
Great Griffith Gazette

For circulation to Griffith University staff

September 1973 : Vol.1, No.2

VICE-CHANCELLORIANA

Belated congratulations to the only true begetters of the G.G.G. It is a first-class idea and I hope that we can all lend a hand to ensure its success. Among other things, it is very much in accord with the philosophy of the University that under-employed talent should be directed to socially useful purposes.

I missed getting issue number 2 hot off the press but it caught up with me in London as a breath of fresh air.

THE TRAVELLERS RETURN

After several weeks, we are now back to "full house" once more with the return from overseas of Mr. Bray, Professor Willett and Professor Presley. We would like to extend a warm welcome to them all - it's good to see them around the place again.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIRMAN

(TCB)

The Griffith delegation to Edinburgh is now safely home and pleased to note, with no surprise, how well things have gone in our absence, especially on the site. As Chairman of Council, I would like to thank all executives and staff for the progress made in our absence. Not the least pleasure is to note a lively Gazette to keep you all in touch with what's going on and with one another.

From Edinburgh I am happy to report that Griffith University really made itself known during the 11th Commonwealth Universities Congress. For six people among more than 1200, the Griffith delegation really did a lot of talking both in the discussion groups and in the round of social functions. In the end we had a lot of important people talking about "that new University in Brisbane". Griffith ideas on teaching and learning, our hopes of involvement with our community, were received with great interest, and some excitement, and our building plans and general use of campus attracted similar, wide attention. As at all international conferences, there was at Edinburgh a great deal of talk; some sparkling talk, not much decision, and a good time was had by all with lasting benefit in many useful personal contacts.

Congress closed with solemn warnings that despite some disenchantment with universities, pressure of demand for undergraduate courses would continue, and it would be difficult for governments to resist these pressures.

All in all it was a useful experience well worthwhile for Griffith; I'm sure the Vice-Chancellor and Professor Presley have many stimulating, new ideas.

Ask the V.C. who is to be trained in the stately and majestic tread of the Beadle of Edinburgh University to lead Griffith University processions when we start to 'process'.

CHRISTMAS FUNCTION

We need to start thinking about a staff function at Christmas and the Social Committee would be pleased to receive suggestions on what sort of function people would like:

To date one suggestion has been a bar-b-q/party at the site; another, a boat trip down the Brisbane River (to Wellington Point - ??!). If you have any ideas, please let Rex, Alan or Ann know of them.

VALUE FOR VOWLES (translated from the Hong Kong Herald by our special correspondent)

Mr. E.J.R. Vowles, Dip.Pub.Admin.(Qld), the Senior Admin. Officer (epidemic) of the Great Griffith Goonaversity of Australia, is about to imbibe on a world tour made possible by a grape from the Australian American Educational Foundation. He hopes to study open lunnyversitys bin the U.K. and study students administering to computers in various states of the USA. He has expressed a desire to tas at least one Hongkanese Winiversity before arriving back at Griffith on the plenty thirst of November. He said at a farewell dinner in Brisbane, the Chief Port of Griffith, that the Hoonaversity meaded money, and he was going to do his sherry best to get some.

COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY INTERCHANGE SCHEME

We have received from the Association of Commonwealth Universities, London, copies of the Conditions of Award for travel grants under the above scheme to be awarded on the recommendation of the Committee for Commonwealth University Interchange.

The awards are available in three categories:

- A : University Teachers or Officers on recognised study leave.
- B : Distinguished University Scholars invited to Australia by universities for short visit
- C : Postgraduate University Research Workers holding research grants.

Applications for Categories A and C should be submitted in triplicate for endorsement by the Vice-Chancellor. Category B nominations are made by the University, and all Australian nominations are considered by the AVCC. Applications and nominations should reach Ann Chesters, Vice-Chancellor's Office, by the following dates:

- Category A : 30th November, 1973
- Category B : 30th November, 1973
- Category C : 15th March, 1974

A copy of the Conditions of Award has been distributed to all Divisions and spare copies are held in Ann Chesters's office, as are application forms.

MAN-ENVIRONMENT SEMINARS

(EB)

Environmental seminars organized by the University of Queensland have recently broadened their scope by adopting a multidisciplinary approach to the study of contemporary problems affecting man and his environment. These pleasantly informal discussions have commenced rather dramatically with a look into the problems of urbanization in underdeveloped areas and an enlightening view of air pollution in Brisbane. The topics of the next couple of weeks will concern town planning in relation to social theory and a critical analysis of the proposed concept and content of the School of A.E.S., Griffith University. Anyone interested should contact Elaine Birk re times and venues.

A TRAVELLER'S REPORT

(FJW)

Mr. Bray, Professor Presley and I, together with our wives, attended the Eleventh Congress of the Universities of the Commonwealth in Edinburgh during August. There were around 1200 delegates from 160 universities and national associations of universities. It was greatly impressive and a sobering thought to be a member - and Griffith is almost the youngest member - of so large and diverse a gathering but all of whom spoke the same language and worked for universities of the same type with common problems and opportunities.

The main work of the Congress was organized in five parallel seminars; three concerned with different aspects of managing universities or national systems, and two focussed on universities' responsibilities with respect to the environment, and Contemporary Culture and the University. The last two were outward looking and stimulating study groups. It was encouraging to discover that Griffith University is right up with - and many times, in front of - the leaders working for effective, socially responsible teaching and research in these fields. In a somewhat heated discussion on student involvement in University government - the British don't like the thought - Mr. Bray outlined our plans for students on Council and was later called by the Times Higher Educational Supplement, the "anti-podean radical". We made our mark!

Following the Congress, and four days in Edinburgh at the opening of the Festival (can you imagine Shakespeare's Pericles in drag?), I attended the much smaller conference of the executive heads of Commonwealth universities at Exeter University. This was an opportunity for much more detailed discussion on work done elsewhere and planned for the future. I know some people feel that the climb from our Sports Centre to the Spine is too steep and too long; they ought to see Exeter. It has nearly all its student residences at the bottom of a hill twice as high and half as steep again as ours. It's a fifteen minute stiff puff to walk up. I reckon they have the fittest students in the game.

On the way home I visited the two universities in Hong Kong. Both are interesting places and with both I hope to arrange both staff and student exchanges.

Now back to work, with many deeply felt thanks to all the people who kept the work going so well whilst I was away.

STAFFING MATTERS

(KGW)

Since the last issue of the Gazette, there has been an addition to the Library staff and an appointment made in the School of Science.

Mrs. Kaye de Jersey, a Librarian, joined us in early September and is working in the Library's temporary premises at Salisbury.

Dr. Robert Segall has been appointed as a Foundation Professor in the School of Science. He is at present Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Metallurgy at Melbourne University and will take up his appointment in early January 1974.

In the absence of Mrs. Taubner, Mrs. Isabella Austin is keeping the tea and coffee flowing. It is anticipated that Mrs. Austin will be with us until 8th October.

There has also been one resignation from the staff. That was from Cheryl Strong who had been a Clerk-Typist in the Library for just over a year. Cheryl has succumbed to the wanderlust of youth and has departed for Europe for an indefinite period - half her luck!

"ON THE ROCKS"

Mr. Johnny Walker, a recently co-opted member of the Site and Buildings Division, has recently completed a comprehensive survey of the Griffith University site water resources. His findings have been made public exclusively to G.U. staff members through this Gazette.

Area of site = 434 acres 1 rood (approx.)
Average rainfall = 44.5 inches per year
Therefore total volume of water falling onto site per year = 440,182,875 gallons.
OR 70,429,260,000 ounces.

If we now adopt a ratio of 1 ounce of Scotch per 4 ounces of water plus 1 ice cube (1 ounce), there is a Site and Buildings requirement for 88,036,575 gallons of Scotch OR 541,763,538 x 26 ounce bottles at \$4.00 per bottle = \$2,167,054,152.

GET OUT AN ORDER FRED!!!NOTES FROM A.E.S.

(CWR)

Since the last news sheet, I have been moving around Australia. The first trip was to the ANZAAS conference in Perth during mid-August, where there was a record attendance, and where environmental and resource use trends were well in evidence. Both Professor Guthrie and I met with Murdoch University staff, and visited their site. We have many ideas in common, although there are some significant differences in their planning.

On my return journey, I visited Flinders University - to receive warnings on the dire consequences of too much democracy in academic organization.

I then attended a National Seminar on World Population in Canberra where I presented a paper on "Population and the Biological Environment" which Elaine Birk and I prepared. Quite a rush job - now being properly written by Elaine!

Back to Canberra for an Australasian Club of Rome Council meeting (nothing too sinister - ask me about it some time). Took the opportunity for further discussions with ANU and CSIRO, then (another!!) 7 a.m. flight to Armidale for a Symposium on Large Scale Experimentation. I was the only non-biometrician to contribute a paper - obviously invited to provide some light relief from math. stats. The paper title given to me was: "The Role of Modelling and Field Experiments in Understanding Complex Systems". I find folk don't always understand me aright when I say how useful models can be with complex questions! (Any budding models like to help?)

NOTES FROM THE SCHOOL OF SCIENCE

(RDG)

Next week marks a new stage in the development of the School with the arrival of Dr. Ian Blackburne from the University of East Anglia, U.K., as a post-doctoral research fellow, and Peter ('Fred') Fredericks as a visiting postgraduate student from the University of Sussex. Both will work in the laboratories of the University of Queensland, until our own laboratories are ready.

Professor Guthrie attended the ANZAAS meeting in Perth in August, and earlier this month visited the University of N.S.W. and the University of Tasmania to give research lectures and also seminars on the development of Griffith University.

THANKS

Mrs. Taubner would like to say her 'thank you's' to each and everyone of the staff of Griffith who were with her in thought and gift, cards and letters, even phone calls, during her recent hospitalization. Her appreciation of their continued interest, even in her absence, has been a contributive factor in her recuperation.

SUGGESTION BOX

In view of the difficulty of obtaining building materials and skilled qualified labour, a suggestion box that up until now had only been a suggestion, will not be built. In future editions of this Gazette any suggestions on any subject pertaining to the University will be published. Your help is required to formulate in each edition a comprehensive list of suggestions. Names will only be published on request and all correspondence will be entered into.

Suggestion No.1: I suggest that the suggestions offered suggest only suggestions that you as staff should suggest. (Signed) Sedge Gestion.

REPORT ON WILDLIFE ON THE SITE

Following successful negotiations with the police, and publicity given by the mass media, the destructive hoards of trail bike riders do not visit the site at weekends now. The wild flowers are celebrating with a display and so far one possum, a five foot carpet snake, a six foot lizard, a flying squirrel and nesting parrots have been seen. Spring is here!

TELEGRAPHIC CODE ADDRESS

To allow us to receive telegrams by phone during weekends, we have transferred registration of our telegraphic code address from the Toowong P.O. to G.P.O. Brisbane. The telegraphic address is, now, "UNIGRIFF, Brisbane".

For noting!!!

NOTES ON THE AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM (1)

There are presently 17 Australian universities, with Wollongong University College due to become independent and the eighteenth university in 1974. Except for the Australian National University, which is a creature of the Commonwealth, all the others have been instituted by the various States and are constituted by State Acts of Parliament.

Until very recently, the universities were financed partly by the Commonwealth Government and partly by the appropriate State Government and from student fees. The present Australian Government has gained agreement from the States that the Commonwealth will undertake full financial responsibility for higher education and that there will be no student fees charged. These arrangements will come into force from 1974.

GIRLS' NIGHT OUT

We were sorry to have to farewell Cheryl Strong on Friday, 14th September, on her trip to Europe. Besides a lunchtime gathering at the R.E., 10 of the girls gave her a rousing send-off in the evening with a night out at Dirty Dick's Elizabethan Eating Room - what a night!

On entering D.D.'s each was given a name for the evening (appropriate or not is questionable - we had three Ruined Maids in the group). The price of \$6 included all food and entertainment, which was provided by a jester, three minstrels and, at times, the masters and mistresses (as the clients are called). All in all the G.U. crowd had a good night out, from which came the suggestion that, some time in the future, the Social Committee organise a visit there for any staff who are interested. Interested?

GRIFFITH - Sat., 25 Sept., 2001 : PREDICTAPUTE

In a press release yesterday Professors Rose and Pollen announced that by using a three way system of propagation involving cloning, a new strain of wheat had been produced. It was a cross between a hard, high protein wheat, the Australian grass tree (*Xanthorrhoea*), and seeds of a desert grass supplied by the Swedish Space Agency, which were collected during their seventh expedition to the Jovian moon, Titan.

The new plant has a linear root system capable of growing on concrete or rock. It has a flowering spike like the grass tree, but grows continuously from the base, along which the large wheat grains develop. The plant needs almost no water and could survive in a high carbonmonoxide environment.

Professor Rose said that he would urge the Government of Brisbane to use the plant as street trees in the new suburb or Birdsville West. Meanwhile several tons of the new seed are being issued to the tenants of the Government Housing Estates on the Darling Downs. It is hoped that the disgruntled wheat farmers would be re-employed growing this new crop on roof tops.

Professor Pollen predicted that world wheat prices would drop, and that the floating polystyrene wheat fields of the Indian Ocean would be sold out for more real estate.

COUNCIL MINUTES

Edited sets of Council minutes are to be made available for perusal by staff. These will be left in the Staff Room, and copies will also be sent to the site and to the Library at Salisbury.

RUSH JOB CALENDAR

1989

NEG	FRI	FRI	FRI	THU	WED	T
8	7	6	5	4	3	
16	14	13	12	11	10	
23	22	21	20	19	18	1
32	29	28	27	26	25	2
39	38	37	36	35	34	3

1. This is a special calendar which has been developed for handling rush jobs. All rush jobs are wanted yesterday. With this calendar a client can work on the 7th and have it delivered on the 3rd.
2. Everyone wants his job by Friday, so there are three Fridays in every month.
3. There are eight new days at the end of the month for these rush jobs.
4. There is no 1st of the month—so there can't be late delivery of end-of-month jobs on the 1st.
5. A "Blue Monday" or "Monday morning hangover" can't happen, as all have been eliminated.
6. There are no bothersome non-productive Saturdays and Sundays—no safety leave or overtime to worry about.
7. With no 15th, 30th or 31st, no "time-off" is necessary for cashing cheques or paying bills—in fact, there's no salary cheque either.
8. There's a new day each week, called "Negotiation Day."