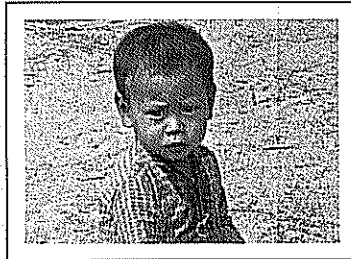
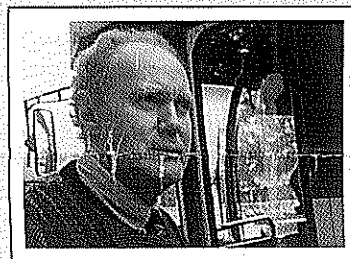


The
University
of Sydney



Ms Williams, who was adopted by Sydney parents in 1972 from an orphanage in Saigon when she was 14 months old, has established an online organisation which aims to put adoptees in touch with their birth parents and help them discover more about their past.

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"We love our cars," Professor Hensher said. In Sydney, 59.7 per cent of travel is undertaken by drivers of cars; 30.23 per cent by car passengers; only 5.02 per cent by passengers on trains; and only 4.92 per cent by bus passengers.

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Sydney University Sports Union Sports Scholarship holder Leonid Zaslavsky, the wrestling coach at the Sydney University club, has gained selection in the Australian Commonwealth Games team for Manchester later this year with a strong performance at the nationals.

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university news

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Middle East factions must 'abandon nationalism'

By Jane Mundy

The path to peace in the Israeli/Palestinian conflict is complex and difficult, but if there is to be any hope, it must necessarily include the abandonment of all forms of nationalism, according to a researcher from the University's Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies.

Presenting the first in a series of seminars on the conflict, Dr Paul White said both Palestinian and Israeli nationalism had failed and could only bring deepening carnage on their people, particularly civilians.

The seminars come at a time of heightened tension in the Middle East. Last week more than 100 Palestinians and 36 Israelis

died in the bloodiest week since fighting resumed in September 2000.

Focussing on the historical, ideological and political issues behind the conflict, Dr White said that although Arabs and Jews had lived together in Palestine for thousands of years, it was only after the UN resolution to partition Palestine and establish the state of Israel in 1947 that a fully-fledged Palestinian nationalist movement emerged. Zionism as a nationalist movement emerged with the persecution of the Jews in the 1930s and was later expressed by the first Israeli Prime Minister, Ben Gurion, as the ceaseless struggle of a divinely chosen people against a campaign

to dilute or exterminate them.

Dr White said extremist groups on both sides wanted to derail the peace process and a global solution must be found to alleviate a situation which was becoming critical.

CPACS will present seminars in this series fortnightly on Mondays at 12.30-2pm in Room N208, Woolley Building, during the first semester. On Monday 25 March, Associate Professor Ian Bickerton from the School of History at UNSW will present *Camp David, Oslo and Beyond: The Official Peace Process and the Role of the West*. Admission is free.

For further information, phone CPACS on 9351 5440.

Study into environmental impact of School of Physics is a world first

Measuring our ecological footprint

By Jane Mundy

Researchers in the School of Physics have carried out the world's first comprehensive case study of a university's environmental impact.

Dr Manfred Lenzen and third-year student Richard Wood have conducted a holistic assessment of the "ecological footprint" (EF) of the School of Physics, using methodology developed by Dr Lenzen and Shauna Murray from the School of Biological Sciences based on economic input-output analysis. This footprint is expressed as the total area of land required to support the operation of the institution indefinitely.

The School of Physics was found to have an ecological footprint of about 800 hectares - or 6.8 hectares per employee. This figure can be compared with the ecological footprint of the average Australian, which is 7.2 hectares per person.

"However, comparing our footprint with the global available space of 1.7 hectares per person shows that we are by far exceeding our equitable share", said Mr Wood.

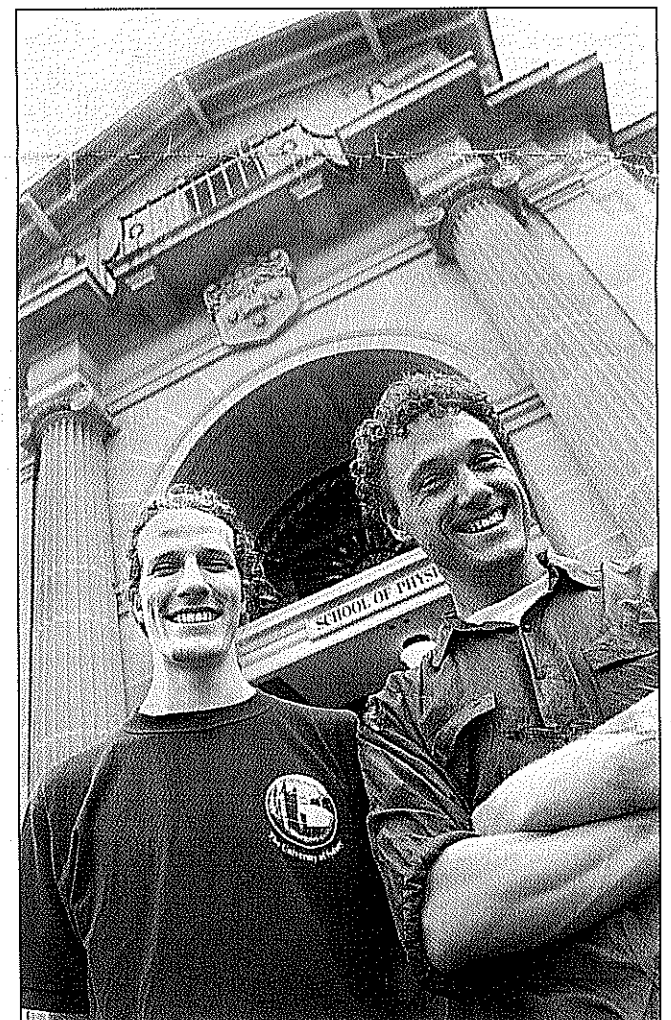
The largest impact was from electricity use (14 per cent), followed by air travel (four per cent), electricity used by other campus services such as administration, security, or catering (three per cent), and electricity used by manufacturers to make electronic equipment that is bought by the School. Paper and books accounted for only 0.1 per cent of the EF.

The researchers also applied their footprint method to the Sustainable Ecosystems Department of the CSIRO (CSE), so that they could compare a research institution with a technological focus and a research institution more dependent on human resources. CSE's ecological footprint amounted to about 1400 hectares, but on a

per employee basis, it was only 4.8 hectares. Electricity use accounted for 27 per cent of this EF, followed by the physical impact of the large CSE site (five per cent) and the emissions impact of air travel (four per cent).

The study identifies all contributing industrial input paths into the School of Physics' final environmental impact. Amongst these are complicated supply chains, such as the land used for beef cattle grazing which is required for producing food used in catering and hospitality. The com-

"The largest impact was from electricity use (14 per cent), followed by air travel (four per cent), and electricity used by other campus services such as administration, security, or catering (three per cent)."



"Universities have a responsibility to be role models," say researchers Manfred Lenzen (right) and Richard Wood.

plexity of these supply chains means that as much as 75 per cent of the impact occurs at three or more levels of separation away from the School of Physics, and is spread out across the whole of Australia and even overseas.

Dr Lenzen said previous studies have not been comprehensive because they have cut off the calculation at the first level of suppliers, and have not explored higher-order impacts. This results in a serious underestimation of the ecological footprint, he said. But input-output analysis can be used to provide a comprehensive picture of an

institution's impact, and presents the material and energy flows in a transparent way.

An important application of the methodology developed by the Sydney researchers is its potential as a policy and planning tool for the sustainable development and operation of institutions. It can be used to both monitor and improve the effectiveness of an institution's environment management system.

"An EF can provide very useful information, especially for commercial and

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Future of Stone Address secured

The Education Heritage Foundation has made an endowment of \$200,000 to secure the future of the University's annual Julius Stone Address, an important public lecture on jurisprudence and public policy.

At a special ceremony in the Vice-Chancellor's meeting rooms, the donation was gratefully accepted by the Vice-Chancellor and the Dean of Law, Professor Jeremy Webber, from Michael and Jeremy Dunkel. The Stone family was represented by Professor Jonathon Stone and Roger Sebel.

The Foundation has supported the Address since its inception. Director of the Julius Stone Institute, Associate Professor Desmond Manderson, said the endowment demonstrated its confidence in the Institute's activities and ensured the continuation of the lecture in perpetuity.

"Within a very short space of time the address has established itself as one of the most prestigious events on the legal and academic calendar in Sydney," he said. Each year the address supports a visit to the University by a scholar whose



The Vice-Chancellor with Dean of Law, Professor Jeremy Webber (left) and Michael and Jeremy Dunkel from the Education Heritage Foundation.

work on the relationship of law, philosophy and society, is of international significance, and introduces their work to a wider public.

The Inaugural Address was delivered by William Twining, the doyen of English jurisprudence, who spoke on globalisation and legal theory. Last year Professor Upendra Baxi, foundation dean of law at, and one-time Vice-Chancellor of, New Delhi University, developed a critique of human rights in the context of develop-

ment and underdevelopment.

This year the Julius Stone Address will bring to Australia for the first time Professor Patricia Williams from Columbia School of Law. She was the founder of 'critical race theory' in the US and her work on law and racism has influenced generations of law students in the US and around the world. Professor Williams will deliver the address on Thursday 1 August at 5.30pm in the Banco Court of the Supreme Court of NSW.

Obiter Dicta



In Praise of Examinations

We all enjoy *Yes Minister*, even the re-runs, but it could be argued that it has helped to undermine the important tradition of an independent civil service. More likely, as with all good light entertainment, it accurately reflects a contemporary trend.

Recently there have been rumblings in Australia that public servants are no longer prized for their dispassionate advice and are developing a habit of producing politically palatable pre-censored information to their ministers. We are moving, it is often claimed, from the apolitical British model to the frankly politicised American model, without adopting the checks and balances which have been developed to moderate the latter.

Be that as it may, the British version is itself under a cloud. The extraordinary events surrounding the departure of Martin Sixsmith are testament to that. Robert Armstrong, Lord Armstrong of Ilminster, former Cabinet Secretary and head of the home Civil Service, took the unprecedented step of writing an article in *The Spectator* severely critical of the current political ethos in Whitehall.

Until the late 1800s church, military and civil service were regarded as providing occupational opportunity for the well-connected and under-talented. Armstrong quotes with approbation G.M. Trevelyan's *Shortened History of England*:

"The complicated and constantly shifting relationship between central and local government, between private enterprise and State undertaking, was rendered possible by the evolution of the permanent non-political Civil Service of Great Britain, with its accumulated stores of knowledge, experience and sound tradition. In the third quarter of the [19th] century, the Civil Service was removed from the field of political jobbery by the adoption of open competitive examination as the method of entrance, a device that seemed as strange as it was successful."

Armstrong goes on to attack the practice of employing on public funds "relatively junior people who are appointed because they share the political preconceptions of the party in power; young men and women who often see a term as a useful stage in what is intended to be a political career." Jim Hacker's Weisel rules O.K.

By way of contrast, Armstrong praises the old ideal of a service "open to the talents" attracting "men and women of the highest intellectual ability and integrity". These are words which might adorn the strategic plan of the modern university. Are we kidding ourselves?

A glance at the ancient Chinese mandarins shows that the entrance examination, Trevelyan's strange device, is neither original nor perfect. Note moreover that the great reforms at Oxford took place also in the latter part of the 19th century. A cyclical view of history might suggest that the pure civil service and the ideal university are fading sesquicentennial memories. If so, I am with Armstrong in seeking to bring the best of them back.

GB

Professor Gavin Brown is the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sydney

Newsmakers

The following members of the University community achieved prominent media coverage for the period 22 February to 8 March 2002.

Prof Patricia Apps, Law: fertility data, *Fin Review*, 28 Feb.

Mrs Anne Badenhop, Education: children with disabilities, *ABC Radio National*, *ABC 666 2CN* (Sydney), 6 Mar.

Ms Renee Bittoun, Medicine: smoker discrimination, *SMH*, 6 Mar.

Ms Shona Blair, Science: honey and western medicine, *Age*, 6 Mar.

Mr Christopher Briggs and Dr John Buchanan, ACIRRT: Ansett, *Fin Review*, 6 Mar.

Dr Robert Caldwell and Prof. Ivan Kennedy, Agriculture: on-farm wetlands, *Country Leader Tamworth*, 4 Mar.

A/Prof Paul Canfield, Veterinary Science: women in rural practices, *West Australian*, 27 Feb.

Prof Ian Caterson, Science: sibutramine - obesity treatment; prescription drugs and weight loss, various media.

Prof David Celermajer, Medicine: diseases caused by bugs, *ABC National Television*, 7 Mar.

Prof Simon Chapman, Medicine: grand prix and tobacco firms, *SMH*, 1 Mar.

Prof Jocelyn Chey, Asian Studies: celebrating Chinese-speaking community, *Western Suburbs Courier*, 4 Mar.

Dr Tony English, feral horses, *Armidale Express Extra*, 27 Feb.

Prof Arthur Everitt, Medicine: living longer, *Radio National* (Sydney), 1 Mar; Aging symposium with **Prof Ian Fraser** and **Prof David Handelsman**, *Inner Western Suburbs Courier*, 4 Mar.

A/Prof Michael Field, Medicine: Lismore Base Hospital, various rural media.

A/Prof Mark Findlay, Law: changes in Family Court, *ABC 702 2BL*, 27 Feb.

Prof Ian Fraser, Medicine: slow release birth control, various media.

Dr Moira Gatens, Philosophy: *Closure: a story of everything*, Hilary Lawson, *Fin Review*, 8 Mar.

Mr Tony Grant, Psychology: coaching psychology, 720 ABC

Perth, 28 Feb; *Insight - SBS* 28 Feb.

Prof J Richard Green, Arts: call for volunteers, *Adelaide 5DN*, 27 Feb.

Dr Michael Halliwell, Sydney Conservatorium: concert, *Camden Haven Courier*, 27 Feb.

Prof David Handelsman, Medicine: male contraceptive; irritable male syndrome, extensive media.

Mr Ed Henry, Rural Management: holistic management farming; rural crime initiative at Orange, extensive rural media.

Prof David Hensher, Graduate School of Business: Penalties for peak hour drivers, *Northern Beaches Weekender*, 28 Feb.

Dr Helen Irving, Law: Governor-General, *ABC Radio Victoria Statewide*, 25 Feb, *Daily Tele*, 22 Feb.

Prof Ali Jaafari Civil Engineering: project management, *ABC Radio National*, 25 Feb.

Dr Simon Johnston, Science: pulsar astronomy, *Orange WIN State TV News*, 6 Mar.

A/Prof Ian S F Jones, Ocean Technology Group: feeding fish to feed people, *Sun-Herald*, 17 Feb.

A/Prof Ray Kearney, Medicine: M5 health risk, extensive media.

Prof Rick Kefford, Medicine: pharmaceutical companies and universities, *Fin Review*, 22 Feb.

Dr Karl Kruszelnicki, Science: Sydney's 2002 Science Forum, extensive media.

A/Prof Catharine Lumby, Arts: community standards and television, *891 ABC Adelaide*, 28 Feb and 1 Mar.

Dr Roger Magnusson, Law: *Angels of Death*, various media.

Dr Jim Masselos, Arts: sectarian violence in India, *ABC National TV - World at Noon*, 4 Mar.

Ms Jenni Millbank, Law: same-sex parents, *SMH*, 25 Feb; *Late Morning ABC Top End* (Darwin), 26 Feb.

Dr Carolyn Mountford, Medicine: breast cancer technology, *ABC 702 2BL* (Sydney), 7 Mar.

Dr Ilana Mushin, Arts: modern jargon, *Age*, 26 Feb.

Prof Kathryn North and Prof Ron Trent, Medicine: genes and athleticism, *Sunday Age*, 24 Feb.

Dr Jenny O'Dea, Education: energy drinks and children, *Illawarra Mercury*, 26 Feb.

Dr Peter Phibbs, Architecture: psychology of home ownership, *Daily Tele*, 2 Mar. Public liability insurance, *ABC NSW Regional South Coast*, 26 Feb.

Prof Stuart Rees, Arts: CHOGM, *702 ABC Radio*, 1 Mar.

A/Prof Don Rothwell, Law: Tuvalu's legal threats; David Hicks; Governor-General, extensive media.

Ms Manya Scheftzik, Gambling Research Unit: 'day-traders', *Fin Review*, 6 Mar.

A/Prof Ahmad Shboul, Arts: Islam and Qur'an, *ABC Radio Darwin*, 5 Mar.

A/Prof Andrew Short, Science: surf rips, *ABC National TV - Catalyst*, 28 Feb.

Mr Tony Smith, Rural Management: insurance policies 7:30 *News ABC Upper Hunter* (Muswellbrook), 25 Feb.

Dr Barry Spurr, Arts: NSW HSC, *SMH*, 28 Feb.

Prof Frank Stilwell, Economics and Business: stamp duty, *Daily Tele*, 25 and 26 Feb.

Prof Collin Sullivan, Medicine: ResMed, sleep disorder treatment; *Fin Review*, 26 Feb.

A/Prof Rodney Tiffen, Economics and Business: role of truth, *Daily Tele*, 23 Feb.

A/Prof John Toon, Architecture: city planning for Tumut, *Tumut and Adelong Times*, 26 Feb.

Dr John Watson, Medicine: functions of the senses, *Daily Tele*, 4 Mar.

A/Prof Robert Wheen, Engineering: Sydney's rail, *2UE*, 25 Feb.

Dr J Peter White, Arts: academia, *Age* 6 Mar; *SMH - My Career*, 6 Mar.

Mr Richard White, Arts: Australian identity, *SMH* (Spectrum), 2 Mar.

Dr Richard Whittington, Veterinary Science: appointment - Sesqui Chair of Animal Health, *Land* (NSW), 7 Mar.

For inclusion in this listing, please contact the Media Office on (tel) 9351 2261, (fax) 9351 3289, (e-mail) media@publications.usyd.edu.au with your name, department, brief description of topic discussed, where it was discussed and the date. The deadline for material is one week prior to publication date.

Ecological footprint

- continued from page 1

public organisations that can control and direct their own purchasing," said Dr Lenzen. "This is particularly true for universities, which, along with exerting control over expenditure, have a particular responsibility in being role models for best environmental practice.

"By incorporating the EF into an environmental management system and monitoring it over time, it would be possible to see whether more sensitive environmental policies - such as a

commitment to green energy sources, an increase in video-conferencing to reduce air travel, an increase in recycling facilities to reduce the quantity of garbage, and switching to recycled paper - result in a reduction in environmental impact.

"The University of Sydney has committed to environmental change through the formation of a draft environmental policy in 1999, and a study of this nature can reveal whether actual change is occurring in real terms."

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