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AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL FOR EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH
UNIVERSITY BUILDING
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VICTORIA.

A BRIEF GUIDE TO AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITIES

(Preliminary Draft)

AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL FOR EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH
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Australia.



UNIVERSITIES IN AUSTRALIA

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INTRODUCTION

The following notes are intended primarily for the guidance of overseas students wishing to study at Australian universities. They may, however, be found useful as a generalised handbook for Australian students as well. Reference should of course be made to local sources for more detailed information.

1. The Universities.

Each of the six states in Australia maintains a university, situated in the respective capital cities. In addition to these, there is a University College at Armidale, New South Wales, conducted under the aegis of the University of Sydney. There is an independent University College in the Federal Capital Territory at present affiliated for examination purposes with the University of Melbourne.⁽¹⁾ Each of the six state universities was established by Royal Charter. The University of Sydney was founded in 1850, Melbourne in 1853, Queensland in 1909, Adelaide in 1874, Western Australia in 1911 and Tasmania in 1889.

Apart from these legally recognised universities, there are no degree granting institutions in Australia. Technical colleges (not dealt with in this bulletin) carry instruction in special fields up to a high level. These courses lead to diplomas, although it is advocated in some quarters that the technical colleges should be authorised to award degrees.

TABLE I. DETAILS OF THE SIX UNIVERSITIES

Title	Address	Chancellor	Vice-Chancellor	Registrar
University of Sydney	Newtown, New South Wales.	Lt.Col.Sir Charles Bickerton Blackburn, Kt.Bach., O.B.E., B.A., M.D., Ch.M., F.R.C.P. (Lond.), F.R.C.P. (Hon. Edin.), F.R.A.C.P., F.R.S.M.	Sir Robert Strachan Wallace, Kt.Bach., M.A., LL.D.	W.A.Solle, M.A.
University of Melbourne	Carlton, Melbourne, N.3. Victoria	Hon.Mr.Justice C.J. Lowe, M.A., LL.B.	J.D.G.Medley, M.A., (Oxon.and Melb.)	J.F.Foster, M.A., LL.M.
University of Queensland	Brisbane Queensland.	Hon. W. Forgan Smith, LL.D.	J.D.Story, I.S.O.	C.P.Hanify, M.V.O., F.I.C.A.
University of Adelaide	Adelaide, South Australia.	Professor Sir William Mitchell, K.C.M.G., M.A.	Hon.Sir Herbert Angus Parsons, Kt., LL.B.	A.W.Bampton, A.I.A.S.A. (acting)
University of Western Australia	Perth, Western Australia.	Professor W.L.F. Murdoch, C.B.E., M.A.	Professor G.A. Currie, B.Sc., (Agric.), D.Sc.	C.Sanders, M.A. (W.A.), Ph.D. (Lond.)
University of Tasmania	Hobart, Tasmania	W.J.T.Stops, LL.B.	Professor E.M. Miller, M.A., Litt.D.	A.S.Preshar, B.A. (W.A.), F.A.I.S.

(1) The Commonwealth Government is taking steps to establish a National University at Canberra. This will provide for the undergraduate studies at present conducted, and will set up schools for post-graduate research in special fields. The fields likely to be covered in the first instance are: physical science, medicine, social science, and Pacific and Asiatic studies.

2.

TABLE II. UNIVERSITIES: TEACHING STAFF
1942

University	Professors, Lecturers in Charge. No.	Lecturers, Assistant Lecturers. No.	Demonstra- tors and Tutors. No.	Others No.	Total No.
Sydney	55	232	23	100	410
Melbourne	38	211	104	2	355
Queensland (Brisbane)	25	160	51	28	264
Adelaide	29	117	77	4	227
Western Australia (Perth)	16	46	6	3	71
Tasmania (Hobart)	13	26	3	-	42
New England Univer- sity College (Armidale)	-	17	8	9	34
Canberra University College (Federal Capital Territory)	-	6	1	-	7
TOTAL	176	815	273	146	1,410

TABLE III. UNIVERSITIES: STUDENTS ENROLLED
1942

University	Degree Courses No.	Diploma Post Graduate No.	Courses Sub Graduate No.	Certifi- cate Courses No.	Miscel- laneous No.	Total No.
Sydney	2,737	55	148	-	170	3,110
Melbourne	2,773	6	173	20	203	3,180
Queensland (Brisbane)	1,075	15	90	44	81	1,305
Adelaide	1,136	56	184	-	627	2,003
Western Australia (Perth)	480	14	2	-	108	604
Tasmania (Hobart)	244	-	12	-	97	353
New England Univer- sity College, (Armidale)	120	23	-	-	-	143
Canberra (Federal Capital Territory)	31	-	23	-	9	63
TOTAL	8,596	169	637	64	1,205	10,761

Tables II and III are reproduced from the Official Yearbook of the Commonwealth of Australia, (Published by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics, Canberra) 1942-3, page 165.

TABLE IV. (contd.)

Residential Colleges	Annual Fees
<u>University of Queensland</u>	
Emmanuel College (men) Presbyterian	£63 (\$203)
St. John's College (men) Church of England	£63 (\$203)
King's College (men) Methodist	£63 (\$203)
St. Leo's College (men) Roman Catholic	
The Women's College Undenominational	£63 (\$203)
Duchesne College (women) Roman Catholic	£63 (\$203)
<u>University of Adelaide</u>	
St. Mark's College (men) Church of England	
<u>University of Western Australia</u>	
St. George's College (men) Church of England	£75-90 (\$241-290)
<u>University of Tasmania</u>	
Christ College (men) Church of England	£60 (\$193)

Denominational colleges do not limit accommodation to students of the particular denomination by which the college is administered.

The majority of students live either at home or in lodgings near the university. For example, of 4,000 students attending the University of Melbourne in 1945, approximately 12 per cent lived in college, 30 per cent in lodgings of various kinds, and the remainder at home. There are many different types of student lodgings. Some students reside in boarding houses offering full board and lodging, or bed and breakfast, others board with private families, some live in rooms, and provide their own meals, while there has been a definite trend towards the establishment of co-operative student hostels. Other hostels, as distinct from colleges, are organised by church groups and affiliated bodies. In order to meet the current difficulties in obtaining board, the Student Representative Council of the University of Melbourne has established two co-operative student hostels where board can be obtained for 35/- to £2 (\$5.60 to \$6.40) a week. A student warden supervises the catering, and a cook-housekeeper is employed. Present housing difficulties make expansion in this direction extremely difficult, but the University of Western Australia has opened a similar hostel to accommodate 150, and the University of Sydney has appointed a Housing Officer who has guaranteed to accommodate all students for 1946. The minimum cost of boarding would be approximately 25/- (\$4) a week, while the average is about £2 (\$7) a week.

A student would probably need a minimum of 10/- (\$1.50) each week for general expenses, while the average expenditure would be about 15/- (\$2.40) a week. In addition to all other expenses, it is estimated that, under present conditions, £5 each year (\$16) would be the minimum expenditure on books and equipment, and the mean would be close to £10 (\$32)

TABLE V. APPROXIMATE LIVING EXPENSES FOR AN ACADEMIC YEAR.

University	Range of Fees for Courses	Student Club Fees (Approx.)	Boarding			Books and Equipment		Personal Expenses		Total (Living Expenses)	
			Min.	Average	Good	Min.	Average	Min.	Average	Lower Limit	Average
Sydney	£45-301 \$145-969	£3 \$10	£54 \$174	£63-72 \$203-232	£108 \$548	£3 \$10	£15 \$48	£9 \$29	£18 \$58	£66 \$212	£101 \$325
Melbourne	£64-285 \$206-917	£4 \$13	£54 \$174	£63-72 \$203-232	£108 \$548	£5 \$16	£15 \$48			£68 \$219	£101 \$325
Queensland (Brisbane)	£35-286 \$113-920	£3 \$10									
Adelaide	£42-250 \$135-805	£3 \$10									
Western Australia (Perth)	£11-30 \$35-97 £121-217 \$389-698	£3 \$10									
Tasmania (Hobart)	£41-160 \$132-515	£2 \$6	£45 \$145	£54-63 \$174-203	£81 \$261						

9.

While no facilities exist as such for the medical care of students, the National Union of Australian University Students has formulated a plan for the establishment of health centres in each university. The University of Melbourne has already established a scheme whereby each student is medically examined and X-rayed upon entrance. For the present, the student is merely to be advised of defects, but ultimately it is hoped to arrange for a health centre, associated with a proposed Physical Education block, where a full or part-time medical and nursing staff, will not only diagnose cases, but also undertake treatment.

5. Fees and Scholarships.

Table VI shows the fees payable for courses in each University. The figures shown include lecture, graduation and general service fees. The University of Western Australia charges no tuition fees for students entering by examination, and for students from overseas, a standard fee of £40 (\$129) per annum is charged. All fees are calculated approximately and are subject to change depending on conditions at various times. Table VI is shown on page 11.

Scholarships

A limited number of government and privately endowed scholarships are awarded by competition in each university. These scholarships would not normally be available to overseas students. As mentioned earlier, the Commonwealth Government introduced, during the war, a subsidy scheme for Australian students. The scheme was introduced primarily to maintain a flow of good quality students through technical faculties whose work was related to the war effort. However, it is expected that the scheme will continue, and will apply to all faculties. Eligibility for assistance under the scheme depends on the admission of the student to the university, and on his financial condition. Payments are on a graduated scale; the maximum payment available covering all university fees, together with a living allowance of £104 (\$335) per annum if the student is living at home, and £143 (\$460) per annum if living away from home.

Prizes

Prizes are awarded on a competitive basis for certain courses in each of the universities. These are endowed by the government or by private individuals and vary in value from £2 (\$6) to £100 (\$322)

6. Courses and Subjects of Study

Table VII shows the departments, and teaching staff of each department, in each university. Crosses indicate that courses are offered in the relevant departments.

Part-time courses are offered in most of the universities, while some courses can be taken externally. Part-time courses would not, of course, be available in such faculties as Medicine, Dentistry, and Engineering, where a considerable amount of laboratory work is required. Post graduate study is mainly part-time.

Each university maintains an Appointments Board which assists students in finding positions, part-time during vacations, and after graduation. The Board in the University of Melbourne registers for employment graduates from any other university.

TABLE VI(a). APPROXIMATE FEES FOR COURSES LEADING TO FIRST DEGREE OR DIPLOMA

Degree or Diploma	N. S. V.		VIC.		QLD.		S. A.		W. A.		Overseas Students		TAS.	
	Yrs.	Cost	Yrs.	Cost	Yrs.	Cost	Yrs.	Cost	Yrs.	Cost	Yrs.	Cost	Yrs.	Cost
<u>ARTS</u>														
B.A.(Pass)	3	£90* /\$309	3	£86* /\$277	3	£45* /\$145	3	£58* /\$187	3	£11* /\$35	3	£127 /\$409	3	£54* /\$174
B.A.(Hons)	4	£101-118 /\$325-380					3	£70 /\$225						
<u>LAW</u>														
LL.B.	4	£123 /\$396	4	£120 /\$386	4	£93 /\$299	4	£108 /\$348	4	£16 /\$51	4	£192 /\$618	4	£84 /\$270
<u>MEDICINE</u>														
M.B.) B.S.)	6	£301 /\$963	6	£285 /\$917	6	£272 /\$875	6	£240 /\$772						
<u>SCIENCE</u>														
B.Sc.(Pass)	3	£122 /\$393	3	£113 /\$364			3	£102-136 /\$328-438 (depending on courses taken)	3	£9 /\$29	3	£121 /\$389	3	£61-83 /\$196-267 (depending on courses taken)
B.Sc.(Hons)	4	£144 /\$462							3	£12 /\$39		£128 /\$412		
Dip.Analytical Chemistry			4	£93 /\$299										
B.Sc.(Pure) Pass					3	£71 /\$228								
B.Sc.(Pure) Hons					4	£93 /\$299								
B.Sc.(Applied)					4	£101 /\$325								

* In each state, in the Faculty of Arts, a higher charge is made for Science subjects which are included in the course.

TABLE VI (a) continued

Degree or Diploma	N. S. W.		Vic.		QLD.		S. A.		W. A.		TAS.			
	Yrs.	Cost	Yrs.	Cost	Yrs.	Cost	Yrs.	Cost	Australian Students Yrs. Cost	Overseas Students Yrs. Cost	Yrs.	Cost		
AGRICULTURE														
B.Sc.Agr.(Pass)	4	£148 \$476	4	£94 ^b \$302	4	£103 \$331	4	£137 ^a \$440	4	£30 \$97	4	£122 \$393		
B.Sc.Agr.(Hons)	5	£169 \$544												
Dip. Agr.			4	£84 \$279										
ECONOMICS														
(a)B.Ec. or (b)B.Comm. Dip.Com.	(a)4 3	£122 \$395 £63 \$203	(b)4 3	£116 \$373 £69 \$222	(b)3 5	£55 \$177 £53 \$171	(a)3	£57 \$183				(b)4 3 3	£59 \$190 £41 \$132	
Dip.Pub.Admin. Certif.in Accountancy	3	£63 \$203	3	£69 \$222								3	£46 \$148	
					2	£22 \$71								
ARCHITECTURE														
B.Arch.	5	£218 \$702	5	£139 \$447										
Dip.Arch.					3	£62 \$200								
SOCIAL STUDIES														
Dip.Soc.Sci.	2	£66 \$212	2	£64 \$206			2	£47 \$151						
ENGINEERING														
B.E.			4	£139 \$447	4	£106 \$341			5	£27 \$87	5	£217 \$698	4	£160 \$515
B.Eng.Sc.													3	£107 \$344

^aPlus £32(\$103) for board during extra mural work in second year.

^bExclusive of fees for practical work.

TABLE VI(a) continued

Degree or Diploma	N. S. W.		VIC.		QLD.		S. A.		W. A.		TAS.
	Yrs.	Cost	Yrs.	Cost	Yrs.	Cost	Yrs.	Cost	Australian Students Yrs. Cost	Overseas Students Yrs. Cost	Yrs. Cost
<u>ENGINEERING (cont)</u>											
Degree in:											
Civil Eng.	4	£195 £628					4	£141 £454			
Mech. Eng.							4	£111 £357			
Elec. Eng.	4	£195 £628					4	£151 £486			
Eng. Technology	4	£195 £628									
Aeronautical Eng.	4	£195 £628									
Mining and Metallurgy	4	£211 £679					4 (a)	£156 £502			
(a)							4 (b)	£111 £357			
Archit. Eng.							4	£126 £405			
Surveying					3	£75 £241					
Dip. Mech. and Elec. Eng.					4						
<u>DENTISTRY</u>											
B.D.S.	4	£247 £795	5	£241 £776	4	£182 £586	5	£250 £805			
B.D.Sc.											
<u>VETERINARY SCIENCE</u>											
B.V.Sc.	5	£189 ⁶ £608	5	£27 £87	5	£122 £586					
<u>PHARMACY</u>											
Dip. Pharm.	2	£62 £200									

⁶ Plus costs of extra-mural work.

TABLE VI(a) continued

Degree or Diploma	N. S. W.		VIC.		QLD.		S. A.		W. A.		TAS.	
	Yrs.	Cost	Yrs.	Cost	Yrs.	Cost	Yrs.	Cost	Australian Students Yrs. Cost	Overseas Students Yrs. Cost	Yrs.	Cost
<u>MUSIC</u> Mus. Bac.			4	£147 £473			3	£64 £206				3
Mus. Dip.			3	£104 £335	2	£34 £109						
<u>EDUCATION</u> Dip.Ed.			Post-Graduate	Post-Graduate	Post-Graduate		Post-Graduate					
B.Ed.												
Certif. in Educ. A.Ed.					2	£21 £68						
<u>PHYSICAL EDUC.</u> B.Sc., Phys.Ed.	4											
Dip. Phys. Ed.			2	£64 £206	3		2 ^o £42 £135					
Certificate					1							
<u>FORESTRY</u> B.Sc. For.	4				4	£57 £183^o						
<u>JOURNALISM</u> Dip. Journ.					2	£30 £97						
<u>PHYSIOTHERAPY</u> Dip. Phty.					3	£132 £425						
<u>DIVINITY</u> B.D.		x										
<u>MASSAGE</u> Dip. Mass.	2	£45 £145										

^o After one year in Arts, Science, Dentistry or Medicine.

^o For the first two years. Third and fourth years taken at Forestry School, Canberra.

TABLE VI(b) FEES FOR POST-GRADUATE DEGREES AND DIPLOMAS.

	N. S. W.		VIC.		QLD.		S. A.		W. A.		TAS.	
	Yrs.	Cost	Yrs.	Cost	Yrs.	Cost	Yrs.	Cost	Yrs.	Cost	Yrs.	Cost
<u>ARTS</u>												
M.A.		x		£7 £23		x		£21-26 £68-84		£10 £32		£11 £35
Litt.D.		x		£11 £35		x		£26 £84		£15 £48		£16 £51
Dip.Anthrop.		x										
<u>LAW</u>												
LL.D.		x		£11 £35		x		£26 £84		£15 £48		£16 £51
LL.M.				x		x		£16 £51		£10 £32		£11 £35
<u>MEDICINE</u>												
M.D.		x		x		x		£26 £84				
M.S.		x		x		x		£36 £116				
Diplomas in												
(a)Public Health		x	1	£61 £196								
(b)Tropical Medicine		x										
(c)Tropical Hygiene		x										
(d)Psychological "medicine		x		£70 £225								
(e)Radiology		x										
(f)Anaesthesia		x										
(g)Ophthalmology			1	£90 £290								
(h)Laryngology and Otology			1	£89 £286								

15.

x in any column indicates that the degree is awarded in this university, but no information is available regarding the cost of the course.

TABLE VI(b) continued

	N. S. W. Yrs. Cost	VIC. Yrs. Cost	QLD. Yrs. Cost	S.A. Yrs. Cost	W.A. Yrs. Cost	TAS. Yrs. Cost
<u>MEDICINE (cont.)</u> Diplomas in: (i) Gynaecology and Obstets. (j) Diagnostic Radiology (k) Therapeutic Radiology and Electricity (l) Psychiatry	 £29 93	1 £92 296 1 £102 328				
<u>SCIENCE</u> M.Sc. D.Sc. Diploma of Dietetics	x x	x x 1 £24 77	x x	£16 51 £26 84	£10 32 £15 48	£11 35 £16 51
<u>ENGINEERING</u> M.E. D.Sc.Eng.	x x	x x	x x	£16 51	£10 32	£11 35
<u>DENTISTRY</u> M.D.S. D.D.Sc.	x x	x x	x x	£36 116 £26 84		
<u>VETERINARY SCIENCE</u> M.V.Sc. D.V.Sc.	x x	x In abeyance	x x			

TABLI VI(b) continued

	N. S. W. Yrs. Cost	VIC. Yrs. Cost	QLD. Yrs. Cost	S.A. Yrs. Cost	W.A. Yrs. Cost	TAS. Yrs. Cost
<u>AGRICULTURE</u>						
M.Sc.Ag. 1	x	x	x		£10	
D.Sc.Ag.	x		x		£32 £15 £48	
<u>ECONOMICS</u>						
M.Ec.or M.Comm. (a) (b)	(a)	(b)	(b)	(a) £21-26 £68-84		£11
D.Ec.or D.Comm.		(b)	(b)			£35 £16 £51
<u>DIVINITY</u>						
D.D.	x					
<u>EDUCATION</u>						
Dip.Ed.	1 £27 £87	x	1 £23 £74	1 £15 £48	1 £6 £19	x
B.Ed.		2 £45 £145				
M.Ed.		x				
<u>MUSIC</u>						
Mus.Doc.		x		£26 £84		
<u>PHYSICAL EDUCATION</u>						
PH.D.		2				

17.

TABLE VII

DEPARTMENTS IN AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITIES

Department	Sydney	Melbourne	Queens- land	Adel- aide	West Aust- ralia	Tas- mania	New Eng- land Univ. College	Can- berra Univ. Coll- ege
Agricultural Research				x 27				
Agriculture	x 8	x 14	x 2		x 8			
Anthropology	x 4							
Architecture	x 8	x 11	x 2					
Biology			x 8		x 5	x 3		
Botany	x 8	x 8		x 5	x 2		x 1	x 1
Chemistry	x 7	x 9	x 7	x 10	x 5	x 4	x 1	
Biochemistry	x 4	x 3		x 3				
Organic Chemistry	x 8							
Classics		x 5	x 4	x 3	x 1	x 1	x 2	
Commerce and/or Economics	x 13	x 28	x 4	x 18	x 6	x 4	x 1	x 6
Dentistry	x 34	x 1	x 16	x 20				
Divinity	x 10							
Education	x 4	x 16	x 8	x 6	x 9		x 1	
Engineering	x 26	x 17	x 27	x 7	x 8	x 7		
English	x 6	x 7	x 6	x 2	x 5	x 2		x 1
French	x 4	x 5		x 2	x 4		x 1	
German	x 4	x 2		x 1			x 1	
Greek	x 3							
Latin	x 4							
Modern Languages						x 2		x 1
Other Languages	x 1				x 1			x 1
Geography	x 3			x 3				
Geology	x 10	x 6	x 3	x 5	x 5		x 1	
History	x 6	x 8		x 2	x 2	x 1	x 1	x 1
Journalism			x 12		x 1			
Law	x 16	x 9	x 5	x 8	x 6	x 6		x 3
Mathematics	x 5	x 6	x 3	x 5	x 2	x 2	x 1	x 1
Medicine	x 25	x 20	x 17	x 1				
Anatomy	x 33	x 22	x 16	x 4				
Bacteriology	x 3	x 5		x 2				
Cancer Research				x 2				

TABLE VII (CONTINUED)

Department	Sydney	Melbourne	Queens- land	Adel- aide	West Aust- ralia	Tas- mania	New Eng- land Univ. College	Can- berra Univ. College
Gynaecology			x 3					
Hospitals	x 35			x 34				
Obstetrics	x 11	x 5	x 9					
Pathology	x 18	x 10	x 7	x 3				
Pharmacy	x 4							
Physiology	x 4	x 9	x 3	x 4				
Psychiatry	x 1							
Surgery	x 7	x 6	x 19					
Tropical Medicine	x		x 8					
Metallurgy		x 9						
Mining				x 3				
Music		x 42	x 1	x 19				
Natural Philosophy		x 10						
Philosophy	x 5	x 6		x 3	x 2			x 1
Physical Education		x 5						
Physics	x 8		x 5	x 8	x 4	x 2		
Physiotherapy			x 8					
Political Science		x 3						x 1
Psychology	x 4	x 5			x 3	x 2	x 1	
Tutorial Classes	x 4							
Veterinary Science	x 17	x 6	x 14					
Zoology	x 8	x 4		x 4				
Total Number of Depts.	40	32	26	29	19	12	11	10
Total Number of Staff	383	317	217	214	79	36	12	17

This Table was adapted from a report of the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics on Australian University Statistics, published in 1940.

Numerals in each square indicate the teaching and research staff in each department.

7. Social Life and Student Societies.

The fact that a very small proportion of students lives in residential colleges has resulted in a certain lack of integration in the student body. While considerable provision is made for corporate student life, large numbers of students living at home continue to find their social life, to a large extent, outside the university.

In each university, a union of undergraduates, organised by the student body, provides for the needs of students. These student bodies are formally recognised by the universities. The union buildings contain common and reading rooms, billiard rooms, etc., and cafeterias where meals may be obtained at a reasonable charge.

Student activities include societies covering a wide range of interests. Among these societies are those closely related to fields of study, e.g. Classical Society, Medical Society, History Club, and others such as musical and dramatic societies, religious societies, and those covering many fields of sport. Regular recitals of recordings, organ recitals and film shows are held in some universities. Functions held include - Fresher's Week, Commencement week, revues, balls and drama festivals. Inter-faculty and inter-variety competitions cover cricket, football, tennis, hockey, swimming, boxing, rowing, athletics, basketball and debating.