

# CAMPUS NEWS

## Robert Norris - new Dean of Science

Head of the School of Chemistry (Organic Chemistry) at the University of Sydney and an internationally recognised scholar, Associate Professor Robert Norris, has been appointed as the new Dean of Science.

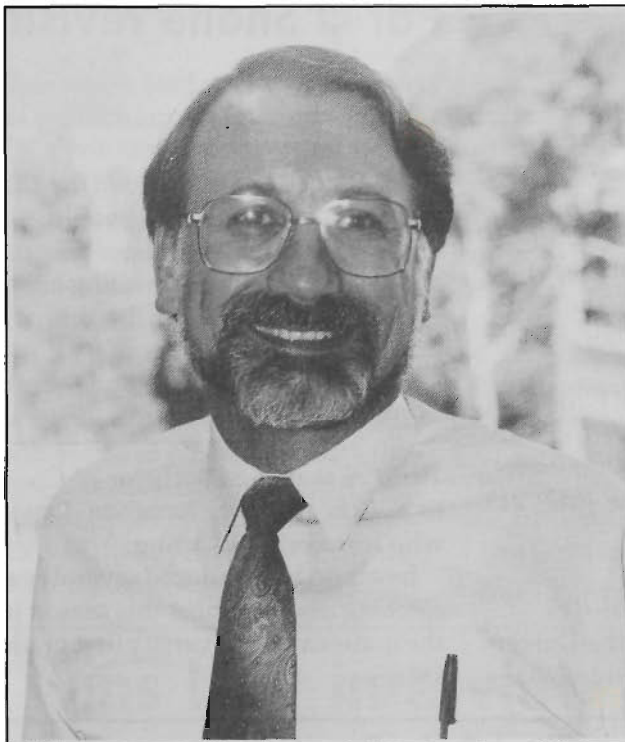
He will take up his appointment in January 1996.

Dr Norris holds a Bachelor of Science with First Class Honours, the University Medal in Organic Chemistry and a Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Sydney.

He was awarded a Diploma of the Imperial College from the University of London for his thesis 'The Chemistry of Tribenzenesulphenamide', and a Doctor of Science from the University of Sydney for some 44 chapters and papers on the reactivity of nitro compounds in aromatic systems.

His research interests are reaction mechanisms, in particular radical-anion initiated processes (substitution and elimination reactions), physical organic chemistry, electron transfer processes and substituent effect on reactivity.

He was involved in a collaborative research effort with Samuel Taylor (Australia) into natural insecticides



*New Dean of Science, Associate Professor Robert Norris*

under the Teaching Company Scheme.

Recently he has developed an interest in ESR spectroscopy and has been a member and chair of the ESR Management Committee which runs the

joint ESR facility between the University of NSW and the University of Sydney.

Dr Norris has a strong interest in community affairs. He is an Elder of the Presbyterian Church and is the Chairman of the Church's Management Committee.

He is heavily involved in the Scouting movement and was a District Commissioner from 1987-1994 and was awarded the Scout Association's Medal of Merit in 1994.

The present Dean of Science, Professor Murray Wilson, will retire at the end of this year after 22 years of

dedication to the University.

He was appointed Head of the Department of Geography in 1973 and later served as Dean of Students before taking up the position as Dean of Science.

## Local support for Nowra campus

The Shoalhaven Chapter of the University Foundation, chaired by Cr Bill Hilzinger, hosted a visit to the Shoalhaven by more than 40 Foundation members and University staff on 31 October.

The purpose of the visit was to inspect the University's Graham Park Campus at Berry and the proposed new site for the University at Flat Rock on the south-western boundary of the City of Nowra.

Visitors were impressed with the site which will also include a TAFE and a school, giving potential for shared facilities and justification for such services as a transport system.

Negotiations are underway regarding the acquisition of the land but the project comes closer to realisation every

day. This is due mainly to the high level of support and enthusiasm for the concept in the local region, a fact that was highly evident during the day.

The visitors, which included Foundation members from Sydney as well as the Illawarra, were treated to generous hospitality as they moved around the city inspecting HMAS Albatross, the Australian Aviation Museum, Flinders Industrial Estate, local school developments, ACF Dairy Factory and Australian Paper, Shoalhaven Mill.

The day culminated in a warm and again enthusiastic reception at Shoalhaven City Council Chambers where the Mayor, Cr Max Atkins, reinforced the council's support for the concept of a university in the city.

## Special program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

The Faculty of Commerce has announced a new program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The purpose of the program is to encourage more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to enrol in and successfully complete a Bachelor of Commerce (BCom) at the University of Wollongong.

An innovative feature of the program is that five selected participants will be guaranteed four-six weeks of paid employment relevant to their degree after their first and second years of study.

In addition to regular teaching and learning assistance, participants also will have weekly, one-to-one peer tutorials in each subject.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who do not meet normal entry requirements for the BCom at the University of Wollongong are encouraged to apply.

Inquiries: the Aboriginal Education Centre, phone (042) 213 776, or Faculty Officer, Faculty of Commerce, Ms Miranda Baker, phone (042) 213 380.

## Cricket Club Scholarship

The inaugural winner of the University Cricket Club Scholarship for the



From left: Final year LLB student, Mr Phillip Carey, Ms Pat O'Shane, LLB graduate Ms Catherine Holz, and Dean of the Faculty of Law, Professor Helen Gamble

## Pat O'Shane revisits

The Faculty of Law held its second Annual Valedictory Dinner on Friday 3 November to honour graduating students and graduates of the Bachelor of Laws (LLB).

The function was attended by LLB graduates, final year LLB students and staff; altogether about 65 people.

The Faculty has produced 55 graduates since its establishment. This year about 40 students are finishing either at the end of spring or summer session.

The guest speaker at the dinner was Pat O'Shane, a Magistrate, former Council member and honorary doctorate of this University, who spoke about victim impact statements and the influence of pressure groups on law making in Australia.

1995/96 season is Bachelor of Creative Arts student, Jonathon Lewis who is majoring in acting.

Jonathon has produced several eye-catching performances this season in the undefeated University first grade side.

The scholarship will pay for some of Jonathon's educational expenses.

## Work experience opportunities

A work experience program supported by the Society of Practising Accountants provided 50 accounting-related positions for one to two weeks during the July break to accountancy students in the Department of Accounting and Finance.

The Department, together with the Australian Society of Certified Practising Accountants, held a certificate presentation for those who had participated in this work experience program.

At this function, the Society's Membership Promotions Officer, Kim Hwang, also presented the three executive members of the Student Society – Josain Harrison, Tracy Dalwood and Tania Miclau – with written recommendations from the Society's Divisional Director.

The work experience program, which has expanded under the organisational efforts of the Society's Campus Liaison Officer, Connie Spasich, is an annual program.

Enquiries: Ms Spasich, phone 213 605.

## The First Asia Pacific Symposium on Biosensors

4-6 December University of Wollongong

The purpose of this symposium is to bring together researchers and industrialists in the Asia Pacific region with an interest in the development of Biosensors. The symposium is designed to maximise interactions and exchange of ideas. As such the number of participants will be limited to 100. The program will be a single session. All attendees, including oral presenters will be encouraged to participate in the evening poster sessions.

### Topics to be covered include:

- Advances in Immobilisation Techniques
- Novel Signal Generation Methods
- Advances in Biosensor Instrumentation
- Applications for Biosensing technologies: (Biomedical, Environmental, Food Industry etc.)

### Invited speakers include:

- Professor Sam Adelojou (Western Sydney Uni)
- Professor Hans Coster (NSW Uni)
- Dr Neil Furlong (CSIRO Melbourne)
- Dr Tim Gibson (Uni of Leeds, UK)
- Dr A. Guiseppi-Elie (AAI-Abtech USA)
- Dr Alan Hart (AgResearch, NZ)
- Professor Milton Hearn (Monash Uni)
- Dr David Kaplan (US Army Natick)
- Dr Reinherd Reneberg (Hong Kong Uni)
- Professor Malcolm Smyth (Dublin Uni)
- Dr Howard Weetall (NIST, USA)

For a brochure, phone (042) 261 736.

# State-of-the art software in Geosciences

New software can often cause problems for staff and students, especially when the supplier is thousands of kilometres away.

But not so in this age of the Information super highway.

The SPANS (Spatial Analysis System) Explorer software was installed to use in a new third year subject, Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

Wollongong is believed to be the first university in Australia to use the program.

Senior lecturer in Geography, Dr Toni O'Neil, said: 'This software is the new direction of geography. It is the hi-tech market and is used throughout Canada in national parks, mapping and the police force.'

Forty-five students have enrolled in the course and so far it has been very successful.

Software problems have been frustrating, but hopefully the major problems have been solved since the visit by the supplier.

Since its installation, they have been linked to the supplier, TYDAC in Canada, by email which has been use-



*Third year Geography student, Veronica Fairey; John Crant from Tydac Canada and Dennis Enriken, from Tydac Product Support Australia*

ful in getting quick answers to simple problems. As part of their continued service to customers, TYDAC recently sent their Asia Pacific Sales Manager, John Crant, to spend a day to assist with some of the more difficult problems staff and students have faced with the new software.

In support of this new course, TYDAC have provided a software prize for the best postgraduate the-

sis using GIS valued at \$2900 while locally, BHP have donated a \$300 prize for the best undergraduate student in the GIS course.

Former Computing Science lecturer at the University, Robert Atkinson, is the lecturer for Geographic Information Systems.

He has spent the last five years overseas working in GIS.

The GIS lab is open from 8.30am - 4.30pm each day.

## Gateway student wins Law interview contest

A former Gateway student, Mark Douglass, has won the Faculty of Law's Client Interviewing Competition.

Mark won the competition with Porsche Herbert-Funk.

Patrick Culbert, in partnership with Zoe Nielsen, won the 1993 competition.

Patrick was the first ex-Gateway student to win the competition.

Patrick and Zoe went on to win the International Client Interviewing Competition in Glasgow in 1994 and acted as judges at the 1995 International Competition in Florida in 1995.

Mark and Patrick entered the University of Wollongong through the Gateway Program, the University's 14-week preparatory program.

Both have praised the program as being the prime mover in building

their confidence and in allowing them to have a 'first chance' at tertiary education as mature students.

'Without Gateway, I would not be on the career path that I am today,' Mark said. 'Gateway has opened up so many opportunities.'

Client interviewing involves the Law student acting as a solicitor for the purpose of interviewing clients.

The interviewer is required to demonstrate professional skill in the areas of effective communication using non-legal terminology, seeking information and clarifying client goals, putting the client at ease while respecting his or her right to privacy and respect, analysing problems, assisting the client to make an informed choice from alternative courses of action, and concluding the interview skilfully, leaving the client feeling a sense of confidence.

The competition also builds team confidence.

### What is your opinion of surveillance?

Have you ever been concerned about being filmed by hidden cameras, wondered what information about you is stored on data bases, or felt uneasy about electronic mail security?

These and other aspects of surveillance will be discussed at a workshop at the University on Sunday 26 November and input from people in the community as well as on campus is needed.

Informal, small group discussions will explore peoples ideas and experiences on the subject.

If you are interested in attending contact Brian Martin, Department of Science and Technology Studies, phone 213 763 or 297 393 (h).

## General

The Campus Alumni Bookshop is open on the second and fourth weekends of each month. Campus East, Cowper Street, Fairy Meadow (opposite Science Centre). All proceeds directed towards campus projects. Donations of material are invited. Enquiries to Alumni Office, phone 213 249 or 291 951.

21 November: 7.30pm Women's Issues Group. Gail Botrek, clairvoyant/psychic and June Aspley,

## What's On

belly dancer. Function Centre, Union Building. Members \$2.50. Non-members \$3.50 Enquiries 843 741.

26 November: Conference on surveillance, 10am to 5pm. Cost: \$20. Enquiries: Brian Martin at the University on 213 763 or 297 393 at home, Ann Aungles 213 745, Richard Joseph 213 606 or Graham Sewell 213 642.

## International speakers a highlight of OZCHI conference

OZCHI is the annual national conference devoted to the interchange of work and ideas between researchers and practitioners in the area of Human-Computer Interaction (HCI).

This year the conference will be held at the University of Wollongong from 27-30 November.

It has been organised by the Department of Business Systems.

One of the attractions of OZCHI this year is the international keynote speakers:

Professor of Computer Science and Psychology and Head of the Computer Science Department at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Jack Carroll, will give a keynote address entitled *Design History as a Tool*.

He will describe the notion of design history and two design history systems created to develop and study this notion.

Professor Carroll's research is in the analysis of human learning and problem-solving in human-computer interaction contexts, and in the design of methods, tools, and environments for instruction and design.

Victor Kaptelinin, from the Moscow State University and the Psychological Institute of Moscow, currently at the University of Umea, Sweden, will speak of the Application of Activity Theory (the cultural-historical psychology of Eastern Europe) to HCI.

His talk will be *Mind extensions:*

*on the role of computer artefacts in human activity.*

His current research focuses on the use of Activity Theory as an alternative conceptual framework for human-computer interaction.

Executive Director of LUTCHI Research Centre and Professor of Computer Studies at Loughborough University of Technology, Ernest Edmonds, will present *Task models of creativity: a contradiction in terms?*

Professor Edmonds gained a PhD in Mathematical Logic from Nottingham University in 1973.

He joined Leicester Polytechnic as a Research Assistant in 1967, culminating in his appointment as a Professor and Head of the Human Computer Interface Research Unit.

He has provided consultancy to many leading computing companies including: HP, IBM, ICL, Racal, Unysis and British Telecom.

He was one of the early researchers into user interface management and has taken a leading role in the development of separable user interfaces.

His current work includes research into providing new user interfaces to old software and knowledge-based support for creative designers.

Steve Draper, from the Glasgow Interactive Systems Centre, Department of Psychology, University of Glasgow, will give a keynote address entitled *'More than we think: Facing up to the plurality of goals, methods, needs, and resources in HCI'*.

27-30 November: Australian Computer-Interaction Conference (OZCHI). Enquiries: phone (042) 213 757, fax (042) 214 474.

## Long Gallery

Exhibition program for 1995:

Until 10 December: BCA graduating exhibition.

## University Social Club

Become a member and enjoy a variety of social events. A chance to meet others across the campus. Contact Jim McKee by E-Mail or ext 3376.

8 December: 7pm. Joint dinner with the University Jazz Club. Bookings: Francis Sullivan, ext. 3985.

## Union Activities

24 November: Henry Rollins and Babes in Toyland, all-ages concert. \$25 Wollongong Uni students. \$30 guests.

## Stop Press

**Campus News is published weekly on Wednesdays. Send material, preferably by Microsoft Mail or on disk, to E-Mail account 'Campus News' by noon on Monday of the week before that of publication. For any other enquiries contact the Editor, Gillian Curtis (042) 21 3926. Campus News has a circulation of 3000. It is distributed on campus to staff and students. 1000 are mailed to the community and overseas including schools in Illawarra, southern Sydney and Canberra; local, Sydney and Canberra media; Friends of the University; business representatives; MPs and numerous individual requests.**