



FEB - AUG 2007

CAMPUS WATCH NEWSLETTER

PERSONAL SAFETY

Students and Staff should always take account of their surroundings and the time of day - daylight and after dark. Personal safety is your responsibility and only you can account for where you go and how you do things.

GETTING TO AND FROM CAMPUS

Walking in the North Wollongong and Gwynneville areas inherently has its own safety risks. Our experience tells us that from time to time events arise for students and staff walking in the Gwynneville area and walking to North Wollongong.

Students and staff should be aware of ways to reduce the risk and the opportunity of becoming a victim of a crime. Some things that should be considered:

- ◇ Use the local bus network to travel to and from campus.
- ◇ Take short trips to reduce the distance you have to walk.
- ◇ Use the Campus Shuttle Service between North Wollongong and Wollongong Campus. Check out our new shuttle timetable at:

<http://www.uow.edu.au/about/transport/shuttlebus/index.html>

or get a hard copy from security.

WESTERN CARPARK LIGHTING

During the Christmas/New Year break, work took place to improve the lighting in the Western Carpark. The major parts of the work only finished in early March with the commencement of session.

Students and staff should have noticed a significant improvement to lighting throughout the Carpark and to several footpaths leading in and out of the Carpark near Robsons Road.

CCTV SURVEILLANCE

As part of a major project, CCTV surveillance moved to an IP addressable camera platform, and camera coverage has been expanded in the following areas of the campus:

- ◇ Western Carpark.
- ◇ Ovals Carpark.
- ◇ Western and Eastern Entry points Northfields Avenue.
- ◇ Bus Shelters in Northfields Avenue.

The expanded coverage provides UOW Security with a wider area to provide easier surveillance and monitoring for a large and busy site like the Wollongong Campus. Whilst Officers are not watching these cameras all of the time, cameras record images digitally to servers when motion is detected. Recordings are maintained for a period of up to 30 days dependent upon the number of events recorded. This will enable events to be investigated where reported.

CCTV cameras can provide an effective deterrent to crime, particularly in remote or isolated areas of the campus.

CREDIT CARD MAIL FRAUD

Over the last 12 months police have seen a number of issues related to credit cards being stolen from mailboxes.

Mail stolen is searched for credit card renewals and then in some cases the thief goes about contacting either the bank pretending to be the customer or pretending to be the bank contacting the customer, in some cases customers have been caught out providing details about their account.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- ◇ Personal Safety
- ◇ Credit Card Mail Fraud
- ◇ CCTV
- ◇ Monthly Statistics

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The thieves then go about running up debts on people's credits cards. Students living in private residences or accommodation who have mailboxes at the front of the place they living should ensure that they use a padlock on their mailbox to prevent the box from being tampered with or ensure that they clear their mail regularly to avoid the theft of mail from your letterbox.

Another way to prevent this problem is to have a registered Post Office box where a bit more security is available. And when you go away get your mail held at the Post Office until you return.

Always remember never give anyone, not even the bank details about your password or PIN number.

**AUGUST SOLS MESSAGE**

In August we issued a SOLS message to everyone following some advice from Senior Constable Mary Patterson, Crime Prevention Unit, Wollongong Police who asked UOW Security to convey to students that Police have had several reports of thefts of mobile telephones and laptops reported off campus or near bus stops. (Incidents not necessarily involving students). But they would like students to be aware that when off campus students should avoid actively doing any of the following to reduce the risk of theft:

- ◇ Don't sit in bus stops working on laptops.
- ◇ Avoid openly displaying mobile telephones or other valuable property of interest like MP3 players, etc.

For tips on safety go to:

<http://www.uow.edu.au/about/security/personalsafety/index.html>

**UOW SAFETY AWARENESS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

In April this year jointly with Wollongong Police we published the UOW Safety Awareness for International Students. The guide is available on the Web, Wollongong Police Station and on Wollongong Campus. A mandarin version is also available on the internet.

During International Week Professor Rob Castle officially launched the Guide and acknowledged the assistance of Wollongong Police in preparing the guide for International students coming to Wollongong, to help them when they first arrive in Australia.

2007							
INCIDENTS	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Stealing	8	3	3	1	3	5	2
Break-ins	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Stolen Cars	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Stealing from Cars	1	-	2	6	1	-	2
Stolen Bicycles	-	-	-	-	3	1	3
Malicious Damage	2	4	4	9	5	1	5
Suspicious Persons	1	5	2	2	10	5	2
Assault	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Robbery Related	-	-	2	-	1	-	1