic in a way that 'real' instruments could never be," he said.

While visiting ACAT on a fellowship from the Leverhulm Trust, London, Dr Pearson had hoped to develop the software to the point where he could post it on the Internet. As freeware, he hopes that a worldwide community of interested people will help him polish the program.

At the moment however, the sophistication of the software means that on current technology the music cannot be played and heard at the same time — it must be pre-produced and played back later. Unwilling to compromise quality for speed, Dr Pearson believes that computer technology will soon catch up and allow this program to be played in real time.

Library joins talks on digital copyright

By SEAN DALY

Australia is at the forefront of moves to legislate to protect the use of artists' work on the Internet, but the application of such legislation is a complex issue, according to Institute of the Arts Librarian, Joye Volker.

Ms Volker will today join other speakers at a Federal Government-sponsored conference: "Copyright and the Electronic Image" being held at the National Gallery. Topics covered in the conference will include the copyright implications of libraries and museums storing and allowing access to digital images of artistic works. The area is one of growing concern both in Australia and overseas, Ms Volker said. Within the Canberra School of Art, the library's slide database has over 40,000 catalogue records. The library is constantly adding images, either purchased or made from reproductions in books and is in the process of designing the web interface.

Ms Volker will discuss the use of digital images in visual resources collections which support the teaching of artists. Her role in an educational institution in the visual arts puts her in a unique situation in that the students will eventually be the copyright holders of the future, and the teachers for whom she provides the library service are the copyright owners of today.

One possible solution in the digital era would be to purchase slides and/or electronic images directly from the copyright holder through facilities such as the Image Directory, an online database from Academic Press. However, she said there are few resources available for the contemporary arts, necessitating use of copy photography from books to create slides or electronic images for cataloguing and teaching.

The creation of what Ms Volker terms "fair use" Web sites, where images are available at low resolution (suitable for display not publication) and have no commercial reproductive value, is also an option.

The copyright issue is just one facing ITA's Library & Resource Centre. As with elsewhere in the Institute and the University, funding cuts are putting increasing pressure on resources, Ms Volker said.

The Library is also used extensively by the Canberra community, with some 8 per cent of all loans last year going outside the ANU. Support for Canberra orchestras, choirs and schools is provided, at a minimal annual cost, through the loan of orchestral and choral music. Musical instruments have been supplied to pre-tertiary music students at a considerably subsidised rate. Specialist staff provide services for musical and arts research to over 500 registered borrowers and others from the Canberra community.

Ms Volker said the value of the Library, not only to the ANU but also to the wider community, was evident through the number of donations it received. Recent donations include art books from the Goethe Institute, the Brindabella Press collection from Rosemary Dobson Bolton, and major collections of jazz and classical LPs.

Creative arts fellow shifts focus

By SHELLY SIMONDS

Creative Arts Fellow Kay Lawrence carefully unpacks one of her works — a large tapestry which has just come back from a tour of the United States.

"They banned this tapestry in some of the Southern states and it couldn't be shown," she said.

The tapestry unfurls to reveal a child's drawing — wobbly shapes of men and women, though on second glance, not really men and women at all. The curious figures have the genitals of both sexes.

Ms Lawrence, whose work is currently on display at the CSA Gallery, said her daughter drew the figures when she was six and then unceremoniously tossed them away. But the artist salvaged the drawings and was fascinated by how her daughter's child mind had dealt with the issue of gender.

During her three-month tenure as Creative Arts Fellow in the Textiles Workshop which comes to an end this month, Ms Lawrence has continued to explore issues of androgyny and the possibility of gender existing on a continuum.

Her latest work, "Spill", also on display at the CSA Gallery, weaves together a collection of emblems of the sieve and the funnel into a large installation.

"These emblems of the sieve and the funnel refer ironically to the way gender identity is constructed through fixed categories and suggests that the boundaries between femininity and masculinity may not be as stable as we thought," Ms Lawrence said.

A sieve full of water is an ancient symbol for chastity while the funnel



Photo: Michal Klivanek

Material world: Creative Arts Fellow Kay Lawrence in her workshop and (insert) her tapestry, created from a drawing by her daughter when she was six, which explores the issue of gender.

has represented instability and wastefulness throughout history. Both vessels, designed to spill rather than retain, play on anxieties about identity and the impossibility of having a fixed and stable sense of self, she said.

Ms Lawrence is a senior lecturer at the South Australian School of Art and Coordinator of the Textiles Studios. While at the ANU, she was one of the keynote speakers at the symposium "SHIFT: Contemporary Textile Practice — Towards the Next Millennium".

Since the early 1980s Ms Lawrence has been instrumental in the development of community tapestry in Australia, coordinating a number of projects and working in collaboration with community groups as a designer.

Designing and coordinating the making of the embroidery for the Great Hall of Parliament House was one of her major public commissions.

"The embroidery is a narrative, and speaks about the period of settlement during the 19th century, the

way settlers exploited the land and changed it. I tried to express the tension between the exploitation of the land and trying to use our natural resources productively," she said.

Conceived in 1980, the embroidery project involved 500 weavers from around the country and took over eight years to complete.

"Although the embroidery is 16 metres in length there really wasn't enough space to see the story through to the 20th century," she said. "It was like trying to tell a history of 100 years in 50 words."

Master's student's search for identity wins Crawford Prize

By JULIAN LEE

Coming to terms with national identity can be difficult in a multicultural country like Australia, especially for those with an allegiance to more than one culture. One ANU artist's response to this challenge has won her the prestigious J.G. Crawford Prize.

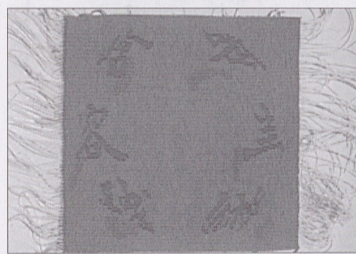
Visual arts student, Hanh Ngo, born in Vietnam and raised in Australia, explored national identity through the creation of a body of work which included a series of tapestries titled "identity badges" for her Master's degree. The badges depict lines from the Vietnamese epic poem "The Tale of Kieu", which Ms Ngo researched for her sub-thesis.

The poem is about Kieu, a virtuous daughter who sells herself into prostitution in order to save her father from jail. After 15 years of torment, she is reunited with her family.

"She comes out of the experience unsullied. In fact, she is venerated out of respect for the strength of her filial piety, which forced her into such difficult circumstances," Ms Ngo said.

The tale is significant because it explores important national themes and is central to Vietnamese identity. To be able to recite lines from this poem — which she likens to some of Shakespeare's work — is to be Vietnamese, Ms Ngo said.

In contemporary society, the story is seen as a metaphor for Vietnam



Identity badge: One of Hanh Ngo's medal-winning badges.

and its relationship with forces of foreign domination such as China, France and the United States, Ms Ngo said.

What she found however, was that her exploration of the tale paralleled her discovery of herself as a "Viet Kieu" — the name given to overseas Vietnamese. Returning to Vietnam to research the tale, she found that she was again a foreigner, but this time in the country of her birth.

"It made them very uneasy to have a 'migrant' come over and want to discuss and analyse this work of high literature," she said. "I was told to go home [to Australia] where I belong."

This response, as shocking as it was unexpected, helped her understand why similar taunts are made in Australia. "My experiences in Vietnam have helped me understand why I'm here in Australia and my position as an Asian female in Australian culture."

In attending art school against her

parents' wishes, she confronted this split of cultures head on.

"Filial piety required me to obey my parents, while the desire to be independent was tugging in another direction," Ms Ngo said.

The 27 identity badges, which took two years to weave, gave her time to contemplate this dilemma. "Overall what I learnt was that the meaning of tradition and national identity is dynamic, it is not something you can hold onto. Tradition and national identity is different for each individual," Ms Ngo said.

The J.G. Crawford Prize is awarded annually by the ANU to two PhD students and one Master's student for academic excellence. Ms Ngo's award was announced by Professor Peter Karmel, chair of the board of the Institute of the Arts, at the recent opening of her exhibition at the Canberra Contemporary Art Space titled "Surname Viet, Given name Kieu".

"It came as a bit of a shock," Ms Ngo said. "Only in my dreams would I have thought I would receive the medal. It will certainly help with further studies."

Nine of the woven identity badges are now travelling in a national exhibition of first and second generation Australians' art, while another nine are being prepared to go to Japan. Several of her works have been bought by national and regional collections.

ITA FACT FILE

CANBERRA SCHOOL OF ART: Workshops/Programs:

Art Theory, Ceramics, Foundation, Glass, Gold and Silver, Graphic Investigation, Painting, Photomedia, Printmaking, Sculpture, Textiles, Wood.

CANBERRA SCHOOL OF MUSIC:

Departments/Programs:

Composition, Jazz, Literature and Materials of Music, Brass, Guitar, Keyboard, Percussion, Strings, Voice, Woodwind.

AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR THE ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY:

Electronic and computer music studies.

FACILITIES/SERVICES:

CSA Gallery; Foyer Gallery; Photospace Gallery; Library & Resource Centre; Art Forum; Llewellyn Hall.

STUDENTS/STAFF:

ITA has some 700 award students; about 88 full-time and 109 part-time lecturers.

Orchestrating a response to arts cuts

The new director of the Canberra School of Music, Nicolette Fraillon, has had a less-than-perfect start to her term. But, as **Sean Daly** discovered, she has accepted the challenge of the role with the determination which has marked her career as a conductor.

Few people would envy Nicolette Fraillon's current position. Just a few weeks after she stepped into the job of Director of the Canberra School of Music, the ACT government dropped its bombshell — announcing it would cut its annual \$1.6 million funding to the Institute of the Arts.

For Fraillon, an Australian returning after having built an international reputation, it was a rude homecoming. She had spent the past eleven-and-a-half years living and working in Europe, starting her conducting career as assistant music director for the 1991/92 season of *Les Miserables* in Amsterdam, continuing as Chief Conductor of the National Ballet of the Netherlands, based in Amsterdam.

"It's so against everything I'd read about the ACT Government. When I came here for a short visit in February there was an enormous amount of activity going on — centres being opened and new galleries. Perhaps it was just pre-election frenzy.

"My husband, who was out here for the first time, and I looked at all this and thought: 'Well, this is really exciting, we are coming to a city which values its arts.' Now, that seems not to be the case."

Although the cut has attracted widespread criticism, not least because it came without warning, Chief Minister Kate Carnell (also Arts Minister) remains adamant that the block funding will not be restored.

Fraillon, herself, is not optimistic that there will be any reversal of the decision, but she is determined to continue with the fight. There have been endless meetings with CSM staff, School of Art Director David Williams and other ANU senior officers and ACT officials.

The timing is particularly bad for the Institute and Fraillon. The existing funding will be exhausted by the end of the year and that means a rush over the next couple of months to get grant applications in and a nervous wait to see if they are approved.

The last two weeks have been spent identifying the processes and the people to whom the CSM representatives need to speak.

"We have to apply to many different departments now about each individual project and about each individual person and while they're saying 'Yes, there could be funds for this, we will decide what is worthwhile on the basis basically of cost.'

"Now, I have no problem with the idea of accounting, it's more now the time frame of everything and the fact that the procedures that they have put in place are so arduous and time-consuming that we will actually be doing nothing else except filling out application forms, making business plans, ad infinitum."

Without the funding, the reality is that the School could have to cut many, if not all, of its community-based programs and introduce fees for previously free, or heavily subsidised, services — putting many of them out of the reach of their current users.

dised, services — putting many of them out of the reach of their current users.

Fraillon says the decision ignores the unique position of the Institute's relationship with the ACT.

"The reason the funding was originally put in place was in recognition of the role that the Institute plays in the ACT community. The fact is that you can not compare Canberra to any other city in Australia in terms of music as there is no other music infrastructure here: there is no full-time symphony orchestra, chamber orchestra or opera company."

She points out that it would be difficult to bear the loss of funding by reducing some teaching staff to part-time positions, because of the lack of professional opportunities in the city.

"The little bit of work that they do get — and they do go out performing, they are top performers — is nothing compared to the cost of their choosing to be here and what they are foregoing by being in Canberra.

It is a dispiriting return to Australia for an artist used to having her work valued in Europe.

"The philosophy behind the decision is what I find the most upsetting or difficult to deal with in its non-valuing of the arts.

"One of the nice things about being away from Australia as a musician for as long as I was, was that — while you had to fight and struggle for funds — the fight was never about justifying one's being a musician. Are we returning to the Australian Arts policies of 30 years ago?"

The last hectic few weeks have also robbed her of the chance to settle in to Canberra and the CSM



Director's role in the manner she would have liked. She had planned to spend the few weeks before the teaching period restarted talking to staff and getting a feel for the arts scene in the city.

That plan had included conducting the opera *Dido and Aeneas* which opened last week at the ANU Arts Centre but the numerous meetings forced her to withdraw.

"The students are the most important reason I came here. I love working with students and was looking forward to doing so. Perhaps the most upsetting thing about pulling out is I have to sit behind closed doors and negotiate about their school — for them, but not with them."

Although the cuts have forced on Fraillon and the CSM a rapid review of the School's entire activities, the new director said it was something they would have been doing anyway.

"A program is not something you create and leave, it should always be evolving."

Despite the now-rushed timetable, she is confident the School's staff will meet the challenge.

"The vision is all there, what intrigued me about this group of people is that they have all the solutions and all the talent and all the ideas; it is just a matter of drawing it all together."

There is no doubt Fraillon's experience — a graduate of Melbourne University's Bachelor of Music majoring in viola (first in her year); extended studies in Vienna and Hanover; conductor of the Victorian Junior Symphony Orchestra aged 16; 10 years in Amsterdam including several conducting tours and a visiting Professor of Conducting at Melbourne University — will help her in this. After all, who better to produce a harmonious union than a world-class conductor?

ANU Reporter

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