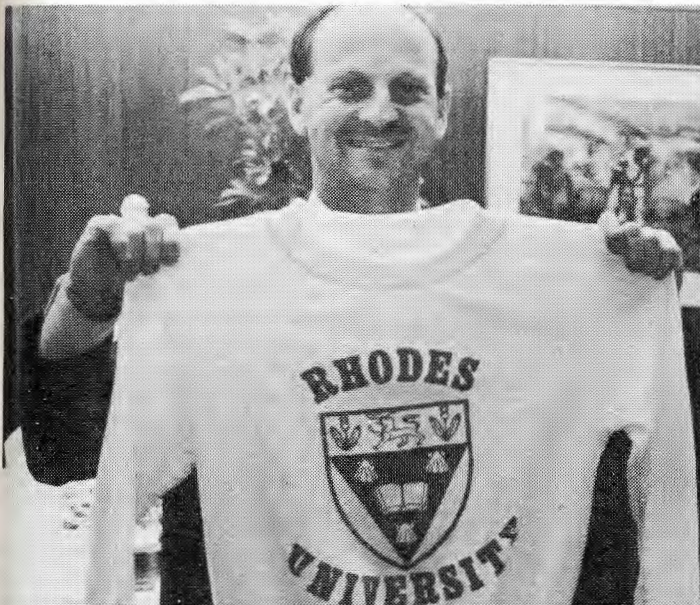




Thursday, April 30, 1992

Vol 4 No 6

Welcome home Peter!



Peter Kirsten, of the Rhodes East London Division, shows where his heart is!

Marine aquaculture "vital" - Hecht

by Gillian Redmond

South Africa will make a big mistake if it does not develop its marine fish aquaculture technology, says Professor Tom Hecht, head of the Department of Ichthyology and Fisheries Science.

Professor Hecht, who recently returned from a trip to France, where he was impressed by the standard of marine aquaculture technology, said that there is a need for the development of marine fish aquaculture due to the serious decline in wild fish resources and the ever-increasing demand.

"The French have realized the seriousness of the situation and have pumped millions of dollars into sea fish culture research. IFREMER, the equivalent of our Sea Fisheries Research Institute, looks at the management of marine sources, and at the culture of marine species such as shrimps, oysters, turbot, sea bass and sea bream," he said.

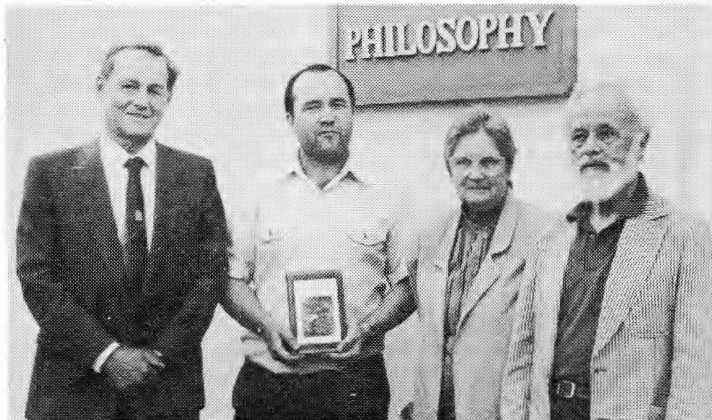
"In Europe the price of sea fish is incredibly high and in France their culture is profitable. One farm we visited produces 350 tons of sea-

bass, grown under a roof in concrete tanks with water pumped in from the sea and heated with water used to cool nuclear reactors."

He said that South Africa has definite possibilities for the culture of sea fish especially the quality species along the coast which can be cultured and sold for a higher price. It also has purer sea water which doesn't require as much recycling.

"The problem with marine fish aquaculture here is a dire lack of funding, however, we hope to start researching the subject in the department sometime this year," said Professor Hecht.

"The trip to France was most informative and we are brimming with ideas. All the information will be made available to the major players in the private sector and in a report for the Sea Fisheries Research Institute. It was also invaluable in terms of the contacts we made with French officials and delegates from other countries," said Professor Hecht.



Dr Derek Henderson, the Vice-Chancellor, with Professor Seamus Miller, of the Department of Philosophy, who co-wrote a recently published book, and his parents, Mrs Kathleen and Mr Crawford

Theory re-thought

by Kelli Hardman

Professor Seamus Miller of the Department of Philosophy at Rhodes University has recently published a book: *Re-thinking Theory*, of which he is co-author along with Professor Richard Freadman of La Trobe University, Australia.

Re-thinking Theory takes a critical view of modern literary theory, and presents a bold, non-conformist approach which criticizes the accepted foundations and orientation of contemporary thought.

Professors Miller and Freadman discuss the weaknesses of many schools of thought, and put forward an alternative view which incorporates many traditional views and theories dismissed as irrelevant by modern theorists.

They argue, among other things, that a central function of literature is to communicate moral truths.

Professors Miller and Freadman received the contract to write *Re-thinking Theory* from the Cambridge University Press in 1987.

Complications caused by the fact that the authors were in different continents, meant that the book was eventually only published after five years.

The book will be of interest to graduate students and academics in literary studies and philosophy departments.

Congratulations

to Professor Chris and Mrs Sue Hummel on the engagement of their son Christoph to Kerry McKune

also, to Professor Dan Morton, as he goes into his ninth decade

Condolences

to Mr Dick Estment, on the death of his wife, Patricia, who was secretary in the Department of Chemistry until her retirement in 1982

As promised in the last issue of Rhodos, we print this table, prepared by Dave Sewry

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The Editor

Many may not know that Mr Ednall Randall of the Computing Centre saved a child's life recently.

Unfortunately Ednall Randall is too shy to speak about what happened, but according to Mr Donoran Hector who works with him, a small child had fallen headlong into a bucket of water and was drowning when Ednall pulled him out of the bucket and performed CPR and mouth to mouth resuscitation at the scene and all the way to hospital. The child drew his first breath when they were almost at the hospital and apart from slight lameness in one leg, has recovered fully.

As you can imagine, we all think he is a real hero!

Janet Carr

(Thank you for letting us know about Mr Randall's brave deed - Ed)

The Editor

On April 14, the Rhodes Soccer club played a demonstration game as part of a documentary production on sport at Rhodes. This video will be distributed amongst schools to promote the University. I have no doubt that soccer, as one of the most popular and racially integrated cross campus sports, will feature prominently in this video.

The soccer club at Rhodes became unified with the black sporting bodies at the beginning of last year, and was the first University to do so. Whilst unable to compete at S A U and intervarsity, the club consistently fielded three and at times five sides in sporting competitions. Further, Rhodes also has a thriving internal league composed of invitation and residential sides. The oppidan soccer club this year is so popular that it has produced two teams for this league. Even women's soccer is being played.

In consequence, when considered in relation to other popular sports such as rugby, cricket and hockey, why are no sporting bursaries awarded for soccer, and furthermore, why is the University still unable even to provide a coach for this flourishing club playing the world's most popular sport?

Richard Chambers

"Acting" Coach

The Editor

My compliments. Your play to increase circulation by the inclusion of a Humour Page consisting of Irate Letter Writers is brilliantly creative. So, too, was the innovation of a columnist who is such a master of the absurd and scholar of the ridiculous...I refer, of course, to A WALKER.

It did not escape notice that its first offering (I use the impersonal genitive pronoun, naturally, in order to avoid gender bias) appeared so close to April Fools Day.

Judging from the response, A WALKER was certainly parking up the wrong tree! Or did the antipathy to museums perhaps indicate an incipient phobia about fossilization? Or does burning oil at midnight cause a form of daylight blindness characterized by red and yellow spots? Seeing yellow would certainly be a change from seeing red. I know, let's have all the admin staff wear yellow stars to work tomorrow! That way the academics won't feel so discriminated against, poor things. We might even find a better use for all that barbed wire.

"Twould make a change, though, from barbed remarks, would it not?"

Better go now... don't want to lose my parking, you know.

A Roadrunner

The Editor

I should also like to be considered for the R200.00 money-saving reward, and offer the following suggestion:

Why not do away with all parking-space dots? - red or yellow.

After all, no one takes the slightest notice of them anyway. With the money saved on paint, paintbrushes etc. install a chairlift operating from the Museum carpark to both Admin and the academic departments.

Alternatively, conduct daily tours of campus by hot air balloon. We seem to have an abundant supply of this in circulation at present.

Bess Allen

Some snippets from a letter dictated by Professor Eugene Locke at the Conradie Hospital

My sincere thanks for your cards, letters, phone calls and continued interest in my welfare and progress. Many cards have the words "speedy recovery" on them. Here at the Spinal Unit the word "speedy" can mean anything from six months to a year - or more; progress is measured in millimetres. At present I can sit in a wheelchair for up to seven hours a day without too much stress.

I am still not able to wash, feed or dress myself. From my wrists down to the finger tips, I have no visible control; my left leg is in a similar state - though I can slightly flex my ankle joint.

On the positive side - my upper body and arms show marked improvement. The musculature is far more normal and I can make a modest contribution to pushing my chair across level ground. I attend Physio- and Occupational therapy classes each day. The main aim here is to re-educate large and small voluntary motor muscle movements. (Involuntary motor muscle spasms are all too frequent for my comfort - especially when in bed) apart from this, I sleep well and enjoy my meals.

I read a great deal as I have a movable table on which I can place books and newspapers. Turning pages can be troublesome and frustrating at best! I watch TV a good deal and my set can show video cassette material.

The other ten patients in my ward are far worse off than I am, but manage to be cheerful and continue to dream of future "achievements", however modest.

The nursing staff do miraculously well under difficult conditions. The

hospital is old, dilapidated and hopelessly understaffed - but they make up for this by showing a depth of caring and a level of expertise which make life much more tolerable for all concerned. Rules and regulation are few and every effort is made to help family and friends cope with the stress that paraplegia engenders.

I have come to grips with the fact that some 11 weeks ago I was a thoroughly fit individual preparing for a long cycle tour, and today I resemble a physical wreck chained to a wheelchair. Thank goodness I am medically stable and I have no pain.

Hester spends much of the day at my side helping to meet my immediate needs and often goes with me to Therapy to help me bear the frustration and boredom of repetitive tasks like putting pegs into holes. She also helps me at table as feeding myself is still a new skill.

Many kind friends and former Rhodes colleagues and students have also contributed to our comfort and have selflessly provided transport and hospitality.

With your continued prayers and my unconditional acceptance that the Lord has a plan for me, I am coping with relative calm and I remain determined to keep my courage high. I am sure that with the Lord's help my perseverance and determination will result in my being able to move again and to return to our home at Port Alfred. No fixed time can even be estimated at this stage.

For your valued mail, visits, continued contact and interest, I thank you from my heart.



A formal dinner was held recently at Allen Webb Hall, to mark the donation of a series of prints of English Cathedrals made to the hall by Mr and Mrs Christopher Wright, of Winchester, England, whose daughter, Fiona is a member of the Hall. At the dinner were: (from the left) Mr s Wright, Mr Wright, Fiona Wright, Mrs Coral Waite, Hall Warden, and Dr Keith Hunt, Registrar

Seminar on Motivation to be held

A one-day seminar presented by Dr Arnold Mol, in association with the East Cape Branch or The Institute of Park and Recreation Management, will be held on June 11, at the St Peter's Building. Registration starts at 7:30am and the seminar at 8:00am. The cost is R180.00 per person and includes teas, lunch and course notes.

To book a place, contact Mrs Lesley Harper 0461-22023, ext 138.

Bookings close on 19 May 1992.

WHAT'S ON



Friday, May 1

Workers' Day
Staff Seminar, Mr Tony Fluxman will speak on *Marx and Individual Rights*
• Political Studies Department, 4:30pm

Zimsoc Disco

- Great Hall, 7:30pm - 12:00pm

Saturday, May 2

Pan Bagna Craft Market
• Kaif Lawns, 8:00am - 4:00pm

Sunday, May 3

Oppli Video
• Arts Major, 7:30pm - 10:30pm

Monday, May 4

Start of SRC 'No Smoking' Week on Campus

Tuesday, May 5

Weekly wine tasting
• Grand Hotel, 7:30pm

Thursday, May 7

Mini-Bleed
• Great Hall, 2:00pm - 6:30pm

Friday, May 8

Staff Seminar, Professor Seumas Miller, *Social Action*
• Philosophy Department seminar room, 4:30pm

Oppidan Union Ball

- Great Hall, 7:30pm - 12:00pm

Saturday, May 9

Pharmacy Ball
• Great Hall, 7:30pm - 12:00pm

Tuesday, May 12

Medicaid Clinic,
• Room 206, Personnel Division, 10:00 - 12:00

Rhodes Women's Association Luncheon. Speaker, Mrs Lynnette Marais
• Rhodes Club 12.45 pm

Weekly wine tasting
• Grand Hotel 7:30pm

Friday, May 15

SRC Disco
• Great Hall, 7:00pm - 12:00pm

Saturday, May 16

RUCSA Ball (Chinese Society)
• Great Hall, 7:30pm - 12:00pm

Sunday, May 17

Oppli Video
• Arts Major, 7:30pm - 10:30pm

Tuesday, May 19

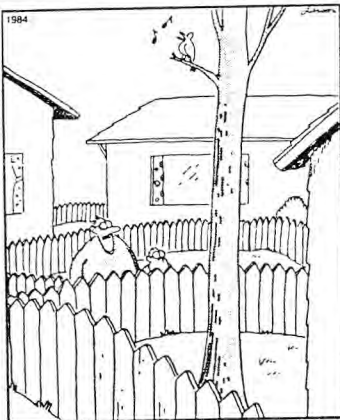
Male Pensioners' Luncheon
• Rhodes Club, 12.45 pm
Weekly wine tasting
• Grand Hotel 7:30pm

RHODOS STAFF

Editor: Mary Burnett (ext 517)
Reporter: Kelli Hardman (ext 517). Cartoonist: Mike Ginn
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RHODOS DEADLINES

Copy date	Publication date
4 May	14 May
18 May	28 May
1 June	11 June
15 June	25 June
6 July	16 July



"And now, Randy, by use of song, the male sparrow will stake out his territory ... an instinct common in the lower animals."

SMALLS

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WANTED KNOWN

Reliable Domestic worker available for three months - from June to August 27, 1992, whilst employer away on leave. Able to do

simple cooking. Fond of children. Is used to working from 8:00am to 2:00pm five days a week, but willing to adjust to employer's needs. Contact Mrs Van Heerde between 8.30am and 9.00am 22761.

HOUSE SITTER

Female Master's student available to 'house-sit' anytime. Enjoys animals and gardens. Phone Oksa Ext 319 or 22416(a/h).

Correlation versus Causality

There is a remarkable coincidence between the number of rats caught in London, and the cricket score recorded at Lords on the same day. There also a remarkable coincidence between the salaries of clergymen in a certain area and liquor sales in the same area.

These slightly ludicrous examples serve to demonstrate a very common logical trap that people tend to fall into: a relation is perceived between two phenomena, and this is taken as certain proof that one of the phenomena causes the other. In reality there either is no causal relationship linking the two together phenomena, or there is a hidden third relationship linking the two. In the first example above, the hidden factor is the London weather' in the second it is the general state of the economy in the area concerned.

In the *Science Policy Digest* (published by the FRD), vol 4 nos 3 and 4, an analysis was made of two aspects of university teaching. First, students were divided into two groups, viz. the 'arts' and the 'sciences'. A tendency was then found for universities to produce an increasing number of 'arts' graduates relative to 'science' graduates.

Secondly, it was found that the real cost differential between producing a 'science' graduate and an 'arts' graduate is much greater than the differential in the subsidy incomes for these two categories. In other words, there is a certain amount of cross-subsidisation from the 'arts' and 'sciences'.

The *Digest* then advances the hypothesis that "the university funding formula was one of the important factors underlying fuelling... the tendency of the ... universities to produce more 'arts' students than 'science' students". In other words, universities, for financial reason, coerce/channel/encourage students to rather enrol in the 'arts' than in the 'sciences', and the *Digest* stated that this hypothesis was validated

by its analysis.

Logically, this is of course wrong. The fact that it is cheaper to enrol an 'arts' courses each year. The correlation is there, but to take it as proof for causality is totally erroneous.

Independent 'real' proof for the FRD hypothesis is non-existent, may be financially advantageous with the present funding formula for universities to have more 'arts' students, but universities are not doing more than passive observers of this tendency. They are not to be charged and found guilty of something on grounds of a correlation only.

The real reasons for the discrepancy (in the eyes of the FRD) tendency away from the 'sciences' probably quite complex. Some of the probable causes may be:

- An increasing number of students eager to earn a degree without a specific speciality mind, and then enrolling in what they perceive as the easier courses;
- Peer pressure. As more students turn towards the 'arts', proportionally more will tend to follow their example;
- An increasing number of students enter the university system with an insufficient background in mathematics. These students automatically have less options and they invariably enrol in 'arts' courses;
- Many 'science' faculties (for example medicine) have limited places, and did not grow with increasing student demand. Some of the students not accepted to these faculties may find their way towards the 'arts' courses.

In the words of Douglas Hofstadter, there is a 'golden braid' running from the rats in London through the salaries of professors right up to students wanting to do a degree in the arts.

(With acknowledgements to the CUP Bulletin)