PLANNING COMMITTEE

Planning Committee has recognised the need for more child-care facilities on campus and agreed in principle that an additional playgroup/nursery should be provided in the Refectory Terrapin by October.

The question of funding this new playgroup, which will cater for up to 24 three-to-five-year-old children, was referred to a Planning Committee sub-group.

The Committee received a report from the Working Party on Facilities for Children at its meeting on June 11. The Working Party was set up by Community Services Committee which endorsed the recommendations contained in the report.

Planning Committee noted that Community Services had been able to allocate sufficient funds to implement the first priority in the report which was to ensure the continuation of existing facilities in the Creche, at an additional cost of £3,000, in 1975-76.

It was told the Students' Union intended to call a UGM before the end of term in order to recommend a continuance of the Union's contribution towards the Creche and a contribution towards the proposed additional facilities.

It noted also that a private benefaction was available towards the cost of extending the Park Village playground facilities, which the Report recommends, at a cost of between £500 and £1,000.

The Committee approved for referral to Community Services, to implement as soon as possible, the following additional recommendations from the Working Party's Report:

* the possibility of assistance in financing day care facilities at the University for students' children should be explored with the local authority Social Services Department, and discussions on nursery facilities at Falmer School should continue with East Sussex Education Department;
* non-University units at the University should contribute towards the costs of the community facilities used by their members; the funds generated should be used towards the building of nursery facilities;
* there should be closer co-ordination of the University's expansion plans for student numbers and the provision of adequate child facilities;
* a permanent children's facilities advisory group should be set up within the Community Services Area.

The members of the sub-group to look at the funding of the new playgroup will be: the Chairman of Community Services, Chairman of Education, Dean of a Science School, President of the Students' Union, Mr. D.W. Bunker and the Planning Officer (Secretary), Planning Committee authorised the Vice-Chancellor and the Chairman of Council to approve the sub-group's proposals on its behalf.

The sub-group was instructed to frame its recommendations so as to leave unchanged the budgetary allocations to main spending units, unless by the agreement of individual spending units, and to avoid any additional commitment of UGC funds.

Falmer House

Planning Committee agreed in principle that, until a purpose-built Students' Union building could be erected, Falmer House should be recognised as the Students' Union building of the University of Sussex.

The Union should be responsible for the functions exercised by a building user in respect of Falmer House and an agreement should be completed between the University and the Union setting out the basis and conditions on which this change should be made, the Committee decided.

Discussions are to take place on a possible transfer of responsibility for catering services in Falmer House from the University to the Union after January 1, 1976, but this will be subject to a satisfactory outcome to consultations between the Union, and on behalf of the staff, NUPE.

If the implementation of the changeover is delayed because of problems raised by the legal status of the Union, the University and the Union are to take whatever steps are necessary to enable the proposal to be embodied in a legally binding agreement, the Committee agreed. An interim arrangement might have to be considered.

The Senior Common Room is expected to vacate by January 1976 the area it at present occupies in Falmer House, and this space would then be allocated to the Students' Union.

Medical Centre

Planning Committee has agreed to begin negotiations on the assimilation of the Sussex Centre for Medical Research into the University.

The Centre's Council at its meeting on June 4 unanimously agreed that it was in the best interests of the Centre and of medical research at the University for the work of the Centre to be assimilated into the University, the Committee was told.

Agreeing to enter into negotiations, Planning Committee authorised the Vice-Chancellor to approve terms for assimilation in consultation with the Chairman of Council.

East Slope Social Building

Planning Committee has authorised expenditure of up to £50,000, to be financed partly from the Reserve Fund, for the proposed East Slope Social Building.

The loan will be repayable with interest at the normal internal rate, over an agreed number of years, from the Accommodation Account and from profits of bars in the Residential Area.

Furniture and Equipment Grant

The UGC has informed the University that its furniture and equipment grant for 1975-76 is £562,000, within which a sum of £113,000 is indicated for furniture, the Committee was told.

The grant is at a notional price level for January 1976 and no further adjustment for inflation can be expected.
COUNCIL

The standard rent level for University-owned student accommodation in 1975-76 is to be £7.00 per week, Council agreed at its meeting on June 20.

In agreeing this figure, Council accepted the proposal of the project team which it established in 1974, that the increase in rent level for 1975-76 should be kept proportionate to the increase in student grant (22 per cent).

A discount of 25p per week for prompt payment at the beginning of term is to continue and a discount of £12.50 is to be offered for payment made for a whole year in advance.

Council accepted the project team's proposal that there should be a 20 per cent increase in catering prices from July 1, 1975 and that there should be a further review of prices in November.

Terms and Conditions of Employment

The University should recognise the ASTM (in place of NALGO) as the appropriate union to represent and negotiate on behalf of non-faculty programmers, Council agreed in approving a report summarising discussions of the Consultative and Negotiating Committees.

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Council, on the nomination of Senate, has approved the appointment of Professor M.W. Thompson as Pro-Vice-Chancellor for a further period of two years from August 1, 1975.

New Member of Council

The Earl of March and Kinrara has been co-opted as a member of Council for three years to July 31, 1978.

SENATE

Dr. Brian Young is to be re-appointed as the Vice-Chancellor's Adviser on Community Relations for a further period of one year, Senate agreed at its meeting on June 18.

Senate has agreed to re-appoint Mr. M.O. Palmer as Acting Director of the School of Education for a further period of one year.

Dr. M.R. Erat is to be Director of the Centre for Educational Technology, the period of office to commence from October 1, 1973, the date on which Dr. Erat became Acting Director, Senate has agreed.

Honours for Sussex Staff

In the Birthday Honours List, Emeritus Professor Marie Jahoda, formerly Professor of Social Psychology, was awarded the CBE, and Professor Dudley Seers, of IDS, the CMG.

MEETING STUDENTS FROM GERMANY, AUSTRIA and SWITZERLAND

University students and young school-teachers from Germany, Austria and Switzerland will be staying on campus again this vacation, from August 27 to September 24, to take part in the Summer Seminar in English Language and Literature.

"If members of the University would again offer two or three students some limited hospitality - an evening at their house, a walk round Brighton, a drink in a pub, a drive to the country etc. - it would be very much appreciated," says Dr. Lai Loh, Director of the Summer Seminar.

Most of the 70 or so participants of both sexes are between 20 and 25 years old and all speak fluent English. If you are able to offer any hospitality, please contact Dr. Loh in the Arts Building as soon as possible.

SPEED BRAKE TAKEN

A speed brake, specially placed for the safety of children using the Creche, was taken from the road outside the Refectory Terrapin on the night of June 11.

Although the speed brake was found in the woods the following morning, both Community Services Area and the Students' Union are anxious to trace those responsible for this irresponsible act.

Councillor T. H. B. Mynors

Councillor Mynors, a member of the University Council, has been elected Chairman of East Sussex County Council.

Director of the Royal Greenwich Observatory

Council and Senate have approved a recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor that the title of Visiting Professor should be conferred on Professor F. G. Smith, FRS, for so long as he is Director of the Royal Greenwich Observatory, a post he will take up in January 1976.

STAFF SPORTS DAY

The first Staff Sports Day to be held at the University will take place on Wednesday, July 16 at 3.30pm.

The afternoon is intended to promote University sport at both the competitive and casual levels, the organiser say. A trophy will be presented to the overall winner, but the emphasis is on enjoyment and participation.

There will be a barbeque and folk group - the Taverners - in the evening.

SPECIAL WORK COURSE

Proposals for a one-year full-time course for long-serving field social workers have been put forward by Professor E. M. Eppel and Mr. J. Jacobs, following approaches from the Department of Health and Social Security and the Central Council for the Education and Training of Social Workers, the Vice-Chancellor reported to Planning Committee.

At its meeting on June 11, the Committee approved the proposals, subject to satisfactory terms being reached with the outside agencies.

It is proposed that the course, which would be fully financed by the Department of Health and Social Security, should have three intakes of some 20 students in April 1976, 1977 and 1978. It would lead to the Council's Certificate of Qualification in Social Work.

NEW APPOINTMENT FOR DR. MARTIN BLACK

Dr. Martin Black, Reader in Bio-medical Engineering, has been appointed to the newly-established Chair of Medical Physics at the University of Sheffield, Planning Committee was told at its meeting on June 11.

The Committee thanked Dr. Black for his distinguished contributions over nine years to the University, particularly in developing research in bio-medical engineering and as Chairman of Counselling Services.

Wardenship of the Isle of Thorns

Senate has approved the appointment of Mr. E. H. Cox as Warden of the Isle of Thorns, for three years from September 1, in succession to Dr. R. D. Doherty.

Professors Appointments

Senate and Council endorsed the recommendation that a Senior Research Fellowship, with professorial status in Partial and Differential Equations should be offered to Mr. L. E. Frenkel, with effect from October 1, 1975.

At the end of the three-year period of the Research Fellowship Mr. Frenkel will take up a permanent Chair of Mathematics.

The Chair of Linguistics should be offered to Professor J. Lyons, with effect from October 1, 1976, Senate and Council agreed.

They also approved the recommendation that the Chair of History and Theory of Art should be offered to Professor N. C. Lynton, with effect from October 1, 1975.