



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

# The Chronicle

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## Governor gives address to graduation ceremony



*The Governor of New South Wales, His Excellency the Honourable Gordon Samuels AC, with the Pro-Chancellor, Br Julian McDonald, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peter Drake, and the Chancellor, His Eminence Cardinal Edward Clancy AC.*

The Governor of New South Wales, His Excellency the Honourable Gordon Samuels AC, gave the Occasional Address on Thursday, 3 April at the University's first graduation ceremony in 1997 for the Sydney campuses.

The ceremony was the first of four graduation ceremonies at St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill, on 3 and 4 April, at which almost 1000 graduates received their awards.

The Governor reviewed for graduates the functions of his Office under four categories: constitutional, statutory, ceremonial and communal.

Performing the Vice-Regal communal function accounted for very much the largest portion of time. It involved visits to a variety of organisations, mostly charitable, including visits to the country.

"It is a very important part of the job to encourage the volunteers upon whose efforts the well being of our society largely depends," he said.

Other highlights of the Sydney ceremonies were:

- The awarding of the degree of Doctor of the University honoris causa to Sr Noni Mitchell IBVM, for outstanding contributions to education and community life in Australia.

Sr Noni was Principal of Christ College in Oakleigh, Victoria (now Christ Campus) from 1971 to 1974, Provincial Superior of the Loreto Sisters in Australia from 1974 to 1983, and has been General Superior of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Rome since 1986.

- The awarding of the degree of Master of Arts, honoris causa, to Basil George Turner, Director, Personnel, Australian Catholic University from 1991 until his recent retirement, for his outstanding contribution to the University.

- The presentation of an Excellence in Teaching Award to Ms Julie Lewin, Department of Mathematics and Science, MacKillop Campus.

Occasional Addresses at the other three Sydney ceremonies were given by:

Dr John D Kelly, Director and Chief Executive, Zoological Parks Board of New South Wales;

Professor Susan M Ronaldson, St Vincent's Hospital Campus

Mr Basil Turner, former Director, Personnel at the University.

Graduation ceremonies for other campuses will be held at

- Canberra for Signadou Campus on Friday, 2 May
- Brisbane for McAuley Campus on Saturday, 10 May
- Melbourne for Melbourne campuses on Thursday, 29 May
- Ballarat for Aquinas Campus on 31 May.

A full report on these ceremonies will be in the next issue of The Chronicle.

## Tribute to V-C

In his Occasional Address the NSW Governor, who was Chancellor of the University of New South Wales for 18 years, paid tribute to Professor Peter Drake as the University's Foundation Vice-Chancellor.

"The University of New South Wales was not unversed in the difficulties of managing a number of campuses - in fact until you came on the scene it might have been said to be the leader in the field: Kensington, Broken Hill, Newcastle, Wollongong and Canberra," he said.

"But at least they were all between the Victorian and Queensland borders. Professor Drake has brought together campuses in three States, and the Capital territory, all with their own histories and traditions.

"Those who take a general interest in the Australian universities know what he has achieved in seven years, and I pay tribute to him accordingly as he approaches his retirement."

**See pages 2, 8 and 9  
for photos and report  
on the Sydney  
graduation ceremonies.**



# Vice-Chancellor's Column



*Professor Peter Drake*

Events in April combined to place in contrast two aspects of the experience of an Australian university in this era. They were the first of the 1997 graduation ceremonies in Sydney and a meeting with Mr Roderick West, the Chair, and some members of the Federal Government's Higher Education Review Committee.

The Sydney graduation ceremonies, which will be followed in May by ceremonies in Canberra, Melbourne and Ballarat and later in Adelaide and Hong Kong, were truly a joyous occasion.

I always take great pleasure in welcoming the graduates as permanent members of the family of Australian Catholic University and congratulating not only them but also their families and friends for their achievements.

This is always accompanied for me with a feeling of great pride for the University in accomplishing its aim of preparing graduates who, in addition to their academic achievements and professional skills, are capable of responsible leadership, of rational and critical judgement, and are conscious of the dignity of the human person.

I am equally aware that behind this achievement is the contribution of a highly qualified and committed staff, academic and general, without whom this would not be possible.

This was part of the portrait of the University presented to the West Committee which was told that integral to the University's ethos were staff who espoused the Catholic ideals of the University and who, in particular, articulated its vision and inspired its students.

We stressed that the University has a rigorous and critical approach to scholarship, characterised by intellectual honesty, academic excellence and freedom of investigation. An essential element of the University's vision of higher education is the integrated nature of its academic and professional courses, which allow students opportunities for a personal synthesis of knowledge, skills and Christian values.

In our presentation we warned against allowing the market system to be unconstrained in influencing the prices, quantities and locations for offering the various higher education courses. There needs to be coordination on behalf of society at large if resources allocated to higher education are to be used effectively for best education, taking into account the benefits and costs to the community as well as to the individual students.

There is currently a division between public and private sources of funding for higher education in the proportions of about 60-40. We endorse the view that the Government should make an explicit commitment that it will not let the Government contribution to higher education fall below 60 per cent of national resources committed to universities.



## Health education

"To be truly a health professional our education and attainment of knowledge needs to be current and applicable to our practice", said Professor Susan Ronaldson (above) when delivering the Occasional Address at the Faculty of Health Sciences graduation ceremony in Sydney on 4 April.

Professor Ronaldson, a Professor of Nursing at Australian Catholic University, told graduates their "personal and professional attitude will be the distinguishing dimension" of their careers.

"The multiplicity of the health professional's role is challenging: to practice, to consult, to educate, to research, and to pursue scholarly activities," she said.

Exploring hope and its role in health care Professor Ronaldson addressed the concept of hope as "central to the work of the health professional and to those for whom they care".

"Within the perspective of health and well-being hope is a fragile reality", said Professor Ronaldson.

"As health professionals we must assess others' context of hope and its value in their lives.

"Central to hope is the establishment of a trusting relationship.

"Society expects and deserves that they can place their trust in health professionals".

Professor Ronaldson emphasised the need to "respect the spiritual elements of each person's life" and to "recognise the goal of an individual" in their hope for their future.

"Listen to every word expressed (by your patients) and seek an understanding that people have much insight when confronted by serious illness and impending death. It taught me to recognise what was important to them and to their lives", she said.

Professor Ronaldson told graduates to "be prepared to learn continuously, to share and to receive knowledge" and not "lose sight of your present hopes for the future".



# New Director, Personnel Conference on youth suicide

Australian Catholic University has appointed Dr John Barclay (right) as Director, Personnel from February, 1997.

Based at the Vice-Chancellery, Dr Barclay envisages 1997 as a "really interesting year in line with the national education agenda and its implications."

"We are entering a massive period of change. As Director of Personnel my role is to help people contend with change and assist the University in dealing with it," said Dr Barclay.

"We need to develop strategies to support the University, liaising and working with managers, hearing what they say and think.

"By the time this issue of The Chronicle is printed I hope to be well into a program of meetings with management staff on all campuses," he said.

Dr Barclay has a strong sense of team involvement in handling personnel services at the University. "We need to assist the development of staff communication," he said.

"With a small dedicated team I see our work to be a real challenge, ensuring heavy involvement from all team members in the many activities necessary to effectively coordinate and support the University."

Dr Barclay was previously Manager, Human Resources, OTEN (The Open Training and Education Network), the distance education provider of the NSW TAFE Commission.

## Special capacity

He held this position since 1991 but from August 1995 to April 1996 he served in a special project capacity as a member of the Change Implementation Scheme for the amalgamation and structuring of TAFE NSW and the NSW Department of Training and Education Coordination.

During his period with TAFE Dr Barclay was responsible for the staffing of 83 libraries throughout the State so feels he is well prepared to face the problems associated with different campuses and distances between campuses.

In 1990-91 he served as a Policy Analyst in the Personnel Policy Division, Office of Public Management, NSW Premier's Department.

"I had an interesting experience in the Premier's Department. I commenced after Nick Greiner came to power and consider this period to be an important phase in the development of the State," said Dr Barclay.

Prior to this he was Senior Librarian (Personnel), NSW TAFE Library Services (1987 to 1990); Teacher of Library



Practice, Sydney Technical College (1986-87); Sub-Warden, William Morris Hall, Loughborough University of Technology, Leicestershire (1981-83); Tutor, School of Librarianship, University of New South Wales (1976-80); and Education Officer and Teacher, NSW Department of School Education.

Dr Barclay developed an interest in China, in particular Chinese education, during his years as an undergraduate at the University of Sydney, majoring in History – Ancient Chinese and East Asian.

## Visited China

In 1976 he visited China as a member of the University of Sydney China Education Society and later led two National Delegations to China in 1979 and 1983, helping to develop a process of dialogue between Chinese and Australian education systems.

Dr Barclay has published a monograph on twentieth century Chinese librarianship, "The Evenflow of Chinese Library and Information Services to 1989".

Dr Barclay gained the degree of Bachelor of Arts (1969), the Diploma in Education (1970) and the Diploma in Librarianship (1975) from the University of New South Wales, and the degree of Master of Education (1979) from the University of Sydney. His studies for a PhD (1987) from Loughborough University of Technology, UK, commenced after he was awarded the James Cook Bicentennial Scholarship in 1981. He also has a Graduate Diploma in Employment Relations (1994) from the University of Technology, Sydney.

He has published many articles in professional journals, and is active in professional associations and committees, including the Executive Committee of the NSW TAFE Research Association.

In his spare time Dr Barclay enjoys bushwalking, music, drama, ballet and the never-ending job of renovating the home shared with his wife and two children.

One hundred and fifty pastoral workers, clergy, teachers, academics and others professionally involved with youth attended a "Pastoral Consultation on Youth Suicide" at Mercy Campus in December.

Opening the Consultation, the Executive Director of the Brotherhood of Saint Lawrence, Rt Reverend Michael Challen, said that the Church with its world view, its experience of the Creative Word in whom all things subsist, and its living fellowship, had much to offer young people seeking fulfilment in adulthood.

The Convenors were Archdeacon Lawrence Cross, Senior Lecturer in the School of Theology at Christ Campus, and Associate Professor Michael McKay, Head, Department of Psychology at Mercy and Christ Campuses.

Among other University staff who were involved in conducting forums or giving papers were Associate Professor Ruth Webber, and Dr Judith Bessant, a Senior Lecturer, Department of Sociology, Social Work and Administration, Christ Campus, and Dr Cecilia Winkelman, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Psychology, Christ Campus.

## Collegiate Support Scheme

The University's Collegiate Support Scheme (CSS) was officially launched in Sydney recently at a combined inservice meeting of Heads of Schools and Departments.

Two members of the working group, Trudy Haak of McAuley Campus and Tunde Meikle of Aquinas Campus, explained the operation of CSS which is an initiative of the Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Advisory Group which reports to the Vice-Chancellor.

The Group is headed by the Dean of Students and Director of Ministry, Sr Rosemary Lewins, who attended the launch with the University's Equal Opportunity Officer, Liz Anderson.

The CSS aims to support all staff, academic and general, in their professional and personal career development through the process of networking and sharing of expertise.

For more information on how the scheme operates, to gain access to the directory, or to have your details added, please contact a member of the working group, Jane George, at Signadou Campus on (06) 209 1129.



## Australian writers popular

Associate Professor John Murray was pleasantly surprised during his recent visit to Sanata Dharma University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia when he gave a seminar on Australian literature for the staff and students of the university and other universities in the city. Expecting about twenty people to attend the seminar, Professor Murray said "I was a little taken aback to find that 160 people wanted to hear about Australia and its writers."

Professor Murray was teaching undergraduate students in the Faculty of Letters in Sanata Dharma University during Outside Studies Program Leave in October, 1996.

The courses ran for a week, with three hours of lectures and tutorials per day, and covered novels chosen by Sanata Dharma staff.

## International students at ACU



*The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Wolfgang Grichting (second from left) with three 1996 international graduates in Victoria (left to right), Mr Fransisco Patino of the Philippines (Bachelor of Nursing pre registration), Ms Rumi Sumimoto of Japan (BA/B/Teach) and Mr Chun-Lung (Joe) Cho of Taiwan. International students attending the University come from a range of countries including USA, Canada, Japan, Western Samoa, Taiwan, Peoples' Republic of China, South Africa, Norway, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Singapore, Ghana and Thailand.*

## BANNER system on all campuses

The new National Student System – BANNER – is scheduled to be extended to all campuses in the second semester this year, replacing the four existing student record systems.

For the first time there will be a single integrated Student Administration System which will enable common procedures to be developed and provide equitable service and treatment of students irrespective of which campus they attend.

Improved services to staff and students and enhanced management information will then be possible.

As a national system it is expected that students will be able to have enquiries

answered on any campus.

Students transferring between campuses will have a smooth transition in terms of their student record as minimal paperwork will be needed.

Collection of statistical data for funding and scholarship will be significantly improved.

The system was introduced at Signadou Campus last November in the first stage of a phased implementation.

Corresponding with the initial three months of successful operation in Canberra the project team, together with two contract programmers, have been busily working on developing interfaces and addressing

report requirements to meet expected demands on the new system.

Student Administration staff will receive extensive training on the new system, similar to the training given to Student Administration staff at Signadou before the introduction of the system.

The Academic Registrar and Project Director, Mr Vince Bourke, said the move to a national student database was a major step towards operating as a single university.

The University had purchased a product which was constantly undergoing development and consequently placed the University in a position to take advantage of technological advances.

The BANNER system was in operation in more than 300 universities across the world.

Mr Bourke is currently Chair of the Interim Banner Alliance Executive which consists of representatives of the six Australian tertiary institutions which have the system in production or in the process of implementation.

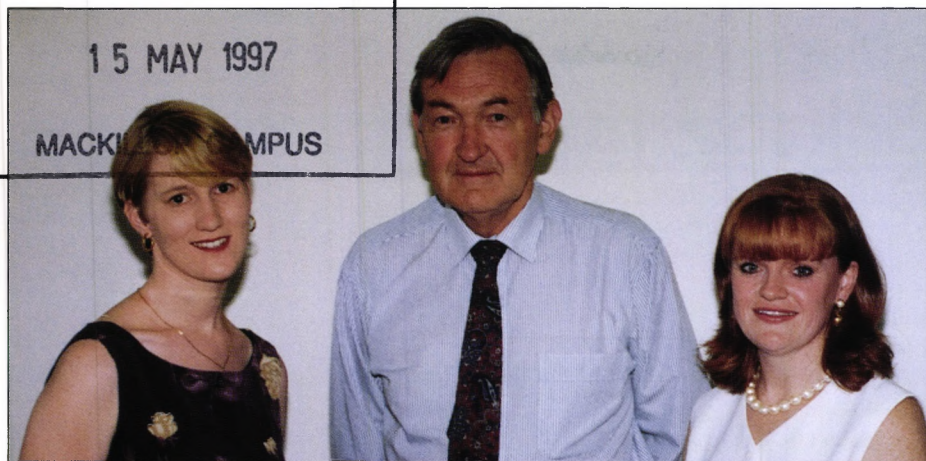
They are Flinders, UNE, Charles Sturt, Macquarie, Canberra Institute of Technology and ACU.

The aim of the Alliance is to work toward a common operating level in 1998, to achieve enhancements by cooperative development of the Australian features, and to improve the system for all users.



*From left (front row) Grant Glanfield, Rosa Calabro, Alan Bullet, Sue Schirripa, Lorna Girjak, Chris Gray, Gary Jackson, (back row) Natalie Blaik, Sam Johnsen, Josine Oldham, and Mel Timpson.*





(Left to right): Ms Donna Blunt ( Aquinas Campus), the Chairman of the Standards Council for the Teaching Profession, Mr Don Laird, and Ms Rea Greene (Christ Campus).

## Students receive awards

The Australian College of Education (ACE) made presentations to two students from ACU Teacher Education programs in Victoria on 17 February.

The Chairman of the Standards Council for the Teaching Profession, Mr Don Laird, made the presentations to Ms Donna Blunt of Aquinas Campus and Ms Rea Greene of Christ Campus.

Ms Blunt was nominated as the most outstanding student in the Graduate Diploma of Education (Secondary) and Ms Greene as the outstanding student in the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Teaching degree course.

Both received Associate Membership of the ACE.

Each year ACE awards associate membership to outstanding students in the undergraduate teacher education program and the pre-service secondary program.

Ms Greene completed her BA/BTeach course with 37 A's and excellent Teaching and Field Experience reports.

She was involved in many other on and off-campus activities including the Vice Presidency of the SRC, Ministry Coordinator, Student Representative on the National Catholic Education Conference and a range of activities in her parish.

Despite having to overcome some difficulties, Ms Blunt achieved greater than 75 per cent high distinctions in all her units and had exemplary teaching rounds at Catholic Regional College, Geelong, Xavier College, Melbourne and Damascus College, Ballarat. She displayed excellent motivation and established an excellent rapport with her students.

Making the presentations, Mr Laird congratulated ACU's School of Education for the way in which it encouraged students, provided such firm support for teachers in its Education program, and stimulated such excellent work by its students.

## Pat Donnelly retires

Mrs Pat Donnelly, Manager (Personnel Services and Classifications), who had been at Christ Campus for 23 years, retired in mid-February.

However Mrs Donnelly will not disappear from the Christ Campus scene. She will continue with her part-time studies for a Bachelor of Social Science (Pastoral Studies) degree.

Mrs Donnelly received deserved and glowing praise from a number of speakers during a crowded farewell gathering in the Christ Campus Staff Room on 13 February.

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Wolfgang Grichting, said that she was always competent and prompt and carried out her tasks in a personal way.

The University's Manager, Personnel Services, Ms Katherine Vernon, said Mrs Donnelly had displayed solid commitment and loyalty, and all University personnel wished to thank her for her services.

The University's Director of Property and Estate Planning, Dr Kevin Burke, who worked with Mrs Donnelly at Christ Campus for more than two decades, said she had come to Christ Campus as secretary to the then Principal. By her drive and talent she had worked her way up.

He described Mrs Donnelly as having an ability to grasp and articulate ideas while at the same time being warm, charming and very supportive of those in need.

Mrs Donnelly has been replaced by Ms Danielle McKernan.

## Sports scientist

Eminent German sports scientist, Professor Dr Herbert Haag, spent several days at campuses in Sydney and Melbourne during a five week visit to Australia to teach and research methodology in sports science.

Foundation Director of the German Olympic Institute in Berlin and Professor of Sports Science at the Institute for Sport and Sports Science, Christian Albrechts University, Kiel, Professor Haag also delivered a public lecture at Christ Campus on 13 March.

Hosted by the Department of Human Movement, the lecture was entitled: What have the East and West Germans' Experiences to Say to Australian Sport?

He visited Australia between 12 February and 18 March as the Australian Vice Chancellors' Committee's Australian-European Fellow 1997, and was sponsored by ACU.

He is a former President of the International Council for Comparative Sport and Physical Education and was for many years editor of the International Journal of Physical Education.

He has been widely published in both English and German. His many academic qualifications include a Master of Science in Physical Education from the University of Washington (Seattle). His current teaching proposals include a Master of Sports Science taught in English at Kiel University.

The Head of the School of Nursing and Human Movement Studies in Victoria, Associate Professor John Saunders, coordinated Professor Haag's visit to campuses.

In Australia Professor Haag both imparted to university staff and students his wealth of background in research methodology in sports science and also gathered information on this topic.



Professor Herbert Haag



## Adjunct Professor

Australian Catholic University has awarded the honorary title of Adjunct Professor to leading moral theologian and health ethics expert, Rev Dr Norman Ford SDB.

Dr Ford, who is Director of the Caroline Chisholm Centre for Health Ethics in East Melbourne, took up the title from 1 January 1997 for three years.

The Vice-Chancellor, Australian Catholic University, Professor Peter Drake, said that the award recognised Dr Ford's present and prospective contributions to the life of the University in respect of education and research in the field of health ethics.

The University Senate has decided that the title of Adjunct Professor may be awarded to senior academics and eminent senior professional practitioners who are associated with activities of the University on an ongoing basis, participating in teaching, research and consultancy activities and generally contributing to the intellectual life of the University.

A Priest of the Salesian Order, Dr Ford studied from 1959 to 1967 in the Philosophy and Theology Faculties of the Salesian Pontifical University of Rome and Turin obtaining a Licentiate in Theology and a Licentiate and Doctorate in Philosophy.

From 1973 Dr Ford has lectured in Ethics at Catholic Theological College, Clayton, of which he was Master from 1986 to 1991.

## Address to Federal MPs

Senior Lecturer in History at Mount Saint Mary Campus, Strathfield, Dr Malcolm Prentis, was guest speaker at the inaugural Federal Parliamentary Burns Night in February.

The event was a bipartisan affair, organised for MPs of Scottish heritage by Peter Reith, the Minister for Industrial Relations, Laurie Ferguson, the Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs, and ABC journalist Cathy Job.

Held at the Canberra Burns Club, the oldest community organisation in Canberra, the event was attended by 45 people, including some with Irish, Welsh and Greek backgrounds.

An edited form of the speech appears in the April edition of Quadrant.

## Latin Summer School grows

The third year of the Latin Summer School, a cooperative venture between Australian Catholic University and the University of Sydney, brought 150 students on the Mount Saint Mary Campus, Strathfield, in January.

The School began in 1995 with 80 students, and each year has seen an increase, with many students returning and bringing their friends.

This year there were five classes for beginners at one end of the scale and up to graduates wanting to catch up on specialist areas at the other. In between were people wishing to brush up on Latin, or to continue work begun at previous Summer Schools.

Students came mainly from Sydney, but some attended from country centres. They ranged in age from secondary school students to those in their seventies.

## Religious Education book

Dr Maurice Ryan, Head of the Religious Education Department at McAuley Campus and lecturer Mr Tony Willmet have joined with Mr Damien Brennan, Assistant Director, Catholic Schools Religious Education and Curriculum at Brisbane Catholic Education Office, to produce a book about Catholic schooling.

Titled "Catholic Schools Australian Landscapes", the book is written in a "how to" style giving the reader a range of activities associated with the text.

"We wanted to write an accessible book about Catholic schooling that recognised the generational shifts that have occurred in the parent, teacher and student communities of contemporary Catholic schools," said Dr Ryan.

"We also wanted to redress some of the misconceptions that people have of the purpose and direction of Catholic schools, hence our use of the Roman document, 'The Religious Dimension of Education in a Catholic School', issued by the Congregation for Catholic Education

"Many people talk about Catholic schools being different," Dr Ryan said. "That document talks about Catholic schools being distinctive. The latter word is far more powerful."

"Schools and education systems that wish to be called Catholic need to grapple with this. It's too easy to settle for difference and not distinctiveness," said Mr Willmet.



## Farewell to Jean Potter

Jean Potter (above) was farewelled after 15 years of service at McAuley Campus on 21 February.

After raising a family, Mrs Potter joined the then McAuley College as Secretary to the Graduate Diploma in Religious Education course.

In 1986 she took on for 12 months the role of Office Manager of the Papal Visit Office in Brisbane. She recently addressed the Historical Society of St Stephen's Cathedral on the Papal Visit.

In 1988 she was appointed Administration Officer of the College.

She is a Founding Member of the Alumni Association and was made a Life Member in 1996.

She was closely involved in the transition from McAuley College to McAuley Campus of Australian Catholic University.

She served on the Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity Committees.

At her farewell, McAuley Campus Manager Mr Dermot Mallon said that Mrs Potter was one of the staff who established the service to Distance Education students that was a characteristic of McAuley Campus.

Her personal faith was shown in the way she had cared for those with whom she worked.

As part of the farewell a paraliturgy service was held in the Campus Chapel.



# Nursing Research projects

In less than 12 months since her appointment as ACU's Foundation Professor of Nursing located at St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney, Professor Susan Ronaldson has established the Campus Nursing Research Unit and developed projects for nursing research.

Professor Ronaldson was appointed to the Foundation Chair of Nursing, located at St Vincent's Hospital, in April 1996.

The Chair is sponsored by St Vincent's Campus Sydney which is operated by the Sisters of Charity. The Campus comprises St Vincent's Hospital, St Vincent's Private Hospital and Sacred Heart Hospice, all located on nearby sites at Darlinghurst.

## New role

In her new role Professor Ronaldson has had the responsibility for establishing and leading the Campus Nursing Research Unit and providing effective collaboration between the University's Faculty of Health Sciences and the three facilities on the Darlinghurst campus.

Professor Ronaldson said that already the Campus Nursing Research Unit had developed proposals for nursing research projects for which some funds had been received and more were in the pipeline.

One of the proposals was developed as a pilot study by Professor Ronaldson and the Unit's Research Officer, Kim Devery, for a research project on the experience of patient transition to palliative care services both for inpatients and those in the community.

This project will be mainly conducted with the Sacred Heart Hospice which provided specific funds.

The University had provided funds for a study of The Planning of Nursing Care for Older People with Dementia.

This would be conducted with Erica

Bostock, Head of the Department of Nursing Practice, MacKillop Campus, in five nursing homes in metropolitan Sydney.

"Nursing research projects need to investigate the potential of the nurse-patient relationship and to frame the dynamics of that relationship," according to Professor Ronaldson.

"The overall aim of nursing research must be to target the quality of life for those persons in need of nursing care.

"Nurses are driven by a duty of care. We are now in a position to articulate that caring role and we can do this through research and scholarship and by recording our findings for dissemination to colleagues".

Professor Ronaldson's role extends to participation in the University's postgraduate studies program. She is at present co-supervising the projects of two PhD nursing students. She is also co-supervising an Honours student in Human Movement Studies.

In addition she is editing a collection of Australian nurses' contributions for a book "Spirituality: The Heart of Nursing" to be published in July by Ausmed Publishers of Melbourne.

Twelve months into her role and Professor Ronaldson's commitment to furthering nursing research is strong. She is constantly looking for opportunities for nursing research and for the people working within research.

"Nursing research is a creative dynamic through which nurses are preparing themselves for a future in health care in these times of rapid change, and in a society which expects health professionals to be at the cutting edge of knowledge in their respective fields," said Professor Ronaldson.

## Scholarship renewed



*Director of Public Affairs, Mr Peter Castleton, congratulates Hoang-Vy Huynh on the renewal of her Foundation Scholarship for 1997. The Scholarship was established as a social justice initiative of Australian Catholic University Foundation.*

*Hoang-Vy is a Vietnamese student studying nursing at McAuley Campus. In her second year at the University, Hoang-Vy is enjoying her course and her efforts are well supported by staff on campus and the Vietnamese community.*

## Doctorate to Elizabeth Warren

Dr Elizabeth Warren of McAuley Campus received her PhD on 8 October 1996 from Queensland University of Technology. Her work was carried out in the Centre for Mathematics and Science Education in the Faculty of Education.

Her thesis was entitled: Interactions between instructional approaches, students' reasoning processes, and their understanding of elementary algebra.

A Lecturer in the Department of Mathematics, Science and Technology Education at McAuley Campus, Dr Warren explains that her research explored the effectiveness of various teaching strategies used for introducing early algebraic concepts.

The research focused on investigating approaches commonly used for introducing the concept of a variable, namely, generalising from visual patterns, and establishing the links between algebra and the structural aspects of the number system.

The research also identified specific reasoning processes that interact with these strategies.

The thesis also discussed implications for further research, for classroom teaching, and for curriculum development for introducing the concept of a variable.

## Health Sciences update

Mrs Jennifer Hardy, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Professional Nursing Development at MacKillop Campus is managing a project to develop, implement and evaluate educational units for undergraduate and graduate nurses on issues related to Aboriginal health.

With a grant of \$302,813 over two years Mrs Hardy will be assisted by Ms Maria Miller and Ms Fiona Bogossian to implement the project. Students from the University during second semester will go out on field trips as part of the project.

Other activities within the Faculty of

Health Sciences include a contract signed with three other universities and the Corrective Services Department giving students in New South Wales the opportunity to go into the prison hospitals for their clinical practice.

The academic exchange program with Sweden will continue this year. Mr Neal Tolley will be exchanging with a staff member from Lund later in the year.

The Faculty is also sending a group of six students and two staff members to the Solomon Islands as part of their elective studies in the Bachelor of Nursing.





## Enviably record of achievement

Australian education, exemplified in the noble profession of teaching (primary, secondary and tertiary), had an enviable record of achievement, Dr John Kelly (above) told graduates of the Faculty of Education.

Dr Kelly is Director and Chief Executive, Zoological Parks Board of New South Wales.

"While much has been accomplished, our present state of knowledge and technological resources can be regarded as little more than a basic foundation for the extraordinary developments which await us in the twenty-first century," he said.



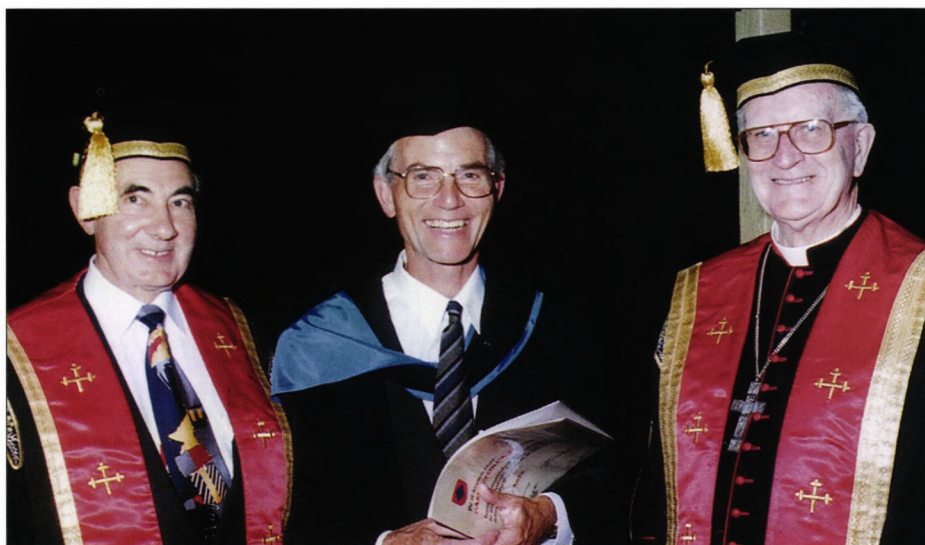
*Sr Noni Mitchell IBVM who was awarded an honorary doctorate degree on 3 April for her outstanding contribution to education and community life in Australia.*

"The future delivery of a professional, world's best primary and secondary teaching service will be critically dependent on the training and continuing education of adequate numbers of motivated, professionally competent teachers, whose value is recognised by society."

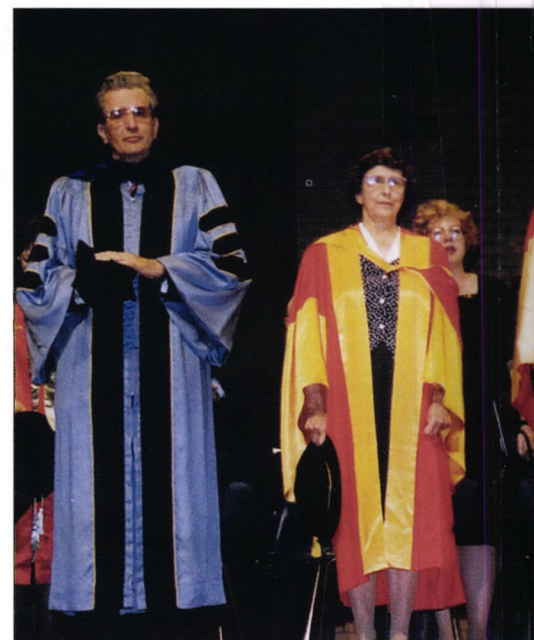
Referring to a report of an expected shortage of teachers in the next five years, Dr Kelly said that he believed the explanation for this trend was the failure of the community to adequately recognise and value the vital contribution made to Australia's professional future welfare through education at all levels.



*The first recipients of MA degrees in Applied Ethics (Health Care Ethics) are Dr Paul Glare, a physician of palliative medicine from the Social Work Department at St Vincent's Hospital Sydney, who has been accepted by the University to pursue research through the University's John Plunkett Centre for Ethics in Health Care, Judith Kennedy, Dr Bernadette Tobin, Director of the John Plunkett Centre for Ethics in Health Care.*



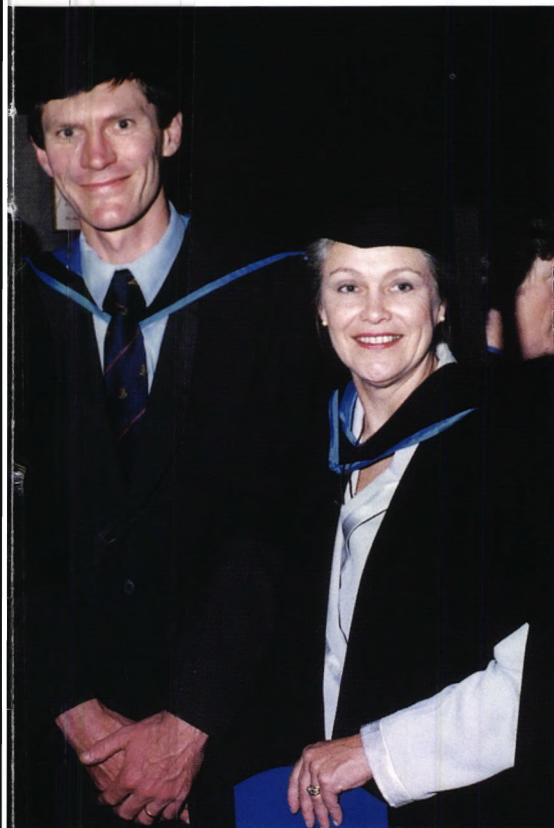
*The University's former Director, Personnel, Basil Turner, with the Vice-Chancellor and the Chancellor after receiving his honorary degree and delivering the Occasional Address at the graduation ceremony for the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. In his address he emphasised two key principles or values which underpinned success in working with others: firstly, one must strive to treat one's colleagues as one would like to be treated; secondly, one must seek to support and serve one's colleagues. What people wanted was to be treated fairly with genuine consideration and to be consulted where they had something worthwhile to contribute to the implementation of those decisions.*



*Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Wolfgang Grichting, and the Chancellor His Eminence Cardinal George Pell at the graduation ceremony on 3 April.*



# graduations



are) received their degrees at the graduation ceremony on 4 April. from Sydney's Westmead Hospital, Ms Elaine Wallace, the Head of ey, and Ms Judith Kennedy, a clinical psychologist in private the M Phil degree. All three studied for their Master's degrees Health Care at St Vincent's Hospital. Pictured above are (from left) unkett Centre, Dr Paul Glare and Elaine Wallace.



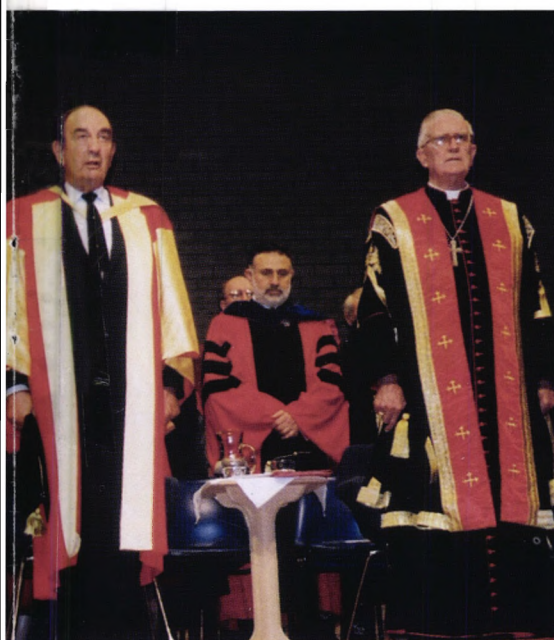
Leah Tisdell who graduated as Bachelor of Nursing received the 1996 Cavell Trust Scholarship to assist her in her final year. She won the scholarship on the basis of her outstanding course results and financial need. Leah is now in the Graduate Program at Port Macquarie Base Hospital.



Above right: Ms Julie Lewin, Department of Mathematics and Science, MacKillop Campus, receives an Excellence in Teaching Award from the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peter Drake.



Right: Professor Elizabeth Cameron-Traub, Dean Faculty of Health Sciences, introducing graduates of the Faculty at the graduation ceremony on 4 April.



ng, Sr Noni Mitchell IBVM, NSW Governor the Honorable Gordon lancy AC at the conclusion of the National Anthem at the first



Vicki King, Sherry Bungie and Berif Duraux travelled from Maclean, Taree and Yamba on New South Wales north coast to receive their Bachelor of Teaching degrees at the graduation ceremony on 3 April at St Joseph's College, Hunters Hill.



# Overcoming bushfire trauma      Family impact on health

Christ Campus Senior Lecturer in Psychology, Dr Peter Rendell, is playing a major role in helping about 500 families cope with the aftermath of a bushfire which ravaged the small community of Ferny Creek in the Dandenong Ranges, near Melbourne, on 21 January.

The combination of his professional background as a psychologist plus his personal experience during the fire qualified Dr Rendell to help his community recover from the ordeal.

Dr Rendell is a Ferny Creek resident. He was at home with his three children when the fire started, and it was many hours before he could make contact with his wife Meredith who had gone to work. Power and phones were out and roadblocks prevented Meredith returning home.

"After the fire, there was hyperactivity. Residents talked about how the community could come to terms with the fire and get back to normal. Most people did not want formal counselling, but they knew they needed something", Dr Rendell said.

Just 48 hours after the fire he found himself chairing a meeting of 80 residents in a local school. They decided to set the ball rolling on a number of community responses. One was to hold as soon as possible 'The Ferny Creek Summer Picnic', an informal 'get-together' of residents in the local recreation reserve.

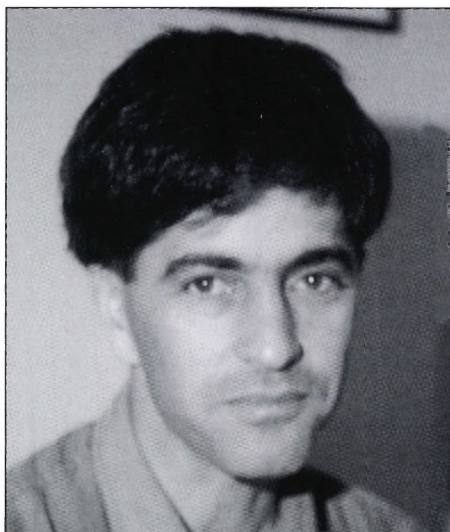
Peter Rendell organised the event, and publicised it by radio interviews. It was attended by about 1000 people – almost the entire population of Ferny Creek.

"The get-together was quiet and low key, enabling people to catch up with each other and relate their experiences. While the adults talked and talked, the children played cricket and other games.

"I feel it was very important for people to have an opportunity to work through their emotions and experiences in this post-trauma period in a quiet, informal way. The get-together also provided a chance to check on people they had not contacted since the fire and to thank people who had strived to save their homes or evacuated members of their families".

As the first Community Representative on the Yarra Ranges Recovery Group, Dr Rendell will help to coordinate State and local government and charity and community group responses in three main areas.

These are the personal support of the residents (involving their counselling and health needs), coordinating the repair of the physical damage to houses, gardens and other property, and an equitable distribution of the money and goods donated to aid fire victims. It is the first time in Victoria that these responses have been coordinated after a disaster.



Dr Peter Rendell

## Thesis topics

Husband and wife Master of Philosophy students at Christ Campus, John and Grace Nolan (below), presented papers based on their thesis topics at a Children's Literature Conference in Adelaide in early April.

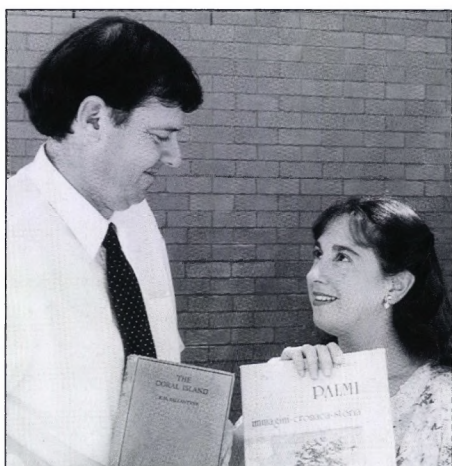
Mr and Mrs Nolan both teach at Salesian College, Chadstone, close to Christ Campus where their supervisor Ms Margot Hillel is based.

Mrs Nolan's thesis is an extension in her Graduate Diploma in Education thesis entitled "The Folk Tales of Palmi: Oral Tradition in Southern Italy".

Mr Nolan's topic is "The Portrayal of the South Seas Missionary in Children's Literature between 1800 and 1935".

Last year the Nolans further researched their topics during a trip to Europe, taking in visits to libraries, museums and other sources of information in Italy and Britain.

Mrs Nolan's thesis is based on folk tales her mother learned as a child in Palmi. (A story on Mrs Nolan's work was published in April, 1996 issue of The Chronicle).



A group of family related variables including parenting styles, spouse relationships, family stability, family composition and marital status, impact surprisingly strongly on health outcomes, according to Dr Moira Eastman, Christ Campus Senior Lecturer.

Addressing the Australian Family Research Council last November, she said that these family related variables offered a new area for health promotion with strong possibilities for further successes in reducing the burden of ill health in the community.

Dr Eastman, who is with the Department of Sociology, Social Work and Administration at Christ Campus, drew on her own and other research studies to support her argument.

She claimed that marital status was a proven health factor comparable to smoking in significance.

Australian data showed that divorced women had mortality rates from heart disease 50 per cent higher than married women, and divorced men's mortality rate from heart disease was even higher, twice that of married men.

Marriage even protected people from contracting cancer, and also offered better chance of survival after cancer diagnosis.

Despite the evidence, the importance of marital status had been overlooked in health strategy documents.

Dr Eastman acknowledged that stressful and dysfunctional marital and family relationships contributed to ill health and were implicated in contributing to intractable physical pain.

"This is another reason why programs to increase the number of happily married couples should be a health strategy priority," she said.

## Scholarship and bursary

Castle Hill RSL Club represented by Mr B. N. Stansfield, director and Mr J. P. Lippman vice-president, made a presentation of a scholarship and bursary at the Castle Hill Campus on 19 March 1997.

Mr Lippman presented a Scholarship valued at three thousand dollars to Mr Frank Delbello for academic excellence during the 1996 academic year.

The Club also provided a Bursary valued at three thousand dollars for an unnamed student identified by the Bursary Advisory Committee as being in desperate need of financial assistance.



# Percy Jones Music Research Collection

The Percy Jones Music Research Collection is looking for published and unpublished church music by Australian composers, church musicians and clergy of all denominations.

The Collection was established recently by the University to collect music and other material relating to the history of church music in Australia.

A librarian has been employed to organise, catalogue and develop the Collection which is located at the Mercy Campus Library in Melbourne.

Already catalogued is a significant body of sheet music, much of which may not be held elsewhere in Australian libraries.

The Collection covers 19th century as well as 20th century material and includes masses and motets by members of the Benedictine Community at New Norcia, WA, and numerous mass settings in English from the 1960s.

The collection of hymnals was recently augmented by the donation of the Osborn Mannett Library on Hymnology formerly housed at Trinity College, Melbourne.

It contains a small collection of Australian recordings including early recordings of the St Patrick's Cathedral Choir in Melbourne, conducted by Dr Percy Jones.

For more information contact John Terrell, Curator, Percy Jones Music Research Collection, Mercy Campus Library, 251 Mt Alexander Rd, Ascot Vale, Vic 3032. Tel: (03) 9373 3518.

## Italian link

Australian Catholic University students may now attend recognised courses in Italian at the University for Foreigners in Perugia, Italy, and be credited towards the completion of their degree in Australia.

Dr Terri Picciolo, with the assistance of Mr Mark Leary and Ms Kylie Asquith of the International Office, negotiated with representatives from the University for Foreigners for the last two years.

Dr Piccioli personally delivered the agreement, signed by Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peter Drake, to the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Perugia, Professor Paola Bianchi De Vecchi.



Mr Warwick Smith, Federal Minister for Sport, Ms Alison James, Games Operation Manager, and Mr Brendan Lynch, Australian Catholic University.

## High Commendation for University

Australian Catholic University has been awarded the High Commendation Certificate for Event Management for its role in volunteer management at the Australian Universities Games held in Canberra in October, 1996.

The award, presented by the Federal Minister for Sport, Mr Warwick Smith, at Parliament House on 5 December, was accepted by Mr Brendan Lynch, Manager Campus Operations at Signadou Campus, on behalf of the Games Committee.

The Australian Universities Games

were jointly hosted by the Australian National University and the University of Canberra in association with Australian Catholic University and the Australian Defence Force Academy.

The Games attracted 6,000 competitors participating in 21 sports.

Representatives from Signadou Campus recruited, trained and coordinated the 400 volunteers needed to run the event. Australian Catholic University fielded a team of about 70, winning a number of medals.

## Fund Gift

The NSW Catholic Education Commission has announced a gift of \$5000 a year for the next three years to the John F Slowey Memorial Fund.

The funds provided will be used for scholarships and bursaries for two final year undergraduate students of the School of Education at Mount Saint Mary Campus in Strathfield.

## Academy Fellowship

Associate Professor Pauline Allen was elected Fellow of the the Australian Academy of the Humanities for her distinguished contributions to research at the annual general meeting of the Academy, held in Brisbane in November, 1996.

Based at McAuley Campus, Professor Allen is a classicist and has translated and prepared critical editions of many late classical and Byzantine texts.

Professor Allen was one of 19 Australian scholars elected Fellows of the Academy.

## Literary accolade

The Latest short story by Senior Lecturer in Literature at Christ Campus, Dr Janeen Webb, was honoured in the prestigious HQ/HarperCollins Flamingo Short Story Competition.

In a blind judging of 1,600 entries, the publishers of HQ Magazine and HarperCollins selected six stories for publication – one of them Dr Webb's 'Death of a Blue Elephant'.

This story will be published later this year in HQ Magazine and will also appear in a HarperCollins anthology, 'Enter', edited by Louise Thurell, which was scheduled for release in March as a Flamingo title. Flamingo is HarperCollins' literary imprint.

Dr Webb is co-editing, with Mercy Campus Senior Lecturer, Dr Andrew Enstice, 'The Fantastic Self', a collection of critical essays on the theme of selfhood in nonrealistic fiction. It was scheduled for publication by Eidolon Press in March.

She is also in the final stages of compiling a critical bibliography of Thomas Keneally with Associate Professor Tim O'Hearn, the Vice-Chancellor's Assistant for Special Projects.





*Associate Professor James Tulip with Associate Professor Michael Griffith and Professor John Coll at the Conference.*

## Religion, literature and arts conference

Australian Catholic University hosted the fourth International Conference on Religion, Literature and Arts at MacKillop Campus in January, 1997.

Professor John Coll, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs), opened the conference and launched the Proceedings for the Third International Conference on Religion, Literature and Arts (1996).

The Museum of Contemporary Art co-hosted the conference for some major events, including keynote addresses by Father William Johnston SJ, from Japan, on "The New Mysticism", by Diana Apostolos-Cappadona, from Harvard, on "Without the Gods: The Spirituality of Contemporary Art", and by Ihab Hassan, from Wisconsin, on "Art, Nihilism and Belief in the Postmodern Age".

The session at the Museum of Contemporary Art concluded with a musical-dance-drama performance "A Grain of

Eternity: William Blake in Australia". William Blake and his influence on the religious outlook of contemporary Australian writers, artists and musicians was a sub-theme of the conference.

Australian keynote speaker, David Tracey, from LaTrobe University and author of "Edge of the Sacred: Transformation in Australia" delivered the most popular address of the conference giving a deeply autobiographical account of his sense of the sources of the sacred in the contemporary Australian scene.

The conference was organised by Associate Professor Michael Griffith, Department of Literature and Languages at Mount Saint Mary Campus, in collaboration with Associate Professor James Tulip, former Head of School of Religion Studies at the University of Sydney and currently Visiting Research Fellow at Australian Catholic University

## T and L Consortium

The Teaching and Learning Consortium for primary and secondary schools began in Sydney in February.

Under an ongoing agreement with the Parramatta Catholic Education Office a collaborative venture will be undertaken in 1997 between selected schools within the Parramatta Diocese Catholic Education Office and the University's School of Education in Sydney.

The purpose of the initiative is to provide a context in which student teachers, classroom teachers and academic staff will form a genuine learning community which will enhance the professional opportunities for all participants.

Student teachers will have multiple opportunities for integrating educational theory and practice as well as reflection on their own practice as emerging teachers. The program will proceed over a full academic year with formal ongoing evaluation. Participants in the 1997 program will include second year Primary teacher education students from Castle Hill Campus and Graduate Diploma in Education (Secondary) students from Mount Saint Mary Campus, Strathfield.

## Study on US campus

Christ Campus student, Adam Brown, found some major differences when he completed the final semester of his Bachelor of Applied Science (Human Movement) degree at the State University of West Virginia (UWV) last year.

Adam completed his final six undergraduate units during the first northern semester (August-December, 1996) at the 40,000 student UWV campus and is now back at Christ Campus working for his Honours degree in Exercise Physiology. He hopes to later do a Master's degree in Sports Science.

He was able to complete his undergraduate studies in the USA after he initiated discussions between ACU and UWV. The idea of completing his degree in the USA arose when the Head of UWV's Physical Education Teaching Department, Dr Bob Weigand, was at Christ Campus in December, 1995.

Adam completed six units in West Virginia, five of them standard UWV units and the sixth especially constructed for him to meet requirements for ACU's degree.

## ACUCOM now operating



*Australian Catholic University launched its new Division of Continuing Education in a videoconference link of Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane campuses on Friday, 7 March. Launched by Mr John Phillips, the former Deputy Governor and Deputy Chairman of the Reserve Bank and member of the University Senate. ACUCOM (ACU and the Community), incorporates existing continuing education facilities and will provide a framework for the further development of these activities. Directors of ACUCOM are Mr Paul Conway in Brisbane, Ms Valerie Hoogstad in Sydney and Mr Tony Smith in Melbourne. Pictured in Sydney at the launch are Professor Peter Drake, Vice-Chancellor, Ms Valerie Hoogstad and Mr John Phillips.*



# A battle for survival in East Africa

Two years ago Sister Valda Dickinson RSM, from Mount Saint Mary Campus, travelled to East Africa to commence a program of training "bare-footed" counsellors from among refugees in the Kakuma camp which houses those who had fled from Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia, Uganda and Burundi.

Battling riots, floods, food rationing, searing heat, disciplinary measures and general unrest, Sr Dickinson spent four months in 1995 and three months in 1996 at the camp training refugees in alternative health, mental health and general adult community education and social work.

Under the auspices of the Jesuit Refugee Services in Nairobi, Sr Dickinson has managed to set up a number of resource centres in the camp where groups and individuals may come to tell their stories and to participate in mental health programs involving creative therapies, conflict management and treatment for stress, nightmares, depression and other behaviour disorders.

"Many refugees at the camp are haunted by the traumas they have suffered. The children have seen people killed or dying of starvation. The refugees have been forced to abandon helpless friends and relatives and companions on the roadside as they fled fighting," said Sr. Dickinson.

"They now live in acute hardship and confusion. They are malnourished, badly housed, poorly fed, poorly educated and still exposed to violence. There are no basic necessities for their survival, protection and development."

## Program for women

Sr Dickinson has taught acupressure, massage, relaxation, dream work, active listening, and reality therapy to groups of men and women within the camp, with a special mental health program for women and their specific needs.

In 1996 Sr Dickinson was accompanied by two Australian Catholic University students to Kakuma. Ann Price, a student in the Graduate Diploma in Adult and Community Education course and nurse at Concord Repatriation Hospital, Sydney, volunteered to work in the camp hospital to gain field experience.

"It was a very desperate situation," said Ms Price.

"I was saddened that human beings had to live like that and found myself questioning who was really responsible for their situation.

"Kakuma Camp Hospital was the worst



*Sr Valda Dickinson with a Somali refugee at Kakuma camp.*

I've experienced anywhere in the world, including India."

Ms Price had to face the reality of filth, starvation of patients, lack of all resources, and sick people with drips lying on the dirt. She also assisted in some very painful procedures being administered with the patient held down because there was no anaesthetic.

"I learnt a great deal about tropical diseases and was involved in the maternity program. Despite their desperate situation the women still have lots of babies," said Ms Price.

Ms Price also assisted Sr Dickinson with the footcare, reflexology and polarity courses for refugee women.

Christine Harrison-Campbell, a doctoral student in the School of Education, also accompanied Sr Dickinson to the camp in 1996.

Ms Harrison-Campbell assisted Ethiopian Refugees in setting up a day care centre for the severely mentally disturbed people and retarded children. The situation was difficult and involved many risks.

Art therapy with clients from the Day Care Centre was also run by Ms Harrison-Campbell, with training and group supervision of refugees in sand play and art as a creative process.

Ms Price and Ms Harrison-Campbell travelled to East Africa under the auspices of the Lutheran World Federation.

Sr Dickinson plans to return to Kakuma camp next year to continue her counselling and adult and community education.

# Teaching grant

A National Teaching Development (CAUT) Grant of \$32,194 was awarded to Mary Grant and Des Matejka, lecturers in the Faculty of Education, Mount Saint Mary Campus, for a project titled "The promotion of NSW rural Aboriginal Students' Off-Campus Study using Multimedia and Supported Learning". It is the second CAUT grant won solely by University staff to date.

A major aim of the CAUT project is to develop strategies and resources for flexible course delivery allowing for more varied student learning styles and producing more effective student understanding and knowledge.

Lecturers involved in the NSW Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education program were encouraged to develop teaching and off-campus study materials incorporating information technology where appropriate.

Further CAUT grant funds were on offer to assist those lecturers who wish to create Information Technology and other kinds of learning resources to support their print material and their teaching.

To date, the following projects have been completed or are in progress:

- a video demonstrating a Science and Technology investigation lesson with Aboriginal and other primary school children;
- a video and accompanying booklet on the development of Aboriginal children, for a core unit in Child and Adolescent Development.
- a booklet titled "Writings from the Heart" consisting of first year students' stories about a person they most admire.



*CAUT grant funds have established a world wide web site on the course.*





*Sitting: Stuart Hanrahan, Gavin Lackey; standing: Robert Murie, Joanne Duggan, Prue Campbell.*

## Sports data collection by students

Students from the Department of Human Movement at MacKillop Campus participated in research data collection and analysis duties at the 1996 Telstra Australian Open Swimming Championships and Olympic Selection Trials held at the Sydney Aquatic Centre.

The students were assigned duties in eight-hour shifts on a 24-hour roster monitoring the data. Their duties included digitising swimmers from personal computer

monitors data analysis, data plotting, organisation of the analysis shoots into folders, maintenance of records of completed events, and recording heats and finals.

Lecturer, Mr Peter Wiebe coordinated students, Stuart Hanrahan, Gavin Lackey, Robert Murie, Joanne Duggan and Prue Campbell, and encouraged them to become involved as part of their Field Experience commitment.

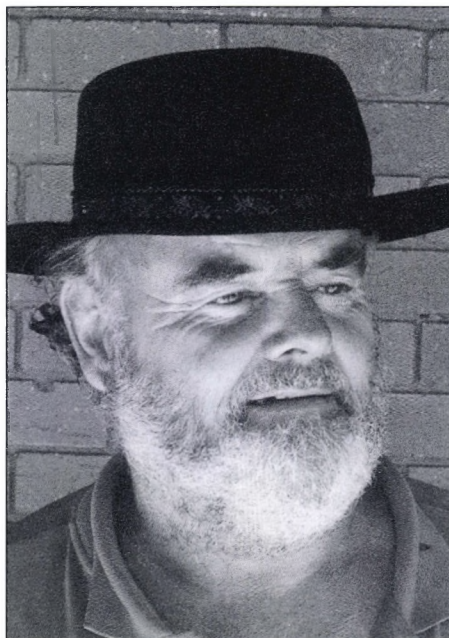
## Poet in residence – permanently

Christ Campus has a permanent poet in residence – Property Services staff member Mr Eddie Dalton.

As a member of the group, Australian Poets, Mr Dalton performed at the Tamworth Country Music Festival in January and in February was second in the competition for Best Non-Musical Busker at the Mortlake Buskers Festival in Victoria's Western District.

His poems are about everyday events, many based on his own experiences, and use earthy, homespun themes. Their incisive perception strikes a chord with his audiences.

Mr Dalton, who has worked at Christ Campus since 1973 and is one of the longest serving members of the Campus staff, became interested in poetry eleven years ago after having a serious hip operation. Before that he was a keen sportsman, but the enforced physical inactivity led to his interest in poetry.



*Mr Eddie Dalton*

## Roundup



### Skills used in job

Australian Catholic University graduate Alison Badger (above) has successfully used the desktop publishing skills acquired during her Bachelor of Information Systems course in the design and implementation of an internal monthly newsletter at Price Waterhouse.

Ms Badger joined the Sydney office of the major accounting firm soon after completing her degree in 1995. Her position is titled Wide Area Network (WAN) Analyst.

### Teaching program

Lance Rooney, a fourth year Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Teaching student from Aquinas Campus was part of an international exchange program to England in September, 1996, with students from Germany, France, Dubai, U.S.A., Sweden and Australia.

During his stay in England he spent five weeks in classes in preparation for his five weeks teaching placement.

Lance was placed in a grant-maintained school of 60 children in a small village called Orton, at the foot of the Pinnie mountains, near the Yorkshire Dales.

### Fundraiser

Staff and students from Aquinas Campus organised a Twilight Garden Party, held on Campus on 12 March, to raise funds to sponsor the Fijian students from Corpus Christ Teachers' College, who attend the University under an exchange agreement with the College.

Many members of the local community attended the event enjoying refreshments, a tour of the historic gardens and musical entertainment provided by local artists and members of the Fijian community.



# of events



Mr Michael D. Veivers MLA awards Mrs Margaret Garbutt-Thomson the SES National Medal at Queensland Parliament House.

## SES Medal

Mrs Margaret Garbutt-Thomson, Administrative Officer, Student Administration at McAuley Campus was awarded a National Medal for 15 years meritorious service to the State Emergency Service by Mr Michael D. Veivers MLA, Minister for Emergency Services and Minister for Sport at a function at Queensland Parliament House on 12 November, 1996.

Mrs Garbutt-Thomson is proud to have received the award and acknowledged the support of McAuley Campus to the State Emergency Service and her involvement and service to the community within the Service.

Joining the State Emergency Service in Townsville in 1979, Mrs Garbutt-Thomson transferred to Pine Rivers Group two years later. She has been a Red Cross First Aid Instructor for 15 years and has participated in the training of Pine River members.

## A welcome dinner

Orientation activities at Aquinas Campus extend beyond the grounds of the University when each year at the beginning of Semester One, the Freshers (first-year students) are invited one evening to share a meal at the homes of the later-year students.

The gatherings assist new students to get to know those who have already been at the University for a year or two and provide a valuable opportunity for information exchange and developing peer support.

The evening is facilitated by Campus Minister, Br Tom Kingston CFC.



(Left to right) Nicole Evans, Susan Jagoe, Sue Lucacevich, Katie Kelly and Melissa Cook visiting a temple at Kyomizudera in Kyoto.

## Students on study trip to Japan

Ten students studying Japanese in their BA and BA/BTeach courses at the University's Victorian campuses spent a month in Japan during the holiday break studying Japanese language and culture.

The tour was made possible through the generous support of The Japan Foundation and Lecturer, Ms Sue Lucacevich, who obtained support from the Foundation's 'Study in Japan' Grant program.

The students spent three weeks at Seisen Catholic University in Tokyo and

a week travelling in south Japan visiting places of cultural and historical importance. Cities visited included the ancient capitals of Kyoto and Nara as well as Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Ms Lucacevich, who accompanied the students, said the cooperation and friendship offered to the students by the staff and student body of Seisen University was heart warming and greatly contributed to the success of the study tour.

## Term at College of the Arts

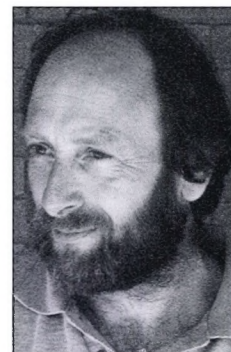
Senior Lecturer in Drama and Media at Christ Campus, Mr John Hillel (right), has been seconded for 12 months to the Victorian College of the Arts.

He will act as Head of Production in charge of the division which provides stage support, lighting, and other technical facilities to the Schools of Drama, Dance and Music.

John has been at Christ Campus since 1981 and will return at the beginning of the first semester of 1998. He feels the experience will benefit Australian

Catholic University by bringing him into contact with people in the industry and by broadening his own experience.

He will be involved in the re-organisation of the division and the development of new teaching and service functions.



## Team effort at Aquinas library

Fifteen volunteers from Aquinas Campus academic and general staff helped five library staff in the massive task of shifting 60,000 books to enable new carpet to be laid in the Academic Library in mid-January.

Starting on 14 January and working flat out for four days, the 20 managed to remove the books and shift shelving, study carrels, data base terminals and other objects ahead of the carpet layers – and

then replace them when the new carpet was down. It was hard and sometimes hot work. On several days the temperature reached 40°C.

"The co-operation was wonderful", said Aquinas Campus Librarian, Ms Veronica Moriarty.

"We had snake chains of people with armfuls of books and somehow we got everything out – and everything back again", she said.



# Visual Arts Exhibition

The annual art exhibition by graduating students of the Visual Arts Bachelor of Education course at Castle Hill Campus in Sydney was presented in Sydney in December and at McAuley Campus in Brisbane in March and April.

The exhibition was opened in Sydney on 3 December at the Westpac Plaza Building by Ms Angela Philp, Director of the Canberra Cultural Centre.

Welcoming guests to the opening, Course Coordinator Judith Carroll said that the works exhibited were the results of four years of hard and profitable study. They were extraordinarily diverse and sophisticated, and showed a degree of reflection, of contemplation, on a whole range of issues which were important to these young women.

Professor John Coll, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs), said that it was particularly appropriate for Australian Catholic University to be involved in the encouragement of art.

"When you look at art through the last millenium most of it was religious art, in paintings, in illuminated manuscripts, in church buildings, in tapestries and in mass vessels and vestments," he said.

"The first universities in Europe were Church institutions. And even to the present the Church is a major supporter of art and of artists".

Professor Coll thanked Westpac for providing the venue in Sydney for the exhibition.

In officially opening the exhibition, Angela Philp said that it was a signal of the importance and strength of Visual Arts education in Australia.

"Visual Arts education plays a huge role in all communities in the development and exploration of the self – both in the individual and also in the self-esteem, soul and power of the community," she said.

"Visual Arts education in Australia is a powerful tool in the development of our sense of self as a nation".

Ms Philp said that the students had presented works in a wide range of contemporary media, including photographic practice and its extensions into reproductive technology, computer-generated imagery, painting, silk screen printing and textiles.

In Brisbane the Exhibition was held in the Good Shepherd Chapel Gallery and opened by the Head of the School of Arts and Sciences, Dr Maureen Strugnell.



*Visual Arts Exhibition in Sydney.*

## Cultural exchange for students

Bachelor of Teaching students from Mount Saint Mary and Castle Hill campuses travelled to China and Hong Kong in December, 1996 to participate in the International Experience Program.

The 15 students, in their second year of study, were accompanied by University staff from the two campuses.

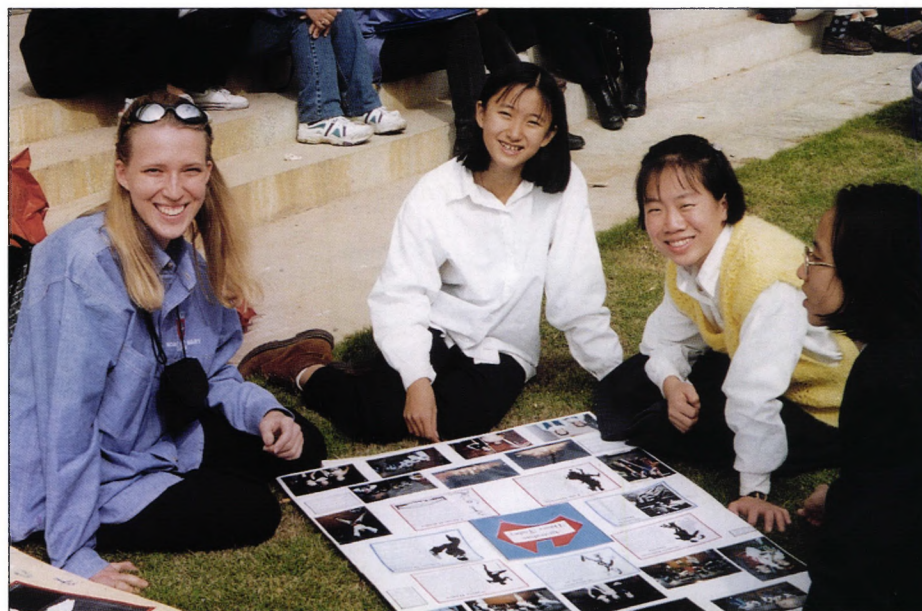
The program was organised by delegation leader, lecturer Mrs Jillian Johnson, who had been planning the tour for the last eighteen months with Associate Professor Hu from Xiamen, China.

The Educational Experience tour, arranged as part of the course unit, Australia in an Asian Context (Strand B), allowed students to apply knowledge and understanding in the cultural and social contexts of Hong Kong and China. It also provided an opportunity for inter-cultural communication.

The unit offered an experiential mode of learning which was enhanced by compulsory course readings, group meetings, assessment work related to presentations in China and the need for students to be aware of contemporary events in China and Hong Kong, especially events related to the return of Hong Kong to Chinese rule in July, 1997.

During their stay in Xiamen students visited Lujiang University, the Xiamen Foreign Language School, Xiamen Music School on Gulang Island, and Jimei School Town. In Hong Kong they visited a school headed by a student taught by Mrs Johnson in the Hong Kong Program.

Mrs Johnson is hoping to repeat the International Experience Program and is looking forward to seeing Associate Professor Hu when he visits Australia later this year.



*Students enjoying Chinese hospitality.*

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