

Chronicle



Mr W. A. ("Bill") Sutton, recently-retired Reader in the School of Fine Arts, who has been awarded the C.B.E. in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Edinburgh's New General Degree

Edinburgh is to become the first Scottish university to offer an honours degree in the arts faculty based on general studies.

The Scottish general degree has a long tradition of allowing under-graduates to continue their studies in breadth up to degree level. Until now, however, this has been possibly only at ordinary level, through a three-year course.

Edinburgh felt that this may have discouraged some students from continuing general studies, and now selected arts students will be able to graduate M.A. Honours in general studies, taking a fourth year of study following graduating M.A. General after three years. The three-year degree conferred as a B.A. for the past nine years will simultaneously revert to its traditional title of M.A.

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New Course In Creative Writing For 1981

The University Council last month approved a recommendation from the Professorial Board that a new course in Creative Writing (ENGL 230) be offered for the B.A. degree in 1981. The course, which is valued at 4 points at stage 2, will have two prerequisites: 12 points in any subject(s) at stage 1 level, and qualifying work to a standard satisfactory to the Department of English Language and Literature.

According to Dr R. Jackaman, who will be responsible for the course, the aim will be to promote high standards of technical accomplishment in creative writing and to provide encouragement and assistance to student writers with talent and potential. The course will be offered in three sections: poetry, drama and short story. Entry will be limited to not more than ten students in each section, and will require the submission of a qualifying folio of original work of a satisfactory standard by 31 August in the year preceding admission.

Students interested in participating in the new course in 1981 should consult Dr Jackaman as soon as possible.

Arts Centre Featured On Television

The Arts Centre, formerly the University's town site, will feature in an edition of *Kaleidoscope* to be shown on Television Network Two on Monday 23 June.

John Currie, the actor, will wander as the ghost of Ernest Rutherford among the courtyards and quadrangles of the Centre, tracing its history and viewing arts and crafts persons, rehearsing actors and dancers as well as conducting interviews.

Weather Affects Travel Patterns

The recent heavy rains caused considerable disruption on the campus. One effect all too apparent to drivers searching for somewhere to park was the general stampede to get back behind the steering wheel and leave the motorcycle and bicycle at home.

Mr David Johns, Assistant Registrar (Services), reported that the traffic count of 1497 cars on Wednesday 4 June, at the height of the wet period, was the highest since regular counting started in 1975. This was in marked contrast to the steady fall in car numbers recorded since 1977. The average for last year was 1285 cars, some 100 lower than the 1978 figure. Wet weather figures normally range between 1300 and 1400 so the latest count was a big rise indeed.

Whilst drivers were 16% more numerous on Wednesday compared with a fine day, the 326 hardy motorcyclists counted were 16% fewer. Cyclists, who had at times numbered 1900 this year, deserted their trusty steeds in droves and only 1001 braved the inclement weather.

One question which begs an answer: why do otherwise rational drivers search endlessly for the elusive vacant car park right outside their study/lecture room door when, with no delay whatsoever, they could drive into one of the always empty spaces in the car parks off Fine Arts Lane? Indeed, on that big count day, there were still 111 empty parks in that area, a bare two minutes' walk from the Library. Staff may not realise it, but the northern park off Fine Arts Lane is available to all drivers be they student, staff or visitor.

And one final mystery arising from vehicle counts. The total number of drivers and riders on fine days this year averages 3414 and on wet days 2813. How do the missing 601 souls arrive? On the bus? On foot? Or do they stay at home? Incidentally, they can't be staff members because the number of cars driven by staff rises on wet days. Come to think of it so does the number of students' cars!

CHRISTCHURCH, NZ

Death Of Dave Pullar



Members of the University community will have been saddened to learn of the death of Mr David William Pullar, Registrar of the University of Auckland, who died suddenly on 4 June in Auckland Hospital.

Dave Pullar was born in Owaka, South Otago, where he attended three primary schools in the Catlins District, and then had four years at Owaka District High School. He moved to Wellington and took up an administrative post in the Navy Office. This was interrupted by five years military service in World War II with the army, spending two-and-a-half years on active service in the Middle East. He joined the staff of the University of New Zealand in 1953 as an accountant, and was the first secretary of the New Zealand Vice-Chancellors' Committee from 1962 to 1965. At the University of Auckland he was Academic Registrar until his appointment as Registrar in 1971.

At the Senate meeting on 9 June, the University of Auckland's Public Orator, Professor P. N. Tarling, in an address in memory of Mr Pullar said:

"Mirth and merriment lengthen life, the poet says. Dave's life was cut short, but it enriched ours. But it will not only be his mirth and merriment that we shall miss. We shall miss his shrewdness, his quickness of perception, his insight, his care for detail: the intelligence and respect for others that enabled so direct and extrovert, even ebullient, a character to be sensitive, at times ironic, always positive and helpful. Above all, we shall miss his decency, his humanity. 'Life is short. Let us make haste to be kind.' It was as if Dave knew his life was to be cut short. He certainly made haste to be kind."

Garth Turbott, in recalling his long association with Mr Pullar both as long-time friend and colleague, commented:

"I think my most lasting memory of Dave Pullar will be an occasion, many years ago, when he was seconded from his work to host and to care for some fifty or sixty Commonwealth Vice-Chancellors who were making a tour of New Zealand. He was loading them on to buses outside a city hotel and was running well behind schedule. No one who was late was spared—all were castigated—lords, knights and 'commoners'—all by name, and usually by Christian name—and they all loved it. Such was Dave Pullar's personality. His control of this tour was just one example of his efficient handling and good natured 'jolly along' of all with whom he worked."

His good nature, good humour and ready wit tended to mask the real Dave Pullar—the serious minded, deeply conscientious and hard working—probably over-hard working administrator. Although loyal to Auckland, he believed strongly in a New Zealand university system and always opposed those who would not put the national issue before the local one. He felt that the seven New Zealand university institutions should have a common goal and a common purpose. And in this he was right.

He had not been well and could have retired. He had thought about it and talked it over with his friends but he had a strong desire to steer Auckland through its centennial celebrations. It is sad that he will not be able to do this. When the centennial is celebrated no one will be missed more than Dave Pullar. His many colleagues will cherish his warm heart and good common sense and share with his wife and family, and with the University of Auckland, the sadness of his death."

Among Mr Pullar's lasting contributions to university administration in the New Zealand context was his enthusiastic involvement in the administrative staff training courses held annually in May. He attended the first brief seminar-discussion course for participants from South Island Universities held at the University of Otago in 1967 and then, when the courses were organised on a national basis, he was Chairman of the 3rd and 4th such courses held at the University of Auckland in 1977 and 1978. He was present at the most recent course, held only last month, at the University of Otago.

Examination Cheating Scandal

A major cheating scandal at one of Japan's leading private universities, Waseda, has been partially resolved with a decision to cut the university president's salary in half for six months.

Earlier this year, in connection with the affair, police had arrested three university officials, two faculty deans had resigned, a professor had been dismissed, and a university administration official had committed suicide. These actions followed revelations that parents of prospective students had paid a total of 100m yen (about 190,000) to see advance copies of university entrance examinations. Waseda is regarded as one of Japan's two most prestigious universities; graduates are virtually guaranteed lucrative careers in government or with major companies.

In February, 23,000 candidates competed for 2,000 places in the commerce faculty. Results were posted in March, and simultaneously the university president announced that officials had discovered that a number of candidates had seen advance copies of some papers. Following police investigations, three university officials admitted stealing the papers from the university's printing department and selling them to a retired school teacher who re-sold the papers, complete with model answers, to parents of his former pupils. A few days later, a professor in the education faculty admitted that he had passed ten million yen to one of the arrested officials in return for copies of the papers. An emergency meeting of the faculty voted to dismiss him, and following Japanese custom, the deans of the commerce and education faculties resigned to accept responsibility for the scandal.

At the end of March, a 55-year old administration officer who had previously been questioned by police in connection with the affair committed suicide by throwing himself in front of a train. He left a note declaring his innocence and ending "Waseda Banzai" (Long live Waseda).

In April the affair was declared over when the university's governing body refused to accept the president's resignation, but cut his salary instead. At the same time three administration officials resigned to accept responsibility for the affair.

Public reaction has understandably been harsh, and criticisms of Waseda has been especially strong. Newspapers have called on the government to upgrade the quality of education at the less prestigious universities, and many people have suggested that business and government should put more weight on the academic record and personality of potential employees, instead of selecting them according to which university they attended.

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People

Professor H. McCallion (Mechanical Engineering) has been elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand.

Mr R. Metcalfe (Registry) has resigned to take up a position as Deputy Registrar at the University of Technology at Lae, Papua New Guinea.

Mr B. Wearing (History) has been invited to read a paper and to hold a workshop on comparative immigrant history at the Californian American Studies conference at Berkeley in September.

Professor A. G. Williamson (Chemical Engineering) has been elected as a representative of the Professorial Board on the University Council. He replaces Professor R. Park (Civil Engineering) whose term of office ends on 30 June 1980.

The recent election for six representatives of the lecturers on the Professorial Board resulted in the nomination of the following:

Dr C. R. Barrett (English), Dr R. D. Bedford (Geography), Dr R. P. Bond (Classics), Mr M. J. Dobson (Extension Studies), Dr R. M. Hodgson (Electrical Engineering) and Dr C. L. McLay (Zoology).

Their nominations will go forward to the Council for approval. The other lecturers' representatives on the Board are:

Miss M. E. Belcher (English), Mr A. J. Bowen (Mechanical Engineering), Dr D. E. Browne (Philosophy and Religious Studies), Dr J. E. Fergusson (Chemistry), Mrs R. A. Novitz (Sociology), Dr L. E. Richardson (History), Dr R. W. G. Syme (Physics) and Dr A. J. Sutherland (Civil Engineering).

Professor J. A. Ritchie (Music) whose term as Deputy Vice-Chancellor ends this month, has been elected an Individual Member of the International Music Council for a term of four years. The Council, which is representative of more than ninety countries, has 18 Individual Members in their own right. Professor Ritchie, who is also Secretary-General of the International Society for Music Education (ISME), proceeds on leave at the end of June to attend ISME conferences and seminars, the Bayreuth Wagner Festival as well as visiting the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki and the University of Arizona in Tucson as a visiting lecturer. He returns to the University in mid-September.

The Hutton Medal and Prize of the Royal Society of New Zealand for 1980 has been awarded to Professor G. A. Knox (Zoology). The citation stated that this was in recognition of his contributions to zoological research, his notable success in sponsoring biological research, especially in the environmental field and for his distinguished participation in international science.

Grant

The National Heart Foundation of New Zealand has made a grant of \$1,200 to Professor R. H. T. Bates (Electrical Engineering) to develop a realistic functional model of the conduction system of the heart, and to utilise the model to test hypotheses of Arrhythmogenesis and to predict the effects of interventions (drugs and pace-makers) in patients with arrhythmias.

Digraphs: Theory And Techniques

A new textbook on the theory and application of directed graphs—digraphs—has recently been published by two lecturers in the University, Dr D. F. Robinson (Mathematics) and Dr L. F. Foulds (Operations Research).

Arising from the experience gained in teaching this type of material both at the University of Canterbury and Massey University, *Digraphs* is intended for those university undergraduates (or high school seniors) studying mathematics, business, the social or biological sciences or engineering, who wish to gain an introductory knowledge of the subject.

Graph theory has recently become a systematic tool, and there has been a rapid growth in the study of its theory and practice. A great many of the real-life applications are really concerned with digraphs. Exercises and examples in the book include the type so beloved of puzzle-compilers ("In two sets of boys and girls, Allan cares only for Ethel; Billie and Charlie are both keen on Florence, but Charlie is also interested in Gail; Don is a confirmed bachelor and has nothing to do with any of them. . .") as well as those of a more practical nature, such as the problem based on traffic movements in central Christchurch or the one concerning the ordering of the medal tally for the 1974 Commonwealth Games.

Despite appearances to the contrary, the book assumes very little mathematical knowledge and is self-contained.

A Solution To Our Problems?

A University of Tasmania academic, Richard Davis, has devised a revolutionary proposal for solving the problem of reduced university funding.

He claims the suggestion would painlessly tap the inexhaustible resources of academic leadership, ambition and surplus purchasing power. Mr Davis claims that several Australian professors have voluntarily reduced themselves to reader status but that his idea would be less drastic.

"Professors", he says, "are invited to regress to reader level in remuneration only. The power, influence, authority and social position will remain and be reinforced by the proud title 'donor professor'."

Regardless of existing seniority, Davis suggests, donor professors would take precedence over all non-donors in academic processions and on formal occasions. Sartorial symbolism might include the tasteful embroidery of a silver dollar sign on the academic gown of each donor professor.

Davis argues that positions on university councils and chairmanships of professorial boards should be reserved exclusively for donor professors so that eventually they would comprise the total professoriate of a university.

Then stage two would be implemented. Readers would be encouraged to reduce their salaries to that of senior lecturer in return for the title "associate professor".

"Undesirable side effects will be avoided by extracting written undertakings that none of the power, influence, authority of social position of real professors will ever be claimed", Davis says. Going down the line, senior lecturers would become readers and lecturers senior lecturers with appropriate salary reductions being made at each stage.

The problem of reclassifying senior tutors would then fade away Davis claims, for they would automatically become lecturers on lower salaries. At the very bottom, short-term instructors could obtain tenure if willing to work for nothing as "dole tutors". At the other end of the scale, vice-chancellors dropping to mere professorial status would be rewarded with instant knighthoods.

Davis maintains that his idea has many precedents. In the army many well paid warrant officers are attracted by the lure of commissioned status into accepting ill-paid reclassification as second lieutenants.

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Notices

Conference On Co-operative Education

International co-operative education, a strategy for the development of human and economic resources, is the theme of the Second World Conference on Co-operative Education to be sponsored by Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts U.S.A. on April 22-24, 1981.

Co-operative Education is a plan for educating men and women in which the curriculum integrates periods of academic study and paid structured work experiences in business, industry and government.

The goals of the conference are to:

- *Create better understanding between nations through international education.*
- *Demonstrate the value of co-operative education in preparing men and women for technological and managerial roles in business, industry and government. All countries, but especially developing countries, are experiencing acute shortages of personnel with sound technological and managerial training. The experiences of firms in the U.S.A. in recruiting through co-operative education has been very positive.*
- *Foster the transfer and use of technology to developing countries by educating and training nationals in the use of that technology.*

Further information may be obtained from the Registry Concourse.

Teaching Positions In Singapore

The Singapore Institute of Education invites applications from suitably qualified candidates for lectureship positions in Education, English, Mathematics, Computer Science, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, History and Physical Education.

The Institute, which is the only tertiary institution in Singapore engaged in teacher training, is responsible for the pre-service training of pre-primary, primary and secondary teachers, the continuing education of qualified practising teachers and the preparation of university graduates for the Diploma in Education and the degrees of Master of Education and Ph.D. in Education.

Further details regarding conditions of employment and salary scales are obtainable from the Registry Concourse.

Population Conference

The International Union for the Scientific Study of Population is holding its quadrennial conference in Manila from 9 to 16 December 1981.

The aim of the Union is to promote demography as a science and to bring the attention of governments, international organisations and world public opinion to the importance of population problems.

Further particulars are obtainable from the Executive Secretary, I.U.S.S.P., Rue Forgeur, 5-4000 Liege, Belgium. A copy of the Conference's first information bulletin is being held in the Registry concourse.

Graduate House

Staff spending study leave in Melbourne may be interested to know of the facilities offered by Graduate House, the headquarters of the postgraduate college of the University of Melbourne known as The Graduate Union. It consists of seven attractively-restored Victorian terrace houses just opposite the main University gates.

There are 40 bedroom-studies, some of which consist of inter-connecting pairs where it is possible to accommodate married visitors to the house. While Graduate House is designed primarily as a centre for postgraduate workers and academic visitors, there are commonly places available for members requiring overnight or short-term accommodation for periods up to one week. The rooms are most attractively furnished and are served daily. Luncheon and evening meals are provided for both permanent members-in-residence and non-residential members of the College.

Copies of the detailed Graduate House prospectus and application forms are available from the office of the Secretary-Warden, The Graduate Union, 224 Leicester Street, Carlton 3053, Australia.

Festival Of German Film Classics

This is being presented by the School of Fine Arts in the Sociology Theatre, Room 231, each Thursday evening at 7.30 for ten weeks. Staff and friends are invited to some of these film classics.

Films reserved for future screenings are 'Variety' (1925) with Emil Jannings, 'The Last Laugh' (1924), again with Jannings and directed by F. W. Murnau, the original 'Dracula' (1922), 'Waxworks' (1924) with Conrad Veidt, Fritz Lang's 'Metropolis' (1926), the first major 'things-to-come' film, 'The Student of Prague', 'The Golem', 'Madame Du Barry' and 'The Back Stairs'.

Other films are being negotiated through Canberra and it is hoped that 'Destiny' and others may be available. Some more recent German films will also be screened including 'The Sudden Wealth of the Poor People of Kambach' (1971) and 'Fata Morgana' (1975).

Further information from Maurice Askew (extension 8744).

Staff Wives' Club

Coming events in July for members of the Staff Wives' Club include the following:

Tuesday, 8 July, 12 noon

Luncheon at Students' Union followed by a piano recital by Rosemary Miller-Stott.

Wednesday, 30 July, 8 p.m.

"Plumtree, three shorts and two longs"—Health Service in a Tribal Trust Land, Rhodesia. Talk by Mrs Louise Scott.

Later in the year, there will be a visit to the School of Fine Arts (September), a talk on Maori Culture in primary schools (October), a family outing to Godley Head and an Azalea coffee morning (November) and a children's Christmas party (December).

Enquiries to the Secretary, Joan Earl (Tel. 588-593).

For Sale

For Sale. 1974 Austin Maxi, Hi-Line, 118,000 km but in excellent condition, \$3200 o.n.o.; Lady's bicycle, pull-up rod brakes, old but re-conditioned, \$45 o.n.o. Contact R. Battino (Chemical Engineering) 486-609 evenings or weekends.