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“Economic Uncertainty” Limits Block Grants

Little provision for academic expansion or new developments is contained within the block grants for the University for the four years beginning on 1 April next and ending on 31 March 1980.

The chairman of the University Grants Committee (Sir Alan Danks) says the grants have been approved in the present climate of economic uncertainty in the conviction that the procedures for orderly planning and budgeting in the universities require that they should know what their incomes will be. But it must be accepted that “compelling circumstances” might arise to make a review of the grants necessary.

The U.G.C. considers that grants should be sufficient to absorb substantial cost increases expected within the next few months, but it might take up the possibility of additions to the grants if the financial circumstances of the universities by 1978 or 1979 have been seriously affected.

The grants have been calculated on current rates of salaries and wages, with provision made for the estimated cost of increases under negotiation in the State services or likely to be determined by the Higher Salaries Commission before 1 April 1976. Except for an adjustment in the grants to 31 March 1976 to meet the cost of the salary increases under negotiation, there will be no further increases in the grants during the 1975-76 year.

Other points made by Sir Alan were: Provision is made for two new items of expenditure — reimbursement of staff for certain items of expenditure (see Page 2) and payment of some of the costs incurred by students in certain costly courses. The U.G.C. recommends that for the latter the universities work out appropriate levels of assistance to come into operation next year. Only courses in which costs above normal are the direct result of academic requirements should attract support. The supply of books to students should not be included and “it has not been envisaged that

there will be systematic changes in syllabus uses which will involve additional field work or the use of further materials.”

The grants include provision for expenditure at an increased rate for the maintenance and repair of buildings.

The cost of any additional equipment for computer centres, together with the running costs, must be met from the block grants.

Provision for replacement of the large amount of equipment bought over the last few years should be made from the block grants as the need arises.

When requests are made by State departments and other bodies to arrange special training courses, often involving small numbers of students at relatively high cost, the universities concerned could expect the sponsoring body to meet a proportion of the cost of establishing and running a course. The U.G.C. suggests that the contribution could be based on the additional direct costs incurred and could take the form of annual cash grants until the end of the current quinquennium or the secondment of staff to assist the academic department providing the course.

The prominence of continuing education has been featured in the negotiation of the new grants, the U.G.C. says, adding that the

grants make provision for adult education in its traditional role and for the development of refresher courses for the professions, particularly for those whose qualifications originated in the universities.

The U.G.C. recommends that, with the introduction of higher levels of financial assistance to students through the standard tertiary bursary, University Councils consider introducing charges for student welfare services, either directly by the students participating or through the Students' Associations.

The suggestion of a separate grant to the U.G.C. for the centralised purchase of library materials has not been proceeded with.

The U.G.C. did not invite lists of proposed academic developments when it called for submissions, but some universities set out details of proposals they wished to sponsor, Sir Alan said. “The U.G.C. does not propose discussing these developments individually. It prefers to leave it to each Council to decide which of its developments it should proceed with in the context of the funds available in the block grants and in accordance with its own assessment of academic priorities”.

Research: No Increase

There will be no increase in research funds from the U.G.C. Research Committee for the next two years. The responsibility of the universities to support their own research projects without recourse to the Research Committee must become more comprehensive, says the chairman of the U.G.C. (Sir Alan Danks).

The grant for distribution through the Research Committee has been approved

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Research Funds

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at the current rate of \$750,000 a year for the next two years, says Sir Alan in advising the University about its block grants. The question of a grant from 1 April 1978 will be considered during the next two years.

The U.G.C. had preferred to make the maximum provision in the block grants to enable the universities to decide for themselves the resources they would devote to research by staff and students. This applied especially to provision for the purchase of equipment and materials, although it was not proposed that the main objective of the Research Committee — to provide grants or grants-in-aid for equipment for specific research projects — should be changed.

Sir Alan said provisions for staffing in the block grants should be sufficient to meet the cost of research assistants and it was not intended that the Research Committee would support such appointments.

Book on Optical Mineralogy

Dr David Shelley, a senior lecturer in geology, is the author of *Manual of Optical Mineralogy*, published last month by the Elsevier Scientific Publishing Company of Amsterdam and New York, at \$U.S.35.50.

The ability to use a polarising microscope to identify rock-forming minerals has become an essential skill in geology and Dr Shelley's concise volume (242pp) is designed to provide a complete reference to the information required for routine laboratory work. It includes chapters on the microscope, elementary crystallography, the preparation of thin sections, the principles, techniques and procedures of optical mineralogy, up to date mineral descriptions and determinative tables. The separation of background theory from the itemised description of techniques differs from the normal textbook style and allows for easy reading by students and ready reference by practitioners.

A total of 127 minerals is described and except for major families such as the feldspars, which are given extended treatment, the descriptions are in standardised form. Comprehensive determinative tables are provided and rapid cross-reference from these to the mineral descriptions is facilitated by assigning each mineral a number.

Reimbursement for Some Expenses

Reimbursement of certain expenditure by full-time academic staff of up to \$100 a year by the University has been approved, but it will not be possible to make any payments this year.

Provision has been made in the block grants over the next four years for these payments but the Vice-Chancellors' Committee has agreed that a common policy on reimbursement and uniform administrative arrangements should be drawn up before individual universities make any payments.

Reimbursement will include half the cost of professional

books or other printed material and half the fees paid for membership of learned and professional societies and colleges up to a maximum for both combined of \$100 in any one year.

Payment will be made on the production of receipts by staff after the end of each year, beginning with the year from 1 April 1974 to 31 March 1975. It is appreciated that staff may not have receipts required to vouch for expenditure in that year.

Staff will be advised when claims may be presented.

Engineering Roll of 900 by 1979 Accepted

The University Grants Committee has accepted Canterbury's estimate that the roll in the School of Engineering will be 900 by 1979 on the assumption that the school can provide for this number without additional accommodation.

In other comment on matters relating specifically to Canterbury, the chairman of the U.G.C. (Sir Alan Danks) says:

"It is possible that the development of Lincoln College's computer facilities will involve the provision of services by, or the installation of additional equipment in, the Computer Centre at the University of Canterbury. The U.G.C. wishes to make it clear to both institutions that, in its view, the cost of any such provision made for Lincoln College should be borne by the College. It is appreciated that the application of this principle may involve a sharing of the cost of some specific service or piece of equipment where its use is expected to be shared by the two institutions.

"Your Council will be aware that early last year I conveyed to you the concern of the Minister of Social Welfare about the training of professional social workers

and that subsequently the U.G.C. requested the assistance of your University in establishing a diploma course as soon as possible. The U.G.C. now recommends that your Council give some priority to this development from the block grants approved."

Law Teachers' Conference

About 200 law teachers from Australia and New Zealand are expected to attend the annual conference of the Australasian Universities Law Schools Association, which will be held in the University, 22-26 August next year.

The Dean of the Faculty of Law (Professor R. A. Caldwell) is president of the association. Mr C. P. Baron, a lecturer in the faculty, is conference secretary.

SUB-WARDEN, 1976, Bishop Julius Hall.

A comfortable, self-contained flatlet is offered at reduced rate in exchange for light duties. Full board provided during university terms.

Anyone interested should contact the Principal. Phone 487-782.

ACCOMMODATION OFFERED

The following flats and houses have been listed as available now or in the future and are offered for rental or sale to temporary or permanent staff. Would advertisers please notify Ext. 853 when termination of advertisement required.

To Let

Rangiora, unfurnished 2 bedroom house with double garage. Apply Mr A. H. B. Taylor, 1 Stephens Street, Rangiora.

Three bedroom fully furnished (some linen) house, Shirley, available December 1975 for 2 years. Separate diningroom, separate shower, washing machine and tumbler dryer, fridge, freezer, and T.V. optional. Garage and carport. 44p. section required to be maintained. Rental \$45.00 p.w. Phone 859-376.

Partly furnished three bedroom house with separate diningroom and separate shower, open fires and heater, fridge and semi-auto. washer, garage, Hawthorne Street. Available 1 December until approximately January, 1977. Rent \$40 p.w. Contact G. L. Symes, C/o N.Z.E.D. Aviemore, Private Bag, Kurow (Ph. OMT. 815 Kurow).

Fully furnished townhouse in Burnside, 2 bedrooms, available mid-December to late June or possibly mid-August, 1976. Limited garden. Rent by negotiation. Phone 584 705 preferably evenings. If unable to contact write to University Accommodation, Registry, Christchurch.

In Halswell area, 3 bedroom family home, lounge/dining area, fully furnished (including some linen). Garage occupied but room for another car. Available end November to 25 January (8 weeks). Rental by negotiation. Lawn care desired but not essential. Phone Halswell 8193.

Furnished 3 bedroom house with separate diningroom and kitchen centrally heated, open fire, separate shower, and double garage. Situated Bencard Place. Available early December for year or possibly longer. Not suitable children and no pets. Rent by negotiation. Phone 384-461.

Just off Memorial Avenue 5 mins. from University comfortable furnished 2 bedroom house, separate diningroom, T.V., fridge washer, 24p. section with garden and lawn care optional. Available mid-November to mid-February. Rent by negotiation. Phone 495-463.

Attractive 3 bedrooms (plus 2 sunrooms) home in Dyers Pass Road, with magnificent view to north, fully furnished, 2 open fires, separate diningroom, 2 toilets, shower over bath fridge, freezer, T.V., washer and dryer. Quarter acre section with small lawns and little garden care, enclosed carport and plenty of parking. Not suitable children. Available mid-April for 6 months. Rent \$50 p.w. Phone 34-848.

Furnished 2 bedroom house, Toorak Avenue, separate diningroom, open fire, separate shower, fridge, auto washer, 27p. section, garden and lawn care required. Available 13 January to early September 1976. Rent by negotiation. Phone 427-323.

Hackthorne Road, Cashmere, 3 bedroom furnished house with separate diningroom, open fire, fridge, freezer, washer. No linen or cutlery. Single garage. 40p. section with limited lawn care required. Available immediately for at least 1 year. Rental \$40-\$45 p.w. by negotiation. Phone 388-058 (pte) or 843-161 (J. D. Smith).

Furnished 3 bedroom house, Cannon Hill Crescent, available end January to mid-July, 1976. Has large lounge, separate dining room, central heating, separate shower, bath, fridge, freezer, T.V., auto. washer, double garage. 22p. section with easy care garden and no lawn care required. Rent \$60 p.w. or by negotiation to suitable tenants. Prefer no children and definitely no animals. Apply 849-141 (evenings).

Wales Street, Halswell, furnished 3 bedroom house with open fire and separate shower, small fridge and 10 c.ft. freezer, Champion washer. 26p. section with only lawn care required (motor mower supplied). Small garage. Available early December to mid-June, 1976. Rent by negotiation. Phone Hals. 8305 or Ext. 357.

Fully furnished 4 bedroom house Russley (2½ miles from campus) available for 10 months from 29 November, 1975. Separate diningroom, wetback fire and heaters, bath and separate shower, fridge, freezer, T.V., washer, double garage. Close to school. Care of easily maintained 28p. section desirable. Rent by negotiation. Contact C. G. Freeman, Chemistry, Ext. 284 or 429-039.

Six new flats in block of eight in heart of Merivale, with 2 bedrooms, floor coverings, refrigerator, washing machine, own separate garden and carport. Rent \$35.00 with carport or \$33.00 without. Apply (Mr M. Weston (Phone 65-859).

Furnished 3 bedroomed house, 10 min. cycling from campus, available 1 February 30 September 1976. Lounge, kitchen-dinette (deep-freeze and fridge), bathroom plus shower, laundry with auto washer and tumble dryer. Quiet 47p. back section. Rent about \$40 a week. Phone Dr M. C. Crawley, Zoology (Ext. 638) or 515-560.

Vacant for 1976 academic year. Warm and comfortable older furnished house in sheltered spot, Cashmere Hills. Four double bedrooms, two living rooms, balcony. Close to schools and kindergarten. Phone 35-804.

Charming, sunny, architecturally designed 2 bedroomed house, Merivale. Fully furnished. Available end of January for one year at \$35 a week. 15 mins. from University, 5 mins from city. Phone 60-173.

Accommodation Required

Middle-aged faculty couple seek furnished flat or house from January or February to May. Contact W. Hunt, Civil Engineering (Ext. 420) or home 525-912.

One or two bedroom unfurnished or partly furnished accommodation required vicinity Cashmere High School. Rent to \$30 p.w. Phone Ext. 8608 or 324-472.

Visiting Erskine Fellow to Department of Psychology and Sociology requires accommodation, preferably house or large flat, for himself, wife and 2 children from early February to April 1976. Contact B. D. Jamieson, Department of Psychology (Ext. 8680) or Miss S. Taylor, Department of Psychology (Ext. 8682).

Associate Professor Wolfgang M. Boerner, Electrical Engineering Department, University of Manitoba, will be visiting Canterbury from beginning of January until July 1976, and requires accommodation for himself, wife and 2 children. Please contact Professor R. H. T. Bates, Electrical Engineering Department, Ext. 336 or 558-786.

Unfurnished 2-3 bedroom flat or house required as soon as possible within 2 or 3 mile radius of University. Rent to \$30 p.w. Please phone 288-308 or Ext. 8666.

Furnished or unfurnished 2 or 3 bedroom flat vicinity of University required from end January. Phone Ext. 720 or 487-268 (evenings).

Board or flat accommodation required by University lecturer from mid-November to end January 1976. Please contact the Secretary, Geography Department (Ext. 8991).

Exchange in U.K.

House on outskirts of Manchester, suitable family with up to three children, exchange for similar in Christchurch. Available early January, 1976 for 12 months. Owner will be Visiting Lecturer at Canterbury for 1976. Contact J. M. Coxon, Chemistry Dept. (Ext. 228).

Holiday Accommodation

Accommodation available late November to mid-February in University flats, University of Waikato. Situated in residential area close to shops and bus services approximately 2 miles from city centre.

Self-contained, on motel principle, rates \$7.50 per day for twin-bedroomed flats and \$8.50 per day for two bedroomed flats with no charge for each seventh consecutive day. Additional charge of \$1.00 per day for each extra bed required in excess of those basically supplied. Further information available from the Registrar, University of Waikato, Hamilton.

Small house (2 bedrooms plus study) centrally located (20 min. walk from Medical School) close to shops and buses,

Malaysian Industry Impressive

When he planned his study leave, Professor A. G. Williamson (Chemical Engineering) expected three months would be adequate to see all that an "undeveloped" country like Malaysia would have in the way of chemical industry. He found he could have spent a full year there.

In his leave report, Professor Williamson said he expected the chemical technology to be relatively primitive and to have little in common with New Zealand, but these preconceptions were wrong to some degree.

Malaysian chemical industry was in many respects more advanced than that of New Zealand. It included such plants as a refinery, similar in size to Marsden Point (but with some more advanced features), a fertiliser industry manufacturing nitrates (with no equivalent in New Zealand) and

a factory assembling integrated circuit devices (there is no solid state electronic industry in New Zealand).

Malaysia's third largest export industry — palm oil — had much in common with New Zealand's butter industry. The substances involved in both industries were mixtures of triglycerides having similar physical chemistry and leading to similar processing problems despite their very different origins. Since returning to New Zealand, he had followed up this similarity and discovered that a fair amount of the knowledge about the basic physical chemistry of fat mixtures which was necessary for the preparation of wide-melting-range butter (easy-spread) had been derived from the literature of palm oil processing.

"I am sure that these two industries have sufficient in common for exchanges of fat technology and technologists to be of benefit to both countries," Professor Williamson said. "A further similarity of

problems of Malaysian and New Zealand industry is found in the effluent of the palm oil industry, which contains oil, dirt, water and vegetable matter and has many properties similar to those encountered in the effluent from New Zealand's wool scouring industry which consist of wool wax (lanolin), dirt, water and wool fibre debris.

"While at the University of Malaya I became involved in their studies of the problems of disposing of the palm oil mill effluent and found a method of separating the oil, vegetable matter and water suspension which has since become part of a projected treatment process which will, if successful overall, solve the effluent problem and incidentally provide a source of stock food for Malaysian pig farming," he said.

Malaysian chemical industry had other features of interest to New Zealand. There were a number of industries (such as their calcium carbide factory) which appeared to operate profitably on a scale considerably smaller than would, in terms of conventional textbook analysis, be expected to be economic, and he was sure that closer examination of these industries would be a rewarding study for New Zealand. The willingness of businessmen in Malaysia to take advantage of special local circumstances to render enterprises worthwhile and their willingness to take a reasonable risk on a technically feasible proposition, were features of Malaysia which New Zealand businessmen might emulate with profit. "By Malaysian standards I am sure that many New Zealand businessmen would be regarded as excessively cautious," he said.

The Malaysian Government's determination that the nation's natural resources shall be used for the benefit of Malaysia and the way in which joint ventures with foreign companies were arranged to ensure Malaysian participation in and profit from the development of these resources seemed also to contain lessons for New Zealand.

In Malaysia, Professor Williamson received "overwhelming hospitality" and he felt this was repayment in kind for the generosity and hospitality of the many Christchurch residents who had befriended Malaysian friends and acquaintances during their student days in New Zealand. He met 17 Canterbury graduates during his visit.

Professor Williamson said that compared with his Malaysian visit his sojourn in Britain was somewhat sobering. The economic climate was even gloomier than the physical. He said in conclusion that it was pleasant to return home to a country where the insects were harmless, where one could still eat a steak without first arranging an overdraft and where, on a clear day, one could still see more than five kilometers.

Accommodation

(From Page 7)

available in Auckland from 19 December to 30 January 1976. Low rent of \$17.00 p.w. in return for looking after 2 cats. Write Dr John Raeburn, 23 Belmont Terrace, Remuera, Auckland 5, or phone Auck. 540-517.

For Sale

Handy to University, two-storey house converted to townhouse, architecturally designed with gable windows, large lounge, 3 bedrooms and sunroom, separate dining-room, two open fires, shower over bath, toilets upstairs and downstairs, semi-auto. washer, fridge/freezer, large garage, workshop, store and shed. 18p. section. Immediate possession. Price \$37,500. Ph: 486-014.

In Redwood, 3 bedroom weatherboard bungalow with large lounge, open fire, on 32.4p. freehold section. Price \$20,750 o.n.o. Contact C. Manning, Ext. 8871 or 526-508.

New sunny flat, hopefully finished for Christmas, with two double bedrooms, garage, small easily maintained section, near Jellie Park and right on bus route. Enquiries to Joy Newport, Ext. 8756 or 519-006.

Three bedroom plus sunroom house in Creyke Road, large lounge, separate dining-room, kitchen, open fires, approx. 45 years old in sound condition. Price \$35,000. Contact Ian Knight, 44-149, or 487-275 after hours.

Large attractive home, 2-storeyed double brick construction, comprising 3 double

and 1 single bedroom, splendid lounge, separate diningroom, two open fires and numerous heater points, separate shower, bath. Garage. 35p. section set out in lawn and trees and grass tennis court. Basement and workshop. Available immediately. Price \$59,500 o.n.o. Apply Mr Gendall, 39-406, or C/- A.M.P. Wellington 863-505.

Maidstone Road, large 3-yr old house, split level, with four bedrooms upstairs and one downstairs, toilet facilities both levels, separate diningroom, central heating, separate shower, bath, eye-level oven, double garage. 26p. elevated section with private courtyard. Available mid-December. Vicinity \$58,950. Phone 583-528.

To Let Overseas

Large comfortable home available to New Zealand staff on leave in U.K. from January to July 1976. Not suitable children. Rent by negotiation. Write Professor C. R. Cheney, 236 Hills Road, Cambridge, England.

On University of South Pacific campus, Suva, Fiji, 3 bedroom house overlooking Laucala Bay (2 miles from Suva city). Of concrete construction and conveniently situated on hill to catch sea breezes. Rent approx. \$100 per month plus charge for furnishings, kitchenware, electricity, agents' fees, etc. Long rental periods preferred but periods of no less than a month will be considered. Available December, January to February 20th. Contact Professor A. J. Dandy, P.O. Box 1168, Suva, Fiji.