

# Origins

Newsletter of the UNSW Archives

NO 12 SEPTEMBER 2009

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**UNSW**  
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

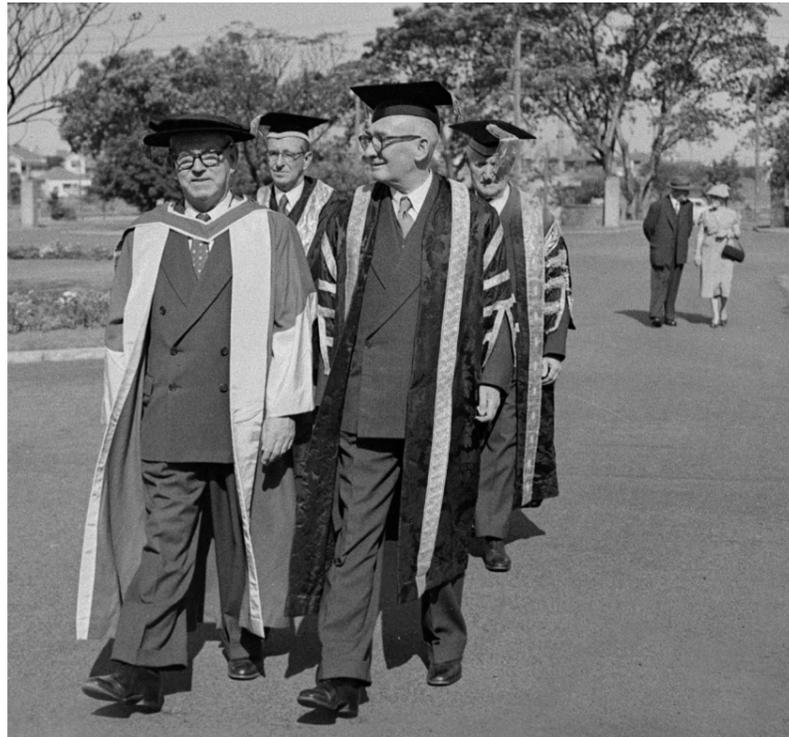
## ROBERT JAMES HEFFRON – A FOUNDING FATHER OF UNSW

Robert James Heffron (1890–1978) was NSW Minister for Education from 1944 to 1960 and NSW Premier from 1959 to 1964. In today’s political climate it is perhaps difficult to conceive that a NSW politician could have made a significant contribution to this university. Yet when in 1978 the university’s then Acting Vice-Chancellor Professor Rex Vowels mourned Heffron’s passing by describing him as one of the “founding fathers of the university”, this was not mere rhetoric, but rather recognition of the true debt that the university owes to Heffron for its establishment and even its name. In the year of the university’s sixtieth anniversary, it seems appropriate to acknowledge this particular “founding father”.

World War II had demonstrated the increasing importance of technology and science to society, but this had not been matched in the numbers of students graduating in technical disciplines. In the pre-Whitlam era, states held the primary responsibility for tertiary education and so it was their lot to find a solution to this predicament. Fortunately, in 1944 the New South Wales Government had appointed a Minister for Education with the foresight required to address this problem—Robert Heffron.

There had been previous discussions on the creation of a new tertiary institution by the Government. It was Heffron, however, who took action. On 9 July 1946 he presented a proposal to the NSW Cabinet outlining the creation of a NSW Institute of Technology. This was approved in principle. A year later, at Heffron’s request, Cabinet authorised the appointment of a Developmental Council to bring the new tertiary institution

*Robert J. Heffron at the Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony for the university’s Main Building, 1950 [CN465] Photographer: Government Printing Office*



into existence. The Developmental Council met first on 27 August 1947. At the meeting Heffron stated “I have regarded this Council as of such major importance that I propose to act as Chairman”. The Developmental Council was to set in place the principles upon which the early university was to rely—its course standards, administrative structure, legislation and even its accommodation. The Developmental Council worked so speedily that by March 1948 forty-six students had enrolled to study in the prospective institution.

During its planning process, the Developmental Council had also re-considered the name of the new body. So by March 1949 when legislation was introduced into Parliament, it was not to establish an Institute of Technology, but the New South Wales University of Technology. This was the first time that a second university was to be established in any Australian state. Passing the legislation was far from easy and much of the counter

*Robert J. Heffron, Chancellor Wallace Wurth, Deputy Chancellor John S. J. Clancy and University of New England Chancellor Sir Earle Page, Newcastle University College graduation ceremony, 1957 Photograph courtesy State Library of New South Wales [Home and Away – 29222 / Hood Collection]*

argument centred on the notion that it would be better to simply increase the funding of “the existing university”. Heffron remained firm. He stated that the new university would “provide professional courses of a distinctly different type from those...available at the University of Sydney”, including part-time courses, cadetships and “fees at the lowest level possible”. Having himself left school at fifteen before working full-time and conducting his studies at night—first in metallurgy and later in law—Heffron was keenly aware of the need for flexibility in tertiary education. He emphasised that “the Government...is fully alive to the need in a democratic country

to extend facilities to students who, for financial reasons, cannot attend present full-time university courses”. The legislation was passed and the Technical Education and New South Wales University of Technology Act—and thus this university—came into being from 1 July, 1949.

Opposition to the new university had been expressed in the media. Again, Heffron took up the university’s cause. On 4 May 1949, an article by Heffron was published in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, entitled “Defence of New University”, in which he answered the university’s critics and noted that “I feel that this



*Robert J. Heffron at the opening of Newcastle Teachers’ College, 1950 Photograph courtesy Cultural Collections, University of Newcastle*

new institution should be given time to prove its worth through the quality and work of its graduates”. Time has indeed shown the truth in Heffron’s words.

Although he had no official position within the new university, Heffron continued to offer his support throughout the university’s early

years. In September 1958 a great challenge arose, when the bill to change the name of the New South Wales University of Technology to the University of New South Wales was debated in the NSW Parliament. The Report by the Committee of Inquiry into the Future of the Australian Universities, known as the Murray Report, had recommended the name change as part of its proposal that the university expand its focus from technology into such fields as medicine and arts. Several members of Parliament objected to the idea, with many feeling that it would put the reputation of the University of Sydney at risk due to the newer institution being given the “obviously superior name”. Alternative titles such as the University of Randwick or the University of Kensington were suggested and one member of the opposition half-jested that “it might even be called the Heffron University, for no one has worked harder for it than has the minister”. Yet again Heffron spoke persuasively and dismissed as “absurd” the notion that there would be any impact on the high standing of the University of Sydney, a century-old institution. And so the present name and direction of this university was assured.

The university’s recognition of Heffron’s importance in shaping its beginnings began early. At the final meeting of the Developmental Council on 26 May 1949, members of the Council paid tribute to their Chairman by noting that the university “will stand as everlasting evidence of his vision, energy and sincerity of purpose”. And to commemorate Heffron’s fundamental part in its establishment, he was awarded an honorary doctorate of science at the university’s first graduation ceremony to be held on the Kensington campus on 16 April 1955. The citation noted that Heffron “has played a vital role in the founding and early development of this university and remains a sympathetic and wise counsellor to our cause...His name is written indelibly into the history of the New South Wales University of Technology”.

It was felt by the university, however, that an honorary degree

was “only a partial discharge” of the debt the university owed to Robert Heffron and in early 1962 Vice-Chancellor Professor Philip Baxter wrote to Heffron requesting permission for the university to give Heffron’s name to its then “largest and best equipped” building. And on 16 May 1962 the Robert Heffron Building was opened. At the time the University Council noted “that the name of the Honourable R. J. Heffron, Premier of New South Wales, shall be permanently commemorated within the university” as well as its “gratitude [for] the part [Heffron] played in the institution and the development of this university...where he has been always a source of wise counsel and sincere friendship for the university”. The Robert Heffron name no longer heads this building—in 2007, following refurbishment, this appellation was removed and replaced by the “the Australian School of Business Building”.

In 1999 one of Robert Heffron’s two daughters, Maylean Cordia, representing “the descendents of the Founder of the University of New South Wales” wrote to congratulate the university on its fiftieth anniversary. She noted that three generations of the family were now alumni of the university, including herself and her son, Robert Cordia, and went on to say that “Bob Heffron would be a happy man to have seen his dream come true”.

There are many who have played a part in ensuring the establishment and growth of this university. But the truly high esteem in which Heffron has been held by the university is shown in the hanging of his portrait in the Council Chamber—a location otherwise reserved only for portraits of those who have held office at the level of chancellor and vice-chancellor. It was, after all, his support and hard work for the university both as chair of the Developmental Council and as advocate in the university’s early, difficult years that ensured that it did not become the victim of politicians and others unsympathetic to the need for educational change and expansion.

KATIE BIRD

## THE UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES IN 2007/08

In the last two years, work in the restructured Records and Archives Office has settled into some new routines. Together staff undertake combined visits to university schools and departments to assist with records disposal; we also worked together on reviewing and extending guidelines for the disposal of school records.

The Archives continues to operate with two professional staff members and with casual assistance for the Oral History Program. Our work remains varied; the collection is used for administrative purposes, the writing of histories and biographies; for preparing exhibitions and reunions and other academic research including student assignments. Access directions have been made for UNSW's official archival records and the access regime in regard to records in our custody has been reviewed. Both access directions and *Guidelines for Access to Records Held in the UNSW Archives* are accessible through our website. The website has also been updated and we now have a combined Records and Archives Office site. Focus of our Archives' work is on the

Series and Agency Description Project which involves the retrospective identification of series and writing of agency descriptions for all records in our custody. Running concurrently with this project is a review of our existing holdings, which has already resulted in a consolidation of parts of the collection. Two exhibitions, on Foundation Day and on the Development of Kensington Campus, were prepared for display in the Library Foyer; both exhibitions can now be viewed online on our website. Some stray material which had been transferred to the Archives was moved to more appropriate institutions; a map of the Newcastle area to the University of Newcastle Archives and records concerning the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tunnelling Division went to the Australian War Memorial. We also have been able to assist the U Committee at their annual book fairs which is a welcome opportunity for us to get involved with other members of the university community.

It has been with the generous assistance from the U Committee that we have been able to continue the University's Oral History

Program. Their support has allowed us to capture the reminiscences of some of UNSW's outstanding staff members through special projects. These included *UNSW Women in Science* which has been finalised, *UNSW Emeriti: Research and Teaching Experiences within the Australian Tertiary Education System* which is currently being finalised and *Adapting to Change - UNSW from the 1980s* for which interviews are well under way. The latter documents work and experiences of senior staff at UNSW, who were involved in the administration, day to day running and setting of strategy for the university in a rapidly changing and developing environment. We further interviewed the former vice-chancellor, Emeritus Professor Mark Wainwright AM, and are continuing an interview with the Hon. Hal Wootten AC QC, first dean of UNSW's Faculty of Law. Other on-going work within the Oral History Program consists of ensuring that we have appropriate access agreements for the interviews and transcripts held by us.

KARIN BRENNAN

## COAT OF ARMS OF THE LATE HON GORDON SAMUELS

The coat of arms of the 36th Governor of New South Wales and the university's longest serving Chancellor, the late Hon Gordon Samuels AC CVO QC (1923–2007), was installed in the main hall at Government House in 2008.

The symbolism of the arms is described in the following excerpt from "New Coat of Arms at Government House" by Robert Griffin, originally published in *Insites* Winter 08 Issue 55 and reproduced courtesy Historic Houses Trust of NSW:

In keeping with heraldic tradition, the coat of arms reflects aspects of Samuels's life and career. The helm is standard for a gentleman of his rank. The crest of the helm is that of New South Wales, but is differenced by the

waratah, which symbolises Samuels's role as Governor. The shield incorporates the maces of both the University of New South Wales and New South Wales Parliament and also features the Shield of David. The supporters are a kangaroo and the Lion of Judea. From their necks hang, respectively, a book, the symbol of learning or knowledge, and the scales of justice, representing the law. Below the shield are the Companion of the Order of Australia (AC) and the Commander of the Royal Victorian Order (CVO).

The blazon, or formal description, of the coat of arms was prepared by Mr Richard d'Apice AM, President of Heraldry Australia. Mr Michael Spencer, a specialist in heraldic art and design, undertook the painting.



Coat of arms of the late Hon Gordon Samuels, Government House, 2008  
Photograph: Robert Griffin © Historic Houses Trust of NSW

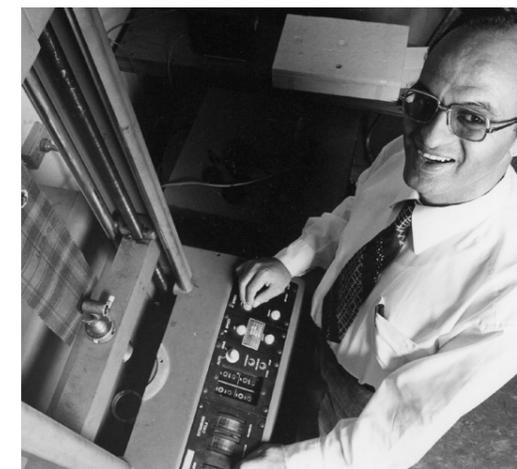
## UNSW EMERITI: RESEARCH AND TEACHING EXPERIENCES WITHIN THE AUSTRALIAN TERTIARY EDUCATION SYSTEM

In late 2007 the University Archives received a grant from the U Committee to conduct a series of extended interviews with UNSW emeriti. The project documents the experiences of professors at UNSW and explores how these academics see their position at UNSW, past and present. All participating academics have had a long association with the institution in varying roles—as undergraduate and postgraduate students, researchers, teachers, committee members and as administrators. They devoted a majority of their career to UNSW and thus their interviews form a key resource on the university's development as an institution and the experiences of its researchers and teachers.

To conduct these interviews was exciting as the academics came from a broad cross section of fields including the faculties of Applied Science, Arts, Commerce and Economics, Law, Medicine, Science, the AGSM, ADFA and the College of Fine Arts. All interviews had a similar format exploring family background, early educational experience (both primary and secondary), how interviewees chose their particular specialties as well as the circumstances that guided them to UNSW; their first impressions, their recollections of changes over time and the factors that led them to maintain such a long association with the institution.

Many common themes evolved regarding the interviewees' experiences at UNSW and their lives as academics. All conveyed that UNSW was a great place to do research, that teaching and mentoring students was very satisfying, there were ample opportunities for career advancement, and that UNSW was a place of equal opportunity for women. Most still actively pursue research and mentor students. Given that the length of their association with UNSW ranged from twenty-six to thirty-six years the emeriti were

able to record the dramatic changes they have seen in terms of the built environment, the student body, challenges for academics in a changing economic climate, subjects offered and the impact of splits and amalgamations of schools over time. Overall it became clear that most regarded UNSW as a place where they could establish satisfying career paths, and that they have enjoyed maintaining close links with the university since their retirement.



Ron Postle with equipment used to test fabric strength, 1981  
[CN1127/12] Photographer: Kevin Doig

The extended interviews made it possible to explore such a range of themes in depth. Ann Daniel recalled her involvement in the university's School of Sociology in the 1970's, first as a postgraduate student and then as a tutor. A mother of ten children, she was able to speak on the development of childcare services on campus as well as on the opportunities that an academic career could offer women in the seventies. She recalled the challenges of juggling family, research, teaching and administrative roles. For the most part the women interviewed felt that UNSW offered far more equal opportunities and flexible workplace arrangements than

they could have expected outside of academia. In Health Services and Hospital Administration George Palmer noted that when he arrived in the late sixties there was only one female tutor but that by the mid-seventies gender representation was much more equal.

Another participant, Ron Postle, whose association with UNSW spans over thirty-six years, recalled not only his memories of the university while a student—first at Ultimo and then on Kensington campus—but also the challenges he faced as Australia's first blind professor to become foremost in his research field of textiles.

Interviewees who had held the position of head of school were of the view that the role had become increasingly challenging as support services dwindled. We were fortunate to have Paul Redmond's insights into the establishment and development of the Faculty of Law almost since its inception. His association with UNSW lasted thirty-three years; as the first 'home grown' dean of law he was able to explore how the faculty evolved over time and to discuss many of the nuts and bolts issues involved when setting up an entirely new faculty, including a law library. He spoke of the radically different style of teaching that was to set UNSW's school apart from all other law schools in the country and he recalled many of the staff and students from those early days who made the school a vibrant place to work.

This project was stimulating and a privilege to conduct. We sincerely thank the U Committee for their support which made this project possible and we are also indebted to the emeriti who contributed so generously by taking time out of their busy schedules to participate and provide insights into life as a UNSW academic.

SUE GEORGEVITS

# CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT

In 2007 the University Archives created an exhibition on the development of the UNSW Kensington campus, which was on display in the University Library from November 2007 until February 2008. An on-line version of the exhibition is available on the Archives' website at <http://www.recordkeeping.unsw.edu.au/About/kensington.html>. The photographs displayed in this article illustrate an example of those available in the exhibition, as well as a brief history of the Kensington site.



Over time the area now belonging to the university has undergone many changes. The lower campus once held the Kensington Racecourse, which was primarily used for pony racing from 1893 to 1942. During the Boer War and World Wars I and II, it was taken over as a military camp, while a migrant hostel was located there in the late 1940s. The White House, Old Tote and Fig Tree Theatre buildings are remnants of some of the site's earlier incarnations, while ANZAC Parade is named in memory of the soldiers of the Australian Imperial Force, who marched from the camp down to Sydney harbour from where they were transported to action in World War I. The land of the upper campus was once leased for quarrying. In 1903 it was transferred to Randwick Council for recreational use. The Council filled and levelled an area which became known as Randwick Oval and which now holds the Morven Brown, Library and Chancellery buildings. The area now occupied by the Wallace Wurth School of Medicine and Biological Sciences buildings was used as a golf course—the Randwick Municipal Golf Links.

On 1 July 1949 the University of New South Wales, the State's second university, was incorporated as the then New South Wales University of Technology. The Foundation Stone

for the first permanent building to be constructed on campus—now known as the “Old Main Building”—was set on 25 February 1950 and the building was officially opened on 16 April 1955. The university held its first classes in 1948 with teaching taking place at the Sydney Technical College buildings in Ultimo. In 1952 most of the university's administrative functions moved to Kensington and some teaching began here in 1953. It was however not until the late 1960s that university classes finally ceased at Ultimo.

The site of the lower campus was vested in the university in two lots in December 1952 and June 1954, while the upper campus was vested in the university in November 1959. The latter provided an important additional 10.1 hectares of space for the future growth of the university and brought the total area of the Kensington campus to close to 40 hectares.

A building boom occurred on campus over the 1960s and 1970s. This included the formulation of the first master plan for the campus, which was released by the University Architect in 1976. In contrast, the 1980s were a quiet decade for new construction on campus, but much forward planning occurred behind the scenes. In 1984 the campus master plan was updated and in the same year the Campus Life and Environment

Committee produced a report on enhancing the general campus milieu. In February 1987 a Campus Development Advisory Group was set up by the Vice-Chancellor Professor Michael Birt to provide advice “on matters affecting site development and beautification”.

As a result of the group's recommendations, in June 1990 the new Campus Development Plan was approved by Council. By May 1994 one hundred separate projects had been officially commenced under the various refurbishment, landscaping and new building works that were part of the Campus Development Strategy—and there were many more to follow by the end of the decade. From 1992 the work took place under the guidance of Vice-Chancellor Professor John Niland, who was consequently nicknamed “John the Builder”.

In June 2005 the Campus 2020 Master Plan was endorsed by Council. The plan provides a blueprint for the development of the campus until the year 2020. Sustainable development, improvement in cross-disciplinary interaction and ease of movement around campus are some of the key elements of the plan—thus ensuring that re-development will continue on the Kensington campus well into the future.

KATIE BIRD

> Racegoers inspect the ponies and analyse the form during a meeting at Kensington Racecourse, c. 1896 [99A76]



< Aerial view of the Kensington site, 1943 [CN551] and 1998 [02A79]

∨ A game of rugby between Medicine II and Medicine III played on Randwick Oval with the Wallace Wurth School of Medicine and School of Biological Sciences buildings in the background, 1963 [CN944/194] Photographer: D. Smith



< Students relax on the Library Lawn while Stage II of the Library, seen in the background, nears completion, 1975 [CN945/10] Photographer: Dick Rangott

> View along the University Mall with the Red Centre on the right, the Sir Robert Webster Building on the left, and the Scientia Building under construction in the distance, c. 1998 [07/181/6] Photographer: University Photographer



∨ View of the Main Walkway from Anzac Parade, 1964 [CN122/194] Photographer: Max Dupain



## THE UNIVERSITY STAFF ASSOCIATION AND ITS EARLY RECORDS

In 2006, when the Community Research Archives (CRA) within the UNSW Library was disestablished, the early records of the Staff Association were transferred to the University Archives. These records had originally been appraised by students of the university's Archives Administration course, who had prepared disposal recommendations on behalf of the Staff Association. Following their work the records were eventually deposited in the Industrial Relations and Labour History Archives of the CRA in 1981. The collection today consists of ca. 3.3m of records which include copies of minutes and reports of the Association and sub-committees, membership records, correspondence, circulars and newsletters. While fragmented the papers hold a wealth of information and contribute to documenting the development of union representation in the tertiary education sector. Oral history interviews with Staff Association office bearers conducted for Patrick O'Farrell's book *UNSW - A Portrait*, which are also held by the Archives, complement these records.

When the University was first established, professors, associate professors, senior lecturers and lecturers were represented by the Technical Teachers' Association (TTA) which was affiliated with the NSW Teachers Federation, while technical officers, research lecturers, research assistants and demonstrators were represented by the Public Service Association or Professional Officers Association. Changes to TTA rules in 1952 led to the formation of the University of Technology Branch of the Technical Teachers' Association, which had its first year of operation in 1953. Branch members were very active, with their discussions concentrated mainly on the conditions which should apply to university staff after the appointed day, the day the University became autonomous. Until that day on 1 July 1954 all staff of the University had been appointed under and subject to the provisions of the

NSW Public Service Act.

In 1955 members of the University Branch of the TTA decided to form a new organisation which would be of equal status to the TTA and be affiliated with the Teachers Federation. With autonomy of the University its staff now had a different employer to other TTA members and staff members felt further that a university branch could give more attention to matters concerning university staff in particular. Officially this new branch, the New South Wales University of Technology Staff Association, came into operation as an organisation of the NSW Teachers Federation from 1 January 1956.

In November that year staff association members passed a motion "that the NSWUT Staff Association affiliate with the Federal Council of Australian Universities Staff Associations" (FCUSAA). This decision had implications in the long run. When FCUSAA, which later became the Federation of Australian University Staff Associations (FAUSA), was seeking determination of academic salaries on a national level it meant that the UNSW Staff Association, in a unitary set-up, would have to forgo its affiliation with the

Teachers Federation and its right of access to the arbitration commission on salaries at state level. The Staff Association established a committee "to look into the whole question of the Association's relationship with the NSW Teachers Federation and the consequences of withdrawing from the Federation; and the relationship with the Federal Council of University Staff Associations". A form of separation eventually took place in 1967. For its part, the Teachers Federation established a new category of associate membership for those members of the University Staff Association who wished to retain the advantages of dual membership. These advantages included membership of the Health Society, access to the trade discount service and membership of the Teachers Club.

The Staff Association was a body which represented and acted for the teaching staff of the university. Its objects were put as being "...to promote university education and research and further the interests of its members". It provided a forum for the discussion of matters of general interest to members and a means of expressing staff views. It elected a representative to Council



Staff Association Vice-President Neil Harpley addressing staff, 1981 [CN1131/202/81]  
Photographer: University Photographer

of the University, maintained an Education Committee which held regular meetings for the discussion of educational questions; and had an active Social Committee.

In November 1976 the Association instructed its Executive to proceed towards registration of an industrial union of university academic staff in NSW, the University Academic Staff Association of NSW (UASANSW). It was also resolved to form the University of New South Wales Division of UASANSW. For staff to become a member of UASANSW it was necessary to be a member of the Staff Association; however it was possible to belong to the Staff Association without being a member of UASANSW. It was seen as essential though that the Staff Association and the UNSW Division of UASANSW became as closely linked as possible and that as many staff association members as eligible join the new union. Most Staff Association members did join; a small number were not eligible to join UASANSW because they were already covered by other registered unions. The rights and status as members of the Staff Association and members' access to FAUSA were not affected by the existence of UASANSW.

With the formation of the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) in 1993 the UNSW Staff Association became the UNSW Branch of the NTEU. The Branch held its inaugural Annual General Meeting on 22 November 1994. Assets and liabilities and any future receipts of the Staff Association were transferred to the UNSW Branch of NTEU as from 22 November 1994.

KARIN BRENNAN

The University Archives welcomes donations from the university community to allow the Archives to pursue additional projects outside its normal funding. Donations made through the UNSW Foundation Ltd are tax-deductible. Donors should indicate their preference for the donation to be directed to the University Archives. The Foundation can be contacted on (02) 9385 3277 or at [unswfoundation@unsw.edu.au](mailto:unswfoundation@unsw.edu.au)

## THE MONOMEETH ASSOCIATION

In July 2008 one of the great supporters of this university, Sir Harold "Jack" Dickinson—former Chief Executive Officer of Prince Henry Hospital from 1960 to 1963—passed away. The redevelopment of the hospital into a modern teaching facility during his time was an important contribution to the life of the university. Another one was his involvement in the establishment of the Monomeeth Association—an organisation of "parents and friends" of the university that was to undertake many fundraising initiatives throughout its existence.

The creation of a university "Parents' Group" appears to have first been mentioned in a public relations report on fundraising in November 1962. The then thirteen year old university had only a small body of alumni and the introduction of a group sympathetic to the university was seen as a way of furthering the university's interests. The Administration believed that through such a group "the university would obtain the active support of a group in the community, the members of which would be in a position to accept obligations for supporting organising fund-raising in aid of the university and their particular faculty".

Progress was not made until September 1963, when a meeting was arranged between Vice-Chancellor Professor Philip Baxter, Mr Harold Dickinson and the UNSW Appeals Liaison Officer Mrs Joyce Dent to discuss forming this group. As a result, Mrs Dent invited a small group of twenty parents of students representing a range of faculties to an initial meeting on 18 October 1963. Chaired by the Vice-Chancellor, the aim was "to inaugurate a group within the university provisionally known as the 'Friends of the University of New South Wales'". It was not, however, until the group met again in November that its constitution was adopted and its office bearers appointed. Mr Dickinson was named as president, Mrs J. Knight as vice-president, Mrs Elizabeth Daly as secretary

and Mr S. Grill as treasurer, with Mrs Dent as the university liaison officer. Mrs Dent later recalled that "As most of the people present were strangers to each other, Sir Harold appealed to them, if nominated for office, to accept. When he called for nominations for president of the Association he was nominated and had to accept his own advice. He thereafter became the first president and this is the reason that a non-parent came to be the first president of the Association".

At the November meeting it had also been determined that the name of the association would be "The University of New South Wales Liaison Group". This title was rather unpopular amongst members and so Mrs Dent set to work to find a more acceptable alternative. With *Tharunka*, the university's student newspaper, using an Aboriginal word meaning 'message stick' as its name, it was considered that an Aboriginal word might also be an appropriate one for the association. Through discussions with the Mitchell Library, Mrs Dent located the word "monomeeth", which in some Aboriginal languages means friend or friendship, in others beauty. The first meeting of the group for 1964 thus included the proposal for a new name—the Monomeeth Association of the University of New South Wales—which was accepted unanimously.

This meeting was also the first to have a guest speaker, with Professor Morven Brown, inaugural Dean of the Faculty of Arts, addressing the group. Guest speakers became a regular feature of the Association's general meetings, which were initially held bi-monthly and later at least three times a year. The first non-meeting event on the Association's calendar was a Musical Society evening, with the Eastwood Musical Comedy Society performing "Rio-Rita" for the Association on 2 May 1964 in the main administration building theatre. Over the years the Association organised events such as open faculty nights, university campus tours, and other social occasions such as

dinners, theatre parties, Christmas functions and pool parties.

The Association almost immediately commenced fundraising activities. At the 17 April 1964 general meeting the first project of contributing to the construction of entrance gates on Anzac Parade was proposed. By the time the gates were formally opened on 2 August 1967, the Association had made a donation of \$2,000 towards their cost. In the 1990s the gates were removed as part of the re-development of the main walkway, now known as University Mall, but the Association's next fundraising project, four distinctive campus clocks adorning the Applied Sciences, Biological Sciences and Newton buildings, still remains. Other contributions made by the Association were the purchase of a Steinway grand piano for the Sir John Clancy Auditorium, the John Coburn "Garden of Knowledge" tapestry for the Science Theatre, "The Bridge" sculpture located on the pool lawn, a Kawai upright piano for the then UNSW Ensemble, the refurbishment of Chancellery Committee Room 1—accordingly renamed the Monomeeth Room—and \$10,000 for the Library to equip its first electronic classroom.

The Association's annual lost property sale was a main source of its fundraising income. Held initially in 1968—when the Vice-Chancellor Philip Baxter asked the Association "to dispose of the lost property which has been found around the university and accumulated for some ten years"—the sale was held on a yearly basis, usually in or shortly after Orientation Week, and became synonymous with much of the Association's work. In fact, when the Association eventually ceased



*Monomeeth Association members in the Sir John Clancy Auditorium during a tour of the campus, 1970 [CN486/1/3B] Photographer: University Photographer*

its activities in 1994, it was noted in *Uniken* that "fittingly the Association's last task will be to assist in organising the 1994 sale in the Roundhouse on 7 and 8 March". The lost property sale has continued into the present day, now co-ordinated by the U Committee in August of each year.

Despite its achievements, the Association often found it difficult to attract members. Some found it hard to appreciate the spirit of the Association, with one of the university's associate professors suggesting in 1964 that "the Society sounds like a university P and C and I should have thought that such a body was quite foreign to the spirit of a university". As more women returned to the workforce, it became harder for the Association to obtain assistance for its projects. And some internal tensions within the Association in the mid-1970s did not help the membership drive.

Those who did join the Association, however, reported benefits that were greater than simply providing assistance to their child's university. In 1966 in a letter to the then Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor

Rupert Myers the Association's secretary Mrs Daly wrote "as the majority of our members did not have the opportunity to attend any university, they are always most grateful for the privilege of meeting the staff and learning about education as it is presented at this level to the very fortunate young people of today". And in 1975 Vice-Chancellor Myers was to comment that "the Association has been instrumental in bringing parents and their friends into the orbit of the university and it has, I think, played a very important role in breaking down the barriers which can exist between parents and their student children".

Although the Association ceased work in 1994, the final dispersal of its funds was not until 6 May 1996. Monomeeth President Mr Carl Elliott wrote to Vice-Chancellor John Niland enclosing a cheque for \$3,830.17. The money was put towards the celebration of UNSW's fiftieth anniversary in 1999—an appropriate event for the remaining earnings of an association that had contributed much to the university over thirty years of its history.

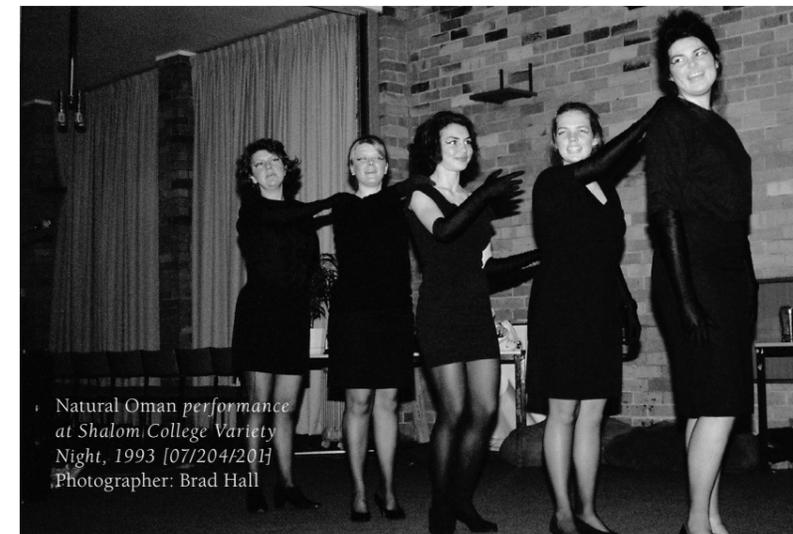
KATIE BIRD

*Monomeeth Association members Mrs P. Greenhill and Mr H. Dickinson with Vice-Chancellor Sir Philip Baxter at the opening of the Anzac Parade entrance gates, 1967 [CN486/1/7B] Photographer: University Photographer*



## ACCESSIONS

This is a selection of records and private papers received by the University Archives in 2007 and 2008. Regular additions to the annual reports, newsletters, and booklet/ leaflet collections for UNSW's administrative units, faculties, schools, centres, organisations and associations have not been included in this list. Access enquiries to the collection are invited. In some instances access is restricted or special conditions apply.



### Personal donations

Angyal, Stephen J. Correspondence of Professor S. Angyal, 1944–57.  
Barker, Sandra. Photographs of the University Regiment, Food Technology & International House, 1978.  
Brown, Patricia. Collegium Musicum Choir: Angelus—UNSW's Annual Christmas Concert & St Cecilia's Day Celebration, program and concert information.  
Carleton, Frank. Type-written paper written about selling books to the University Library in 1993–95.  
Cheong, Simplicius. DVD & CD of the Salsa & Samba Live @ Roundhouse performance, 12 May 2006; CDs: *Chamber & Orchestral Pieces by S Cheong*, 2007 and *The Baroque Jazz Ensemble* which also features Theo Henderson, Terry Ingram, Brian Bursey and Guy Bart; two musical scores by S Cheong, 2007.  
Cope, Russell. Photograph of speakers and NSW State Librarian at the Celebration of the Life of Professor Wilma Radford, 18 Oct 2005.  
Cranswick, Guy. 24 audio recordings of interviews conducted by M.A. Cranswick for an *Excellence in Government Service* Project in 1986.  
Davis, Jeremy. Papers relating to his times as Dean of the AGSM, President of the Academic Board and member of

Council, 1976–2000.

Hall, Brad. CD with images of the university, 1990–93.  
Hampton, Blanche. 15 video recordings, various UNSW topics, 1990s.  
Herlihy, Anne. Papers and photographs assembled by Hope Herlihy relating to WHO Regional Teacher Training Centre Workshops, 1975–80.  
Hora, Heinz. Addition to his private papers including 2 DVDs about the 1987 Laser Fusion Conference and a recording of an interview between Professor Hora and Professor Sir Mark Oliphant at ANU; 1987–2007.  
Horsfield, Richard. Recollections: 11 pp typescript re his experiences working in the School of Education 1970–71, 2007.  
Hughes, Tamsin. 9 photographs of UNSW campus.  
Kwok, Stephen (Toma Publishing). CD audio and video recording: *NSW Optometry & Optometric Education in the 1940s* by Professor Gerald Westheimer, 8 May 2007.  
Lao, William. CD with 230 digital images showing construction work on the Heffron, Dalton and Applied Science buildings 2005–07.  
Milner Davis, Jessica. Invitation to Jackie and Gordon Samuels's 50th wedding anniversary, Sep 2007.  
Neubauer, Kurt. Personal papers, 1929–99.  
Niland, John. Private papers including

speech presented at the memorial ceremony for the late Hon Gordon Samuels, 25 Feb 2008; photographs of 1999 AVCC dinner; notes and schedule for UNSW's Olympic Program 2000; papers re the Green Paper on Industrial Relations in NSW 1988–89.

Orlovich, Peter. Invitation and menu: Golden Jubilee Luncheon of UNSW Engineering 1957 Graduates, 2007; *Report on the Archives of the South Eastern Sydney Area Health Service* by Kim Eberhard.  
Samuels, Jackie. Private Papers of the Hon Gordon J Samuels.  
Sowey, Eric. Private papers: subject files 1980s–90s.  
Titmuss, Keith. Photographs & papers on UNSW computing, 1960s–2000s.  
Tsanidis, Sophie. Photographs of Foundation Day 2008.  
Watson, Anne. Copies of correspondence from Balthasar Korab on A/ Professor L. Peter Kollar re the entry design for the Sydney Opera House competition.  
Willis, Albert Henry. Photograph of Nuffield Research Professors 1990; Order of Service for Dr Charles Harold Warman.

### Governance and administration

Archives. Digital image: Newcastle University College graduation procession on 22 Mar 1957.  
Chancellor, Office of. Records of the chancellor Dr John Yu.  
Chief Information Officer, Office of. Office records, 2000s.  
CONTACT (student centre). Office records, 1990s–2000s.  
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & International)/ (Research), Office of. *Research @UNSW*; Reports on Research Training Management and staff centred approach to enhancing learning and teaching at UNSW.  
Facilities Management. Site plan of Little Bay; press cuttings re changes on campus and the department 1992–94; papers by NSW Fire Brigade relating to the 1957 fire in the Main Building; aerial photographs of COFA, St George and Randwick campuses ca 1990; Library Lawn landscaping photographs 2007; plans, microfiche, photos & posters 1950s–2000s and office files.  
Library. Video recording by Ethnic Affairs Archives including its official opening 1981 as filmed by Channel 0 (SBS), recordings *30 Years After, Kampuchean Refugees and Alpini Picnic*, March 1982; *Discussion*, journal of the Newman Society, 1963–69; *Civil Advice*, newsletters of the School of Civil Engineering, 1967; *Kundu/ Insight*, newsletter of the Democratic

Club, 1969–82; The Australian Family Research Bulletin of the Family Research Unit of the School of Social Work; Geography at UNSW Magazine, newsletter of the Geographical Society; annual report of the Wollongong University College Library 1972; photocopy cards; Library Timeline 2004, Librarian's files 1990s; minutes, agendas & papers of the Physical Sciences Library Advisory Committee. Media and Communications Unit. UNSW press clippings 2004–05; UNSW Annual Reports; photographs 1998–2004; Uniken; UNSW Calendar; CDs with images used in UNSW publications and on the UNSW website.

Quality Systems Development Group. Reports, discussion papers, seminar presentations organised by QSD; historical information & photograph (1915) re 26 Botany St.

Records Administration Section. Administrative files; select registered UNSW files, 1975–92, various consignments.

Secretariat/ Secretary to Council. Minutes, papers and agendas for Council and its Committees; the Academic Board and Faculty Board & Standing Committees of the faculties of the Built Environment, Commerce & Economics; various consignments.

Student Administration and Records. Examination papers; Conferring of Degree booklets.

Student Recruitment Office (SRO). SRO website print-outs 2002–03.

Student Services. Promotional handouts for Open Days, Courses & Careers Days, Expos and Information Days.

Vice-Chancellor, Office of. UNSW Campus photographs and slides from the Vice-Chancellor's Office, 1960s–90s; digital photographs of the vice-chancellors Profs. R Hume, M Wainwright and F Hilmer, ca 2002–06; UNSW press clippings 2003–04; VCAC minutes and papers 2005–06; Day files 2003–05; agendas and papers of the

Senior Management Group, 2005; copy of UNSW Jubilee Medallion, 1999.  
UNSW Post Office. Booklet Leaflet Collection.

#### UNSW Asia

13 panels of an UNSW Asia exhibition showing the Kerry Hill Architects' designs for UNSW Asia's Changi campus and a poster advertising the exhibition, 2006.  
UNSW Asia. Records of UNSW Asia including the office of the President and examination papers.

#### Faculties, schools, centres and controlled entities

Australian Graduate School of Management (AGSM). School Records including minutes, photos, exam papers, publications, videos etc., 1970s–2000s.  
Built Environment, Faculty of. FBE Interviews I, 2007.  
Chemistry, School of. Website Print-outs & Video of the School of Chemistry, 1990s–2002.  
Engineering, Faculty of. Photograph of Drs Leong Tuck Wah & Chan Yun Keong and Professor RF Warner, 1960s alumni, taken in Kuala Lumpur 2004; *The History of the UNSW School of Surveying & Spatial Information Systems* by Robert Loeffel, 2007.  
History, School of. School office files; office files relating to the Centre for Community History.  
Kingsford Legal Centre. *From the Roundabout to the Roundhouse: 25 Years of Kingsford Legal Centre* by David Nichols, 2006;  
Safety Science/ Risk & Safety Sciences, School of. School records covering the school's establishment, UNSW 2000 and faculty matters, 1982–2000s.  
Surveying, School of. U-matic video and CD of a promotional film of the school of Surveying, 1979.

#### University organisations and associations

ARC@UNSW. CD of the UNSW Sounds Project 2008; addition to Posters Series.  
College of Fine Arts Student Organisation (COFASA). COFASA records were transferred upon its disestablishment and the formation of Arc@UNSW.  
New South Wales University Theatrical Society (NUTS). Society records including leaflets, production files and agendas & minutes of Executive & General Committee meetings.  
University Union. Records of the University Union including publications, board minutes and photographs.

#### Related organisations

National Institute of Dramatic Art. Additions to Booklet/ Leaflet Collection; Newsletter, Annual Report Series.

#### WHAT HAVE YOU GOT THAT MIGHT INTEREST US?

We would like to hear from you if you are leaving UNSW and have personal papers or other records relating to your time here or can help us document any part of the story of the university and its people.

Family members of those who have been associated with the university in any way may also like to contact the Archives about depositing personal papers, photographs or memorabilia they have inherited.

KARIN BRENNAN

**The Archives is open by appointment Monday to Friday, 9 am – 1 pm, 2 pm – 5 pm**  
Closed on public holidays and 25 December to 1 January

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*Origins* is prepared by the staff of the University Archives

design by Di Quick

ISSN 1326 – 5407