STUDENT ADMISSIONS IN 1981-82

The latest universities Central Council on Admissions' figures show a slight decline in the total number of applications compared with 1980. Applications from 'home' candidates are up by almost five per cent but those from overseas have declined by about 40 per cent compared with last year and by almost 50 per cent compared with 1979.

Applications to Sussex are expected to be broadly comparable to 1980. This is a better position than was thought likely earlier in the session but still means that the University has not recovered the share applications held in 1979. The final total of applications is expected to be around 12,000. Applications for Engineering courses have declined, particularly in the Mechanical/Structural group, reflecting the national trend and reduction in overseas candidates.

Also showing a reduction in applications at this stage are History, Law, Music, and Religious Studies. However, more applications than last year have been received in History of Art, Biology, Experimental Psychology, and Mathematics.

It is still too early to predict the final outcome of the admissions process since many candidates have not responded to offers made but it seems likely that the University will be in a reasonable position to meet its home undergraduate target. The forecast on overseas applications must, however, remain gloomy.

OVERSEAS STUDENTS

RECRUITMENT

The group set up by Planning Committee under the direction of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor is embarking on its initial programme of activity to attempt to increase the number of overseas students admitted to the University.

A series of posters and brochures aimed at highlighting selected postgraduate courses at the University will be circulated on a world-wide basis to key institutions. A senior professor is also attending a convention for student advisers in Nashville, USA, during May 1980.

The group now intends to move on to consider the development of specialist courses for the overseas market and the design of publications material aimed particularly towards students overseas.

RECOMMENDED FEES FOR 1981-82

The University Grants Committee has announced that it recommends that universities' tuition fees for overseas students for 1981-82 (other than students continuing courses which began before September 1, 1980) should be not less than £2,500 for Arts courses and £3,600 for Science courses.

FEE SUPPORT SCHEME

The scheme set up by the Government last year (and administered by the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals) to provide awards for partial remission of tuition fees for a small number of overseas postgraduate students of outstanding merit and research potential will continue in 1981-82.

The eligibility for new awards has been widened and applications will be considered from overseas students who either will in 1981-82 be starting full-time study at a university as registered research students for a higher degree or are already undertaking such a course and do not hold an Overseas Research Students award.

Applications for renewal of award are not required from the four current award-holders at this University. Their awards will be renewed for next year subject to confirmation of satisfactory progress.

Further details are available from the Arts and Social Studies, Science, and Education Area Offices.

ACADEMIC HONOURS

Dr. Harry Kroto, a Reader in the School of Molecular Sciences, has been invited to be one of the Royal Society of Chemistry's Tilden Lecturers for 1981-82. This award in recent years has usually been given to someone who already holds a Chair.

THE BULLETIN

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

Signed articles reflect the views of the author and not the University. Contributions to The Bulletin are welcomed. If you have any news items, feature articles, information or anything else you would like to see appear in The Bulletin, please contact Jennifer Payne or Janet Barrington, Room 315, Sussex House (int. tel. 05-140).

The next issue will be published on Tuesday, February 17, and copy for inclusion should reach the Information Office by noon on Tuesday, February 10.

Extracts from The Bulletin may not be published without the Information Officer's permission.
SATURDAY SCHOOLS


RESIDENTIAL WEEKEND SCHOOL

FRESHWATER HABITATS: Tutors: Ursula Smith and Heather Bristow. March 6-8 at The Priory, Sayers Common, Sussex.

Further details and application forms for the above courses are available from the Centre for Continuing Education, EDB.

GREAT CENTENARIES No. 35

Roger Taylor (Professor of Astronomy, Sussex), will speak on "Herschel and the Discovery of Uranus (1781)" at 6.30 p.m. on Thursday, February 19 in the Molecular Sciences Lecture Theatre. (From 6.00 p.m., there will be short recorded selections of Herschel's music).

CCE OCCASIONAL PAPERS

"CRAWLEY: VICTORIAN NEW TOWN"

1847 was not the first time Crawley had become a New Town. There was possibly a mediaeval one there, and there was certainly a Victorian one. This study is about the latter. Edited by John Lowerson and just published by the Centre for Continuing Education, it looks at the old town centre, West Green and parts of Southgate, with references to Three Bridges. It is intended as a framework and guidelines for future students of local history, as well as an account for those interested in the history of the town.

The work came out of a joint evening class provided for the Crawley branch of the Workers' Education Association by CCE. The groundwork for the study was undertaken by some 15 students and John Lowerson, the tutor.

Subjects covered by this 44-page booklet include the railways, the new rich, new people, parish path politics, religion, schools and leisure time.


"GEORGIAN BRIGHTON 1740-1820"

The development of the Georgian seaside resorts and the transformation of Brighton from a decayed seafaring town into Britain's largest and most fashionable seaside watering place are considered by Dr. Sue Farrant in this latest paper from the Centre for Continuing Education.

Dr. Farrant also studies the building of the resort, population and employment, and the town's administration during the period. A number of maps illustrate the growth of the town between 1740 and 1822.

This 60-page pamphlet is the third (and last) paper to be published based on the work of a tutorial class on "The History of Brighton 1650-1800" run under the auspices of the Centre between 1975 and 1978.

"Georgian Brighton 1740-1820" (CCE Occasional Paper No.13) is available, price 2.25p, from the Centre in EDB, the University Bookshop and main book sellers in Brighton.

BARLOW COLLECTION LUNCHTIME LECTURES

Dr. John Sweetman, the Curator of the Barlow Collection of Chinese Ceramics, Jades and Bronzes, will give two lunchtime lectures this term.

The first, on Tuesday, March 3, will be on "Chinese Bronzes" and the second, on Thursday, March 19, on "Chinese Jades". Both lectures will take place at 1.15 p.m. in the Barlow Gallery, which is adjacent to the University Library entrance.

ROBIN LEE POETRY PRIZE

Entries for this year's Robin Lee Poetry Prize are now invited. A poem of not more than 40 lines, on any subject, should be submitted, along with name and address, to Penny Adnalla, Arts B237. All students of the University are entitled to enter. The closing date is March 1, 1981.

ECC GRANTS FOR STUDY VISITS AND JOINT STUDY PROGRAMMES

The ECC will again in 1981-82 offer grants for the promotion of cooperation in the field of higher education within the European Community by the development of joint programmes of study between institutions of higher education in the Member States, and by the support of short study visits to other Member States by teaching and administrative staff and researchers from higher education institutions.

The conditions for these awards and the application procedures are set out in a circular from the ECC Commission, obtainable from the Secretary's Office (room 309), Sussex House. The closing dates for applications are March 31, 1981, for the Short Study Visits Scheme and May 15, 1981, for the Joint Programmes of Study Scheme.
Whenever the state of English wine is discussed today, someone is bound to say that growing grapes outdoors in this country is just not possible because of the weather.

Somewhere I suspect that similar remarks are made in Germany and France from time to time because the sun doesn’t suddenly start shining the minute one gets to the other side of the Channel.

The Romans, who brought us central heating and straight roads, also brought grapes or rather vines but vine-growing stopped for a while by imperial edict when an increase in crops within Italy was to be brought about, by order.

By the time of the Domesday Book, 20 kinds of vines were being grown in southern England and vine-growing flourished in the Middle Ages. The downfall of vine-growing probably had little to do with the weather per se but that factor did serve to make English wine more expensive to produce than in the rest of Europe.

So when trade with France developed and French wines were imported regularly, the wine grown here could not compete on a commercial basis and other crops became more profitable for English farmers.

However, it has to be said that the English climate is not the most favourable for grapes, not because it rains a lot - vines can tolerate up to 30 inches per year and many parts of southern England receive less than that - but because the mean temperature is lower and the wind colder than is liked by vines. Nonetheless, our competitors abroad with similar problems seem to spend less time blaming the weather and take more pains to obviate its effects.

Rabbits, hares and birds can also be a problem in vineyards but fortunately (for the growers) most of their predators are protected by law here.

There is, or seems to be, a strong prejudice against English wines amongst the British which I suppose is understandable given that we are taught in the crede that England is not suited to grapes.

Another hazard, of importance, is our ridiculous wine duty laws. In the other wine-producing countries of the EEC, little tax is paid on wine. In Luxembourg, for example, there is no tax at all and in Germany none except on sparkling wine. In France the duty on wine is about £1 a bottle but in England we pay 45p on each bottle, plus 15 per cent VAT.

True, imported wines are subject to the same tax but the production costs of our wine are greater and the duty therefore an additional burden to make them less competitive.

Merrydown wines have been a great success but it remains to be seen whether English wines as a whole can become an accepted part of an English wine-drinker’s life. Until it does, the English wine-makers’ living will be a precarious one but they deserve to succeed as their wine is often as good as their cousins’ across the Channel. I try some and see. — John Smith

University Butler

IN BRIEF

SENATE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

The Senate Discipline Committee has had under consideration since December reports on alleged breaches of discipline which occurred during the meeting of the Federation of Conservative Students held on December 1, 1980 in Mandela Hall.

The Committee is continuing those investigations, but has decided, in the light of the reports received, to refer the cases of three students to the University’s Disciplinary Panel.

UNIVERSITY LAW SOCIETY

Christopher Prout, MEP, and Visiting Lecturer in Law at Sussex, will speak and answer questions on the work of the European Parliament in Lecture Theatre A, Arts Building, at 5 p.m. this Thursday, February 5.

UNIVERSITY/BBC RADIO BRIGHTON PROGRAMMES - ENERGY SOURCES AND USE

The current series of programmes presented by the University in collaboration with Radio Brighton on Tuesday evenings, continues tonight at 18.20 with “Energies. Are electric and flywheel-drive cars viable?”

At the same time on February 10 the subject will be “Saving energy at home. Is it worth double-glazing or insulating cavity walls?”, while the final programme in this series, on February 17, will look at “Energy survival. Planning for the future. The economics of a sustainable society”.

CONTRIBUTIONS NEEDED FOR NEW MAGAZINE

Those interested in writing reviews of books, plays, films, exhibitions, concerts, or indeed, any event not involved in any other areas to be covered by a new magazine, are invited to meetings on Wednesdays, 2 – 5 p.m., in the Arts Federation Office, Palmer House.
This week Geoffrey Best replies to criticisms of Senate from the Union Vice-President (Communicational); Chris Price discusses the problems facing the disabled student; George Roth asks what's in a name. Let me have your comments, on these or other topics, by February 10, please. (Arise B10).

WILLIAM LAMONT

INQUIRE Senate

I happen to share my friend Professor Lamont's regret about how the last Senate came to an end, but the Union Vice-President’s complaint about it in your last issue is a bit much.

For one thing, when important business has been killed by inquirership in the past, the cause has sometimes been time-devouring political interventions initiated by Union representatives or supported by them. Secondly, it is odd to hear a Union representative speak of being part of a 'rubber stamp' when the fact is that his bloc's vote sometimes decides the issue in Senate, as Senate (or rather 'Senate Committee') is at present constituted.

Is it not possible to see in this incident, not so much evidence that the academic members of Senate are as well able to play politics as the student ones, as further proof of the need for a reconstruction that will make Senate again efficient and apt for its primarily academic purposes?

Geoffrey Best
Dean, School of European Studies

INTEGRATION FOR THE DISABLED: MYTH OR REALITY?

The purpose of this letter is to attempt to highlight, in this, the Year of the Disabled, some of the problems of being disabled, seen through the eyes of one disabled person.

“What is all the fuss?”, you may ask. There are only a handful of such students on this (or for that matter, any other) campus. Unwittingly, perhaps, you have stumbled on one of the main problems.

The Snowden Report lists as the first of its eight policy points, "All handicapped people should have right of entry ... to courses of education provided only that they are judged suitable by the institution in question". The "sting" is in the phraseology of the last clause. It is here that the attitude or play - commonly nowadays referred to as the "Does he take sugar?" attitude - emerges, albeit in a modified form.

Are there only a handful of physically disabled students capable of attaining the required qualifications? Experience has led me to believe this is not so. The problem - as I see it - is twofold. The first concerns the universities specifically, the second is more a general problem concerning attitude.

The problem of the universities can best be seen by comparison with an able-bodied student. The latter faced by a series of rejections still has recourse to the 'clearing' system. The disabled person normally contacts each university individually and the result seems to have shown itself in poor inter-university communications.

The disabled student is faced with not only getting his academic qualifications but finding a vacant space in a university. Such a 'clearing' system would prove beneficial in guiding those suitably qualified to the right place.

Similarly the co-operation this involves would result in the avoidance of situations such as occurred in the year 1979-80, when this University filled only one of three available places in Kulukundis House with a subsequent loss of revenue.

The problem of attitude falls into two categories. Few universities and colleges were initially conceived with handicapped students in mind; therefore often a great deal of trouble is taken in the preparation of time-tables and locations, etc., in order to comply with the needs of the student.

Often this results, perhaps irrationally, in the student feeling that he, or she, is a nuisance - a feeling it may be hard to allay. Nevertheless, substantial difficulties may still be encountered as one is forced to use such entrances as ramped loading bays (often one of the few places with ramps in universities) frequented by large lorries and negotiate a variety of doors and other obstacles.

The second category can be seen within the framework of the sixth of Lord Snowden's policy points. "Existing buildings should, wherever practicable, be adapted to suit the needs. New buildings should be required to provide total access for handicapped students." In practical terms this does, I suppose, result in any architect having to compromise his ideals.

To take this University as an example, Falmer House, which if reports are correct, Sir Basil Spence was particularly proud of, and the Meeting House, would barely rate a mention in any handicapped students' itinerary; the Refectory, on the other hand, a purely functional building, would I think rate very highly. In Lord Snowden's words, the latter fulfills the criterion that 'Integration' implies the ability of the handicapped people to enjoy the lives of their able-bodied counterparts. The other does not.

By failing to provide facilities for particular places one thus excludes disabled people. Hence one can argue that they never use the building.

What is, often deliberately, omitted from the argument is the fact that this, far from being a matter of choice is simply a situation which has to be accepted as a "fait accompli". The three points I would urge are: i. access to all parts of the University, in particular Falmer House - especially now that building's resources are being relocated; ii. some body should be set up to ensure access to any future projects that may be initiated; iii. the same body should co-operate with other universities in order to increase the number of places open to handicapped students, and to implement a system like the ICA 'clearing' system to ensure that no places are wasted.

Chris Price
Student, School of English & American Studies

FOOTNOTE: following the acceptance in 1977 of the Report of the Working Group on Handicapped Students, the University has in fact introduced mechatronics - principally the Handicapped Persons Committee within the Community Services Area and the confirmation of the Safety Officer's responsibilities via a full handicapped persons - to deal with the problems mentioned. -Ed.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

The Bulletin of January 20 has addressed us on "Use of the University's name" in an unsigned article, which suggests that this article itself issues from the bowels of that omniscient beast known as the University. There is no human, no (continued on page 5)
bureaucratic personality even, behind this article. The beast has an annual cycle reminding us not to use its name, particularly when there is controversy about, so it seems; but isn't the beast responding controversially to my complaint (signed) to Worm's Eye View last term about its own misleading habit of speaking as if it really existed?

Entering this controversy as it is - warning us off its name it continually attempts to reinforce the idea that it has a mind of its own to put behind its mouth - the beast should take its own advice and realize to which of its apparatchiks had its ear to its belly and heard, transcribed, and ordered to be set in type its latest supplications.

If all of us, including the nameless and faceless, were to become more precise in our speech then there would be no uncertainty about who or what one means, and to continue to assert that the University is as beasts go virtually identical to the Unicorn; it can no more have opinions on form views or support an argument than it can consult with the Police.

Senate and Council and other bodies and officers, all of whom can be identified, can have opinions, interpret statutes, etc., but spokesman on behalf of the beast should tell us who they are, what part of the beast's anatomy they represent, how they know what the beast's view is, etc.

For example, in the case at issue - The Bulletin on the beast's name - the Information Officer could have told us something like this: "This article was prepared by (name) at the suggestion of (name/office) after consultation with (name/office) and scrutiny of (documents)".

This would be very much akin to scholarly practice of citing sources, etc., a matter which would reduce the need for such dubious propositions as contained in item 9 on Use of the University's Name, for any reference to the views of representative bodies need only (in my view) cite the source or authority, e.g. were I to write to some newspaper, I should note that dons should not use their university address/letterheads when writing to newspapers and that my opinion was supported by "the University of Sussex" I would merely cite The Bulletin etc. and I would not seek the Registrar's permission to do so.

Better in that case that The Bulletin's sources and authority were also made clear in their human agency.

George Rehn
use is in Sociology, School of English & American Studies.

TRADE UNION NEWS

ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY TEACHERS

AND THE CUTS

The subject of cuts evokes a wide spectrum of attitudes. Some people, such as the supporters of the present Government, see them as necessary for the health of the economic body, therefore inevitable. It is a good thing, however painful. Among those who consider them as bad, various attitudes are possible.

Some think the cuts are bad but necessary. Some others take the view that they are bad but inevitable; that they should be opposed in principle but that, since the seriousness of the present crisis means that they will be applied anyway, one should accept them and do one's best to minimize their consequences.

There is even a virtuous feeling of self-satisfaction to be got out of accepting cuts, arising out of the idea that it is morally right to do so, even if we were to be spared, someone else would be even more severely hit.

Finally, there are those who believe cuts to be wholly bad and consider them avoidable, the result of the wrong order of priorities, of misconceived economic principles and of misguided social ideologies; and know that to accept them is tantamount to encouraging basically evil policies and to bring about, through acquiescence, a further, even more, damaging round of cuts.

University managers (some of whom may be assumed to hold the first view), tend to espouse in their public statements the intermediate positions.

The Association of University Teachers, publicly expressed views and agreed policies support the last view. Many of our members personally feel that it is their duty to resist cuts, not only because they are practically ruinous in their short and long-term effects, but also because they are wrong in principle; they feel that, as academics, they have an intellectual duty to express wrong principles and condemn their application to social and economic policies; and regret that, on the whole, university management have shown little interest or encouragement for this attitude.

AUT has recently decided to initiate a round of consultations bringing together local association executives from all over the country and national executives to examine the real financial situation of universities and to decide on the best and most constructive way to oppose the freezing of posts and the shedding or redeployment of staff. Even before hearing of this initiative, Sussex and Southampton local associations have come together to discuss local responses to cuts.

Like Sussex, Southampton AUT was recently faced with a University Working Party report in which, as in our PIER Group Interim Report, the implementation of brutal and damaging cuts was paraded as the achievement of inherently desirable 'academic goals' and the resolve of management to comply with Government and University Grants Committee policy decisions was misleadingly presented as the result of a university-wide process of consultations, on which planning decisions could be based.

Needless to say, Southampton Working Party's report had no greater validity than our PIER Group Interim Report, and both local associations find themselves in agreement as to the need to reject and condemn both exercises.

G. Carsaniga
President
Sussex Association of University Teachers.

SMALL ADS

FOR SALE

Bontempi electronic organ, with rhythm section, flute, strings effect etc., and music books. Lovely tone, and has been used very little. Chrome legs. £65.00, but will accept £100 or near offer. Contact Janet Barrington, Room 315, Sussex House. (Internal telephone 05-194).

HANDS ACROSS THE ATLANTIC

Home exchange service offered to families or couples in American university towns and cities for summer '91. Enquiries to "Hands across the Atlantic", 62 St. James Road, Shirley, Southampton.

HOUSE FOR SALE

Det. 4-bed. family house at Saltdean. 8 yrs. old, not overlooked. On level ground close sea, schools, shops and buses. Full gas c/h, spacious accommodation, excellent condition. Garage, nice gardens. F/hold. Tel. Brighton 37652 (evenings).

VACANCY FOR PARISH COUNCIL CLERK

IN FALMER VILLAGE

Required to prepare agendas, keep Parish Council meeting minutes and basic accounts, and deal with general correspondence. Six meetings in the year to attend, normally in the evenings. Remuneration £60 p.a. Please apply to: Mr. J. Stobnadi or Council Chairman, 1 Orchard Cottage, Court Farm, Falmer.
SENATE COMMITTEE WORKING PARTY

The Senate has established a working party to review the composition and working of Senate Committee within the present Charter and Statutes; to receive written evidence from groups and individuals; to make appropriate consultations within and without the University; and to bring forward suggestions to improve the organisation of Senate Committee, and the conduct of its business.

The working party would like to receive written evidence from any persons or groups within the University on the issues before the working party. Any individual persons within the University may also be invited to appear before the working party to give evidence.

Views may be submitted in writing on any aspect of the composition and working of the Senate Committee. At its first meeting, the working party produced a list of topics for examination, but it is not intended to be final or exclusive.

THE MEMBERSHIP AND SIZE OF SENATE COMMITTEE
- is the present composition of Senate Committee satisfactory?
- is the present size of Senate Committee satisfactory (i.e. 170 members)?
- should the present constituencies within the composition of Senate Committee be changed (e.g. by basing them on academic units)? These constituencies are:
  - ex-officio members (e.g. Pro-Vice-Chancellors, Deans, Directors of Units) (about 30 members)
  - professors (about 20 members)
  - non-professorial faculty (about 60 members)
  - students (about 20 members)
- should attendance rates of Senate Committee members have a bearing on membership and composition?
- ought Senate to have members/observers delegated from specific interest groups within the University?
- what view should be taken of the mandate of particular groups on Senate by bodies external to Senate?
- should 'constituencies' be permitted to provide substitutes for members of Senate Committee who are prevented from attending?

PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS
- is the flow of business to Senate Committee satisfactory? (e.g. should

the format and content of Senate Committee agendas be reviewed? Should Senate Committee have a steering committee?)
- is the organisation of business within the agenda satisfactory (e.g. the division of the agenda into 'discussion' and 'report' sections)?
- should the procedure for the receipt and consideration of motions be changed (e.g. by the provision for motions in writing)?
- should the Chairmen's powers be reviewed? (e.g. in regard to the acceptance of motions)?
- is the distribution of functions between Senate Committee and the Council satisfactory? To what extent should the Senate Committee be permitted to re-open Area decisions?
- is the provision for reports from Senate Committee to the Council satisfactory?
- in general, should formal standing orders be introduced (e.g. no member to speak more than five minutes nor more than once on any one item)?

SENATE COMMITTEE BUSINESS
- given the Senate's statutory powers as the supreme academic body in the University, is Senate Committee devoting its attention sufficiently to academic matters?
- what was the Senate set up to do under the Charter and Statutes?
- what were the expectations when Senate Committee was set up?

- to what extent does the present Senate Committee cover the business envisaged (a) for the Charter Senate, (b) for Senate Committee?
- to what extent has Senate taken upon itself new functions not envisaged for the Charter Senate or even for Senate Committee?
- to what extent does Senate Committee perform the function of a general assembly within the political economy of the University? Should this function be emphasised or should that function be exercised in another way (e.g. are University Discussions no longer of relevance)?
- should there be restrictions on Senate Committee consideration of 'non-academic' business, or should there be separate provision for academic business?

RELATIONS WITH OTHER BODIES
- are Senate Committee-Council relations satisfactory and can they be improved?
- is the current relationship between Senate Committee and the Planning Committee satisfactory?
- are Senate Committee-Area relations satisfactory and can they be improved?
- is the current delegation of authority by the Senate satisfactory?
- how is the Senate Committee perceived by the University community at large (and by the world outside the University)?

Written evidence is invited on any aspect of the composition and working of the Senate Committee. It should be addressed by the end of the Spring Term to either:

the Chairman of the Senate Committee Working Party, Professor T.H. Elkins, Arts Building;

or

the Secretary of the Senate Committee Working Party, Mr. E. Prosser, Sussex House.

It has to be emphasised that any reform of Senate Committee has to be contained within the provisions of the Charter and Statutes, so that not every suggestion for change may be immediately acceptable. A fundamental re-casting of relationships between Senate Committee, Council, Planning Committee and the University community could require an approach to the Privy Council: not impossible, but clearly not to be undertaken lightly.
NEWS OF THE NEW COMPUTERS

ACADEMIC

The Computer Board for Universities and Research Councils agreed in November to the University’s proposals for a replacement local academic computer system. As a result, the current ICL 1904S in the Computing Centre will be replaced during the summer vacation 1981 by a system based on three Digital VAX11/780 computers for which the Board is making a capital grant of £37,500 (including VAT).

Each VAX will be capable of having 48 terminals connected, although the total planned over all three is 90 once the full system is installed. It is hoped that the “biggest” VAX, along with its peripherals, and a PDP 11/34, which will be the link to regional services, will be installed before the Summer Term. This will allow the Computing Centre to familiarise itself with the new equipment.

The 1904S computer will be operated until the start of the summer vacation when it will be closed down. The new system will be installed and commissioned during the vacation for use from the beginning of the 1981-82 session.

Although the VAX is considered to be a mini-computer, one VAX 11/780 is four times as powerful as a 1904A and each VAX will have a nine-track magnetic tape reader and a line printer; one VAX will also have a card reader and graph plotter. The usual range of software will be available.

ADMINISTRATION

The replacement of the ICL 1904S has also meant that the Administration has had to make fresh arrangements for its data processing.

After close examination of several manufacturers’ proposals (including ICL), it was decided to purchase a Digital Equipment Corporation PDP 11/44.

In order to ease the Spring Term load on the Computing Centre, and because of the long delivery delays on the PDP 11/44, an ‘interim’ computer was delivered in August and has been used to develop new computer systems to replace the ones currently based on the ICL 1904S. The PDP 11/44 will be used to provide an extensive range of online access systems for use throughout the Administration. Initially 20 visual display units will be installed, and in due course this number is expected to increase considerably.

Most of the equipment has now been delivered, and the remainder is expected this month.

LIBRARY

Planning for the replacement of the ICL 1904S coincided with the Library’s having an urgent need to replace elderly equipment used to collect information about loans.

After examination of various options, the Library was given approval to purchase a Geac 8000 computer together with light-pen terminals and a package of programs which provided many of the Library’s basic software needs but was capable of being extended to incorporate Sussex-specific features and additional systems such as CORELLIS. Several British academic libraries are installing the Geac system, which is of Canadian origin and is already in operation in libraries in North America.

The Geac computer was installed in September 1980 and work has since then been in process to prepare for the transfer of all Library computing to it. The most obvious immediate change for users of the Library will be in the loans operation. The light-pen terminals will be installed in the resited counter area and used to issue and discharge books by reading the bar-coded zebra-like labels with which more than 360,000 books have already been equipped. Each library user will also need a new bar-coded borrower’s card and announcements about the distribution of these and the inception of the new system will be made in due course.

LUNCHTIME EVENTS

‘MAINLY GUITAR’ SERIES

February 4 - Nicola Lanzetter, Contralto and Stuart Hutchison - piano, will perform works by Schumann, Poulenc, Shostakovich, and others.

February 11 - Omega Guitar Quartet will play a selection of Dowland, Purcell, Faure and Schumann works.

1.15 p.m. - Gardener Centre Theatre.

Subscription tickets £3 (students £2) Individual concerts on the door 75p (students 50p).

MEETING HOUSE LUNCHTIME RECITALS

Fridays at 1.15 p.m., in the Meeting House Chapel. Admission free.

February 6 - Ian Kennedy (tenor) and Jon Anderson (guitar and lute).

February 13 - Christine Morgan (harp and virginals).

SWANBOROUGH MANOR, NR. LEMES

Accommodation is available at Swanborough Manor for members of faculty, as follows:

Available from this month: Luxury one-bedroom flat.

Available from mid-April: the Dower House, containing one double and one single bedroom.

Further details from: Miss J.W. Peskett, Assistant Accommodation Manager, Refectory Building. (Int. tel. 08175).

RECENT BOOKS

Some recent publications by Sussex authors:


EDUCATION FOR CO-OPERATION IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL WORK is a collection of papers edited by Hugh England of the School of Cultural and Community Studies. Royal College of General Practitioners. £3.


PROPHETY AND MILLENNARIANISM. Essays in Honour of Marjorie Reeves, edited by Ann Williams, includes a contribution by Professor William Lamont on “Marjorie Reeves as a Teacher”. Longman. £25.

SHAKESPEARE SURVEY 33, edited by Kenneth Muir, includes a contribution by Alan Sinfield on "Hamlet's Special Providence". Cambridge University Press. £1.50.

AVAILABLE FROM SUSSEX UNIVERSITY BOOKSHOP
GARDNER ARTS CENTRE

At the beginning of a busy season, in which there are a multitude of interesting events taking place at the Gardner, I may perhaps be forgiven for taking a leap forward of some fifteen weeks (to May 17 to be precise), when the Chilingirian String Quartet will be playing three Beethoven quartets. Nothing especially significant in that, maybe, except that between that date and June 7, they will in fact be playing the complete Beethoven cycle of 17 works and this makes it a rare, possibly historic, opportunity.

Because of the interest these six concerts will warrantably provoke, the series is being sold initially on a subscription basis only and seats for individual evenings will only be available at the door. Quite clearly the demand for seats will be extreme and it is drawn to your attention at this early stage that postal booking opens this week. Because of the nature of the series, these concerts will fall outside the usual season ticket scheme, which is not to say they are not something of a bargain, since subscribers to the complete cycle will be given six concerts for the price of four, and, in this particular case, you may well find that six is better than none (which is what you may end up seeing if you do not act quickly!).

Devotees of Steven Berkoff's London Theatre Group are in for a real treat when HAMLET opens tonight (the 3rd). A rebel with a very definite cause, Berkoff has consistently attracted full houses at this and other theatres with his particular brand of unashamed dramatic intensity, tinged with a sly black humour, and his Hamlet which I saw and was so excited by at the Round House last summer, is very much in his usual style. This company's popularity is, as always, on the increase, and it is no mean feat to tie them down to a date.

They have previously been regular visitors to the Gardner Centre and it is now too long since they were last here. The consequence of this is that we have drifted behind their repertoire inasmuch as we have still seen neither East nor Greek, but I am working on this and, in the meantime, the good Mr. B. is hot-footing it back from Germany with his company to open their Spring tour with us tonight.

Next week, Monstrous Regiment return for their annual visit and they too will be opening their new tour here with their new production of Honor...