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UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY

Chronicle

A.U.T. Support For Education Fightback Campaign

The Canterbury branch of the Association of University Teachers has given its support to the Education Fightback Campaign initiated by the New Zealand University Students' Association and recommends members to take part in the National Education Day next Thursday, 26 July, at which the recent cuts in education expenditure will be discussed.

Meetings of students, staff and the public are planned on Thursday.

At 11am there will be a forum on "The Role of Education: a Right or a Privilege?" in the International Room, Students' Union. A large meeting of staff and students is planned at noon between the Library and the Registry and this will be followed by a public meeting in Cathedral Square. The Students' Association is also considering other activities.

The A.U.T., at a recent meeting, urged all members of the academic staff to take part in the National Education Day discussions. The meeting also:

Deplored cuts in education spending and expressed the view that they would inevitably lead to a deterioration in teaching and research.

Supported the principle of open entry to the universities.

Expressed support for the Education Fightback Campaign and agreed to donate \$100 to its funds.



Mr G. M. McNally, the new Dean of the Faculty of Commerce.

Dracula Season

A full-blooded production of *Dracula* will be the University Drama Society's winter term production.

The play, directed by Endel Lust, will be presented in the Ngaho Marsh Theatre 27 July to 4 August. Bookings may be made at the Town Hall and the Students' Association booking office.

AUNAS Associate Membership

The Association of University Non-Academic Staff has made provision for associate membership and invites members of the academic and technical staffs to consider joining the association as associate members. Membership in this category would entitle them to the buying privileges enjoyed by ordinary members. Inquiries may be made to Mrs D. Ball (Civil Engineering) or Miss A. Schrader (Extension Studies).

E.R.A.U. Plans Seminars

The complexities of academic life were well recognised at a recent Inter-University Conference of Higher Education Staff held at Victoria University. "Improving Teaching" was seen as too narrow a response to criticisms that have been levelled at universities from time to time and which the conference was asked to consider by the Vice-Chancellors' Committee.

It would seem that the wider professional growth of staff will become a topical issue within universities, both for the institutions and the individuals in them. Already, for example, A.U.T. at a national level has begun to consider developing policies related to professional responsibilities and "staff development".

Arrangements are being made for a seminar on this topic at which Dr Ray McAleese, of the University of Aberdeen, will speak to interested staff. Dr McAleese has been closely associated with staff development trends in the United Kingdom, and will be visiting the University as part

of a brief tour of Australia and New Zealand. The seminar is tentatively scheduled for 2 August, but arrangements are to be confirmed. Final details will be circulated to departments.

Seminars on aspects of moderating examination grades will be held on 9 and 10 August. A principal contributor will be Dr T. Crooks, of the Higher Education Development Centre at the University of Otago. Dr Crooks has just completed a study of the variations in the distribution of grades between subjects in the same year, and between years. Further information on these seminars will be circulated.

Staff are reminded that the E.R.A.U. receives occasional publications relating to university teaching from other centres. Such information is available for perusal or borrowing by staff. Recent examples are:

Teaching News Birmingham; *Mature Age Students' Viewpoints* Queensland; and *The University Teacher* Tasmania.

Education Coss

University Relatively Inexpensive—Vice-Chancellor

The University is a relatively inexpensive agent of tertiary education, the Vice-Chancellor told Rotarians on Monday. The cost per full-time student in New Zealand universities is less than half of that in Britain and two-thirds that in Australia, he said.

Professor Brownlie said the estimated annual current costs per equivalent full-time New Zealand student for 1978-79 were:

Universities	\$3400
Technical Institutes	\$3300
Teachers' Colleges	\$8100

"The higher cost of teacher training is the result of the payment to teachers' college students of a full salary," he said. "It should also be noted that commerce and law students cost less than three-quarters of the University average, and that markedly less than the technical institute average."

Professor Brownlie described the University as a large community, located on 70 hectares at Ilam and accommodated in modern buildings with a floor area of about 1.5 million square feet and costing about \$50 million. The buildings contained many and varied expensive facilities including several computers and the half-million books of the library collection. There are nearly 7,500 students, a teaching staff of about 460 and a similar number of technicians, administrators, secretaries, librarians, tradesmen, etc. to support the University's teaching and research activities. Residential accommodation was provided for 850 students, and care for the health, physical recreation and social and cultural activities of students.

"The annual operating expenditure of the University is about \$18 million, which is spent almost entirely in Christchurch," he said. "And if students spend no more than \$2,000 each a year, they contribute some \$15 million to the Christchurch economy. There is also the considerable impact of the University's site development on the local building industry."

Professor Brownlie said the University assisted pupils in the transition from school to university and at the far end attempted to match graduates to available graduate opportunities. It had produced graduates of national and international distinction and had won a sound reputation for the quality of its teaching and research. It had been in

existence for 106 years and though it was no longer situated near the heart of the city it remained very much an important Christchurch and Canterbury institution.

"The University of Canterbury's primary and statutory responsibility is to preserve, transmit and enlarge knowledge by teaching and research," he said. Over a century ago John Stewart Mill had said that universities were not intended to teach the knowledge required to fit men for some special mode of gaining their livelihood. Their object was not to make skillful lawyers, or physicians, or engineers, but equable and cultivated human beings. But, as Confucius pointed out rather earlier than Mill, no man studied for three years without thought of gain.

"The high purpose of turning out 'equable and cultivated' men and women remains central to the University's purpose, but it is also true that today we serve our community more directly than ever before," Professor Brownlie said. "The march of science and technology requires trained men and women and the nation that does not provide them will drift backwards. The University does provide these scientists. The technologists, engineers, lawyers, economists, accountants, social workers, teachers, foresters, psychologists, administrators and geographers who move forward the frontiers of knowledge in materially useful, or otherwise desirable ways.

"The direct contribution of the University itself in this teaching process is very large, but there is much more to it. Their teaching also extends into the wider community through the Department of Extension Studies. The Faculties of Engineering and Commerce, more directly than ever before, provide seminars, courses and workshops to enable graduates working in a profession to come back to the University to renew their knowledge or to learn about the application of new techniques, equipment and processes. We have also invited mature people to enter the University to study for a qualification essentially as younger students and the Extension Studies Department also offers a very wide range of short courses that bring adults seeking knowledge into the University in the evenings and weekends.

"The vitality of the University's teaching is dependent in large measure on the research activities that are undertaken by both students and staff. At higher levels, teaching takes students to the boundaries of knowledge. Those boundaries are extended by research. The staff are employed in large part to supervise student research and to

conduct their own research. But that research—and more than 400 research projects are published by staff each year—does more than broaden and deepen the pool of knowledge and give vitality to our teaching. Practical results also flow from what engineers, scientists, foresters, psychologists, geographers, biologists, zoologists and many others discover in our laboratories and in the field. The energy crisis, for instance, triggered a whole series of projects: solar energy, the use of methanol as liquid fuel, an electric car, a new type of furnace, conservation in the home and on the farm, coal research and energy from the wind. It is significant that much of this and other university research is funded by external sources—local bodies, Government departments, research organisations, industry and commerce."

In the English Department, staff were writing original work and undertaking critical evaluations of the work of poets, dramatists, essayists and novelists, especially New Zealand writers. The historians assisted in illuminating the present by providing a better understanding of the past. The Education Department was collaborating with the Teachers' College in the introduction of a Bachelor of Education degree as a qualification for teachers. Psychologists, sociologists, political scientists and economists were all contributing to an understanding of ourselves and our society. The skills of the University's artists—painters, sculptors, photographers and makers—all helped to enrich our society.

University staff made their expertise available to the community in a number of ways. They were members of regional and national bodies, professional societies, school boards and many other organisations. Their expert services were often available as consultants. They had given specialist advice on urban planning, urban engineering design projects, urban psychological testing, assisted in the rehabilitation of alcoholics, or advised on the economic location of industry.

"The social and cultural life of the Christchurch community would be impoverished without the University's contribution. It was university men who founded the Repertory Theatre and the Court Theatre. The contribution of Dame Ngajo Mero to drama through the University Drama Society was widely acknowledged. There was provision for a string quartet in the School of Music and luncheon concerts were given both on and off the campus twice a week in term. The

(continued next page)

Term Dates, 1980

	AUCKLAND	WAIKATO	MASSEY	VICTORIA	CANTERBURY	LINCOLN	OTAGO
ENROLMENT	25-29 February	25-28 February	25-29 February	20-28 February	25 February -	28 February	25-26 February
Term 1 begins	3 March	3 March	3 March	3 March	3 March	3 March	29 February
GRADUATION	9 May	10-11 April		30 April - 1 May	7-8 May	9 May	10 May
Term 1 ends	10 May	9 May	9 May	10 May	6 May	9 May	10 May
Term 2 begins	3 June	3 June	3 June	26 May	28 May	26 May	3 June
Mid-term break (examinations)	7-12 July	30 June - 4 July		23 June - 5 July	7-12 July	23 June - 11 July	
Term 2 ends	15 August	15 August	8 August	22 August	19 August	22 August	9 August
Term 3 begins	8 September	8 September	1 September	8 September	8 September	8 September	1 September
Lectures end (approx.)	10 October	17 October	10 October	11 October	11 October	24 October	11 October
Examinations begin (approx.)	20 October	28 October		18 October	20 October	29 October	23 October

STATUTORY HOLIDAYS

Easter	Friday 4 April - Tuesday 8 April inclusive
Anzac Day	Friday 25 April
Queen's Birthday	Monday 2 June
Labour Day	Monday 27 October

Education Costs

(from previous page)

University provided television and radio commentators and newspaper columnists and met requests for speakers for numerous community organisations.

"These are the obvious benefits of the University, but there is another. The University is Society's most important independent centre of learning and inquiry," Professor Brownlie said. "In training minds and cultivating powers of reasoning, self-expression and imagination, it must also inculcate what has been described as the discipline of dissent. In other words, the University teacher must train students not merely to understand the great body of knowledge being communicated to them, but also to be critical of it. The scholar or researcher who strikes out on different lines of inquiry or who challenges accepted assumptions and institutions is often the one who widens the boundaries of knowledge," he said.

"I trust that my brief comments have indicated that the University of Canterbury is a valuable public asset—providing extensive environmental, social, cultural, and intellectual benefits to the community at modest financial demands on society, particularly in comparison with the costs of universities in the United Kingdom and Australia and the costs of other tertiary institutions in New Zealand."

Otago Fears Student Roll Will Fall Next Year

The University of Otago is apprehensive about the effects of the new student grant system next year. With more than 70 per cent of its students coming from outside Dunedin, Otago is likely to have a sharp reduction in enrolments.

The Otago University Newsletter says this will have a serious effect on Otago's colleges and halls of residence. "Soaring costs have forced up the rates charged for board and the new system will mean that only students who have made a great deal of money in the summer vacation or whose parents can subsidise them substantially will be able to afford to live in halls."

The new scheme, by which the standard tertiary bursary of \$30 a week for students attending a university not in their home town will be replaced by a student grant of \$23 a week (with provision for additional payments to \$40 a week in cases of hardship) will strongly favour those attending university in their home towns, the newsletter says. "But it will certainly not suit the 73 per cent of Otago students who come from beyond Dunedin... Clearly there will be a drop in the Otago roll next year."

The Otago University Council has expressed its grave concern at the study grant system "believing that the new scales pose threats to the University because of its high proportion of out of town students, to the colleges and halls of residence which already face the dangers of inflation, and to the deeply cherished policy of New Zealand that to enter to a university should be open to all."

The Vice-Chancellor (Dr R. Q. Irvine) said that at a time when New Zealand badly needs excellence and leadership in research and in scientific, technological, professional and cultural development, "we have been told that universities are not part of the main structure of public education."

"We have always recognised our responsibility to accept our share of the economic recession. What I cannot accept is that the universities should be singled out in this way," he said.

Dr Irvine referred to the present imbalance in the university system and said that the new policy would aggravate the situation. Encouraging students to attend university in their home region would mean that in a place of high population density such as Auckland there would be an unwelcome increase in student numbers. Otago, in an area of low population density, would see student numbers fall off to critical levels."

Energy Research

Minister Impressed With Engineers' Work

"I'm really fascinated; this is extremely valuable work," said the Minister of Energy (Mr Birch) after an hour's briefing on the research being undertaken in the University on alternative energy sources.

But Mr Birch, who met energy researchers in the School of Engineering earlier this month, held out no hope of a Government contribution towards the development of electric vehicles, on which Mr D. J. Byers (Electrical Engineering) and Mr R. T. C. Harman (Mechanical Engineering, have completed research.

Government energy priorities did not include the development of the electric car, Mr Birch told Mr Byers. The main priority was the development of liquid fuels and limited resources had to be allocated the highest priority.

"I'm certainly attracted to the work you are doing and I wish we had the resources to help," Mr Birch said. He undertook to counter any suggestion that the Government had a negative attitude to the development of the electric car, the hope that other sponsors might be encouraged and he also undertook to review a Customs Department ruling not to waive the duty on the body of a car offered for the development work by the Mazda company, of Japan.

Mr Birch was briefed on the energy research being undertaken by:

Dr W. B. Earl and Dr E. E. Graham (Chemical Engineering) on the development of methanol from Maui gas for a liquid transport fuel and by Dr J. K. Raine (Mechanical Engineering) on the modification of engines to accept high methanol blends as a fuel. Dr Earl also discussed current work on fuels from the biomass.

Professor A. G. Williamson (Chemical Engineering) and Dr G. J. Parker (Mechanical Engineering) into solar energy.

Mr I. A. Gilmour (Chemical Engineering) into fuel bed combustion.

Mr Byers into electric-powered vehicles.

Mr Birch emphasised the need to get industry involved in these developments. There was a tremendous interest in energy and so many ideas were coming forward that there were a lot of frustrated inventors

about. "We are trying to get the interest of industry immediately so that good ideas don't just stop but are transferred into use," he said. "In this way new ideas can have practical applications as they are being developed."

Mr Birch asked for understanding of the Government's position. It was devoting more in real terms than ever before to research and development, but it could not meet requests from every quarter.

Professor D. C. Stephenson (Mechanical Engineering) said the research the University had made in the past and in the present was significant and "we should not be running ourselves down."

He added: "We want to do research, we have much of the equipment, we have the people and we would like to do well for the

country. And it's worth remembering that University research is very cheap."

He said the University was not into high cost technology with the electric car, but if the conversion of coal into liquid fuel was planned then the country would really be into high cost technology. He said the Energy Research and Development Committee had been underfunded and could not put money into fundamental research.

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People

Professor R. A. M. Gregson (Psychology), has been appointed a representative to the International Commission on Olfaction and Taste. The Commission functions under the auspices of the International Union of Physiological Sciences.

Dr D. Novitz (Philosophy and Religious Studies) will attend the annual conference of the Australasian Association of Philosophy in Melbourne at the end of August.

Professor R. H. T. Bates, (Electrical Engineering) has begun co-operating with Professor J. Gibb, of the Anaesthetics Department in the Christchurch Clinical School, on research into the use of impedance plethysmography for monitoring the general state of a patient's health during anaesthesia.

Professor Gibb was recently granted \$5000 by the National Heart Foundation to help support the first two years of the research, a sizable part of which will be performed by Professor Bates and a student, Mr A. D. Seagar.

This month John Harker has not been distributing stationery to University departments. Instead he has been touring the North Island with the Aurelian Singers, a quartet of male singers, whose tour has been sponsored by the Music Federation. Mr Harker, a baritone, earlier became the second member of the Registry staff to present a lunch-time recital in the School of Music this year. The first was Mr W. E. Boyle (Printery) who gave a recital of piping.

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A copy of the winter 1978 issue of the Countryman journal is in the wrapper in the mail and it is not known to whom to deliver it. The journal may be retrieved from the Information Office.

The following howlers appeared among the answers in a recent cell biology test: The oldest fossil record of life dates back to the pre-cambrian eror. Reproduction in eucaryotes has evolve (sic) from asexual to sexual thus allowing more variation.

Aristotle believed that some organisms reproduced by sexual intercourse.

Engineering Students Design Playground Equipment

One of the design studies for senior mechanical engineering students last term was a piece of equipment for a children's playground. The Kiwanis Club of North-west Christchurch was interested in providing equipment and after examining the designs, it has decided to build a combination climbing apparatus, swing and slide, the design for which was submitted by Mr P. Davidson. The Club awarded him a prize of \$50.

In a letter to Mr C. A. Satterthwaite (Mechanical Engineering) the club says that the effort that went into the entries was much appreciated. The six judges could not reach a unanimous decision, and considerable debate took place before the eventual winner was selected.

The entries that excited the most interest were:

Mr P. A. Taylor's Rotawing—a very novel concept, but the use of bicycle components on playground equipment was suspect in terms of durability.

Mr C. A. Hopper's two dimensional swing. It was simple and effective, but it was felt the erratic motion of the swing could be a danger to young children who might wander into its orbit.

Mr C. J. Ryan's "Walking Man"—an intriguing entry, but possibly dangerous for youngsters and an inviting target for vandals.

Mr J. W. Farmer's Rocking Boat—appealing, but as designed the boat would be too high off the ground for young children.

Of Mr Davidson's entry the judges said that while it was not as original as some other entries, it is robust and can be used by several children at the one time.

Two entries were costly by steel fabricators, and prices between \$1200 and \$1800 were quoted. "We are hopeful that by using the resources of club members, the winning entry can be constructed for around \$800," the club said.

Anthropologist's Seminar

Professor Jan Pouwer, formerly of Victoria University and now at the Department of Anthropology, Nijmegen, Netherlands, will give a seminar on Monday 23 July on "The Anthropologist as Trickle's Apprentice."

Professor Pouwer's paper will deal with the methodological and logical contradictions of the anthropologist's method, providing a structuralist critique of Karl Popper and Maurice Godteler.

The seminar will be at 2 p.m. in Room 320, Sociology Department. All interested persons will be welcome.

Wilton Park Conferences

Wilton Park conferences are warmly recommended by Mr R. M. Kennaway (Political Science) to academic visitors to Britain.

The conferences are held under the general auspices of the Foreign and Commonwealth offices and have wide representation from O.E.C.D. member states. While on study leave, Mr Kennaway attended one conference on the theme of the Soviet Union and the Third World. It was held in beautiful country-house surroundings in the Sussex Downs. There was a good range of speakers and the discussions were usually most interesting. "As New Zealand is a comparatively recent member of the O.E.C.D., it was quite a novelty for them to have a New Zealand participant, and they seemed pleased to encourage further participation," he said. "I would recommend it as a worthwhile experience, not just for specialists in international politics. The costs, incidentally, are quite heavily subsidised by the British taxpayer."

Quinquennial Grants

System Most Suitable And Economical, Says U.G.C.

In its annual report presented to Parliament last month, the University Grants Committee

1. Strongly defended the quinquennial grants system.
2. Stated its intention to ensure that there is some improvement in the staff-student ratio next year (it said the universities were 540 academics short last year).
3. Reported that it might have to take a more formal and generally understood role in salary negotiations for non-academic staff.

"The block grant system of financing the universities has developed in a way which provides for each university an annual income determined in advance," the U.G.C. report said. "Of this income, the proportion spent on salaries is currently about 75 per cent, is protected against inflation while the remaining 25 per cent spent on other items has no advance assurance of protection against price rises occurring after the grants have been calculated. Nevertheless, in spite of the hazards of estimation and changes that cannot be foreseen, the U.G.C. is firmly of the opinion that block grants are the most suitable and economical way of financing the universities."

"The characteristics of block grants are that they are approved some years in advance, they are not itemised, and the details of their calculation are not disclosed to the universities. The universities are then able to formulate their own academic plans well in advance," it said.

"Such forward planning is essential because, even when decisions about academic developments have been made, the process of appointing staff, drawing up detailed courses and obtaining approval of them by the Curriculum Committee, and ordering, often from overseas, equipment and library materials necessarily takes a long time."

"This method of financing also works on the principle that the universities are autonomous, responsible for their own management in an efficient way, and have developed the necessary machinery for ordering their own priorities. The governing bodies—the councils—are responsible not only for planning their budgets within their incomes but also for making decisions about the allocation of expenditure among all the competing academic proposals which arise

within the institutions and from outside. In this process they receive advice from their professional boards, or senates, from a network of committees, and from their administrative staffs. The process of decision-making is thus diffused, even if it also becomes time-consuming.

"The U.G.C. is fitted to such a system. Its main function in recommending provision for the running costs of the universities is a centralised, comparative estimation of needs at a general or wholesale level. It is not staffed or equipped to manage the universities' institutions and it is not their head office in the way that term is commonly understood. Neither would it wish to assume those roles.

"New Zealand's seven university institutions do not vary markedly in size but they have developed differing philosophies and areas of specialisation in their professional schools and also within departments of the same name. In overall figures such diversity can easily be missed. And the process of assembling data and calculating the block grants is lengthy and detailed precisely because it must take account of the great diversity within the system.

"Although the universities are statutorily autonomous bodies they have a wide range of broadly defined, customary responsibilities and functions. Primary among their functions is the education of able young people for their own personal development, or as a preparation for careers in the professions or public services; or, one hopes, for both. Teaching for these purposes is done in a variety of ways, but it is likely to be done best when the academic staff are also personally engaged in research.

"Education and research are thus inseparably linked. In overall the exact balance between them may vary as between departments and from time to time within a department. One of the purposes of the block grants is to enable the universities to adjust this balance, to set it from their knowledge of their institutions and their staff.

"In addition to providing as best they can for their incomes for the needs of their students and the academic aspirations of their staff, the universities recognise a responsibility to respond to external demands for their services. Such pressures come from professional bodies, from bodies seeking professional status for their members, and from departments of state. Recent years have seen significant moves for training more doctors, and more university

courses for school teachers, valuers, and nurses. And the U.G.C., if only by the grant it recommends for each university, exercises influence particularly on the growth and shape of the whole university system. Its main function is thus included, as it is also set out in the Universities Act, where it is charged with ensuring... 'such balanced university development as may be required to make the universities fully adequate to the needs of New Zealand'.

"The U.G.C. does not interpret this as meaning the imposition of some single plan drawn up centrally and the universities are not to be regarded as being in a position subordinate to the U.G.C. or any other outside body. They can refuse to offer a new course requested of them and they have been specifically empowered by their legislation to refuse enrolment on account of shortage of space or teaching staff.

"The variety and breadth of educational services given by the universities, their traditional need for academic freedom, their obligation to provide a general education on demand by young people qualifying for entrance, and the uncertainties of meeting national needs as they see them or as they are pressed on their behalf by the public, which would be difficult to administer adequately by centralised control with itemised grants.

"Block grants leave the pressures and demands to be resolved effectively by the internal decision processes applied within the universities. However, while the block grants are general, they are not paid out to departments indiscriminately. The salary ranges and scales that may be paid to academic staff are controlled and there are significant limitations built into the university legislation.

"The essential feature of the block grant system, then, is the freedom of choice in detail which it gives the universities to exercise within the constraints imposed by the amount of the grants and the duration of the approvals.

"The year 1979 will see the determination of a new financial settlement of the recurrent grants. The initial decision concerns the size of the grants and that must be made by the Government on behalf of the taxpayers. It is true that Governments of both the major parties have long adhered to the policy that all young people who achieve the entrance qualification and wish to enrol at a university should have the opportunity to do so: this has been New Zealand's traditional policy of open entry. Nevertheless, it must also be accepted that

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Ratio Declines

U.G.C. To Seek Provision For More Staff In 1980's.

One of the major matters to be considered in the formulation of grants for the next quinquennium, beginning in 1980, is the number of academic staff to be provided for, says the University Grants Committee in its annual report to Parliament.

"The present grants were calculated on a series of ratio of staff to estimated numbers of equivalent full-time students which were intended to provide the universities with an overall staff: student ratio of 1:10.18 by 1979. This ratio was not generous by comparison with those in the university systems of most other countries, with which ours are usually compared, but it took account of the large first-year classes characteristic of many departments in New Zealand universities," the report said.

"However, student numbers have exceeded those on which the grants were calculated, so that by 1978 the grants had under-provided for academic staff numbers by 210. But increasing costs of items other than salaries and wages have resulted in the universities being unable to afford the staff numbers originally provided for, let alone those of the part-time lecturing staff. These have amounted to a further 330, making a total shortfall of 540.

"In 1978 the universities have had 2800 full-time filled staff positions and have spent some 10 per cent of their total income on the assistants which can be converted to a further 255 equivalent full-time staff; a total academic staff of 3055, including about 70 engaged in the university extension departments which provide continuing education courses for the community.

"Excluding extension staff, the staff: student ratio in 1978 was 1:12.30 (although classes range from a few up to several hundred students in an individual class). The U.G.C. will be concerned to ensure that there is at least some improvement in the ratio in the new quinquennium," it said.

Quinquennial Grants

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the universities are the guardians of their own standards, and the final decisions on the acceptable minimum level of resources, as measured by staff: student ratios, laboratory equipment, libraries, and building space in relation to the demands placed upon them rest with the universities in their power, after consultation with the U.G.C. to control their student numbers," the report said.

"Unless the universities find it necessary to restrict numbers, internal rolls are likely to increase from the 41,835 in 1978 to about 48,400 in 1984. The main features of enrolments in recent years have been a marked drop in the rate of increase in 1972, 1973, and 1974, followed by a surge in 1975 and 1976 and a more steady increase of nearly 1000 a year in the last two years.

"These erratic changes make it difficult to predict future rolls with confidence, the U.G.C. says. Looking ahead, it says that although primary school rolls are expected to drop by more than 80,000 over the next decade, those of the secondary schools are likely to continue to grow until about 1986. As a result, the rolls in Forms 6 and 7 are also likely to rise until after 1984, the period under consideration for estimating university enrolments.

"However, first-year enrolments at university have not been a steady proportion of school rolls in the higher forms. The proportion of pupils from Form 7 who have gone on to university in the next year has dropped from 82.3 per cent enrolling in 1971 to 62.9 per cent enrolling in 1978.

Role In Salary Negotiations

The University Grants Committee has for many years laid down maximum salaries for a number of the larger groups of non-academic staff, but it now believes it will have to take a more formal role in non-academic salary negotiations.

The U.G.C. said in its annual report that although its former procedure had no statutory authority, it provided a guide to the universities and served as an indication to them of the salaries that were taken into account in the calculation of the block grants.—But in recent years Government regulation of salary increases and the development of industrial relationships and legislation had overtaken this unofficial arrangement.

"It appears that university non-academic staff now come within the private sector under the industrial legislation, although their salaries at some points were originally loosely linked to those in the state services and they have regularly received salary increases paid to state employees," the U.G.C. said. "There is also provision in the State Services Conditions of Employment

The proportion of Form 6 pupils leaving school with University Entrance qualifications who have gone on to university in the next year has dropped from 30.8 per cent enrolling in 1971 to 14.8 per cent enrolling in 1978. It should be noted, though, that many pupils from Form 6 delay their enrolment some years, so that by 1978 over 34 per cent of the eligible 1974 leavers had enrolled.

"Within the universities, the proportion of first-year students returning for their second year of study has remained fairly steady at about 80 per cent since 1972. Many of the students who first enrolled in the years to 1976 will still be in the universities for some years yet and the bulk in enrolments in 1976 has still to pass right through.

"Other matters to be taken into account in estimating rolls are the increasing number of older students without formal entrance qualifications who are accepted on provisional or special admission and those from overseas whose numbers vary in accordance with the Government's policy on the granting of student entry permits," it said.

Act by which groups outside the state services may be brought within the scope of that Act for salary determination.

"The university technicians have succeeded in having their association registered as an industrial union under the Industrial Relations Act and the clerical unions represent clerical and typing staff on salaries up to \$8,800. Senior library staff are represented by the Association of University Teachers and the problem of finding a proper procedure for reviewing non-academic staff salaries came up during 1978 when library staff pressed for increased salaries following a review of the salaries of similar staff in the state services.

"Two widely representative meetings were held at which it became clear that some groups of non-academic staff feel they have no recognised standing in negotiation of their salary scales and all were uncertain of the procedure for negotiation and with whom they should negotiate. Their immediate employers are, of course, the university councils and the problem is being considered by the Vice-Chancellors' Committee. It may well be that the U.G.C. will have to take a more formal and generally understood role in this area in the future than it has in the past."

Professorial Board Offices

Professor J. A. Ritchie is Deputy-Chairman of the Professorial Board until 30 June 1980 and Mr C. G. Goodrich and Dr R. P. Bond are Proctor and Deputy Proctor respectively for a similar period.

The membership of Professorial Board committees, Boards of Studies and representatives on other bodies as a result of recent elections are as follows. The Vice-Chancellor is chairman of the Academic Policy and Academic Staffing Committees and is an ex officio member of all the Board's committees.

Academic Administration: Deputy-Chairman of the Professorial Board (Professor J. A. Ritchie), chairman and the Deans of all Faculties: Dr P. J. Perry (Arts), Dr D. F. Robinson (Science), Professor J. G. Williamson (Engineering), Professor P. J. McKelvey (Forestry), Professor R. A. Caldwell (Law), Mr G. M. McNally (Commerce) and Mr D. F. Sell (Music and Fine Arts). Executive Committee: the Chairman and the Deputy-Chairman. Secretarial enquiries: Mr A. W. Hayward (Ext. 971).

Timetable Committee: Dr J. Austin (Convener), Deans of all Faculties, or their nominees and the Records Officer (Ext. 866).

Drafting Committee: Dean of the Faculty of Law (chairman) and Deputy-Chairman of the Professorial Board. Secretarial enquiries: Mr A. W. Hayward (Ext. 871).

Academic Policy: The Deputy-Chairman of the Professorial Board (Professor J. A. Ritchie), deputy-chairman and members elected by the Professorial Board: Professor J. H. Farrar, Professor G. W. O. Woodward, Professor B. R. Penfold and Professor A. G. Williamson; two lecturers' representatives, elected by the lecturers, from among the lecturers' representatives on the Board: Dr R. P. Bond and Dr J. E. Ferguson; and Mr F. G. Tay (Vice-Chancellor's nominee). Secretarial enquiries: Mr A. C. Wildbore (Ext. 894).

Academic Staffing: Five members elected by the Professorial Board: Mr N. S. Roberts, Professor T. E. Carter, Professor F. P. S. Lu, Professor J. R. Wood and Professor B. A. Woods; two lecturers' representatives, elected by the lecturers: Dr A. W. S. Baird and Dr A. J. Sutherland; Vice-Chancellor's nominee: Professor J. Vaughan. Secretarial enquiries: Mr C. S. Kernahan (Ext. 913).

Audio-Visual Aids: Elected representatives. Arts Faculty: Mr B. Wearing; Science Faculty: Mr F. W. Baggeley; Engineering Faculty: Mr F. W. Fahy; Faculty of Music and Fine Arts: Mr G. Cousins; Vice-Chancellor's representative: Professor F. P. S. Lu; ex officio members: The Librarian (his representative), the Educational

Advisory Officer and Buildings Registrar. Secretarial enquiries: Mr J. K. Moir (Ext. 867).

Computer Facilities: Dr P. J. Bryant, Professor J. K. Bargh (chairman), Dr P. C. Forer, Professor R. A. M. Gregson, Dr W. T. Robinson (Vice-Chancellor's nominee); ex officio members: the Director, Computer Centre, the Registrar (for his deputy), the chairman of the Computer Users' Group and the Head of Department of Computer Science; two representatives from Lincoln College: Professor J. B. Dent and Mr N. S. Mountier. Secretarial enquiries: Mr J. G. Ruddle (Ext. 300).

Discipline: Mr C. G. Brown (Deputy Dr A. W. S. Baird), Professor J. Arrillaga (Deputy, Dr G. V. Orange), Professor J. F. Burrows (chairman and Vice-Chancellor's nominee) (Deputy Dr G. F. Orchard), President of the Students' Association (1979: Mr A. J. Stuart), Deputy Mr M. Lee), one student, with a deputy, nominated by the Students' Association (1979: Mr K. C. Whiteside, Deputy Mr A. Couch), Secretarial enquiries: Mrs F. Barnes (Ext. 873).

Library: Dr P. J. Tremewan, Professor K. K. Ruthven, Professor L. F. Phillips, Mr F. G. Tay, Professor W. D. McIntyre (chairman), Professor T. Paulay, Dr J. D. Bradshaw (Vice-Chancellor's nominee), The Librarian (ex officio), Student member (1979: Mr McCombie). Secretarial enquiries: Mrs M. Rogers and A. J. Tizzard (Whitcoulls). Secretarial enquiries: Mr J. G. Puddle (Ext. 300).

Publications: Dr G. J. Wright, Mr M. J. Hailstone, Professor K. K. Ruthven (chairman), Dr I. Catanach, the Librarian (ex officio), Mr A. N. Brooks (Editor). In the Attendance: Messrs M. Rogers and A. J. Tizzard (Whitcoulls). Secretarial enquiries: Mr J. G. Puddle (Ext. 300).

Joint Board in Education: University Members: Head of Department of Education (Vice-Chancellor's nominee), Professor T. E. Carter, Professor W. C. Clark, Professor D. Davy and Dr R. G. A. R. MacLagan. Teachers' College Members: Principal (ex officio), Professor's nominee, Deputy-Principal, two members of the staff, one to be elected by the Board of Studies Primary Division and one by the Board of Studies Secondary Division; one member elected by the Board of Studies from its members; two staff members elected by the staff; B.Ed. Students: One student to be appointed by the University Students' Association and one by the Teachers' College Students' Association. Secretarial enquiries: Mr A. C. Wildbore (Ext. 864).

Joint Board in Environmental Sciences: Canterbury Representatives: Professor G. A. Knox (chairman), Dr J. A. McIhwa, Dr M. C. Crawley, N. J. Peet, Dr R. D. Bedford (Vice-Chancellor's nominee). Lincoln Representatives: Mr K. A. Ackley, Mr G. A. G.

Fringley, Professor P. A. Mulcock, Professor G. T. Ward; Principal's Nominee: Professor R. H. M. Langer. Secretarial enquiries: Mr J. G. Puddle (Ext. 300).

Journalism: Head of Department of Law or his nominee, Head of Department of English or his nominee, Head of Department of Political Science or his nominee, Head of Department of History or his nominee (chairman), two full-time members of staff engaged in the teaching of Journalism (ex officio), a professional journalist nominated by the Professorial Board from the Broadcasting Corporation of New Zealand, the Editor of the *Christchurch Star* and the Editor of the *Christchurch Press*. Secretarial enquiries: Mr A. C. Wildbore (Ext. 864).

Board of Liberal Studies: Professor A. R. Crawford, Professor R. B. Keay, Professor N. P. Hartshorn (chairman), Mr B. Wearing, Professor L. D. Bancroft (deputy-chairman), Professor W. E. Willmot, Professor H. J. Simpson (Vice-Chancellor's nominee), the Director of Extension Studies (ex officio). Secretarial enquiries: Mr D. M. Towns (Ext. 866).

The lecturers' representatives on the Professorial Board are: Dr R. P. Bond, Mr R. G. A. Gidlow, Dr B. W. Hunt, Mr N. S. Roberts, Dr I. A. Snook, Dr P. J. Tremewan (for terms ending on 30 June 1980) and Dr J. E. Ferguson, Miss M. E. Belcher, Mr A. J. Bowen, Dr A. D. Browne, Dr M. C. Crawley, Mrs J. A. Ewing, Dr L. E. Richardson and Dr R. W. G. Syme (for terms ending on 30 June 1981).

Professorial Board nominees and representatives on other bodies are:

Appointments Board: Professor D. Davy and Professor E. L. Ellis.
Chaplaincy Committee: Dr G. A. Rodley.

University Council: Professor E. L. Ellis, Professor R. Park and Professor K. K. Ruthven.

Dismissals Advisory Committee: Professor G. A. Nuthall (Deputy, Professor A. C. Rayner) and Professor J. Vaughan (Deputy, Professor A. M. Kennedy).

Electoral College for N.Z. Council of Educational Research: Professor G. W. O. Woodward.

Joint Committee on Honorary Degrees: Professor L. D. Bancroft, Professor G. M. Petersen and Professor D. J. Stewart.

Publications: Professor D. M. C. Crawley, Professor G. A. Knox and Professor P. J. McKelvey.

Sir James Fletcher Chair Committee: Professor F. Devonport and Professor P. J. McKelvey.

Security Legislation Reviewer: Professor R. A. M. Gregson.

Fiction Prize

Bumper Year, Says Dr Hankin

Last year was a bumper year for New Zealand fiction, says Dr Cherry Hankin (English), who judged the fiction category for the 1979 Book Award. She awarded the first prize to Maurice Gee's *Plumb*—"in my opinion the best New Zealand novel yet written."

The fiction entries were notable for their number, their variety and in many instances for their quality, Dr Hankin said. "In view of the different tastes of New Zealand readers, I think it very satisfactory that in addition to eight serious novels and five collections of short stories, four books that could be classified as light fiction and four which, in spite of a certain appeal to adults, seem more suited to the interests of children, were produced by our writers and published last year."

She said that all of the eight serious novels were moving explorations of the human condition. "The *Cave*, by John Sligo is a compelling narrative; but this novel, like *The Glory and the Dream*, (Noel Hilliard) is technically marred by an implicit didacticism, by an all-too-obvious sense that the author has an axe to grind. *Stargazers* (Barbara Ewing) and *The World is an Orange and the Sun* (Jean Watson) are pleasant,

readable novels; but the very lightness of touch which makes them so enjoyable detracts from any feeling that these stories of female mesalliances are to be taken very seriously.

"Particularly worthy of mention are the novels by Patricia Grace and Jane Mitchell. The Maori descent of these writers gives them an especial understanding of the problems facing Maori women—in the present as in the past—who choose to marry pakeha men. Both novelists write with insight, sensitivity and a complete absence of didacticism about the delicate cultural balance which must be achieved if people of Maori and European backgrounds are to live harmoniously together. It is difficult to weigh the relative merits of *Mutuehenua* and *Ampuka*.

"Another novel which must be rated very highly is Joy Cowley's *The Growing Season*. Joy Cowley is one of the most consistently accomplished writers of fiction in New Zealand and she has had nearly the recognition she deserves. She handles language superbly, has a keen sense of the dramatic and an ability to modulate her tone from the shocking to the serene to the humorous.

"Maurice Gee's *Plumb* is in my opinion the best New Zealand novel yet written. First of all, the book is a technical tour de

force. Told in the first person, the novel is a fictional autobiography narrated in a style which is entirely appropriate to the character of Plumb—but which is markedly different from the author's own. This style, which is also the tone of Plumb's voice and thoughts, is maintained with remarkable consistency throughout the novel. Another example of Gee's technical virtuosity is the way in which he interweaves Plumb's past and present life. Plumb is an old man recollecting and meditating upon the course of his life. Gee's skill is such that we are not merely shown the past in a series of flashbacks; we are kept aware of the past continuously living alongside the present in Plumb's mind. One aspect of the complexity and richness of this novel is that as the central character's personal history unfolds, so does the social history of New Zealand. There is a sense in which we are being shown simultaneously the development of an individual human being and the development of the society to which he belongs.

"The intellectual and emotional depth of the novel derives from the many-layered portrayal of the central character. Gee traces the gradation in belief of a man who has valued the intellectual above all else in life. In the course of charting Plumb's intellectual and spiritual odyssey, Gee pursues a relentless analysis of the man's character. It is not just the exposure of a consummate egoist through his own recollections which is so remarkable; it is the ability of a relatively young author to represent so convincingly the mind of an old man.

"There is not space in this report to detail all the strengths of *Plumb*. Besides the central character himself, who emotes in old age impart an emotional as well as intellectual intensity and richness to the novel, there is a variety of other characters. There are not stereotypes; in a very few words Gee is able to sketch fictional people who are wonderfully individual and alive. While *Plumb* is indeed the study of one eccentric individual, there is a sense in which it is also about the involvement of such an individual with the more ordinary people who make up his immediate family and circle of acquaintance. Gee's achievement is that even as he focuses sharply upon the very interesting central character, he manages to show the inter-relationship of past and present of individual and society, of husband and wife, of father and children.

The incredible thing about all this is that everything is reflected through the mind of the one self-obsessed old man.

"Quite obviously, 1979 was a bumper year for New Zealand fiction," Dr Hankin said.

A Matter Of Degree

The Editor,

I have taken advantage of the long shadows cast by the sun at its winter solstice to check the orientation of the large compass rose set in the ground outside the Registry. The suspicions that I have harboured since learning that a marine (magnetic) compass was used to establish the direction of North and since carrying out a rough measurement in the summer have been confirmed.

The data needed are:

Transit of the sun, June 21, 1979 (The Astronomical Ephemeris)	12 ^h	1 ^m	28 ^s
West longitude of Registry from 180° meridian (Lands & Survey)		29 ^m	41 ^s
Local time of sun's northing	12 ^h	31 ^m	9 ^s

The shadow of a plumb-bob at this instant shows that the axis of the rose points 3 degrees West of North, or alternatively, is 12 minutes of time late.

This error (about 32 centimetres at the periphery) is equivalent to twice the error in the placement of the Sarsen Stones at Stonehenge. It disquiets me that the resources of the University community were not availed of in the construction.

W. Brent Wilson,

Mathematics Department.

The Building Registrar (Mr W. D. H. Smith) comments: "Thank you for pointing out the error in what was intended as a decorative feature. Anyone wishing to use the compass for other purposes should take note of the standard deviation of 3 degrees, which will remain constant."

Notices

Important Dates For Next Year

Important dates in the University next year and the provisional dates for 1981 are listed below:

1980		1981 (Provisional)
Christmas/New Year	Registry closed for statutory holidays only	Christmas/New Year
February 6	Waitangi Day. University closed.	February 6
February 25	Enrolment of students begins	February 23
March 3	First term begins	March 2
April 3	Lectures end for Easter recess, 9 p.m.	April 16
April 9	Lectures resume	April 22
April 25	ANZAC Day. University closed	April 25
May 6	First term ends, 9 p.m.	May 5
May 7,8	Graduation	May 6,7
May 28	Second term begins	May 27
June 2	Queen's Birthday, University closed.	June 1
June 25	Last Professional Board for Course Regulation changes for next year's Calendar	June 24
July 5	Lectures end for mid-year recess	July 4
July 14	Lectures resume	July 13
August 19	Second term ends, 9 p.m.	August 18
August 27	Last Professional Board for Prescription changes for next year's Calendar	August 26
September 8	Third term begins	September 7
October 1	Closing date for Commonwealth (Northern Hemisphere Universities), Postgraduate and some University of Canterbury Scholarships	October 1
October 11	Lectures end	October 10
October 20	Examinations commence about this date	October 19
October 27	Labour Day	October 26
November 1	Closing date for most remaining Scholarships	November 1
November 14	Show Day	November 13
November 15	Examinations and Third term end	November 14
Christmas/New Year 1980/1981	Registry closed for statutory holidays only	Christmas/New Year 1981/1982

Applications For Research Grants

There are two sources of funds for research within the university system: the University of Canterbury allocation for relatively minor requests and the University Grants Committee funds for major projects.

Staff members requiring support for research, other than for research assistants, should apply to the Registrar not later than 15 August 1979. (This is for the University of Canterbury September meeting and the University Grants Committee November meeting).

Forms for this purpose are available from the cashier, Registry Concourse. Applications and any attachments should be typewritten and forwarded through Heads of Departments. Mineral Resources applications should be titled as such at the head of the form. Extra copies of applications are not required, but where supporting data for larger grants run to more than two sheets, the original plus 13 copies should be supplied for forwarding to the University Grants Committee. A photo-copy of the relative form will be returned to each applicant in September as an acknowledgement and record of his or her application.

The University will itself finance in whole or in part some of the smaller applications. Larger applications will be considered here and referred to the University Grants Committee for support.

Funds for research assistants will continue to be allocated separately.

Scholarships In Sweden

Information has been received about the Guest Scholarships offered by the Swedish Government through the Swedish Institute. A limited number of scholarships is offered to overseas students in higher, secondary or adult education for studies or research which cannot be equally pursued in countries other than Sweden.

Further information is available from the Scholarships Officer. Requests for application forms must reach the Swedish Institute, P.O. Box 7434, S-103 91 Stockholm, by 1 December

Grants For Research Assistants

Applications are invited from members of staff wishing to obtain grants for research assistants for the period 1 October 1979 to 31 March 1980.

Applications should be made on the appropriate form, stocks of which are available in the Registry Concourse. Applications should be sent to the Registrar (Accounts Section) through the Head of the Department and should reach the Registry by 15 August 1979. Enquiries to be made to Mr W. H. Carter, Registry Accounts, (Ext. 730).

It should be noted that grants made in June 1979 (reference 79/2/x) are available only to pay for services rendered up to 30

September 1979, and this should be taken into account when applying for grants for this next period.

Applications will again be called for in January 1980 for the period 1 April to 30 June 1980.

Staff are advised that for a fair assessment of their applications they should provide information about their project and, if it is a continuing project, information about results already obtained. An applicant who has more than one project for which he seeks support should include such projects on one form and place them in order of priority.

The fund is intended for research assistants and not to meet costs which could normally be charged to departmental funds.