STUDENT GRANTS UP BY 18%.

Student grants are to be increased by between £105 and £145 from next September - an average rise of 18 per cent over last year.

For students living away from home the grant for the academic year 1976-77 will be increased from £740 to £875 for those outside London. Supplementary grants are also increased.

The new rates of grant were announced by Mr. Fred Mulley, the Education Secretary, in the House of Commons on May 27.

Award arrangements will be changed to allow married students to count staying at home looking after children as part of the three-year period of self-support needed to qualify for a grant to which there is no parental contribution.

The starting point for parental contributions will be raised from a residual income of £2,200 to £2,700, about £3,300 gross, and contributions reduced throughout the scale. The spouse's contribution will be adjusted in the same way.

The £50 minimum grant for all students is to be retained.

Postgraduate grants are under review and new rates have yet to be announced.

Commenting on the announcement, Sir Roy Marshall, Secretary General of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, said: "At first sight this represents a welcome attempt in current very difficult economic circumstances, at least to stop the grant's present purchasing power falling next year."

The President of the Students' Union, Kit Kelly, commented: "The grant has again shrunk in real terms; talk of an increase is particularly suspicious as the grant now contains an element for the Christmas and Easter vacations, precluding students from claiming supplementary benefits as before. The obnoxious parental means test/contribution remains; present discretionary awards have not become mandatory; the 1962 grant level would now mean in excess of £1,000 p.a."

"The Union is unlikely to rejoice: one cannot live on governmental 'gestures' alone - any more than one can live adequately on the present grant."

Full details of the new rates and arrangements are available from the Arts and Social Studies, Science or Information offices.

Main rates of grant

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1975/76</th>
<th>1976/77</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Hall/Lodgings:</td>
<td>810</td>
<td>955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. London</td>
<td>810</td>
<td>955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii. Elsewhere</td>
<td>740</td>
<td>875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Parental home</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Students (in England and Wales) receiving free board and lodging (formerly residential college of education students)</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Maintenance for study abroad:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. High-cost countries</td>
<td>930</td>
<td>1095</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii. Elsewhere</td>
<td>810</td>
<td>955</td>
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</tbody>
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(Japan will be added to the list of high cost countries)

TRAFFIC BAN

Motor cycles are banned from footpaths in the University Park and from parking under the Physics and Molecular Sciences undercrofts.

The Bursar will enforce the ban.

Planning Committee confirmed the ban after reports from Community Services and Safety Committees.

Earlier this year a groundsman was knocked down by a motor cycle on a footpath.

Rent strike ends

The rent strike called for by USTA in March is over.

An open meeting decided last week that the action should be called off. Arrangements are being made to pay over the money held in the Strike Fund.

Fee waivers in 1976-77

The University Grants Committee announced last week the arrangements for the waiving of fee increases in 1976-77 for students in hardship.

This scheme, which was introduced in 1975-76, will only operate for as long as students in course in 1975-76 remain, and normally only those students will be able to benefit from it.

Students in receipt of awards where the awarding authority accepts liability for fee payment (eg, LEAs and research councils) or otherwise makes provision within the award for the fee level prevalent at the time will not normally be eligible to apply under the scheme.

Students will be informed individually of the details of the scheme and how to apply for a fee waiver, for which an allocation of funds is made to each university.
PLANNING COMMITTEE

The occupation of the top floor of Sussex House was referred to by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor before the main business of Planning Committee which met on June 9.

He reported that students had occupied the top floor for four hours the previous day. They had acted in fulfillment of a motion passed at a lunch-time Union General Meeting, expressing sympathy with trainee teachers unable to obtain teaching posts. He was at a loss why Sussex House should be a target for such sympathy, and he reported that staff in Sussex House objected to their work again being disrupted. The Registrar would be talking with the Students' Union, including informing them that in the future it could not expect administrative staff to deal with the Union as though such occupations had never occurred.

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor went on to remind Planning Committee that in all previous occupations individual offices had not been entered nor University papers interfered with.

He said that on this occasion he had to conclude that students had not only entered the room but at least one of them had removed papers and had temporarily retained possession of them outside Sussex House.

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor explained that at the end of the occupation at 6.00pm he met with representatives of the Students' Union and USTA; the meeting had been rearranged twice because of the occupation and ended at about 7.00pm. Five minutes later, whilst he was telephoning, the President of the Union entered and gave him an envelope saying that a student had asked for it to be passed to him.

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor told the Committee that the envelope contained papers which had been left on his desk at lunchtime and which dealt with several aspects of confidential University business.

He concluded by saying that he had not yet had time to consider the implications or to consult about what action to take.

The President of the Students' Union, in answer to a question, said that it would be unforgivable for him to reveal the identity of the student. In reply to a question as to whether or not the Union should give support to individuals who removed papers and interfered with University documents or personal papers he preferred not to answer about reference to the papers on Union policy.

Kulkundis House

The University should apply to East Sussex County Council to register Kulkundis House as a disabled persons' home, Planning Committee agreed.

This was the central recommendation of an interim report on the financing of Kulkundis House prepared by the Working Group on Handicapped Students. If it were registered, students living in Kulkundis House would be eligible to apply to their local authority for the financial assistance necessary to meet the full recurrent costs of services provided in the House.

The Group's other recommendations were also accepted. They are:

- rents in Kulkundis House to be identical to those in other single units of on-campus accommodation;
- the balance between the University's rent for accommodation in Kulkundis House and the Standard Weekly Minimum Charge for residence in registered accommodation to be met by the University;
- full board not to be provided under the terms of registration;
- an interim arrangement of payments to present residents of an amount equivalent to the Attendance Allowance which they would forego under the terms of registration;
- the Chairman of Planning Committee empowered to approve the immediate implementation of any recommendations made by the Chief Fire Officer in connection with the application for registration;
- if the application is unsuccessful, the issue of recurrent financing to be referred back to the Working Group.

1976-77 Budget

Detailed budgets of spending units for 1976-77 were agreed by Planning Committee. They will now be submitted to Council for final approval.

The sum of £16,000 set aside to assist Community Services Area in maintaining current levels of activity is to be allocated as follows, Planning Committee agreed:

- Gardener Arts Centre £6,225
- Sport (including Isle of Thorns) £6,000
- Creche £3,775

A further £2,000 is to be allocated to the Creche from the Appeal Fund 1976-77.

Education Committee

A proposal from the Education Committee for a B.A. degree in Educational Studies was discussed by Planning Committee.

While there was general agreement about the desirability of an Education Major and of the Education faculty being responsible for the planning and teaching of undergraduate courses, there were difficulties in the proposal.

The Chairman of Education

voted to take the proposal back for further discussion between the Education and Arts Areas, on the understanding that the discussions might embrace alternative patterns for an Education Major and that they would be concluded in time for this or another proposal to reach Senate in the Autumn Term.

The introduction of the Major will in consequence be deferred until October 1978 at the earliest.

Student Housing

Planning Committee agreed to recommend that the Housing Society scheme be accepted by Senate and Council, subject to their Chairmen subsequently being satisfied about its financial viability in relation to vacation usage.

Union Constitution

A paper on the constitution of the Students' Union was approved, with amendments, for submission to Senate and Council.

Other Items

Admissions Committee's recommendation that interviewers of candidates for admission should no longer be required to write a letter to each candidate's referee, was rejected by Planning Committee.

Proposals on the form in which major curriculum changes should be reported to Planning Committee and Senate were approved for submission to Senate.

A report on the organisation of the Community Services Area was accepted by Planning Committee for submission to Senate.

SUMMER GRADUATION CEREMONY

More than 600 graduates are expected to receive their degree in person at the Summer Graduation Ceremony on July 16.

Because of the response all seating tickets for the Dome have been allocated and there is no reserve of tickets from which further allocations can be made. The University said last week that it regretted the disappointment that might be caused.

GUIDE FOR APPLICANTS

The Guide for Applicants 1977 has now been published.

Copies are available from the Admissions Office, Sussex House.
Summer Seminar

About 70 university students and young teachers of English from Germany, Austria and Switzerland will be staying on campus again this vacation to take part in the Summer Seminar in English Language and Literature.

All the students speak fluent English and they are eager to meet people here, both individuals and families, and to find out about life in this part of the world. As in previous years, it is hoped that members of the University will be interested in meeting some of the visitors.

Dr. Laci Lab, Director of the Summer Seminar, would be pleased to hear from anyone able to 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 countryside, and so on.

The students will be at the University from September 1 to 29 and two parties have been arranged during that period for the students and their friends.

Further details are available from Dr. Ldb in the Arts Building (int. tel 04-539).

NALGO MEETING

NALGO is to hold an open meeting for economic, clerical and related staffs on campus on Wednesday, June 20, at which the chairman of the NALGO National University Committee, Rita Donaghy, will speak.

The meeting will be on the subject of the Employment Protection Act and a member of NALGO Headquarters’ Legal Department will also take part.

The meeting will be held in Room 221, I.D.S. Building from 1 p.m. to 2.30 p.m. Office heads have been asked to give permission for the extended lunch hour to enable staff to attend the meeting.

STRAWBERRY SUPPER & BARN DANCE

A strawberry supper and barn dance will be held in the Senior Common Room and Old Refectory on Friday, July 2, starting at 8.00 pm.

The evening is organised by the Senior Common Room and the University Women’s Group. The Wickerman Band will provide the music and the bar will remain open until midnight.

Tickets, price £1.50, are available from Mrs. Peggy Nixon, Room 3A2, Physics II, and should be booked by June 18. Cheques should be made payable to Sussex University Women.

Professor Fernando Henriques

Professor Fernando Henriques died last month at the age of 59.

Professor Henriques joined the University of Sussex in 1964. At the University he created the new Research Unit for the study of Multi-Racial Societies, later to become the Centre for Multi-Racial Studies.

He was a Professorial Fellow in Sociology, in the School of African and Asian Studies.

Professor Henriques was born in Jamaica in 1916. He came to school in London and in 1942 went to Brazenose College, Oxford, as a senior history scholar. In 1944 he became President of the Union.

He was appointed a Lecturer in Social Anthropology at the University of Leeds in 1948.

His academic career covered a wide range of interests from an examination of family and colour in Jamaica, to social life in the Yorkshire coalfield, to the study of prostitution.

The Times obituary said: “Henriques relied on his intuition more than on his scholarship, and if he never wrote the books his friends wished him to write he could be a delightful and stimulating companion. He was willing to tackle an subject and to express himself with eloquence and vigour.”

A collection of unpublished autobiographical fragments by Virginia Woolf called Moments of Being, edited by Joan Schmitter, has recently been published by Sucess University Press, price £4.50.

Science and technology in developing nations

A four-week summer institute on science and technology policies in developing nations is to be held at Cornell University from July 11 to August 6, 1976.

The programme will explore issues critical to the basic problem of how developing nations might use science and technology with increasing effectiveness in pursuit of their national goals.

Further details are available from the Communications Office, Institute of Development Studies.
RABIES KILLS!

While everyone who reads a newspaper must be aware of the danger of rabies reaching Britain, East Sussex County Council has asked the University, in common with other large organisations in the area, to draw attention to this killer disease which is rapidly approaching the Channel coast.

Rabies is a virus infection to which man and all warm-blooded animals are susceptible. It attacks the central nervous system, causing paralysis and convulsions, and in man is invariably fatal.

Warning to holidaymakers

In human rabies is usually caused by a bite or lick from a pet that has been infected by a wild or stray animal. In animals the first sign of rabies is usually a change in behaviour. A friendly pet may become aggressive or hide in a corner; a wild animal may appear abnormally tame.

Holidaymakers going abroad should resist the temptation to stroke or pat a friendly animal.

Quarantine

Great Britain has been free from rabies for more than 50 years because strictly enforced quarantine laws compel imported animals of most species to be isolated for six months.

It could break out again in this country through the irresponsible smuggling of an animal that is incubating rabies, which might later, in a rabid state, infect other pets, livestock and wild life.

The Diseases of Animals Inspector for the County, Mr. Roy Gibbs, says that if this happened wild animals in the area would have to be exterminated, and stray dogs rounded up and possibly put down. Owners would have to keep their dogs muzzled and under strict control.

What are the penalties for smuggling in animals from abroad? Up to a year’s imprisonment and an unlimited fine on indictment or a maximum fine of £400 in a magistrate’s court.

"If you are thinking of bringing a pet home from overseas you must first obtain an import licence from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. We arrange for an authorised carrying agent to collect your animal from the sea or airport you will land at and book it in at an approved quarantine establishment," explains Mr. Gibbs.

"This also applies if you intend taking your pet out of England to a foreign country on holiday and bringing it back at the end of your stay."

HITCH TO ISTANBUL

Students taking part in the sponsored hitch to Istanbul should be well on their way. They started their 5,000 mile journey from Palmer last Saturday, the day of the Koda Karmival and Fair.

The hitch is in aid of Help the Aged.

IN THE SWIM

The Isle of Thorns swimming pool is to be open this summer. The work to fence and restrict entry to the pool will begin as soon as it is practicable. Notices are to be put up at the Isle of Thorns indicating that the pool is not open to members of the public. Safety Committee agreed on 12 May.

A notice is to be sent out to members of the University drawing attention to the danger of the pool for small children.

877191. UNISEX 6

Areas need not provide operators for the new telex machine - call sign 877191 Unisex 6 - which is now in operation in the telephone exchange. (See The Bulletin, June 1, 1976).

The telex installation forms part of a research grant to Dr. G. Martelli - but it is also available to the University in general on an experimental basis to decide whether permanent telex facilities would be worthwhile.

Telephonists at the switchboard will transmit all outgoing messages, it has now been decided. When incoming messages are received, the person or area concerned will be telephoned and told a message awaits collection.

Outgoing messages should be clearly written in block capitals and delivered to the switchboard (Physics 1Al) or sent via the internal mail. Further details are available from Mr. F.G. Davies, Communications Officer (int. tel. 09-460).

Arts Centre

* Heard (or seen) the crumbly recenty? The University's Early Music Group will perform Italian Renaissance music at a concert to be given at the Gardner Centre on Wednesday June 16. Instruments include the crumhorn, rebec andcornamase.

* The Salomon Orchestra returns to the Gardner Centre on Sunday evening, June 20, to perform music by Gluck, Mahler and Bartok.

Also on the programme are straw-berries and cream, and sparkling wine. Tickets: price £1.40 for all seats.

"Old-time music ball comes to the Gardner Centre for the first time, with three performances on July 8, 9 and 10.

An Arts Council exhibition of minimal prints from America will be in the main gallery of the Gardner Centre from June 22 to July 9. Professor Norbert Lynton has written an introduction and guide to accompany the exhibition, to help in approaching such unfamiliar work.

At the same time there will be an exhibition in the foyer of new work by John Meadows, a young artist working in Brighton.

Thank you

The INFORMATION OFFICE would like to thank all those who have contributed items to THE BULLETIN and DIARY OF EVENTS this year. We are indebted to people too numerous to mention individually for news items, feature stories, details of forthcoming events, drawings, photographs, and other generous help.

Please continue to keep us informed next year. If the BULLETIN and DIARY OF EVENTS are to be useful and interesting we rely on your help.

A two-page Bulletin Special will be published after the end-of-term meetings of Senate and Council.