UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX
THE BULLETIN
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DAY OF DISCUSSION-PLANS

Final details of the programme for the Day of Discussion have been agreed. The day will be Tuesday, May 31, and the programme has been drawn up under the title "Education in Crisis: the Place of the Universities."

The request for a Day of Discussion was made by Senate at its special meeting at the end of the Spring Term.

At that meeting Senate resolved to state its public opposition to the proposed tuition fee increases and requested Council to delay the fixing of fee levels for 1977-78 so that there could be further discussions with the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, the University Grants Committee and the Department of Education and Science on the Government's proposals and concerted action with other universities to change Government policy.

Council subsequently agreed to such a delay but decided that if Government policy had not changed by the end of this month, then the tuition fees for 1977-78 should be increased to the levels previously recommended by the Planning Committee.

Senate also resolved at the same meeting to accept the invitation of the Senate of the University of Bradford to a joint conference of university Senates (see report, page 2) and to call for a Day of Discussion on access to and financing of higher education when all those involved in the University, staff, faculty and students, would be encouraged to attend.

The day's programme will consist of two plenary sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, both to be held in the Molecular Sciences Lecture Theatre, and a number of sub-plenary sessions meeting both before and after lunch.

The morning's opening plenary session, under the chairmanship of Professor Eppel, is entitled "Education: Finance and Control" and the main address will be given by Stuart Macleure, Editor of The Times Educational Supplement. Other speakers at that session will be the Vice-Chancellor and Charles Clarke, President of the National Union of Students.

The main address at the afternoon continued on page 2.

10.00 Plenary Session 1 - (Molecular Sciences Lecture Theatre) 11.45(E)(am & pm) The University and the Region - Interaction?
   (E, D, Building)
   Chairman: David Bunker (Vice-Chairman, Univ. Council)
   Speakers: Brian Smith (Chairman of Community Services),
             Ian Kelly (TGWU District Officer)
   (F) (am & pm) The International Role of the University
   (A, 1, Arts Building)
   Chairman: Ian Griffiths (Dean of the School of African and Asian Studies)
   Speakers: Richard Jolly (Director of the Institute of Development Studies),
             Talal Amin (Overseas student)

11.30 Coffee at various points on campus

11.45 Sub-plenary Sessions
   (A) (am only) Economic Policy Behind the Cuts (A2 Arts) Building
       Chairman: Stuart Holland (Author of The Socialist Challenge)
       Speakers: Julian Le Grand (co-author of The Economics of Social Problems),
                 Brendan Nee (NUPE Area Organiser, East Sussex)

2.15 Lunch

2.45 Sub-plenary Sessions
   (repeat of sessions C, D, E and F)
   (B) (pm only) Continuing Action Against the Cuts
       (A2 Arts Building)
       Chairman: Ian Duncan (Chairman, Univ. Branch of ASTMS)
       Speakers: Owen Davies (Deputy Branch Secretary, East Sussex NALGO),
                 Valerie Coulias (Student Teacher)

3.30 Tea

3.40 Plenary Session 2 - (Molecular Sciences Lecture Theatre)

EDUCATION: ACCESS AND CONTENT
   Chairman: Geoff Jones (Chairman, Brighton Labour Party)
   Speaker: Lindsay Thomas (President Students' Union)
   Main Address: Harold Perkin (Professor of Social History, Lancaster University)
   (Author of New Universalities in the U. K.)

(D) (am & pm) University Education - its Social Purpose?
   (Old Refectory, Falmer House)
   Chairman: Peter Silkin (Postgraduate Student)
   Speakers: Dick West (Reader in Education),
             Titus Alexander (Research Assistant)
plenary session entitled “Education: Access and Content” will be given by Professor Harold Perkin of Lancaster University, and Lindsay Thomas, President of the Students’ Union, will also be speaking.

Topics to be discussed at the supplementary session include “Economic Policy Behind the Cuts”, “University Education: its Social Purpose”, and “The International Role of the Universities”. Speakers include faculty, students of the University, as well as trade union representatives from the local area. Speakers’ contributions are to be relatively brief and the major part of each session will consist of comment and discussion from the floor.

The shape and content of the day’s programme have been planned by an organising group meeting under the chairmanship of Professor Eppel, Director of the Centre for Continuing Education. The group’s membership comprised the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Arts and Social Studies), Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Science), Chairman of Education, Chairman of Community Services, Chairman of Counselling Services, two representatives of the Joint Union Liaison Committee, the President of the Students’ Union and two other student representatives.

A great amount of the group’s detailed work was carried out by a smaller executive group reporting back to the main body. Mrs. Betty Callin, Administrative Officer in the Centre for Continuing Education, acted throughout as the group’s secretary.

Full details of the programme, which will run from 10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. are set out on page 1.

All staff and students are invited to participate in the day’s discussions. The formal teaching programme for that day is to be cancelled and all employees are to be enabled to attend the day’s sessions, subject to the maintenance of the essential services of the University. Notices about staff arrangements are to be circulated throughout the University.

Invitations are also being sent to a number of people outside the University, including local MPs, teachers’ associations, education authorities and trades councils.

**BRADFORD CONFERENCE**

**CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS**

1. All students who have started on a University course should be able to complete it in accordance with their original reasonable expectations of the cost. The financial consequences of changes unilaterally imposed should be borne in full directly by the Government in addition to the USS recurrent grant.

2. The information supplied to Universities makes it clear that the funds included in the 1977/78 recurrent grant to enable students to complete their courses are grossly inadequate and the Grants Committee should take immediate action to close the gap.

3. Entry to and continuation in University courses should be based on academic criteria and not on ability to pay high fees.

4. In 1976/77 there are approximately 10,000 UK undergraduate students unable to obtain mandatory awards, many of whom may be excluded from Universities by the new fees. In addition there is an unknown number excluded solely by their inability to pay existing fees. The exclusion of students unable to obtain mandatory awards reflects neither the needs of the Universities and their students, nor of society.

5. Postgraduate education and research is an essential part of the Universities system which will be heavily damaged by the proposed increases. The difficulties facing postgraduate students in obtaining grants or industrial sponsorships will be increased to an unacceptable degree and few, if any, self-supporting students will be able to continue.

6. The undergraduate teaching in Universities depends on a healthy level of postgraduate research activity, some of which is in danger of being wiped out by the financial penalty imposed by higher fees. The damage seems likely to be no less in science and technology, which the Government wishes to encourage, than in other areas.

7. Any financial barrier against overseas students (particularly at the postgraduate level) would remove the valuable contribution which they make to continued on page 3
the development of education and learning at British Universities.

8. We, therefore, oppose the fee differential for overseas students. We welcome the Secretary of State's statement that the differential will be phased out in the future and call for immediate discussions on the date for the implementation of this pledge.

9. The admission of foreign students to British Universities should be decided on academic grounds by the Universities themselves and we are therefore opposed to any imposition of a quota system.

10. The Government seems to have insufficiently appreciated the international character of University work at all levels and its fees policy is out of step with that of most other European countries. Furthermore this could jeopardize the ability of UK students to obtain education abroad.

11. The high proportion of University income to be derived by fees in 1977/78 introduces a further element of instability into University planning. We therefore call for the proportion to be lowered to 10% or less.*

12. In no other walk of life would Government proposals with such massive implications be imposed unilaterally without wide based discussions. The Government should have consulted those involved on the detailed academic effects, which clearly were not appreciated. In accordance with the Secretary of State's Statement of 17th March to re-establish the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, no major change of policy should again be made without full consultation.


* Among the Universities represented at the meeting of the 13th May seven had already called for the eventual abolition of fees.

ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY TEACHERS

The annual general meeting of the local branch of the Association of University Teachers will be held on Wednesday, June 1st at 12.30 p.m. in the Molecular Sciences Lecture Theatre. The agenda includes election results and a report from the May AUT Council meeting held in Liverpool.

RENTS INCREASE VOTED BY COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Services Committee is recommended to Planning Committee new rent levels for student accommodation in 1977-78 based on an eleven per cent increase.

The Committee agreed this recommendation at its meeting on May 11. Discussion was centred around a paper from the Accommodation Manager which put forward arguments for a rent increase of 15 per cent and a proposal from the Chairman of USTA based on an eleven per cent increase.

A surplus of £20,500 is likely on the Accommodation Account for the current year, reducing the accumulated deficit from £57,530 to £54,870, it was reported. The Committee noted that if rents were raised by 15 per cent for 1977-78 there would be a surplus of nearly £40,000 for the year, which would reduce the accumulated deficit to approximately £15,000 at July 31, 1978. An 11 per cent increase would produce a surplus for the year of more than £4,000, leaving an accumulated deficit of about £50,000.

Points made in the discussion included:

* the need to build up Provision Funds for replacement of furniture and equipment;

* over the last few years it had been agreed that rents should not increase by a greater percentage than the student grant. A 15.3 per cent increase in grants had been agreed for 1977-78;

* increases in costs had moved unevenly. Inflation in food costs and books had outstripped the overall cost of living increase, leaving students with a lower proportion of the grant available for rent;

* it was unreasonable to argue that almost all the deficit should be clawed back in a single year;

* a one per cent movement in interest rates involved a £20,000 alteration in the Accommodation Account.

Planning Committee will discuss the recommendation at its meeting on June 15.

SPORTCENTRE CLOSED FOR EXAMS

The Sportcentre will be closed until June 7 for University examinations. The Reception desk will be open for business as usual, but with a closing time of 5.30 p.m. The Gymnasium will open from 11 and 2 p.m. although its availability should be checked with Reception.

VANDALISM

There has been a steady increase in vandalism in the playing fields area and in the air hall at weekends. Any member of the University who sees any acts of vandalism being committed is asked to contact the police. Unaccompanied children in the area should also be challenged.

ISLE OF THORNS SWIMMING POOL

Building work on safety improvements at the Isle of Thorns swimming pool has delayed its opening this summer. It is hoped that the work will be completed by the beginning of June. The opening date will be published in Sport and The Bulletin, but until this has appeared anyone wishing to use the pool is advised to check first with the Sportcentre.

Last term it was decided that the pool will only open at weekends this summer.

GEORGE AKEHURST

George Akehurst, one of the best-known and most respected figures on campus, died suddenly on the evening of May 10.

George, 57, was Senior Porter in Sussex House. He joined the University in 1964 as a porter in Palmer House and was soon promoted to Senior Porter.

After working for Palmer House and being involved in many of the activities of the University he transferred to Sussex House when that building opened in 1972. His involvement and concern with University affairs continued throughout his years with the University.

George, with his wife Mary and daughter Jo, lived for a number of years in Palmer village, and more recently moved down the road to the University Park to occupy Tenantlain Cottage close to the main entrance to the University.

A service in memory of George was held in the Meeting House last week. His many friends crowded into the Meeting House Chapel to attend the service at which his friendliness, sense of responsibility, frankness and love of nature were recalled.
JUBILEE OBSERVED
Dorothy Wainwright of the Mass-Observation Archive, wrote below on the background to the Archive's Silver Jubilee project.

In December 1936, there appeared in the columns of the New Statesman and Nation a series of letters about the impact on the British people of Edward VIII's abdication. "Here in a relatively limited form," wrote one correspondent, Geoffrey Pyke, "is some of the material for that anthropological study of our own civilisation of which we stand in such desperate need."

The correspondence caught the attention of two young men, Charles Madge, then a reporter for the Spectator, and Tom Harrison, who had recently returned from his anthropological excursions into the New Hebrides. Their interest in the significance and evolution of the popular image of royalty was very largely responsible for the setting up of Mass-Observation in 1937.

The coronation of George VI in the year following the Abdication Crisis provided them with the opportunity to study the role of the royal family and, in particular, the way in which the media mould, reflect and exploit public opinion during royal events. As part of M-O's continuing work, they proceeded to document public attitudes and behaviour for both the 1937 and the 1953 coronations, and to chart the progress of the royal family through war time and through the post-war period.

The results of this study - in the form of diaries, observations, overheard comments, interviews, reports, social surveys, news cuttings and ephemera - survive in the present Archive collection. It was always Tom Harrison's intention to revise Mass-Observation work on royalty, but his sudden death in 1976 interrupted the preliminary research. The project has been resumed by Philip Ziegler, author and publisher, who had been closely involved in the preparation of Professor Harrison's last book, Living Through the Blitz (Collins 1976). In collaboration with the Archive, Philip Ziegler has organised a survey which will complement the original Archive material on royal events.

The new study is partly based on early M-O techniques: a national network of observers, similar to the volunteer panel recruited in 1937, will keep on-going records throughout Jubilee Year. For a week in February, the observers were asked to make detailed reports on their daily activities and the way in which Jubilee preparations affected them. They recorded all references to royalty in the papers, on television and the radio, in shops and pubs, at work, in school and in local organisations, in conversations with friends and colleagues and in overheard conversations and comments.

A similar intensive report will be requested for Jubilee week in June in order to compare people's attitudes and behaviour after the deluge of publicity in the intervening months. The observers have been recruited from a variety of sources - some are former mass-observers, some corresponded for appeals for help in public libraries and volunteer bureaux, some heard about the project from news items in principal papers or from an interview on B.B.C. Radio; others are contacts and friends of the Archive. The main qualifications required are an interest in other people and the ability to write up one's experiences in short reports and diaries. People are asked to give some information about themselves and a summary of their own view of the monarchy so that material on the composition of the panel is available.

Comparative material is also being obtained from two national opinion polls, one in February and one in June, when questions on royalty are put to a random sample of the population.

The first reports have been arriving at the Archive in recent weeks. It is apparent that in February very few people realised that it was Jubilee Year, and those that did, were extremely vague - in fact one West Country village organised its entire celebration for the wrong day in June and discovered the mistake too late to change plans!

The observers record considerable enthusiasm for community events (street parties and carnivals) in the spirit of one woman's comment: "It's about time we had something to celebrate", but there has also been a good deal of conflict over the expense during a period of restricted public expenditure. Traditions such as the presentation of mugs to school children have not met with overall approval by any means. Ox-roasting, which caused a stir in 1953, has been superseded by a spate of tree-planting, bonfire building, and other more restrained commemorative gestures.

Further news and comment (on everything from the latest press preoccupation with Prince Charles' girl friends to serious editorials on the function of the monarchy) are being gathered and filed with the help of the University Information Office, and cuttings from local papers are being sent in by the observers. An additional group of observers will spend Jubilee Day in London at the official celebrations recording the behaviour of the crowds. Philip Ziegler has also been given access to the letters sent to M.P. Willie Hamilton from the public.

It is hoped that eventually a book based on both the early studies and the 1977 project will be written by Philip Ziegler and published by Collins. Previous M-O books on royalty are difficult to obtain but are available in the Archive. They are: May 12th by Charles Madge and Humphrey Jennings (Faber and Faber 1937) and Long to Reign Over Us by Leonard N. Harris (William Kimber 1966).
IN BRIEF

UNION ELECTIONS

Last week's Students' Union elections for the four sabbatical officer posts for 1977-78 ended in victory for the three Broad Left candidates and an Independent candidate. Those elected were:
President: Pete Silkine
Vice-President (Communications): Tony Moss
Vice-President (Finance): Frances Kemp
Vice-President (Social Services): Frances Evans

The new officers will take up their duties on the first day of the summer vacation.

BLOOD DONORS

Help to keep up the University's good record by donating blood when the Blood Donor Unit visits the campus this month.

The Unit will be in the Meeting House on Monday and Tuesday, May 30 and 31. Come along to any of the following sessions:
May 30 2-4 p.m.
5-7.30 p.m.
May 31 9.30 a.m. - 12 noon
2-4.15 p.m.

The Brighton Contemporary Festival of Arts takes place from June 5 to 11. The programme includes poetry, jazz, theatre, mime, dance and performance art. Many of the events take place at the Polytechnic and further information is available from their Union Office in Grand Parade.

TRANSFER STATION SITTING PROPOSALS

East Sussex County Council Planning Committee will shortly be considering two alternative planning applications for the siting of a refuse transfer station either at Sheepeote (East Brighton) or on land immediately opposite the main frontage of the University.

What is a refuse transfer station? All domestic refuse from Brighton, and perhaps from the surrounding area, will be transported by domestic refuse collection vehicles to the transfer station, where the refuse will be discharged inside a warehouse-type building and fed into a compressing machine and reduced in volume to one-third of its original size.

The refuse, in its compressed form stored in large containers, will then be loaded on to very large vehicles and transported by road to a final dumping tip at Asham, Rodmell.

East Sussex County Council have prepared a statistical analysis which appears to support the economics of the transfer station system, but many opponents of the scheme believe that the analysis cannot be other than limited and misleading.

Among the many strong objections registered to the Palmer proposal are those from the Vice-Chancellor to East Sussex County Council, to the Brighton Borough Planning Committee and to the University's opposition to the proposed siting of the refuse transfer station at Falmer.

To the Brighton Borough Planning Committee, the Vice-Chancellor points out that the proposed siting is offensive to the cultural and amenity values of an outstandingly successful site development of national and international importance, and reflects a departure from the Committee's previous policy of care and sensitivity in relation to the Falmer educational zone.

The University believes that the siting of a refuse transfer station in such close proximity to the University Park would be a major planning and environmental disaster. No matter how well the building was designed and landscaped, its function would remain obnoxious, generating noise, smell and a large volume of heavy traffic, all of which would be detrimental to the amenities of the University, the Polytechnic, the High School and Stannum.

The University has instructed Sir Hugh Casson, RIBA, and Dame Sylvia Crowe, the Landscape Consultant, to act on its behalf to oppose the proposal in every way.

Objections have also been made by Stannum Preservation Society, Falmer Parish Council, Transport 2000, Southern Group, Brighton Self-Build Housing Association Moulsecoomb, The Falmer Association, Falmer High School Parent-Teacher Association, Falmer Hostels Committee, Brighton Polytechnic, Brighton Polytechnic Students' Union, University of Sussex Students' Union. In addition, many persons have made individual objections.

STUDENTS IN DEBT TO THE UNIVERSITY

1. The Ordinances and Regulations of the University give the University the rights:
   (1) to refuse to confer a degree or other award to a candidate unless he has paid all sums due to the University;
   (2) to withhold registration or re-registration from a student if the student is in arrears with the payment of fees or any other dues to the University.

2. As far as graduation is concerned, final year students are reminded that they will not be allowed to graduate or to enrol as a candidate for a resit examination whilst in debt to the University.

However, in order that adequate advance notice may be given, each student of the University is hereby reminded that, if any debts outstanding in his/her name have not been cleared, or if satisfactory arrangements have not been made with the Finance Office concerning payment of these debts, by the end of the current academic year, he/she will not be offered registration for the academic year 1977/78. The relevant grant-awardees will be informed to this effect and the student will not be re-admitted to the University in October.

Any student in any doubt about his or her debts to the University should contact the Deputy Finance Officer (Mr. John Frost, Sussex House, Room 204).
**ARTS CENTRE**

* Tomorrow night, May 25, the pianist Tamas Vasary will give a recital at the Gardiner Centre of works by Schubert and Liszt.

The rest of the week at the Gardiner Centre is also devoted to music with performances of "Dido and Aeneas" by the Breckerley Bottom Opera, conducted by David Osmond-Smith, on Thursday, Friday and Saturday (May 26 - 28).

The Gardiner Centre will once again welcome the Chelsea Opera Group when they give a concert performance of Richard Strauss' opera "Salome" on Saturday, June 4. The principal singers at the Gardiner Centre performance will be Paul Tinley, Elizabeth Bainbridge, Aninette Norman, Patrick Wheatley, Graeme Matheson Bruce and Alan Woodrow.

* Immediately prior to a season at the National Theatre, Steven Berkoff and his London Theatre Group return to the Gardiner Centre Theatre from May 30 to June 2 with what is sure to be one of the most exciting theatrical events of the year - a new production of Kafka's "Metamorphosis". Their startling treatment of Kafka's tale evokes both pity and revulsion, while at the same time it lifts the story out of the compass of earth-bound minds and suspends it in some wholly unique realm of the imagination.

"Salome" features again in the Gardiner Centre programme when the University of Sussex Theatre Club presents a revival of Oscar Wilde's famous play of the same title from June 8 to 11. This production emphasises the satirical and bizarre mood of Wilde's play, which traces Salome's progression from innocent childhood to sexual obsession.

* The exhibition "Images of Edith" - paintings, drawings and photographs of the poet Edith Sitwell - continues in the Gardiner Centre Gallery until June 1.

From the Victoria and Albert Museum comes a travelling exhibition of photographs by the great American photographer, Ansel Adams, the first one-man show in Britain. "A witness to the grandeur of the natural world". This will be on view in the Gallery from June 10 to July 7.

Kevin O'Connor paintings can be seen in the foyer until June 10.

**LUNCHTIME CONCERTS**

* Lunchtime concerts in the Gardiner Centre continue this Thursday (May 26) with a composition recital by Christopher Gardner and Stephanie Cant and on Tuesday, May 31, with a ragtime piano recital by Hebe Jeffrey.

In the Meeting House on Friday, May 27, there will be a harpsichord recital by Augusta van Campagna, and on June 3 a concert by the Chamber Choir.

Admission is free to these lunchtime concerts which all begin at 1.15 p.m.

* Bea Vassilieva will be giving a lunchtime piano recital in the Gardiner Centre on Thursday, June 2, at 1.15 p.m. She will be playing Haydn's Adagio in F major and Beethoven's Sonata in F minor op 54 'Appassionata'. This is a rescheduling of her May 17 concert which had to be cancelled.

**EXHIBITION FROM EUROPEAN SCHOOLS**

A travelling exhibition of some of the very highest quality work produced by children from various European schools can be seen on the Concourse in the Education Development Building until June 11.

Paintings, prints and tapestries, some of almost professional standard, are included in the exhibition. Countries represented include Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Sweden and Switzerland. The exhibition is well worth a visit.

**VENICE IN PERIL**

"Venice in peril" is the title of a special lecture to be given this Thursday, May 26, by John Julius Norwich.

He will speak in the Molecular Sciences Lecture Theatre at 5.30 p.m. The lecture, which is free and open to the public, is organised by the Centre for Continuing Education. Numbers are strictly limited and doors open at 5 p.m.

**EXEAT WALK**

A family walk from Exeot to East Dean and back will be held on Saturday, May 28. The walk, organised by Sussex University Women and the Senior Common Room, begins at 10 a.m. and a detailed information sheet is available from the SCR.

**KIDS KARNIVAL & FREE FAIR**

The Kids Karnival and Free Fair, which last year attracted 5,000 people, will be held again this summer on Saturday, June 11, at the University.

Link-Up will be putting on street theatre, music, films, morris dancing, bands, arts and crafts, plays, magicians, puppet shows, pony rides, inflatables, fancy dress, cartoons, competitions, poetry and story telling, environmental groups and alternative technology.

The Fair is free. There is no admission charge and it is not a fund-raising event.

Link-Up hopes that schools in the area will participate in some way, and there will be a competition to design the best poster for the Fair.

Further details about the plans for this year are available from Dennis Frost, Link-Up co-ordinator, in Palmer House.

Dennis is also looking for egg boxes, yoghurt cartons, milk bottle tops - in fact anything which will be of use for 'junk sculpture'. Also lots of people will be needed to help with the activities on the day.

**JUBILEE HOLIDAY**

The University will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, June 6 and 7, the Spring and special Silver Jubilee bank holidays. The University Library will, however, remain open with a reduced level of service, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on these two days.

The publication date of the next issue of The Bulletin will be two days later than usual because of the holiday. It will appear on Thursday, June 9.