KNIGHTHOOD FOR PROF. CORNFORTH

Professor John Cornforth, FR S, Royal Society Research Professor in the School of Molecular Sciences, was awarded a knighthood in the New Year Honours List.

In 1975 he was joint winner of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry.

This latest honour for Sir John follows closely on the award of a Royal Medal of the Royal Society and a number of honorary degrees awarded to him in the past year.

Professorship

Christopher Thorne has been promoted to a professorship. His promotion to a chair in International Relations took effect on January 1.

Professor Thorne came to the University of Sussex in 1968 from BBC Radio where he was Head of Further Education.

His appointment to a professorship was approved by Senate and Council at their meetings last month.

Easter isn’t far away……

The University closure dates for next Easter are from Thursday, April 7 to Wednesday, April 13, inclusive.


Court

The annual meeting of the University Court was held in the Meeting House on December 17. Dr. L. Farrer-Brown, Senior Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of the Council, was in the chair in the absence of the Chancellor, Lord Shawcross, who was prevented from attending by illness.

Sir Richard Attenborough was re-elected as Pro-Chancellor for a period of three years by the Court and Mr. B.D.F. Marlow and the Rt. Hon. Frank Cousins were re-elected to serve on the Council for three years.

The audited accounts for the year 1975-76 (see feature on inside pages) were approved by the Court. In introducing the accounts, which showed that income and expenditure for the year exceeded £10,000,000 for the first time, the Treasurer, Mr. R.G. Edwarides Jones, referred to the difficulties to be faced by the University following cuts in public expenditure and the likelihood of further stringency.

The main brunt of savings which must be made would probably have to be borne by planned vacancies since salaries and wages accounted for about 75 per cent of the University recurrent expenditure, he told the Court. Already the overall staff/student ratio had worsened considerably.

"If a further deterioration in staff/student ratios has to be faced, the University will want to give careful consideration to ways in which this can be brought about with the least possible damage to standards of teaching and research," Mr. Edwarides Jones said.

Sir Denys Wilkinson, in his first address to the Court since his appointment as Vice-Chancellor, said that the Chairman of the University Grants Committee had indicated that universities would be wise to assume that their grant for 1977-78 would be about four per cent down on what it had been for the current year in real terms, although it was not clear on what figure that percentage was calculated.

He pointed out that if the University maintained its establishment, a four per cent cut would be more like 20 per cent because it would be borne by the remaining 25 per cent of the University's recurrent expenditure not devoted to salaries and wages. This would be a severe cut and the question was what could the University do about it. "There are all sorts of techniques associated with wastage, but if the financial squeeze comes, as it obviously is going to come, then I think we shall have to do more than that," he said.

In turning to new developments that should take place in the University the Vice-Chancellor said that it looked as if the only way they could come about would be by the closing down or the reduction in activities in other parts of the University. This was something that we had never had to face before and we would have to learn new techniques, he thought.

The Vice-Chancellor also referred to the increase in tuition fees and the very considerable hardship it would bring to many students. "I think the fact that the government made these fee increases applicable not only to new students but to those students who are in course, is unfortunate and regrettable, and would elsewhere have been represented as a breach of faith," he said. The government had established a hardship fund of £1m but it was not even clear that it was extra money.

University’s ‘shining example’

The Southern Water Authority, which at the time of last year’s drought quoted the University as a ‘shining example’ for its efforts in reducing water consumption, has written to the University to congratulate it on a notable effort.

Comparing water consumption in the equivalent period in 1975, the University achieved an overall saving in the order of 8,400,000 gallons (24.6%) between the imposition of restrictions in early August 1976 and the end of September when supplies for this year were assured. The maximum saving in one week in that period was 50.4%.

Apart from the need to conserve water as a resource, even though the drought is now over, there is still a need to conserve water, particularly as the cost of water used by the University, already £80,000 per annum, will almost certainly increase as a result of Government policy to equalise the charges made by the various water authorities.
CROSS-COURSE LECTURES: SPRING TERM 1977

The Community, The Environment and the School is the title of this term's series of Cross-course lectures.

Robert Heilbroner in his recent book 'An Inquiry into the Human Prospect' has written 'It is the inescapable need to limit industrial growth that emerges as the central challenge'. The long period of industrial expansion, in Russia as much as in the West, would now seem to be in its last phase. The period, as many have predicted, could end in global disaster. Or it could offer the critical conditions for a new development in man, a restrained economy, an exuberant culture, a new patterning of society.

It must be self-evident that education can only work for the latter if no longer serve uncritically the imperatives of the industrial economy.

Is it possible that schools can help to usher in the post-industrial society? Is it possible that schools can develop habits of conservation, of self-help, of mutuality, of personal responsibility and creativity and, in so doing, resist the mindless demands for technological expansion and social homogenisation? Many of the lecturers in this term's series will argue that such an approach is not only possible but essential.

Such a theme has important implications for the community, school and for the dramatically emerging demand for alternative movement. Some of the lecturers will consider these implications in detail.

The inaugural lecture in this new series will be given by the well-known pacifist R.V.Sampson, author of 'Equality and Power' and 'Tolstoy: The Discovery of Peace'. It will be followed a week later by Colin Ward who has chosen as his theme 'Schools and the Challenge of the No-Growth Economy'. Other speakers will include Edward Goldsmith, Editor of The Ecologist, and Terry Ellis, headmaster of the William Tyndale School. The full programme of lectures is printed below.

The aim of the Cross-course lectures is to draw together students, teachers and lecturers in order to confront some of the fundamental issues of education and culture.

In the Autumn series the failings of mass-culture were considered. This term's programme is in many ways a positive response to those failings. It is an attempt to pinpoint alternative sources of cultural and material energy.

The series is open to all who wish to attend; the lectures take place at 5.30pm on Thursdays (from January 27) in the Lecture Theatre of the Education Development Building. They will be followed by informal discussion, coffee and biscuits.

January 27: R.V.Sampson: THE CHOICE BETWEEN INEQUALITY AND FREEDOM IN EDUCATION. R.V.Sampson is Lecturer in Politics at Bristol and author most recently of 'Tolstoy: The Discovery of Peace'.

February 3: Colin Ward: SCHOOLS AND THE CHALLENGE OF THE NO-GROWTH ECONOMY. Colin Ward works for the Town and Country Planning Association and is well known as a writer and editor.

February 10: Bill Allchin: THE IMPOVERISHMENT OF SELF AND COMMUNITY. SOME EDUCATIONAL AND THERAPEUTIC CONSIDERATIONS. Bill Allchin was Consultant at Leith House Psychiatric Unit for Adolescents. He is a writer and lecturer.

February 17: Brian Johnson: ECOLOGY, DESCHOOLING AND DEVOLUTION. Brian Johnson is Fellow of IIE and Senior Fellow of the International Institute for Environment and Development. He has written widely on ecology and devolution.

February 24: Edward Goldsmith: EDUCATION IN THE POST-INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY. Edward Goldsmith is Editor of 'Blueprint for Survival' and Editor of the monthly journal The Ecologist.

March 3: Terry Ellis: THE SCHOOL AND THE COMMUNITY. AN EDUCATIONAL EXPERIMENT. Terry Ellis was Headmaster of the William Tyndale School and is co-author of 'William Tyndale: The Teachers Story'.

March 10: Rhod Mason (Reader in Urban Studies) and Paul Yates (anthropologist) introduce an Open Forum on Ecology, Community and the School.

Peter Abrams: Convenor of Cross-Course Activities.

CENTRE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION

"Conflict and Change in the Marital Relationship" is the title of a weekend school, organised by the Centre for Continuing Education, which will be held on February 18 and 19 at Stafford House, Hassocks. Tutors will be Dr. Dorothy Jerome, Lecturer in Social Studies, CCE, and Mrs. Rosemary Payne, Senior Social Worker, Portslade Child Guidance Clinic.

A day school on "Stones of Hope? Shanty Towns of the Third World" is being run by the Centre on February 19 in the Education Development Building. Tutors will be Dr. P.C. Lloyd, Dr. M. A. Bissenfeld and Dr. G. Lamb.

Further details of these and other activities organised by the Centre for Continuing Education are available from the Centre in E.D.B.

CCE Annual Report

The Annual Report of the Centre for Continuing Education is now available. Please telephone 02-167 or 02-168 for a copy.

THE RELIGIOUS HISTORY OF SUSSEX


Lecturers include Lord Briggs; Francis Steer, Archivist to the Duke of Norfolk; Nigel Abercrombie, formerly Secretary General of the Arts Council of Great Britain; Professor J.C.F. Harrison of Sussex; and authors James Oliver and Barbara Wall.

The series is organised by the University of Sussex Chaplaincy and the Centre for Continuing Education and follows a successful series last year. Lectures take place on Tuesday at 7.30 p.m. in the Meeting House, the final lecture of the series being on March 22. Admission is free and open to all.
UNIVERSITY ACCOUNTS 1975-76

INCOME

In the last financial year, which ended on July 31, 1976, the total income available to the University to meet its day-to-day running expenses exceeded £10m for the first time. The actual sum (£10,098,101) was received from the sources shown opposite.

The University's reliance on funds from the U.G.C. is clearly demonstrated, but this position will change to some extent in this year and in 1977-78 when, because of significant increases in student fees, the proportion of income from that source will increase substantially.

BALANCE

Actual expenditure during the year totalled £10,057,644, leaving a saving of £40,457 which we were able to put away for use in future years.

The total amount put aside for general purposes is now £40,457, but this is a relatively small sum when it is realised that the expected cut of about 4% in total income for next year (1977-78) could absorb this amount in one fell swoop. About 78% of the total is accounted for by savings accumulated by spending units and 22% by central University reserves.

EXPENDITURE

It is interesting to note from the analysis of expenditure on the right hand chart that more than 70% (£7,000,000) of the University's expenditure is accounted for by salaries and wages and that this must have a significant impact on the economy of the local area. But even then the total effort is underestimated, because the University's expenditure excludes that of the independent research institutes situated on the campus, such as the Institute of Development Studies and Harpur Studies and the various research council units. Together, these institutes add about £5m to the resources passing through the University.

The chart to the left analyses expenditure on the basis of internal budgetary structures, so that, for example, Arts and Social Studies and Science percentages include devolved promises expenditure.
RESEARCH EXPENDITURE

Last year more than 18% of the University's recurrent expenditure was funded by research sponsoring bodies, giving further evidence of the high level of research activity at Sussex. This continues the trend of previous years in which Sussex has always been among the small number of universities which attract research funds at this level.

Research expenditure is the total expenditure in the year from grants and contracts awarded by external bodies to individual members of faculty, usually for investigation into a specific topic. However, this is not an appropriate measure of the total research being undertaken in the University, because, under the 'dual support' system, U.G.C. funds are intended to provide the basic facilities for research, including the time of members of faculty, with grants providing, in appropriate cases, resources for limited periods additional to that basic provision.

Academic expenditure from U.G.C. funds is not analyzed between research, teaching and other functions, but if a crude assumption is made that, say, 50% of academic expenditure is devoted to research, then a further £2.0m may be said to be attributable to that activity.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

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<tr>
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<th>Gardner Arts Centre</th>
<th>Catering</th>
<th>Student Accommodation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>£72,028</td>
<td>£332,159</td>
<td>£553,892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditure</td>
<td>£83,566</td>
<td>£372,044</td>
<td>£580,688</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result - misery to the extent of</td>
<td>£111,538</td>
<td>£39,885</td>
<td>£28,796</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consequence - increased contribution by the University</td>
<td>£111,538</td>
<td>£39,885</td>
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<tr>
<td>- waiting for</td>
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<td>something to turn up</td>
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£28,796
The Council Committee on Terms and Conditions of Employment will be looking at
questions arising from the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme and the effects
that the various implications should be widely circulated. The Finance Officer
writes below.

Under the Social Security Pensions Act 1975 which comes into operation in
April 1976, retirement, widows and invalidity pensions will be made up of two parts: a basic pension and an
additional pension.

Both parts will be paid for by national insurance contributions but employees who
are adequately covered by an occupational pension scheme may be contracted out of the additional part
of the retirement and widows pension. In this case, the national insurance
contribution will be reduced for both the employer and the employee.

Decisions on contracting out have to be taken by December 1976 and the
Act provides for the consultation of recognised trade unions before the employer
and employee decide.

Benefits and contributions for the new Social Security structure are related to all earnings up to about
one and a half times national average earnings, but in two components.

The 'lower earnings limit' will be defined and adjusted each year by
means of regulations. The intention is that this base level should

correspond to the old flat rate
pension for a single person (£15 in
1976-77).

An upper earnings limit will also
be defined and will approximate to seven times the lower earnings limit (£105 per week in 1976-77 terms).

From April 1978 national insurance contributions for those who are not
contracted out will increase by 1% for employees and 1% for employers on earnings up to the upper earnings
limit.

New Social Security pensions will consist of two parts - the basic component and the 'additional component'.

The basic component will be payable in full from the outset and will be
equal to the lower earnings limit of the new scheme as adjusted from year
to year (£15 a week in 1976-77 terms).

The additional component will amount to 25% of average earnings in the
upper band (i.e. earnings between the lower and upper earnings limits).

This level of pension will be reached only after 20 years of contributory membership after 1978. For those
who by reason of age, cannot complete 20 years the additional component will
be 15% of the upper band for each year of membership. For the purpose of the initial pension
calculation earnings for each year are relevant to the change in average national earnings between that year and the year of retirement.

Pensions in payment will be increased. The basic component increase will be
calculated by the more advantageous

of a national earnings or prices index. The additional component will be
increased in line with price rises after retirement age. The additional
component increases are payable by the state scheme whether that component is
covered by the state scheme or by way of requisite benefits under
a contracted out occupational scheme.

If an employer has a satisfactory pension scheme he can contract out of
the additional component of the state scheme: in that case there is
a reduction in contributions on earnings in the upper band. Initially this
reduction will be 2½% for
employees and 4½% for the employer.

The rate of contribution will be revised at intervals not more than five
years so that changes in the cost of
providing the minimum contracted out benefits are taken into account.

Detailed conditions which have to be satisfied in order that a scheme may
be contracted out are specified. In most cases this will involve
changes in existing schemes.

Most employees of this University are members of one of three
superannuation schemes. These are
U.S.S., F.S.S.U. and the University of Sussex Superannuation Fund and
Life Assurance Scheme. The current position regarding these schemes is
as follows:

1. U.S.S.
The Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals has recommended that
staff in U.S.S. be contracted out of the state scheme and that the
C.V.C.P. be given authority for the necessary consultations with
the A.U.T. to be conducted at a national level.

The University Council has appointed a
committee under the chairmanship of the Vice-Chancellor to consider the
recommendations so that the decisions of the University can be
conveyed to the C.V.C.P. by the end of
February. The other members of the
committee are the Pro-Vice-
Chancellor, Professor B.E.Supple and two lay members of Council, the
Rt. Hon. F. Cousins and Mr. A.P.
de Boer.

2. F.S.S.U.
A joint F.S.S.U/AUT Working Party establishe to consider the position of F.S.S.U. in relation to the new
scheme has concluded that F.S.S.U. could not be contracted out as it
stands or be suitably modified to do so. The matter is still under
consideration by the C.V.C.P.

If contracting out is not possible members of the University will have
to pay unabated contributions to both schemes. In these circum-
stances members of F.S.S.U. may wish to consider exercising their option to transfer to U.S.S. (which
remains open until April 1980) before April 1, 1978.

3. The University Scheme

The brokers who advise the University on pension matters have
produced proposals for the
modification of the scheme to meet the contracting out arrangements.
The committee referred to above
has been asked to report on these
and to consider the whole question of contracting out. This will be
done in time for consultations to be
held with recognised unions on the campus before a final decision is
taken.

Further information is available from the Superannuation Officer, Mr. Richard
Griffith, in Suseax House.

BARLOW COLLECTION

Dr. John Sweetman, Curator of the
Barlow Collection of Chinese ceramics,
bronzes and jades, will give a lecture on
"Some thoughts on shape and function in
pottery" on Tuesday, February 8, at
1.15 p.m. in the Barlow Gallery.

On March 8 he will speak on "Later
Porcelain". The Barlow Gallery is
situated to the right of the entrance
to the University Library.

Code of Confidentiality

Members of faculty may like to note that they can obtain copies of the
Code of Confidentiality regarding access
to and the use of personal information
from the Registrar and Secretary's
office in Sussex House.

The Code, which was approved by the
Planning Committee in 1974, applies to
all records of personal information
held by the University, and embodies
a set of principles which govern the
safeguarding of confidentiality in
respect of these records, and by which
members of faculty are bound.

The Code includes details of the type
of information which may be held about
students and staff, the security of this
information, and its confidentiality.
Felllowships

Applications are invited for the second Peggyott Freeman Memorial Fellowship in European Studies. This is an annual award open to teachers working in the field of European Studies in schools normally associated with the University or with reasonable access to it.

The fellowship is in memory of Mrs. Freeman, founder of the Schools Information Unit of the Centre for Contemporary European Studies. She is widely remembered for pioneering the development of European Studies in secondary schools throughout Britain.

The award consists of an honorary fellowship for one calendar year, from Easter 1977. The Fellow will be expected to pursue a definite programme of work during the year and will work with a Liaison Tutor in the University who will assist in the design and implementation of the programme.

Apart from a sum of about £50 (which may be used in general support of the Fellow's programme), the award will entitle the Fellow to use all University facilities at faculty level. The successful applicant will have the opportunity to work with academic staff and at the termination of the Fellowship will be expected to present the work done to a seminar of interested teachers.

Current holder of the award is Mr. J.R. Thorne, a teacher from Hayling Island.

Further information is available from the Secretary of Education at the University, to whom applications should be sent by January 31, 1977.

SRC Advanced Fellowships

The Science Research Council intends to award about fifteen fellowships in 1977 under its new Advanced Fellowship Scheme.

These advanced fellowships, which will fill the gap between the SRC postdoctoral and senior fellowships schemes, will be awarded to outstanding young workers who have already proved their ability but have not yet obtained a tenured post.

Fellows would have no guarantee of a tenured post on completion of their fellowship although most would be expected to gain such posts in due course. The stipend will be linked to the University lecturer scale.

Details are available from the Science Research Council, State House, High Holborn, London, WC1R 4TA. Applications for advanced fellowships to start in October 1977 should reach the SRC by January 31.

Photographic Exhibition in Geography Lab.

A photographic exhibition of Kenya and Tanzania entitled "Choices in Development" has opened in the Geography Laboratory in Arts C. Photographs are by the Voluntary Committee on Overseas Aid and Development.

Photographic Exhibition on India

A photographic exhibition entitled "The Indian Scene" is on display in Arts D level I concourse for the first two weeks of term. Photographs are by Derick Garnier, MIPR.

Films this term

The Film Bulletin, a guide to film and video being used as study material within courses throughout the University, is published at the beginning of each term by the Media Services Unit. The Spring Term edition is now available. Information can be obtained from Jan Collings, int. tel. 03-119.

Overseas Relations Office

STUDY IN THE USA 1977-78

Current second-year undergraduates are reminded that the closing date for applications for places on the American Exchange Programme is this Friday, January 21.

Applicants should hold themselves in readiness for interviews, if required, on Friday and Saturday, February 18 and 19 (and not as in the programme TextNet).

Information and application forms are available from Pauline Osborne, Overseas Relations Office, Room 310, Sussex House, where catalogues may be consulted.

Twenty-nine places are expected to be available at twelve American universities and colleges next year, including Northwestern and Clark, previously listed as provisional.

Decisions as to who is to be interviewed can be expected around February 4, and final decisions around February 25.

Holiday entitlements for technical staffs

Agreement has been reached over holiday entitlements for technical staffs. Council noted at its meeting on December 19 in approving a report on Terms and Conditions of Employment. A full report on the details and implications of the agreement will be made to the Committee on Terms & Conditions of Employment at its next meeting.

SPORT

New sessions in squash (for beginners and intermediates), yoga at all levels, keep fit and golf start this week. If you are interested in joining please enrol at the Sportcentre. Squash and table tennis tournaments are also being organised. Closing date for entries is next Monday, January 24, at the Sportcentre.

ROAD WORKS AT FALMER

East Sussex County Council hopes to commence work this month on the north side slip road to Falmer village and the flyover section which will form part of the scheme for a dual carriage-way through Falmer village.

Preliminary work on the Falmer division of the A27 trunk road has been held up by the Government's six month moratorium on road works. It is possible that the main road works will commence during the financial year beginning in April 1977.

Motor Vehicle Registration

All vehicle owners who have not yet applied for a current Motor Vehicle Registration Disc are kindly asked to do so by contacting the Deputy Bursar and Estate Manager, Sussex House. (Int. tel. 05.199).

Application forms are also issued by the University's Traffic Controllers.

The Registration Disc should be prominently displayed on the car windscreen immediately on receipt.