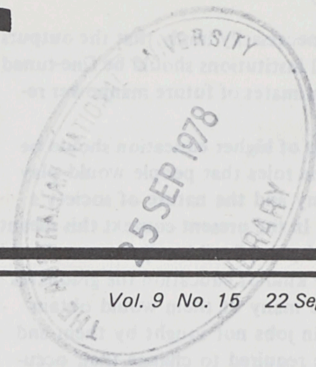


ANU Reporter



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ANU host to joint national health economics survey



Dr Deeble

Chi Chi Beaton

factors which determine the nature and distribution of these services.

Other broad areas of study will be the deployment and use of health manpower, in both institutional and community practice; the health status of individuals, their utilisation of health services and the factors which affect demand; the production and distribution of

drugs and other medicaments, particularly in relation to assessing the Australian position in an industry dominated by multi-national companies; and the extension of current work on aggregate health expenditures, costs and sources of finance, into alternative approaches and the implications of alternative financing mechanisms.

'Although these represent separate areas of study, the program must be regarded as inter-related', Dr Deeble says. 'It is, for example, impossible to postulate a set of hospital objectives without some hypotheses about the objectives and motivation of the doctors who determine the admission of patients and whose subsequent decisions commit hospital resources. Similarly, the existence of hospital facilities, mostly provided from public funds, is an integral part of the economics of much medical practice.'

Dr Deeble sees great merit in involving other Australian universities and institutions in the project. A lot of preliminary work consists of collecting masses of data and this, he feels, could be done economically in co-operation with the relevant departments at the Universities of Melbourne and New South Wales where senior academic staff could provide day-to-day supervision. Negotiations along these lines are taking place with both these institutions who have shown interest in the project.

Dr Deeble emphasises the unique and national nature of the project. 'Medical staffing has never been studied in Australia', he says, 'and some of the related non-medical data being collected in Victoria has not been analysed for other than day-to-day accounting purposes. In both cases the collection of organised information will provide the basis for work on a national level which has not been possible before.'

A co-architect of the original Medibank, Dr Deeble was special adviser to Mr Bill Hayden when he was Minister for Social Security in the Labor Government. He obtained his PhD in Health Economics from the University of Melbourne in 1970. Subsequently he worked at the Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research and was Senior Lecturer in Economics at Monash University. Before joining ANU, he was Economic Adviser to the Federal Department of Health.

From 1973 to 1975 Dr Deeble was Chairman of the Health Insurance Committee which planned Medibank. His view on the most recent Government amendments to the health scheme is that it is conceptually much closer to the original Medibank program than the Government pretends, although its detailed operation will be quite different.

Why is it that the cost of institutional health care in Western Australia is \$227 per capita as against \$153 in Queensland, and why is it that 164 persons per thousand of the population in Victoria are hospitalised in a year as against 223 in Western Australia?

Such anomalies are only the tip of the iceberg of enormous cost differences in health services between one State and another, according to Dr John Deeble. They are explainable neither by reasons of demography nor by reasons of rational economics.

Dr Deeble, who recently joined ANU as a Senior Research Fellow, is currently heading a joint research program between ANU and the National Health & Medical Research Council into health economics. Dr Deeble says that this is the first entry of the NH & MRC into the field of health economics and the first intentionally long term project of its kind to be undertaken in Australia.

The overall aim of the project includes the study of hospital costs, the economics of medical practice, the supply, use and distribution of health manpower and the financing of health services. Australian work in health economics generally, Dr Deeble says, has been sporadic and short term. The present study will enable the Government to formulate long term plans and may help contain health costs.

Dr Deeble has already completed a study supported by a grant from the Hospitals and Health Services Commission, concerned with the estimation of expenditures on the output of and the unit costs of all Australian Health Services from 1960-61 to 1975-76, classified in such a way as to allow comparisons between various services; and the development of a system for collecting this data on a regular basis. Its location at ANU enabled an approach from a national viewpoint drawing information from sources not always available to researchers in a limited setting. The report for this study will be published in a few weeks.

Within the present project there will be several broad areas of study, Dr Deeble says. These will be cost-output relationships in institutions, particularly general hospitals, which absorb over half of all health care expenditures; and similar studies of the economics of out-of-hospital care, and the

Prof Karmel warns of higher youth unemployment

Continuing high levels of unemployment among those under their early 20s were foreshadowed by Professor Peter Karmel, Chairman of the Tertiary Education Commission, during a conferring of degrees ceremony at ANU last week.

'Our society will contain groups of people denied the opportunity of work experience; they may remain permanently on the fringe of the workforce; the jobs they will get will be temporary, casual dead-end jobs requiring little training; and there will develop in our society elements operating outside its main stream', Professor Karmel said.

'It is difficult to believe that a society can remain healthy in the long run if there is a significant proportion of young people segregated from the main stream.'

Professor Karmel said these issues raised questions not only about the educational system but about how the economy operated and the nature of the society itself. He added that those graduating had a responsibility to reflect on these questions.

Degrees were conferred on 104 graduands by ANU's Chancellor, Professor Sir John Crawford. Those receiving degrees included doctor of philosophy, master and bachelor graduands from the Faculties of Arts, Asian Studies,

Economics, Law and Science and from the Research Schools of Biological Sciences, Pacific Studies, Physical Sciences and Social Sciences.

In his address Professor Karmel drew attention to the 25 years of growth in higher education. During this year some 24,000 men and women would be admitted to university bachelor degrees and 2,700 to higher degrees, while 4,000 would receive postgraduate diplomas. In addition about 24,000 would be admitted to undergraduate degrees and diplomas at Colleges of Advanced Education and 4,000 would receive postgraduate diplomas.

Upward shift in educational qualifications to continue

This large increase in the output of graduates had been accompanied by higher proportions of young people completing secondary school and by steadily rising enrolments in institutions of technical and further education. These increases, Professor Karmel pointed out, had important implications for the distribution of the workforce according to educational status.

The average level of the workforce when classified by education, qualifications and skills had been steadily rising; those who were added to the workforce each year were more highly

qualified than those in the existing workforce; and the upward shift in educational qualifications would continue for many years.

Professor Karmel contrasted today's job situation with that in the 1950s, 1960s and the early 1970s when surpluses of people with particular skills seldom appeared and then only temporarily. Even poorly educated early school leavers found jobs with little difficulty. The situation had changed dramatically. The economy was expanding only slowly and the level of economic activity was not pressing against available resources and there was a comparatively low rate of job creation.

Unemployment was concentrated among certain groups in the community. It was higher for younger people: 16 percent for 15 to 19 year olds, 8 percent for 20 to 24 year olds and 3½ percent for those above 25 years. Unemployment was also higher among those poorly educated, and among graduates it was lower than among the adult populations generally. Unemployment was also higher among those who were not born in Australia, it was a great deal higher among Aborigines; it was higher in rural areas; it was higher among females than males.

Professor Karmel said that notwithstanding the concentration of unemployment among the

young, graduates found jobs although they took longer to do so than was the case during the boom times of the 1950s and 1960s. The rising proportion of graduates in the workforce was a continuation of a long term trend but in the past decade it had sharply accelerated. It was inevitable therefore that graduates would filter down the job hierarchy and that they would be employed in occupations which a short while ago were not regarded as ones for graduates.

Graduates must be prepared to trim their expectations

'The implication of this is that there must be changes in the perception of the kind of job that a degree leads to: graduates must be prepared to trim their expectations and aspirations to the realities of the labour market; employers must revise their views on the nature of jobs in which graduates may be employed', Professor Karmel said.

Such 'underemployment' raised several points about the quantity of graduates being produced and the nature of university and college courses. 'It is clearly undesirable to produce gross excesses of highly specialised and expensive manpower', Professor Karmel pointed out, 'but

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Professor Karmel's address

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this does not necessarily imply that the outputs of educational institutions should be fine-tuned to doubtful estimates of future manpower requirements'.

Institutions of higher education should be sensitive to the roles that people would play in the economy and the nature of society's requirements. In the present context this meant that the capacity for flexible adjustment should be built in the kind of education the graduates received, since many of them would obtain employment in jobs not sought by them and they could be required to change their occupation several times.

'This suggests that extreme specialisation should be postponed as late as possible within courses so that a student's initial training and education enable him to move into a number of occupations. Courses within a given discipline should be broad based and might be combined with specialised courses to be undertaken subsequently either in educational institutions or by way of on-the-job training', Professor Karmel said.

'This is not to advocate that all students should undertake general degrees, but rather that within broad specialisations the nature of education should be directed towards the general rather than the particular'.

Letters to the Editor

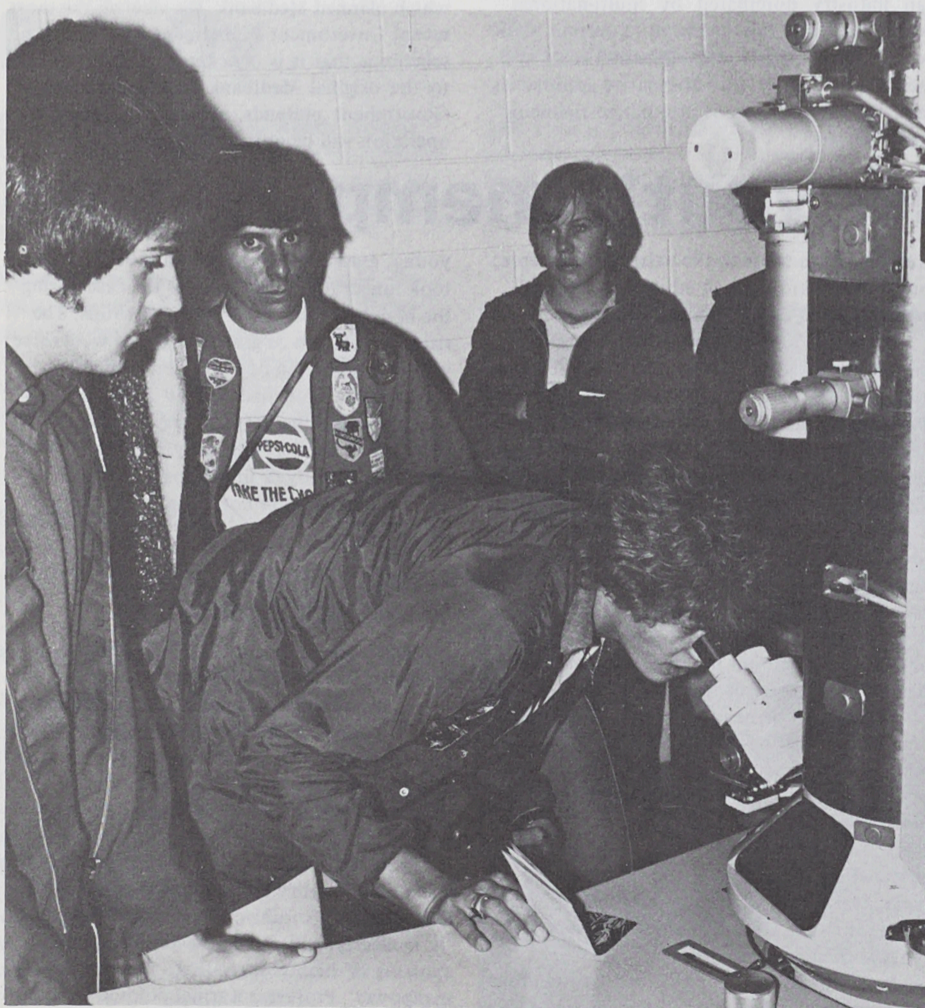
'More than ever disgraceful'

I have heard a report that the University is briefing a Sydney lawyer in the case being brought against it in the ACT Small Claims Court by our own Russian dissident, Peter Berzins.

In this time of financial stringency it is more than ever disgraceful that the University should squander its funds in an attempt to crush resistance to the tyranny it has been trying to exercise under the cloak of university autonomy.

Audrey Donnithorne
Economics RSPacS

Below: Twenty-eight school students from 11 countries recently visited ANU as part of a tour of Canberra. They are in Australia under the Rotary Exchange Student Scheme. Some of the students are seen here with an electron microscope in ANU's Research School of Biology.



David Fetherston

Invalid chair lift built by Nuclear Physics staff

The construction of an inexpensive invalid chair lift by staff of the Department of Nuclear Physics, RSPHysS, can now enable a disabled person to be completely mobile in the Department's two storey building not equipped with an elevator.

Those largely responsible for the design and construction of the project are Mr Alan Cooper for the rail fabrication, Mr Rod Fancote for the trolley mechanism construction and Mr Bob Edwards for the electrical design and motor construction. The success of the project can be gauged from the fact that quotes for commercially made elevators and hoists ranged from \$6,000 to \$30,000 plus alterations to the building.

The entire assembly consists of a motorised trolley running on an overhead rail which follows the contour of the stairs (see illustration). The invalid wheel chair is suspended from the trolley by four wire rope slings.

The rail is fabricated from mild steel flat bar and forms an inverted tee section 100mm high and 50mm wide, and is suspended from the building roof trusses by steel tubular hangers and is braced securely to the walls of the stairwell. It conforms to Australian standards for passenger carrying lifts and can carry a static load of 850kg (ten times the safe working load) at any point along the rail.

The trolley runs on four wheels on the cross of the tee section track and is powered by a 12 volt DC motor driving a 10-tooth sprocket

wheel through a single plate friction clutch and a 40:1 worm reduction gear box. The sprocket wheel engages in the roller chain secured to the track and drives the trolley along it. The 40:1 reduction unit is inherently self-sustaining and no additional braking system is required. Removal of power from the motor stops the trolley in either direction.

The motor draws its power from a fully sealed 12V car battery mounted on the trolley and no external trailing cables are required. Current is applied to the motor through contactors controlled by a series of switches and interlocks. A pendant control box held by the passenger contains a key operated on/off, up/down switch and a push button switch. The passenger switches on power and selects the direction and control of trolley with his personal key. An automatic recharging device is built into the system to maintain the battery in a fully charged condition.

The slings which support the wheel chair are made of plastic covered stainless steel rope with a breaking strain of 440kg each. They are attached to the chair with specially made snap hooks easily operated by the disabled person.

Talkfest at Arts Centre

Ken Healey

From a concrete, brick and glass shell to a series of usable spaces. That is the story of the transformation of the Arts Centre during the past couple of months. Using loan funds of \$200,000 which are being serviced largely by a student levy and staff donations, the Centre's committee of management has authorised partial completion of the building's interior to the point where a variety of performing and visual arts activity will soon be possible.

How to ensure that the auditorium, rehearsal room, workshop, art and craft studios, and other uncommitted spaces are filled to best advantage with the buzz (or other appropriate sounds) of creative activity? In answer to that question the committee of management has called a full day's seminar or 'talkfest' at the Arts Centre on Sunday 8 October from 10am.

Against the background of a number of irreversible decisions which had to be taken in

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designing the building (for instance, that most of the Centre's space would be usable for performing arts, but in as flexible a mode as possible) the committee of management has realised that despite the widely representative nature of its membership, it by no means encompasses all sources of good ideas for the use of the building.

The basic philosophy upon which the Arts Centre was designed was that it should be a community arts centre, that is, it should cater for practitioners of as many kinds of creative arts as possible, with the emphasis on easy access for participants in its programs. Many other successful art centres operate in that way, particularly in the UK. However, the distinguishing mark of the ANU Arts Centre is to be that its primary community will be the University community: students, staff, their families, and those who share membership of arts groups with them. That is a wide definition of a university community, but one which should enable the Centre to meet the needs of those who have helped to pay for it, while forming a natural link with the wider arts community.

Within that framework of thinking, there is still a very large number of possible ways of organising the usage of the Arts Centre. That is why the users' day has been arranged, on the site, all day (complete with barbeque facilities), so that all sorts of possibilities for use, access, performances, and exhibitions might be raised.

The Centre's staff are preparing a short statement of what thinking and discussion have been taking place during the past 10 years or so. Anyone who wants to read the background material before the users' day should visit the Centre or phone (49)4787.

It is important that all potential users have their needs and their opinions heard before next year's calendar begins to fill with bookings. Sunday 8 October is the day to meet and talk with other potential users of the Centre. The management would appreciate knowing approximately how many people are likely to come, so please phone the Centre beforehand, if possible.

Reporter publication details

ANU Reporter is published on the second and fourth Fridays of each month. The next issue will be published on Friday 13 October for which the copy closing date is Thursday 5 October. Inquiries: Madan Nagrath, ext. 4170/2229.

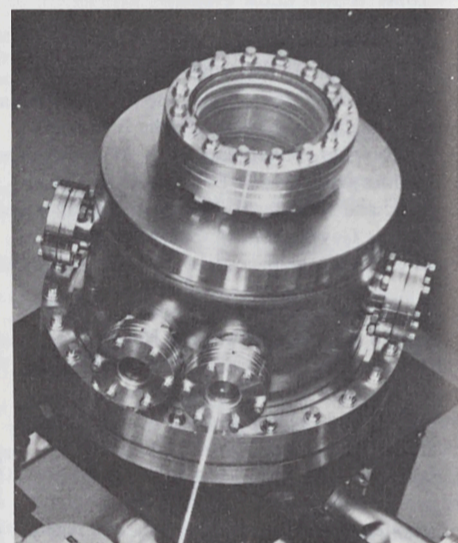
The Defence of Excellence in Australian Universities

The University of Adelaide will hold a public seminar entitled 'The Defence of Excellence in Australian Universities' in Adelaide on 6-7 October to discuss the increasing economic and other pressures which are adversely affecting the hard-won academic standards and international standing of Australian universities. A distinguished group of speakers have been invited to contribute to the seminar, which will widen the base of discussion and facilitate the pooling of ideas.

The Council of the University of Adelaide is deeply concerned that since early 1975 there have been increasing threats to the autonomy of Australian universities in a variety of ways. Funds for the teaching and research functions of universities have been reduced and other pressures applied, such as inquiries into rationalisation of tertiary institutions and study leave.

The Council of the University sees this seminar as the first in a series designed to enable Australian universities to explore ways in which they might speak collectively on the issues which are vitally affecting them. The seminar will be open to the public and the media. Any person interested in the seminar should write to the Vice-Chancellor, The University of Adelaide, G.P.O. Box 498, Adelaide 5001.

Device may help understanding of photochemical storage of energy



High-vacuum reflection cell designed by Mr O'Brien and constructed in RSPHysS and the Department of Chemistry

How molecules distribute the energy of light they absorb between electronic, vibrational and rotational motions is the object of a study by Dr Ben Selinger and Mr Jim O'Brien in ANU's Department of Chemistry.

Dr Selinger says that an understanding of this process is basic to what is involved in photochemical storage of energy.

For this purpose a stainless steel cell was recently designed by Mr O'Brien and partially constructed in the Research School of Physical Sciences workshop. The cell is evacuated and then isolated and holds a residual pressure of less than one-billionth of an atmosphere pressure for periods of hours.

Into this cell molecules are introduced at very low pressure so that they are essentially isolated from one another for the duration of experimental measurement which is equivalent to the time (less than a millionth of a second) they remain in an excited state.

A pulsed nitrogen laser is used to optically pump a tuneable dye laser which is tuned to the frequency at which molecules absorb radiation. An optical arrangement within the cell allows multiple reflections giving an optical path of over six metres in a cell. This ensures that at least some radiation will be absorbed in the sparse molecules.

The light that the molecules emit is then collected by a second set of mirrors and analysed by a spectrometer where single photons of different wavelengths are actually counted. The resulting spectra will reveal information on how the energy has been redistributed.

'This is still a mystery', Dr Selinger says, 'and until we understand it our skill in designing efficient photochemical storage systems will be limited'.

SALE

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University Council meeting

At its meeting on Friday 8 September the Council of the Australian National University considered the items mentioned below.

Membership of Council. Senator George Georges has been elected by the Senate to fill the vacancy on Council caused by the resignation from the Senate of Senator J.R. McClelland. Senator Georges will serve for the remainder of Senator McClelland's term of office until 17 July next year.

Dr Alexander William Rodgers, Professorial Fellow, Mt Stromlo and Siding Spring Observatories, has been elected to Council by the non-professorial staff in the Institute of Advanced Studies for three years from 30 September this year. Mr J.F. Hannoush, PhD student in Philosophy, Faculty of Arts, has been elected to Council by the research students for one year from 30 September this year.

Mr C.O. Dolan, co-opted member of Council, has submitted his resignation from Council.

Resignation. Professor J. Cutt, who took up his appointment in charge of the Administrative Studies program in the Faculty of Economics in June 1973, has resigned with effect from

30 September. Professor Cutt has accepted an appointment at the University of Victoria, British Columbia.

University Fellowships. Council approved that the University Fellowship Committee be invited to examine the purposes and conditions of award of University Fellowships and to make such recommendations to Council as it considers appropriate. The Council also approved that the Deputy Chairmen of the Boards of the Institute and of the School be appointed to membership of the Committee.

Radio Station 2XX. Council noted that the Vice-Chancellor proposed to appoint a committee to report to him on the future relationship between the University and Campus Community Broadcasting Association Incorporated (CCBA) with respect to the operation of Radio Station 2XX.

In July the Assistant Vice-Chancellor had reported to Council that if CCBA were granted a Category 'C' broadcasting licence to serve the Canberra/Queanbeyan region, for which it had lodged an application with the Australian Broadcasting Tribunal, it would be appropriate for the University to consider its position with respect to CCBA and the Radio Station.

The CCBA has been informed by the Australian Broadcasting Tribunal that it is to be granted a Category 'C' broadcasting licence. The licence will enable Radio Station 2XX to broadcast from the Canberra/Queanbeyan area. A Category 'C' licence is not a full commercial licence but does give considerably more latitude to Radio 2XX in the choice of programs and enables payment to be received from sponsors.

Talk on Mexican art

Senor Donaciano Gonzalez, Mexican Ambassador to Australia, will give an illustrated talk on 'The social message of Mexican mural painting' on Tuesday 10 October in H.C. Coombs Lecture Theatre at 8.15pm.

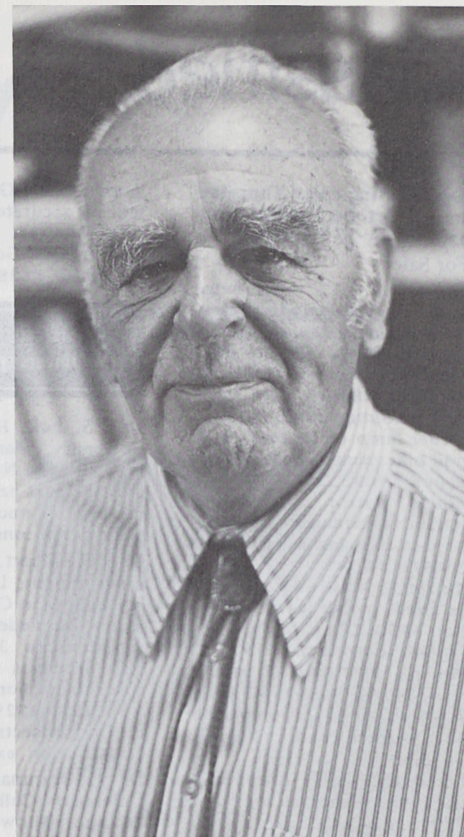
The talk is presented by ANU in conjunction with the Heads of Diplomatic Missions in Canberra of Argentina, Chile, Mexico, Peru, Spain, Uruguay and Venezuela, who have arranged this and other events around 12 October to mark the anniversary of the discovery in 1492 of the New World.

Ursula College 10th Anniversary

Ursula College 10th Anniversary celebrations will take place over the weekend of Saturday 21/Sunday 22 October, and not as previously stated on the weekend of 30 September.

Saturday 21 October is the Patronal Feast of the College and marks the 10th Anniversary of the official opening. Activities will include a dinner (6.30 for 7) that evening and a Mass in honour of St Ursula at 9.30 the following morning in the Ursula/Johns Chapel.

Subscription for the dinner is \$20 which incorporates an appeal for funds. All former members, friends and well-wishers of the College are cordially invited to attend any or all of the activities. Notification of attendance at the dinner, accompanied by subscription, should reach the College by Thursday 12 October.



Professor Bart J. Bok, Emeritus Professor of the University of Arizona and Director of Mount Stromlo Observatory from 1956 to 1966, is visiting Australia as a Travelling Selby Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science. He has spent the last two weeks visiting ANU, Mt Stromlo and Siding Spring Observatories, Orroral Valley Laser Ranging Station, Tidbinbilla Tracking Station, and the College of Advanced Education. He has given several public lectures, including one at the Academy of Science and another to 400 secondary school students in the Coombs Lecture Theatre.

Abolition of fees can be seen as further benefit to the affluent

The abolition of tuition fees in 1974 for tertiary education by the Labor Government has had at best a marginal effect on the accessibility of higher education to socially and economically disadvantaged groups.

This is the finding of a recent study initiated by the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee (AVCC) on 'Students in Australian Higher Education: A Study of their social composition since the abolition of fees'.

The study was undertaken by Dr D.S. Anderson of the Education Research Unit at ANU; Professor P. J. Fensham, Monash University; and Dr J. Powell and Mr R. Boven of the University of New South Wales.

Their Report goes further: 'We can safely infer that not many upper class students of mediocre ability have been replaced by able lower class students. At worst the abolition of fees can be seen as a further benefit to the economically advantaged by transferring funds from the average taxpayer to a student body drawn to a great extent from the more affluent sections of society'.

If the aim of the Labor Government was to open up tertiary education to the economically depressed sections of society and minority groups traditionally badly under-represented in universities and colleges, it obviously has not been achieved. But as the Report points out there are several built-in institutional barriers which need to be faced up to.

The Report is based on the working of the new system for three years, 1974-76. Asked if this is not too short a period, particularly at a time of economic difficulty, Dr Anderson says that although there could be some delayed effect due to students in earlier years of school staying on because higher education fees had been abolished, this is unlikely to be great. Retention rates in secondary schools have increased only slightly since 1974 and the increased numbers who may continue to higher education will not make discernible changes to the social compositions.

'What is more likely to change the social composition of the undergraduate body is the recent trend for more older persons to enrol in universities and colleges. These students tend to be from backgrounds under-represented in higher education', Dr Anderson says.

The data for the study were analysed separately for each of the three types of institutions: universities, metropolitan colleges of advanced education and country colleges.

These distinctions were maintained throughout because it was known that their student populations differed considerably.

Social composition of students static

The study reveals that the majority of those entering colleges of advanced education and universities are young school leavers whose parents themselves have more than average education and are likely to come from professional classes. Not unconnected with this pattern is the high representation of students from non-Catholic independent schools.

Migrants are under-represented particularly those of non-British origin, however Australian-born children of migrants participate at a rate not too much below that which would be expected from their numbers in the population. The greater difficulty of access for country students is reflected in their proportionately lower participation.

The Report notes that the social composition of students in higher education has changed little over time. Within higher education itself the social composition varies with the type of institution, type of enrolment and metropolitan or country location. The order from highest to lowest appears to be: university full time, university part time, metropolitan CAE full time, metropolitan CAE part time. A similar order is obtained if the indicator is secondary education at a non-Catholic independent school.

To understand these results it is necessary to appreciate that universities and colleges of advanced education do not offer an identical range of courses, the Report points out. Education for the socially prestigious professions of medicine and law is available only in universities, with one or two exceptions in the case of law. Engineering, which is of the middle prestige ranking, is represented about equally in universities and metropolitan CAEs. Students preparing for the relatively low ranking occupation of teaching, the majority being female, are about seven times more numerous in metropolitan colleges than in universities, and are a majority of all country college students.

Training for some professions of lower prestige, such as nursing and other paramedical occupations, is available only in CAEs. Colleges of advanced education therefore cater more for the relatively low prestige professions. Where

training for a profession, such as engineering, is available in both types of institutions, the universities tend to attract students from higher socio-economic status (measured by occupational level of education and income) backgrounds.

To investigate the effects of fee abolition students were asked: 'What type of course would you have taken this year (1976) if there had still been tuition fees?' A little over 20 per cent of all students claimed that if there had been fees, they would not have enrolled or would have had to defer their enrolment; among country CAE students the proportion was 30 per cent.

Overall, the proportion saying that fees would affect enrolment was greater among those groups which are at present under-represented in higher education: women, migrants, students from country schools, older students, students who live away from home and students from low socio-economic status family backgrounds. This reaction was very strong in all types of institutions.

Large number of individuals affected

In addition to the above approach the Report analysed data from Melbourne and Monash Universities which provided information on students' social background for a number of years before 1974 and after. No significant change was apparent following the abolition of fees.

The overwhelming conclusion from the study is that the effect of fees abolition on the social composition of students in higher education is small although large numbers of individuals are affected by the presence or absence of fees and those who are so affected are disproportionately from the lower socio-economic status and other under-represented groups.

The Report goes on to say '... the social composition of students in higher education has been relatively stable over several decades despite the changes which have taken place during that time: changes which have seen a great expansion of universities and colleges, a rising retention rate to 12th year in secondary school, a growth in general affluence of the population and the introduction of many egalitarian measures.

'There is still much social inequality and economic hardship in society but its roots are

deep in the social fabric and it would be unlikely that a simple change at one particular point in the system, such as the abolition of fees, would have any great effects on the social composition of students in higher education. Most of the socially handicapping circumstances have had their effects well before students even get to the point of seeking a place in higher education.'

Two strategies to increase participation

The Report speculates on further policy changes and suggests two strategies which might be used to increase the participation in higher education of the under-represented groups where there must still be a large reservoir of untapped talent.

The first approach would be to remove those barriers which cause talented young people to fall by the wayside early in the educational process. They are two-thirds of those who start school and generally from the poorer and the less well educated families. Any strategy for change should be directed at improving those family circumstances which lead to what has been called 'the cycle of self-perpetuating poverty'.

The second approach to broadening access to higher education is to encourage and assist more adults to enrol where a high level of motivation can generally be assumed. The problem of increasing adult entry into higher education is not only one of overcoming financial burdens but also one of academic admission criteria.

The large numbers of older students entering CAEs are a reflection of easier access and possibly of a preference for the more practically oriented CAE courses. Overall the increasing enrolment of older students makes students in higher education more representative of the entire population.

'Any future move to extend opportunity for higher education must, we suggest, proceed from a precise statement of social policy aims and an adequate analysis of the target groups,' the Report concludes. 'The strategy should focus on individuals and we have shown that these are likely to come from disadvantaged groups. It will also need to be multi-purposed but with an emphasis on institutional barriers to access as well as on the needs of students'.

