

**Macarthur Institute  
of Higher Education**

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**OFFICIAL OPENING  
of the  
CAMPBELLTOWN CAMPUS**

**by**

**The Hon. J. S. Dawkins, M.P.  
Minister for Employment,  
Education & Training**

**27th November, 1987**

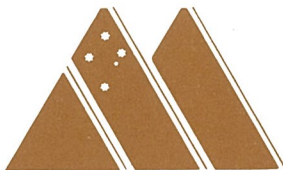
# Macarthur Institute of Higher Education

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The Macarthur Institute of Higher Education provides nationally accredited higher education courses and other short courses of study. The Institute aims to provide, in the South-Western region of Sydney, a comprehensive range of services which utilise all the resources of the Institute. Through these activities, the Institute promotes the personal and professional development of students and others who use its services and through the development of its human and physical resources the Institute is contributing to many aspects of the region's growth.

In all aspects of its development, the Institute is committed to the pursuit of excellence and to policies and practices based on principles of social equity.

In addition to its regional emphasis, Macarthur Institute will increasingly provide its special expertise and facilities to meet wider national and international needs and in these ways is a positive force for the social, economic and cultural development of both individuals and its community.



# Programme

Entrance of Official Party

Welcome to Guests

**Dr. D. C. Barr**, M.A., Ed.M., Ph.D.  
*Principal*

Remarks

**Mr. W. Downes**, B.E., F.R.Ae.S., F.I.Mech.E.  
*Chairman of Council*

Address

**The Hon. J. S. Dawkins**, M.P.  
*Minister for Employment, Education and Training*

Unveiling of Plaque

Retiring of Official Party

Morning tea will be served at the conclusion of the Opening Ceremony. Guests will also have an opportunity to see the new buildings. Tours of inspection begin from the Administration Building.

# BRIEF HISTORY OF THE MACARTHUR INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

The Macarthur Institute of Higher Education had its background in the former Milperra College of Advanced Education. The Milperra College with Dr. I. C. Smith as its Foundation Principal, enrolled its first students in the Spring of 1975. The first permanent buildings at the Milperra Campus were opened by the then Premier of N.S.W., the Hon. N. K. Wran, Q.C., M.P., on 20th March, 1978. In 1982, the Milperra College of Advanced Education established its presence in Campbelltown by leasing a wing of the Franciscan Monastery, "Maryfields" for temporary use as a Centre for Business Studies. Classes began at Maryfields in 1983.

As a result of a joint Commonwealth and State Government initiative, on 1st July, 1983, the Milperra College of Advanced Education was replaced by the Macarthur Institute of Higher Education. With campuses strategically placed at Campbelltown and Milperra, Macarthur Institute was to provide a broader range of higher education courses to the South Western suburbs of Sydney including the local government areas of Bankstown, Fairfield, Liverpool, Campbelltown, Camden, Wollondilly and suburbs on the periphery of these areas. At that time, South Western Sydney had by far the least number of higher education places in relation to its population of any comparable metropolitan region in Australia.

Work began in 1983 on the planning and construction of the Institute's Campbelltown Campus which is set on a 158 hectare site.

The Macarthur Institute Council, under the Founding Chairman, Dr. Joyce Wylie, O.B.E., developed appropriate structures to accommodate the sudden growth and diversification of courses. On 1st July, 1984, the Schools of Arts & General Studies, Business & Technology, Community & Welfare Studies, Education & Language Studies, and Nursing were established.

Macarthur Institute has become one of the most rapidly developing higher education institutions in Australia. It has grown from around 800 students in 10 courses in 1983 to around 3,100 students in 23 courses in 1987. A substantial part of this growth was due to a N.S.W. Government decision to transfer all Nurse Education to Colleges of Advanced Education from the beginning of 1985.

The first lectures at the new Campbelltown Campus were given in May 1986 when the first part of the Stage I buildings became available. The Central Administration of the Institute moved to the Campbelltown Campus in November 1987 when the first building in the Stage II complex was completed. The remaining buildings of the Stage II development at Campbelltown are expected to be completed by the beginning of lectures in 1988 when the Institute is required to relinquish its lease on the Maryfields Monastery. At that stage, all the accommodation on both the Milperra and Campbelltown campuses will have virtually reached capacity.