UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX

THE BULLETIN

Published by the Information Office

Tuesday, June 19, 1979

Recent events arising from the exclusion of Richard Flint and Shaun Penson are being covered separately by a BULLETIN SPECIAL.

The layout of this Bulletin has been affected and we apologise to contributors for any items which have been omitted.

BUDGET CUTS

University funds will be cut as a result of the new Government's Budget announced on June 12.

The recurrent grant will be reduced by £9 million - £6 million coming from 'conventional' universities, and the remainder from the Open University and other institutions.

A £5 million reduction in the science budget (research funds) will also be made.

Overseas students' fees are to rise by 20 per cent. The probable new rates, likely to take effect in October 1979, will be: overseas undergraduates: £924; overseas postgraduates: £1,212. This increase will bring in about £6 million.

There will be a £14 million cut in capital spending across education generally.

The increase in VAT to 15 per cent will also affect universities. It will in effect reduce next year's equipment grant by 5½ to 7 per cent, and will also affect recurrent items, particularly in the Science Area, such as chemicals.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Services Committee at its meeting on June 6 voted to rescind the decision to support the students' rent strike which had been taken at its previous meeting.

The Committee also agreed, as its seven sub-committees had already done, to ask that Dr. Les Allen should return as Chairman of Community Services Area.

After the Committee's meeting the Vice-Chancellor invited Dr. Allen to resume the office of Chairman of Community Services which Dr. Allen has agreed to do.

Summer Graduation

More than 800 graduates are expected to receive their degrees in person at the Summer Graduation Ceremonies on July 17 at the Dome.

Invitations have been sent to all members of faculty and staff and those wanting to attend should have informed Mr. C.R.Budley (Sussex House 05-105) by last Friday (June 15).

But, although there has been a heavy demand for tickets and they have nearly all been allocated, if you contact Mr.Budley before June 22 it may still be possible for you to attend.

It will be assumed that members of faculty and staff who do not reply by June 22 will not be attending and will not require tickets.

TERM DATES

DATES OF TERM 1979-80

Autumn Term:
Monday, October 1 - Saturday, December 15, 1979

Spring Term:
Monday, January 14 - Saturday, March 24, 1980

Summer Term:
Monday, April 21 - Thursday, June 19, 1980

THE BULLETIN

The Bulletin is published fortnightly during term-time by the Information Office for the information of members and employees of the University.

The Information Office would like to thank all those who have contributed to The Bulletin in 1978-79. We are grateful for the news items, feature stories, drawings, photographs and other help that we have been given. Please continue to keep us informed next year.

Extracts from The Bulletin may not be published without the Information Officer's permission.
PROFESSOR DOES HIS SUMS FOR THE DES

The falling birth rate is giving education chiefs a headache. There just aren't enough youngsters to fill all the secondary schools. And it's going to get worse. By the mid-1980's most schools in the country will be affected.

Education authorities will have to learn new lessons on organisation and planning. And they may be speeding up on the results of a project based at Sussex.

The man behind the extra homework is Professor Eric Briault, former Education Officer of the ILEA. His project, Falling Rolls in Secondary Schools, comes under the umbrella of the Education Area and is a study of comprehensives where numbers are already dropping.

Sussex offered Eric Briault a visiting professorship shortly before his retirement.

"I was very pleased because I hadn't wanted to come to a dead stop when I retired", he said. "We had a lot of falling rolls in Inner London. I gave some thought to what I wanted to do at the University, saw some people at the Department of Education and Science, and during my first year I prepared the groundwork so I could make an application for a grant."

Professor Briault submitted his application to the DES in July 1977. They were so keen on the idea that the falling rolls project was under way by January 1978.

As director, Professor Briault heads a team of twelve men and women. Only he, research fellow Dr Frances Smith and project secretary Marguerite Smith are based on campus.

The others, eight college of education lecturers, an education adviser and a teacher, work in or near the schools being studied.

The team meets at Sussex two or three times a year to discuss planning and co-ordination.

Twenty schools, scattered over the country, have been chosen. They range in size from over 2,000 pupils to under 400, and vary in age range.

The team's first report will be published in the spring of next year, when the research was due to end. As it has now been granted an extra six months, a second report, giving individual case studies of some of the schools, will be published in the autumn of 1980.

The drop in the birth rate began in 1965, only a year after the peak of the post war baby-boom, said Professor Briault.

It went down steadily every year until 1977, with the number of live births dropping from 876,000 to 657,000.

Most of the children born during those years have yet to attend secondary schools - many of which were built for the baby bulge.

The team are examining the effects on the curriculum of this fall in numbers and looking at the associated management problems and possible solutions.

"Intakes will grow smaller and smaller, continuing to drop until 1991", said the professor.

"We are using individual schools where the problems are already beginning to show up and trying to identify solutions. The reports we publish will help other schools when their turn comes.

"One of the main issues we are looking at is how generous local education authorities are with their money. This varies and affects the school's ability to maintain its curriculum."

"Policy on admissions and reorganisation and/or closure are also related. In areas of free parental choice some schools stay full while others shrink and change more rapidly."

"A tight control on admissions means an LEA can follow the policy it has in mind (and often it doesn't have one!), either letting each school contract a bit or having fewer, big schools and closing others. Some people think comprehensives only work if they are a certain size."

The reports will not lay down guidelines for future policy. They will simply record the problems in each school, how they were dealt with and what the results were.

But Professor Briault has his own ideas on what should be done.

One, much publicised in the last year, is a better deal for 16-18 year olds. The decrease in school numbers means more money will be available. He would like to see it spent on the 'neglected age range' - giving them either full or part-time further education.

"We are in such a muddle over the 16-18s that this would be a good chance to make sense of it. After all, they were provided for in the 1944 Education Act, but nothing has been done yet."

SUSSEX UNIVERSITY BOOKSHOP

Books by Sussex authors due for publication over the next few months, include:


The Disintegrating West by Mary Kaldor, first published last year, is coming out in a Pelican paperback on June 28 at £1.50.

Form and content by Bernard Harrison, Reader in Philosophy, will be published in a paperback edition by Blackwell at £2.95.

Karl Marx, edited by Professor Tom Bottomore, introduces the range of Marx's theory, its distinctive ideas and the problems it poses to critics and defenders. Blackwell, cloth £7.95, paper £2.95.


The Second Coming. Popular Milenaerianism 1780-1850, by Professor J.F.C. Harrison, is announced for publication in July by Routledge. £10.00.

Victorian Fantasy by Stephen Pickett comes from Harvester Press this month, illustrated. (Prices and publication dates are approximate.)

Industrial Innovation & International Trading Performance by William B. Walker of the Science Policy Research Unit, has just been published by Jai Press at £10.95.

Sussex University Bookshop will be pleased to record orders.
LATEST RESEARCH GRANTS

The following research grants have been awarded to the University in the past four months:

**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**
£12,650 (2 years) from the Science Research Council for extending the content of some analysis programs, under the direction of Dr. A. Sloan.

**ASTRONOMY**
£17,729 (3 years) from the SRC for optical spectroscopy of extragalactic objects, under the direction of Professor L. Nestel.

Members of a research team led by Professor Nestel are studying the expansion of the universe and relating their findings to theories on when the universe began and how it changes with time. Using spectrophotographs they are measuring the motions of galaxies and also trying to identify the chemical composition and physical conditions of galaxies and quasars.

The grant which Professor Nestel has received from the SRC is for the continuation of this work.

£1,388 from the SRC for observations at AMR A/79/2/18. The behaviour and nature of the continua in BL Lac objects, under the direction of Professor R. J. Taylor.

**BIOLOGY**

**Development Genetics.** £64,062 (2 years) from the Medical Research Council for the evaluation of hazards from prenatal exposure to chemical mutagens and carcinogens, under the direction of Professor R. J. Cole.

See article on this page.

**Microbial Genetics.** £21,776 (3 years) from the MRC for in vitro studies on the transposition in phage Mu, under the direction of Professor N. Symonds.

£11,801 from the SRC for in vivo studies on the transposition in phage Mu, under the direction of Professor N. Symonds.

**Professor Symonds' work on Phage Mu may help scientists find out why some bacteria are resistant to antibiotics.**

Phage Mu is a unique bacterial phage (a virus grown in bacteria) which causes rapid cell mutation. Its attacks are not limited to a particular part of the cell — it can jump from one gene to another or from one chromosome to another. This 'jumping' ability is known as transposition. It is thought that transposition is related to drug resistance in bacteria.

Almost a thousand new synthetic chemicals are put on the market every year. They give us better crops, improved plastics and relief from pain.

They may also give our children muscular dystrophy, mongolism, or cancer.

In February, the research led by Professor Robin Cole received grants worth a total of £100,000 to assess the risks to health from exposure to these chemicals.

The grants came from the Commission of the European Communities and the Medical Research Council.

Professor Cole, who is Director of the Biology Division of the Sussex Centre for Medical Research, explains the need for an early warning system to prevent potentially dangerous chemicals being released into our environment.

The uncontrolled dispersal of chemicals carries risks for public health.

It has been recognised for some time that industrial and domestic chemicals should be tested for their short-term toxic effects. But, unfortunately, some of the harmful effects of exposure to chemicals take years to show up.

This is particularly true of chemicals which damage the genetic template, DNA, found in the nuclei of all living cells.

Such chemicals mimic the effects of ionising radiation (X rays) for which internationally agreed safety standards have already been drawn up.

The probable outcome of chemical damage to the genes or chromosomes, called mutation, depends on which type of cell has been disturbed.

If the lesion occurs in a cell which gives rise to gametes, that is eggs or sperm, then there is an increased risk of inherited disease in that person's children, or in subsequent generations.

Many hundreds of inherited abnormalities are now recognised. Some are trivial disturbances of metabolism, others, such as the muscular dystrophies, are extremely severe diseases for which no effective treatment has been found.

If a body cell is damaged by a chemical then that cell may take the first steps towards producing a cancer.

Completion of all the steps necessary before a clinically detectable cancer occurs may take 20-30 years.

It is now generally accepted that most mutagenic (mutation causing) chemicals are also carcinogenic (cancer causing), but some classes of carcinogens may not be mutagens.

In recent years it has been established that quite powerful mutagens have been reaching the public, for example, a flame-retarding chemical used widely in the USA for clothing, and chemicals used in some hair dyes.

Clearly, then, we need some kind of 'early warning system' to determine whether new chemicals, and perhaps a considerable number of those already in use, should not be marketed.

It is also important to realise that not only man-made chemicals are hazardous in this way. Some extremely potent mutagens are produced by moulds which can contaminate stored foods.

At the SART we are particularly interested in the use of cell cultures to evaluate potential mutagens and carcinogens. While still some way from 'intact humans', the metabolism and genetic structure of such cells is well understood and results can be obtained cheaply and rapidly.

We are also concerned with the fact that some toxic chemicals may cross the placenta and reach the tissues of the unborn child, triggering some cells towards cancer.

In the 'developed' world tumours are now the major non-accidental cause of death in children under 14.

It is possible that as yet unidentified pollutants cause at least some of these cases.

Although it is sponsored by the University, the SART is an independent charity and relies on private donations to pay its running costs.

If you are interested in learning more about the centre's work, or would like to help support future projects, you should contact Professor Cole or Theresa Humphreys, Room 2B25, Mantell, or tel: 03-244.
BIOENGINEERING
£1,500 from the South East Thames Regional Board for investigations on the heart rates of staff involved in orthopaedic operations, under the direction of Dr. N.B.Jones and Dr. M.Middleton (Royal East Sussex Hospital).

£16,881 (2 years) from the MRC for the study of underlying principles and design of instrument scale diagnostic equipment for use in cardiology, under the direction of Dr. J.W.Woolons and Dr. M.J.English.

CHEMISTRY
£1,355 from ICI for the study of degradation of polypyrrole, under the direction of Dr. N.C.Billingham.
£28,790 (3 years) from the SRC for the study of the mechanisms of some Isomerisation Enzyme Reactions controlled by Co-Rhyme Bl, under the direction of Professor A.W. Johnson and Professor M.L.Pappert.

£14,000 (3 years) from the SRC for the study of the intermolecular forces between diatomic molecules, under the direction of Professor J.N.Murrell.
£11,250 (2 years) from the SRC for the study of Cycloadditions to Silly-protected polycrylamines and Polymers, under the direction of Dr. D.R.M. Walton.

CONTROL ENGINEERING
£24,662 (2 years) from the SRC for wave-power device development with particular emphasis on associated instrumentation, under the direction of Dr. J.O.Flower.

This grant from the SRC will allow Dr. Flower to continue his work on wave power. His long-term aim, which is many years ahead, is to find ways of harnessing this power for use as an alternative energy source.

Dr. Flower's current research is based on a wave power device he invented with Dr. Graham Knott, and is concerned with developing experimental techniques and instrumentation which will be of use in laboratory studies of this and similar devices.

HISTORY
£5,366 (1 year) from the Social Science Research Council for the study of Italian Opera impresari as an entrepreneurial group 1780-1880, under the direction of Dr. J. Rosselli.

MATHEMATICS
£10,960 (2 years) from the SRC for the study of stability criteria for Linear Methods for ordinary Differential Equations, under the direction of Dr. G.L.Cooker.
£6,553 (2 years) from the SRC to support a Visiting Professorship, to work with Professor D.E.Edmunds.

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING
£9,720 from the Ministry of Defence for an investigation of the heat transfer and flow resistance characteristics of a highly rated steam boiler, under the direction of Dr. W.D.Morris.

£5,960 from the SRC to support a Visiting Professorship, to work with Professor D.P.Brower.
£34,950 (3 years) from the SRC for Josephson effect experiments below 100 K, under the direction of Professor D.P.Brower.
£17,000 (2 years) from the National Research Development Corporation for the study of Thin Film SQUID devices, under the direction of Dr. T.Clark.

Supercconducting Quantum Interference Devices (SQUID) magnetometers are sensitive measuring instruments used in a large number of fields, from submarine detection to the dating of archeological relics.

The research team led by Dr. Clark has now invented a new generation SQUID magnetometer which could have an even wider range of applications. It is, as yet, the most sensitive device to be developed.

The NERC grant is for continued research on its use and the development of a production model.

£10,250 (2 years) from the SRC for the study of theorues of wave and electromagnetic interactions, under the direction of Dr. N.D.Domby.

£7,050 from the SRC for research on the theory of nuclear structure, under the direction of Professor J.P. Elliott.

£9,605 from the SRC for nuclear orientation & Gamma-Gamma Correlation measurements on nuclei in the mass 130 region, under the direction of Dr. W.D.Hamilton.

£6,600 from the SRC for the study of collisions of Small Microscopic bodies with Orbital Velocity, under the direction of Dr. G.E.G.Martelli.

SCIENCE POLICY RESEARCH UNIT
£19,000 from the United Nations for the study of the Role of Military Technology in Industrial projects, under the direction of Ms. M.I.Kaldor.

TOTAL: £334,783
MASS-OBSERVATION: THE WAY WE WERE

In 1937, anthropologist Tom Harrison, film-maker Humphrey Jennings and Charles Madge, then a reporter on the Daily Mirror, set up an organisation to collect material about social life in Britain.

They called it Mass-Observation. The three men made contact through the columns of the New Statesman.

Their aim was to find out what people were actually saying and doing and how they felt about current events.

Mass-Observation was an attempt to redress the communication gap between the opinions published by politicians and the media, and those of ordinary people in the street.

From 1937 to 1953, hundreds of diaries and reports were commissioned.

Full-time, paid observers carried out detailed surveys and investigations.

A voluntary panel of more than 1,000 people answered specific questions every month, and reported on their homes and families, described their environment, studied smoking and drinking habits, wrote down lavatory graffiti - whatever they were asked to do, they did.

When the war came, many also started to keep diaries in case Mass-Observation lost touch with them.

These diaries, reports and surveys, together with a collection of posters and pamphlets, make up the Mass-Observation Archive which is now housed at the University.

They originally belonged to Professor Harrison, who more or less ran the organisation until after the war.

He presented them to the University in the early 1970s and in 1975 the Mass-Observation Trust was established.

The material appeals to researchers from a wide range of disciplines. Social, political and military historians, sociologists, psychologists, anthropologists and students of design and propaganda have all used the Archive.

But the work of sorting, repairing and copying, cross-referencing and indexing has still to be completed.

Dorothy Wainwright, of the Archive, reports:

Since 1977 we have been busy sorting

and repairing the Archive's collection.

In that year the Archive was awarded a grant (which in 1978 was increased to a total of £15,551) to finance a programme of restoration.

This has enabled us to sort and microfilm large sections of the material, including the diaries, and to photocopy the 3,000 reports which Mass-Observation prepared between 1938 and 1950.

We have recruited the help of Mr Tony Bish, Document Restorer at the East Sussex County Record Office in Lewes. He has painstakingly cleaned and laminated some of the more badly damaged papers.

The increasing order of the papers and the availability of retrieval guides and indexes allow us to offer a much fuller research facility to people studying the period 1937-50 in Britain.

Apart from the regular use of material by undergraduates and postgraduate students from this University and from other institutions, we also receive enquiries and visits from abroad, and from writers, journalists and film-makers.

A number of larger projects are also being planned, including a study of time economy based on the Mass-Observation diaries. This will be carried out by Jay Gershuny and Graham Thomas of ESRC.

It has also been possible to display some of the Mass-Observation material in the following exhibitions:

*Mass-Observation papers are currently on loan to the Imperial War Museum for the exhibition "Britain at War", which opened in April. The exhibition documents civilian life during World War II and is open for a year.

*The Worktown exhibition which was mounted by the Gardner Arts Centre in 1977, continues to tour the country. The exhibition is composed of photographs taken in 1937-38 in Bolton and Blackpool by Humphrey Spender when he was working with the Mass-Observation team.

Catalogues are still available from the Archive. In May, the exhibition is on show at the Minories Gallery, Colchester, and a talk on Mass-Observation will be given by Humphrey Spender, David Mellor and myself.

* A new exhibition based on Mass-Observation's study of music and dancing in the late 1930s is being planned in conjunction with Brighton Polytechnic. It is hoped that this exhibition will also go on tour.

* A small exhibition of photographs, books and documents from the Archive was recently on show at the University of Essex for the International Oral History Conference.

Recent and planned publications include:

*Mass-Observation - a short history by Tom Jeffery, Occasional Paper No 55, Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies, University of Birmingham.

*Angus Calder, author of "The People's War," is currently engaged on a full history of Mass-Observation. It is scheduled to appear next year and will be published by Jonathan Cape.

*An edited version of one of the hundreds of diaries written for Mass-Observation is to appear shortly, published by Falling Wall Press. The diary, which covers the years between 1939 and 1945, was written by a middle aged woman living in the North of England. A film, also based on this diary, is being prepared by Thames Television.

An award of £20,000 was made last month by the Arts Council of Great Britain to the young film-maker Ian Potts. He hopes to make a film about Mass-Observation and the photographs of Humphrey Spender. Work is expected to begin during the summer.

Visitors are welcome at the Archive (Arts D, 6th floor).

Further information on publications and the collection itself is available from Dorothy Wainwright, tel: 03-422/427.
IN BRIEF

ISLE OF THORMS SWIMMING POOL

The swimming pool at the Isle of Thorns is now open for the summer season at the following times:

Wednesdays 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Saturdays 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sundays 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

GUIDE FOR APPLICANTS


HELP NEEDED FOR WHEELCHAIR USERS AT CONFERENCE, JULY 10 - 13, 1979

A conference on Caring and Counselling disabled people will be held at the University from July 10 to 13, and the organisers expect about a dozen wheelchair users among the 200 delegates.

If anyone could be available during the day to push chairs between buildings and assist generally, and would like to help, please contact Sally Harriott, Secretary of Community Services, Refectory (int. tel. 08-225) for further details.

CENTRE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION

CHILD REARING IN DIFFERENT CULTURES

is the subject of a Saturday School to be held at the University on July 14. Convener is Dr. Dorothy Jerrome, and topics will include: childhood, motherhood and fatherhood in cross cultural perspective; the continuum concept of Jean Liedloff; the Kibbutz and other modern experiments in communal childrearing; culture and personality.

Fee: £2. Creche available, 75p.
Further details from the Centre, 12R.

Non-Academic Vacancies

The Establishment Office has issued the following list of non-academic posts within the University which are to be filled. Job descriptions for all the posts listed are displayed on noticeboards.

The list was compiled at June 12.

Occupational Advisor
Senior Computer Operator
Secretaries

Clerk/Typists

Clerical Assistants
Technicians

Laboratory Assistant
Groundsman
General Catering Assistants
Machine Room Assistant

General Domestic Assistant
Playing Fields Staff
Telephone Switchboard Operator

Information given after each post relates to the grade at which the vacancy will be filled.

The code given before each post indicates the person to whom applications should be sent:

(a) Miss C. Pratt, Arts & Social Studies Office, Arts B.
(b) Mr. W.D. Carr, Science Office, Sussex House.
(c) Mr. C.R. Kelley, Establishment Office, Sussex House.
(d) Business Manager, Refectory.
(e) Laboratory Superintendent, School of Engineering & Applied Sciences.
(f) Laboratory Superintendent, School of Biological Sciences.
(g) Laboratory Superintendent, School of Molecular Sciences.
(h) The Librarian, IDS, Library.
(i) Laboratory Superintendent, School of Mathematical & Physical Sciences.

STUDENTS IN DEBT TO THE UNIVERSITY

1. The Ordinances and Regulations of the University give the University the rights:
   (i) to refuse to confer a degree or other award to a candidate unless he or she has paid all the sums due to the University;
   (ii) to withhold registration or re-registration from a student if that 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 those debts, by the end of the current academic year, he/she will not be offered registration for the academic year 1979-80. The relevant grant-awarding body 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/her or her debts to the University should contact the Chief Accountant, (Sussex House, Room 231) or one of his assistants.

FSOSA

Students who are about to leave the University are reminded that they are now eligible to join the Former Sussex Students' Association.

Full details will be given to all graduates at the Graduation Ceremony in July, and are also available now from Paddy O'Reilly in Palmer House or Stephen Carter in Sussex House.

The programme of events for the summer includes a free reception in the Sirius Common Room on Friday, June 29 at 8 p.m. (with a bar extension) and a Ceilidh in the Mandela Hall on June 30 at 8 p.m. (admission £1).

QUOTE

From the brochure of a well-known insurance company:

"as long as you live you have guaranteed life assurance protection"

(possibly when you are dead this provision will be deemed not to apply).