Research success confirmed

It seems that whatever method of calculation is used Sussex continues to shine in terms of research grant income. A new table places Sussex second nationally, above Oxford and Cambridge, for the amount of externally funded research per faculty member in science. Not too surprisingly, the originators of the table, the University of Warwick, came top.

Significantly the Prime Minister, referred to this table on her recent visit to the University of Warwick to open a new Science Park. The Prime Minister commented: "It is true that the study was done here but I am quite sure that the methodology would stand up to the most rigorous examination from all other universities. I should point out that Sussex was second, my own university Oxford only came third but it did come ahead of Cambridge, which came fourth."

This recognition by the Prime Minister, reinforcing Sussex's high research standing, comes in the wake of a series of very favourable peer reviews published in The Times Higher Education Supplement. In Biology, for example, Sussex was ranked fifth for research and sixth for its teaching. Sussex biologists were the most successful in attracting external monies for research (£3.1 million over the past three years) and also had the most impressive publication record; its 41 members of staff producing 21 books and 688 articles over the past five years.

Sussex received complimentary mentions in all the other subjects covered in the review which are taught here. Chemistry, English and French were all highly regarded for research, with top ten rankings, and French and English were also placed very high in the teaching rank.

GRAINS OF HOPE

Dr. Tim Flowers (left) and Dr. Tony Yeo with some of their experimental rice plants.

Sussex scientists have received a major boost in their search to find ways of increasing the yield of one of the world's most important crops.

The Overseas Development Administration (ODA) has granted Dr. Tim Flowers and Dr. Tony Yeo of the School of Biological Sciences a further £200,000 over three years to find a more salt resistant rice variety.

Rice, one of the world's most important foods and the staple diet in many areas where starvation is a real and ever present threat, is highly vulnerable to salt in the water used to irrigate it. The development of strains of rice with greater resistance to salt will be a major advance in the struggle to defeat hunger in many areas of the world.

With generous support from the ODA since 1976, Sussex scientists have gained an insight into how rice reacts to a saline environment. Now they are hopeful of a major breakthrough in the production of salt-resistant rice.

Dr. Flowers commented: "During the next few years we hope to make a more direct contribution to breeding a more salt resistant rice variety. For a salt sensitive species such as rice even a small increase in tolerance may mean that farmers are able to produce crops on land where at present it is not worth while sowing the seed."

Future research will utilise the physiological and biochemical characters already identified as important to salt resistance.

The work at Sussex will be carried out in close collaboration with scientists at the International Rice Research Institute.

"By using the expertise of plant breeders in the Philippines we will attempt to combine these characters in a new variety and thereby to increase salt resistance in rice, a process which is not achieved by present, more simple, screening methods," added Dr. Flowers.

The Registrar’s Bowler team secured yet another victory over the Students’ Union in a keenly fought match last week. The match result was 2-0 but the Registrar’s team stole victory in a dramatic penalty shoot-out with Geoff Lockwood scoring the winning goal. The Registrar was ably assisted by Ted Molleson with some persistent running up front, and Pat Tabor, who displayed some deft touches despite a long absence from the game. There will be a return match next term. The two teams are pictured right at half time.
Successful Sussex participation in technology exhibition

The University put on a very impressive display at the Barclays Techmart Exhibition at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham from February 21 to 25.

Sussex was one of 18 universities participating in the United Kingdom Universities Pavilion. All the stands were very professionally arranged, and as the photographs show, the Sussex stand was particularly impressive.

A great deal of interest was shown in the Sussex exhibits which included scale models of the magnetic centrifuge and the magnetically suspended globe (Professor Jayawardena); energy saving device (Dr. Unsworth); Polog (Dr. Sloman); speech-aid, which attracted a lot of attention (including Irish Television) and the signal processing computer (Dr. Jones); and a printer (El Printer Products, Sussex House).

Senior management, including the managing directors of many companies, attended in large numbers. For obvious reasons there was a very high proportion of Midland based firms which were making contact with the University for the first time.

Since the exhibition, the University has received more than 60 serious enquiries which have been followed up in the hope that there will be research and development links.

The benefits of participating in this prestige exhibition were very clear and brought considerable credit to the University. All those who helped in putting the stand together were congratulated by Professor Mike Springfield, Chairman of the Working Party on Links with Industry.

The Sussex stand at the Barclays Techmart Exhibition

Managing Directors' Club

In a further development of the University's industrial links, last week saw the inaugural meeting of the Managing Directors' Club. Forty-five industrialists attended the very successful occasion, chaired by Professor Fred Bayley. The meeting included a talk by Professor Frank McCapra on bioluminescence.

A steering committee was formed from those present at the inaugural meeting and plans for future meetings are under way.

Model of an 8-ton centrifuge (left) and electromagnetic devices (right)

Ralph Lewis Award

Ralph Lewis, well known Brighton author and art dealer, died in 1982. He left to the University a sum of money to form a trust fund, the income of which would be used for an annual award "for the most promising type-script of a book, play or collection of poetry deserving publication." The award is to be used "for the purpose of publishing the selected works." These are excluded.

The Chairman of the Friends of the University Library, with assistance from an advisory panel, is responsible for making the annual award, and it is anticipated that the first Ralph Lewis award will be made early in 1985.

This award is open to present and former students and staff of the University of Sussex and current members of the Friends of the University Library.

The closing date for the first award is September 30, 1984. A copy of the Prospectus 1984-85, setting out the rules and regulations, and detailing how to apply, will be available shortly and can be obtained from the Librarian, University Library.

Tuition fees for next academic year

A four per cent increase in tuition fees for home and European Community students, and a five per cent increase for postgraduates and overseas students who commenced their courses before September 1980, are recommended by the Government for 1984-85.

The Government no longer imposes a minimum fee for overseas students who commenced their courses after September 1, 1980, but the University Grants Committee has recommended minimum fees of £3,150 for Arts courses and £4,150 for Science courses, an increase of around nine per cent on 1983-84.

Senate and Council are to be asked to approve the following fees at their meetings this week: £3,500 (£4,650) this year for first degree and PGCE courses for home and EC students; £1,925 (£1,494) for most postgraduate courses for home and EC students, £2,150 (£2,046) for pre-September 1980 overseas intakes.

The recommended fees for new overseas students and for those who began courses after September 1, 1980, are £3,450 (£3,260) for the majority of Arts and Education courses and £4,150 (£4,250) for most of the Sciences courses.
Link-Up's old friends

Link-Up, the Student Community Action Group, is involved in many kinds of voluntary work - with young children, the elderly and the under-privileged. Some of their activities, such as the annual and very popular Kids' Karnival, receive publicity but most of their work in the community goes unnoticed, appreciated only by those who receive the benefits.

Over the years, the most enduringly popular project has been concerned with the elderly people in the community. More than a hundred OAPs attend termly parties on campus and many are regularly visited by students in their homes.

"Visiting the elderly is an important part of Link-Up's work," commented co-ordinator Dennis Frost.

"There's naturally not the publicity and the obvious excitement that goes with some of our more well-known events, such as the Kids' Karnival, but it is clearly important that students strike up lasting friendships with people who they would not normally meet during their stay at University," he added.

One such couple visited on a regular basis are Fred and Mary Wyman. They have enjoyed visits from students for most of the past 12 years.

Mrs. Wyman said: "When you are house bound it means such a lot to us. Some of the past students we still hear from - one is a school-teacher, one is happily married and one is in America.

"We enjoy all the parties and the outings and since my husband is blind, deaf and wheelchair bound, it means such a lot to us: nothing appears to be too much trouble."

Fred and Mary Wyman are currently visited by Sarah Souleby (European Studies), who although admitting to being a little nervous before the first visit, thoroughly enjoys meeting them on a regular basis.

"Both of them have an incredible sense of humour and we all get on very well together. It makes a great change to talk to people other than students, especially in the final examination year," she said.

It seems that all involved can derive benefit from this scheme.

INTERNATIONAL EVENING

More than 300 people from all over campus tucked-in to a variety of exotic dishes during the International Evening on February 24. Overseas students and their families joined in an evening of food, friendship and fun, organised by the Students' Union Welfare Office. So successful was the event in bringing together Sussex's overseas students that the United Overseas Students Society, which sponsored the event, is already planning a similar occasion for next term in Mandela Hall.
The Director-General of the British Council, Sir John  
Birch, visited the University on February 24 to meet  
University staff and British Council Scholars. The Director-General is pictured here with  
the Mayor of Brighton, Councillor Charles Jermy, and the Vice-Chancellor at a  
reception given by the British Council for all those in the  
University who are closely connected with the Council's  
activities.

After lunch with senior officers, the Director-General participated in a discussion programme  
on BBC Radio Sussex, recorded in the MSU studios. The topics covered in the programme included education in the developing world, the Council’s role in bringing students to study in Britain and the value of the Council’s cultural activities.

The Director-General was joined on the programme by Professor Mike Faber, Director, Institute of Development Studies and Mrs. Victoria Dickie, wife of the General Manager of Glyndebourne Opera House.

Sir John clearly appreciated the visit and the opportunity it gave him to make acquaintance with British Council contacts and scholars in the Brighton area.

**Symposium on Eating Habits**

A series of scientific meetings organised by members of the Experimental Psychology group will be held at the University during the week starting on Monday, April 9.

These will include a symposium on 'Eating Habits' in which a number of invited speakers will discuss some of the ways in which past experience can influence feeding. Specific topics include theories of how animals regulate their diet, the development of eating habits in children and clinical problems such as obesity and anorexia.

Members of the University are welcome to attend the lectures which will be held in the Biology Lecture Theatre. Further details are available from Dr. R.A. Boakes, Experimental Psychology, Biology.

**Fullbright & British Council Awards 1985**

For the second year running, the Fulbright Commission and the British Council are offering grants to encourage further links between institutions of higher education in the United States and the United Kingdom.

The two organisations will each be providing a number of grants to contribute towards the travel and subsistence expenses of approved collaborative projects between the two countries.

Projects have to be on an institution-to-institution basis. Priority will be given to younger American and British faculty members from institutions on both sides of the Atlantic which have not been hitherto heavily involved in exchange.

The closing date for applications is October 17, 1984, and further details are available from the Council Secretariat Research Grant Office, Sussex House.

The prize is awarded every three years for the best essay of up to 10,000 words on an anthropological subject submitted by a student of any nationality at a British or Irish higher education institution. To win this prize is seen as a particular achievement as entry is open to all those who graduated, and will graduate, in anthropology with BA or MA in 1982, '83 or '84. Jenny will be presented with her prize by the President of the Royal Anthropological Institute at the RAI’s annual general meeting on June 27.

**THE OTHER SIDE OF ME**

"South-Eastern Supercock" Jill Foster, pictured at her desk in Physics. Jill, who is Secretary to the Mathematics Subject Group, has always had an interest in cooking, but it was not until five or six years ago that she entered her first competition - reaching the finals of a Gas Council and Evening Argus contest with, with five others, she cooked in front of an audience at the Metropole.

Jill, and her lecturer husband Jim, will be off on a Mediterranean cruise next month - her prize for winning the "South-Eastern Supercock" title last November in a contest run by the Milk Marketing Board, the Gas Council and BBC local radio stations. This is not the first holiday that Jill has won. Last summer she won the second prize of a holiday in France in the Cosmopolitan Cook of the Year competition, a result which particularly pleased her as she was competing against thousands of entrants.
Vichy France and the Resistance

The first UK Conference on Vichy France and the Resistance, planned as an interdisciplinary meeting of scholars, will take place at the University on April 4 to 6.

This will be the first time that people working in literature, history, politics and sociology will have come together to discuss their research into Occupied France. British academics started to write about Occupied France almost immediately after the Armistice in June 1940, several of them submitting articles to the journal "La France Libre" which was published in London, and others became involved in BBC broadcasts to France or enrolled in de Gaulle's Free French movement. There were also some academics who found themselves recruited by the Special Operations Executive (SOE) to become agents in France itself.

One such academic agent became immediately famous. He had written a thesis many years before on medieval peasants in the Dordogne, and when he knew he would be parachuted into the area of his research he blew the dust off his thesis and re-acquainted himself with the habits of the locals as he had described them. Above all he knew he must be inconspicuous on arrival so he dressed accordingly, and the waiting party of French Resistance watched with a mixture of horror and disbelief as their British agent drifted to earth in a stack and crossed the border.

Since then quite a number of British researchers have made rather more modest reputations in the French provinces, and this Conference will have scholarly papers on aspects of the Occupation in Grenoble, Limoges and the southern part of the Massif Central. It is not just local Resistance that interests people; even more research is being done on the mythic status of Pétain and the relationship of his government in the Spa town of Vichy to the Church, youth, the Jews and public opinion generally.

Vichy officials intercepted many thousands of letters every week in a secret censorship operation, and extracted passages which interested them before sending them on. This is unrivalled primary material on basic public attitudes, and it is just becoming available in the Archives.

The literature of the period is equally rich in attitudes and ideology, and Beynon John, who has recently taken early retirement as Reader in French, will be reading a paper on the writer and aviator Saint-Exupéry. Long ago in 1964 Beynon John and Roderick Kendal, now Reader in History, taught the first History and Literature course on Vichy and the Resistance to the pioneer intake of Sussex students, since when many other universities and polytechnics have started similar courses, and in April most of the teachers involved in these courses will be participating in the Conference.

The French academic world will be represented by an Honorary Graduand of Sussex, Professor François Bédarida from Paris, and the French Embassy is honouring the Conference with the participation of Monsieur Gilles Chouraqui, the Conseiller culturel, who will take the chair at the afternoon session on Thursday, April 5. All the papers are to be subsequently published by Croom Helm.

The organiser of the Conference is Roderick Kendal, whose research into Resistance in Vichy France through local archives and oral history has been funded at various times by Leverhulme, Nuffield, the British Academy, the ESRC, the CNRS in Paris and currently by a two-month research mission awarded by the French Government.

He is now working on the rural and regional history of the Maguis, which takes him into the remoter recesses of mountainous valleys and the darker vaults of the provincial archives. In the Cévennes he found himself following the steps of Robert-Louis Stevenson, but without a donkey, while in the archives it was Richard Cobb who had always been there before, looking often for the same sorts of political outlaws in the Revolutionary period 150 years before.

The co-director of the Conference is Bob Raper, a graduate from the New University of Ulster, author of a brilliant doctoral thesis on Youth in the Languedoc under Vichy, while all the practical details of the Conference have been expertly handled as ever by the Conference Office.

In France the period is still a vitally alive issue, and the Kermiss Business trial will make it even more so. This Conference will discover whether there are any special or unusual perspectives on Occupied France from this side of the Channel.

A clandestine press organised by two artists in a cellar near the Paris Opera.
NON-ACADEMIC VACANCIES

The Personnel Office has issued the following summary of non-academic posts to be filled. Advertisements for these vacancies have been sent to Section Heads for circulation to staff, and to union representatives. Copies of the advertisements (and further details, if available) and application forms are available from the Personnel Office, Room 206, Sussex House. The list was compiled on March 6.

All posts are full-time, full-year, permanent, for male/female, unless otherwise stated.

Clerical and Related
Library Assistant, grade 2, from as soon as possible, IDS.
Secretary, I/2, Catering Department, temporary for 3 months from April 1.
Manual and Ancillary
Barperson in Charge, Supervisor II grade i.e. £83.80 per week, Falmer House.

Technical
Animal House Technician, 2/3, Biols.
Electronics Technician, 3, from March, EAPS.
Electronics Technician, 4, or 5, EAPS.
Research Technician, 4, from as soon as possible for 2 years, MOLS.

KULUKUNDIS HOUSE
Part-time paid auxiliary help wanted at weekends for a disabled male student living in Kulukundis House. Help with dressing/undressing, bathing, etc. Morning approx. 9.30 - 10.00 a.m. Tel. B.M.Smith int. 08-223 or ext. 606755 ext. 105.

SERVICES FOR INDUSTRY BROCHURE
A new edition of the "Services for Industry" brochure is now out and copies may be obtained from the Information Office, Sussex House.

GARDNER CENTRE GALLERY
Arts Council Touring Exhibition LEONARD McCOMB March 16 - April 12

Foyer Exhibition
AL VANDENBERG - THE AMERICAN SERIES photographs
March 14 - April 12

SUSSEX TRUGS
The Sussex Trugs will be playing mainstream/traditional jazz in the Playing Fields Pavilion, 1 - 2 p.m. on Fridays (term-time and vacation).

RECENT BOOKS
Recent publications by Sussex authors include:
THE OPERA INDUSTRY IN ITALY FROM CIMAROSA TO DONIZETTI. The Impresario by John Rosselli. Cambridge U.P., Paperback, £7.95.

The following Harperster books are due for publication shortly (prices only approximate):
SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIALISM by Tom Bottomore. Paperback, £4.95.
There will be a special exhibition in the Bookshop until March 23 of paperbacks published by Harvester Press.

All obtainable from SUSSEX UNIVERSITY BOOKSHOP

BRITISH FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN MEETING
The South-East Regional Meeting of the British Federation of University Women will take place in Sussex House on Saturday, April 7, from 10.30 a.m. to 4.15 p.m., hosted by the Sussex Association. The cost is £4.25 to include lunch, coffee and tea, and applications should be made to Miss H.J.Parker (Hon.Sec.), 210 Preston Road, Brighton (tel. 552398) by March 26.

A special open invitation is extended for the afternoon meeting when there will be a colloquium on Conservation in South-East England. Beginnings, Miss M.Titchenor, Ecologist and Countryside Management Consultant, will speak on "The Threat to the Historic Rural Landscape", and David Harvey, S.E. England Nature Conservancy Officer, on "Wild Life Conservation in the South-East - what next?" Contributions to the discussion from the floor will be invited.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION 1988 MEETING
A limited number of copies of the preliminary programme for the British Association for the Advancement of Science 1988 Meeting are available at the Information Office, Sussex House. The meeting will take place at the University of East Anglia, Norwich, from September 10 to 14.

SMALL ADS
KEMP TOWN MAISONNETTE FOR SALE: close to seashore, large lounge, 2 good bedrooms, night storage heaters, fitted carpets, good decorative order. Convenient local shopping and good access (via Downs) to University. L23,950. Contact: Mike Barrow, 03-379, Arts E, or Pat Barrow, 03-795.

HOUSE TO LET: 3 bedrooms, central heating, garden, garage, 5 mins. Preston Park station, May 1 - Dec. 31. Tel. 503171.

UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS REVIEW: Vol. 26 is now published. A copy should be available in the University Library, but may also be obtained from the Editor, University of Leeds Review, The University, Leeds, LS2 9JT, annual subscription £3.95 (inc. postage). Contents of 1983 edition include Willy Brandt on "The North-South Dialogue" and Sir Edward Parkes' address to the CVCP "The Conscience of the State."

UNIVERSITY GUIDES WANTED: postgraduates are needed to act as University guides for groups of up to 20 people. Training will take place in the coming season (March to October). Good rates of pay. Please apply to P.R. O'Reilly, Information Office, Sussex House (tel. 03-190).

WANTED: LEADERS FOR BROWNIE AND GUIDE UNITS. Experience not necessary although ex-Brownies, Guides or Rangers would be useful. Working with children can be fun and good experience for would-be teachers. If interested, please contact Mrs. H.Carrington, tel. Brighton 561700.

SPRING INTO ACTION - LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE, or bring an old one back. Students have reached levels in 52 languages at the Language Centre, Arts A, between the lecture theatres. Arts B, tel. 64-676, call at Reception. Open weekdays 9 a.m. - 5.30 p.m. (vacation 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.) and until 7 p.m. on Wednesday and Friday.

BOTTLE BANK
A Bottle Bank has been located in the Refectory loading bay next to Midland Bank, and is available for use by students and staff who wish to dispose of bottles (not milk bottles, please) in a way which will allow glass to be re-used.

SUMMER GRADUATION
A further reminder that the Summer Graduation Ceremony will take place on Tuesday, July 17 at the Brighton Centre.

UNIVERSITY CLOSURES
The University will be closed for the Easter holiday from Monday, April 18 to Monday, April 25, inclusive.
The University will also be closed for next term for bank holidays on Monday, May 7 and 28.

TERM DATES
The Summer Term begins on Wednesday, April 25 and ends on Friday, June 29.

ANNUAL REPORT AVAILABLE
The University's 1984 Annual Report has recently been published, and copies are available from the Information Office, Sussex House.

BULLETIN
This is the last Bulletin of the Spring Term. The Information Office would like to thank all those who have contributed items, and in particular Peter Morris, Keith Wilson and Keith Hunt of MSU, and all the staff of the Printing Unit, for their help. Please remember to keep us informed of events. The first edition of the Summer Term will be published on Tuesday, April 26. Copies must be received in the Information Office, Room 329, Sussex House (int. tel. 03-135) by no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, April 18.

Other publication dates are: May 15 (copy date: Friday, May 4), June 5 (Friday, May 23) and June 26 (Monday, June 13).
The Bulletin is for the information of staff and students of the University of Sussex. Published by the Information Office and printed by the University of Sussex Printing Unit.