Honorary degree for Nobel Laureate

The visit of the joint winner of the 1989 Nobel Prize for Physics, Professor Norman Ramsey, was marked by a special graduation ceremony at which Professor Ramsey was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Science.

Professor Ken Smith, who presented Professor Ramsey for the degree, said of him: 'Norman Ramsey is essentially a traditional university physicist who manages to combine a very active research programme with efficient teaching of students at all levels. Unlike many university teachers, however, Professor Ramsey has also had, in the words of one of his former students, a distinguished career as a citizen of science. For example, he has been both Science Adviser to NATO and a Trustee of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.'

After the degree ceremony, Professor Ramsey gave an address to the Astronomy and Physics Society.

Bob Jamieson

Bob Jamieson died, on the morning of Saturday, 2nd December, undertaking the Good Samaritan act of helping to push a stranded stranger's car. The last act of his life was thus typical of the whole. I hope he managed to make it even more typical by issuing one of his famous one-liners before the final curtain. Bob was one of those rare humourists whose timing and tone could make you cry laughing, a characteristic of his seen all too little within the University.

Bob's last day at work was also typical. In addition to managing the daily activities of a very busy Vice-Chancellor's Office and drafting papers for the Senate as the Secretary, he stage-managed a special Honorary Degree Ceremony and supervised the Professoriate Banquet that evening. He attended the latter but didn’t dine in order that he could be free to orchestrate the evening for others. I shall never regret, which I otherwise might have been made to do, slipping out of the dinner to sit with Bob for a period of relaxed reminiscences going back over our 27 years of friendship and concentrating on his stories about the surprise and joyful 50th birthday party which his wife Brenda and their three daughters organised for him just a few weeks ago; he was in fine form and very happy.

Bob joined the Administration at Sussex in 1966 and served the University over the past 23 years in too many capacities to list here. In the history of the first 30 years of the University, Bob’s name ranks in the very small number of professional administrators whose devotion, consistency and talent have enabled the University to organise its success. His name is foremost amongst that small number for the personal warmth he created with all types of staff over the entire University and over the years. His generous concern for others and his patient handling of both the grateful and the aggrieved were the hallmarks of his style of service.

The professional satisfaction he derived from his work varied considerably over the years but the highs and flats never showed to others in the University. The enforced re-organisation of the Administration in 1981-82, when Bob's much-respected Arts and Social Studies Office was disbanded, was a bitter blow to him (as Brenda and his family could testify), but he did not let that reduce his loyalty and commitment. Happily, more recent changes lifted his level of personal and professional satisfaction, and he ended his career at Sussex not only on a high but in the knowledge that 1990 would have brought a further major favourable change in his position.

A pillar of the Administration has been lost, and a sun has gone down leaving shadows in many hearts across the campus.

Geoff Lockwood
Scholarships, Fellowships and Other Awards

Royal Society Leverhulme Trust Senior Research Fellowships

Applications are invited from scientists in any subject for five appointments from October 1990. These new fellowships have been established to enable scientists in mid-career, aged 35-55, to be relieved of all teaching and administrative duties for a period of between one academic term and one year, to do full-time research.

For further information and application forms, apply by 2nd February to: Mrs. U.M.A. Tokle, The Royal Society, 6 Carlton House Terrace, London, SW1Y 5AG. Closing date: 16th February, 1990.

Wellcome Prize Studentships 1990

The University has been invited to nominate two students or recent graduates for these studentships designed to attract outstanding students towards a career in biomedical research. The studentships carry a tax free payment of £4,500 p.a. (£5,200 in London) over 3 years, together with approved tuition fees and £2,000 p.a. for research costs. Further details from Science Deans or Research Grants Office, Sussex House. Those interested in applying should contact the relevant Science Dean by 30th January, 1990.

New Hall Research Studentship

New Hall, Cambridge, invites applications from suitably qualified women students in any subject for a Research Studentship tenable from 1st October, 1990. Further details are held in the Information Office, Sussex House.

The Royal Society Michael Faraday Award

This award is made annually to the scientist or scientists who have done most to further, in the UK, the public understanding of science. The award consists of a silver gilt medal and a prize of £1,000. Further details are held in the Information Office, Sussex House. Closing date: 31st March, 1990.

Sir John Bowring Essay Prize

Full-time first degree students are invited by the Guild of World Traders and ICC United Kingdom to submit essays of up to 5,000 words on the following subject: "The GATT is a subject for experts and politicians, not for business to waste time worrying about." Discuss in the context of the current Uruguay Round and the formation of regional trading blocs." Further details are held in the Information Office, Sussex House. Closing date: 15th February, 1990.

Building work

The following work is being undertaken. You are asked to take care in the vicinity of the work and to keep outside of safety barriers. Estates apologises for any inconvenience.

Work in progress

Norwich House: new pitched roof is complete. Fitting out for student accommodation due for completion early 1990.


Future work

East Slope, between Blocks 9, 10 and 11: minor alteration work to paving.


Letter to the Editor

I have just completed a four month Fulbright Fellowship for US administrators, sponsored by the University and housed in the Admissions Office in Sussex House. I have learned a great deal about British higher education, particularly your efforts to increase and broaden participation.

I appreciate greatly the hospitality and support the University community has extended to me. Many of you have taken an interest in my project, been patient with your time, and exercised patience as I have learned more about your business. I am particularly grateful to Penny Spelling and her Admissions staff. Penny provided not only office space, but information, insights and good cheer.

While I have been impressed by your attractive campus and academic programmes, it is the people — your energy, warmth, humour and civility — that I will associate with Sussex and remember so fondly. Thanks again for four wonderful months.

Timm Rinheart
Dean of Admissions
University of Massachusetts

Small Ads

FOR SALE: one bedroom flat. 1st floor luxury at bargain basement price. 1 min. centre Brighton, 5 mins. British Rail. PB, GFCH, EP, DG, WDU plus many other desirable initiall. Long lease, low outgoings. Must sell, Europe beckons. Price includes a year's car parking season. All contents for sale at silly prices. £46,950. Tel. 0273 509334.

TO RENT: one double bedroom flat. Purpose built, new, fully equipped. 1 min. Brighton centre, 5 mins. British Rail. Available 1 Jan. on a term-by-term basis. Rent negotiable, but will be v. competitive. Tel. 0273 509334. Do not be put off by answerphone!

TO LET in Lewes: re-furbished room in private house. Suit mature female student, pg/f, faculty. Own cooking facilities, also shower/wc. Non-smoker preferred. Refs. req. Tel. Lewes 478549.

FOR SALE: fridge ( Prestcold). Old, but in good working order. Small ice box. £10.00. Buyer to collect. Tel. 2781 or 8337.

MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS: Brighton Festival Chorus, conducted by Laszlo Heltay, John Birch (organ), Brighton Youth Choir and Brighton Festival Brass. The Dome Saturday, 16th December, 7.30 pm. Tickets £3.50 to £9.50.

TO LET: Lewes, comfortable, centrally-heated 3 bedroom house, furnished or unfurnished. £400-£425 p.m. Tel. 477165.
Lord Elwyn-Jones

Lord Elwyn-Jones, the former Labour Lord Chancellor who was awarded an honorary degree by Sussex last year, died on 4th December, aged 80. Called to the Bar in 1935, he was a prosecutor at the Nuremburg war crime trials and maintained an interest in international human rights throughout his life. Lord Elwyn-Jones was Attorney-General from 1964 to 1970 and Lord Chancellor from 1974 to 1979. He was closely involved with the events leading up to and following UDI in Rhodesia. He was also involved in some tragic and horrifying cases — he was leading Counsel to the Aberfan disaster inquiry and prosecuted the Moors murderers. He was MP for Newham for nearly 30 years and a long-time resident of Brighton.

Sussex astronomy graduate appointment

Dr Steven Phillips, who obtained a first in the Mathematical Physics degree at Sussex in 1974, and then stayed on to take the MSc in Astronomy in 1975, has been awarded a Royal Society University Research Fellowship. Dr Phillips, who is internationally-known for his theoretical work on the large-scale structure of the Universe, will hold his Fellowship at the University of Durham.

British Academy Studentships


From left: Neil Butt, Felicity Watts, Julian Burke, Anna Clarke, Philip Layfield and Tony Moore.

Three members of the School of Biological Sciences have made a successful bid to have part of a major new Agricultural and Food Research Council programme located at Sussex.

A grant of £178,000, for the first three years, has been awarded to Dr. Felicity Watts, Dr. Tony Moore and Dr. Julian Burke, under the AFRC's recently-announced co-ordinated research initiative in plant molecular biology with particular emphasis on an understanding of the molecular biology of Arabidopsis thaliana, a small weed in the mustard family which includes economically important crops such as cabbage, broccoli and horseradish.

The grant will support a postdoctoral fellow and research technician, in addition to a considerable amount of expenditure on equipment.

The objective of the Sussex researchers is to devise techniques for the cloning of genes from Arabidopsis encoding proteins which are involved in the control of cell division and energy metabolism. Although it is of no economic value in itself, this brassica relative has been chosen as a model system because the relative simplicity of its genome will facilitate the isolation of genes which have important functions in crop plants.

The work will aim to understand the physical and genetical make-up of this plant so as to increase its genetic utility. For example, some plants use energy inefficiently, so that an understanding of the processes involved will in future allow genetic manipulation of such plants to ensure greater overall efficiency and hence increase crop productivity.

Geography Report published

The interim report of the National Curriculum Geography Working Group — of which the Vice-Chancellor, Sir Leslie Fielding, is Chairman — was published last month. Its proposals aim at providing a firmer foundation for geography in schools — and place an emphasis on the study of environmental issues.

Pupils should develop their knowledge and understanding of the use and misuse of natural resources; the quality and vulnerability of different environments; and the possibilities of protecting and managing the environment, the report says.

Pupils had 'to be educated in stewardship and management of the finite resources of our planet,' Sir Leslie said.

Geographical education should aim to:

- stimulate pupils' interest in their surroundings and in the variety of physical and human conditions on the earth's surface;
- foster their sense of wonder at the beauty of the world around them;
- help them to develop an informed concern about the quality of the environment and the future of the human habitat; and
- thereby enhance their sense of responsibility for the care of the earth and its peoples.

The group proposes eight attainment targets: four based on area (the area where pupils live; the UK as a whole; Europe, the US and the Soviet Union, Japan, and Canada, Australia and New Zealand; and Central and South America, Africa, the Middle East, Indian sub-continent and S.E. Asia); three on themes (physical, human and environmental geography) and one on specific geographical skills.
Truly European

Dr. Anne Stevens, Dean of the School of European Studies, continues our series on the Schools.

The School of European Studies has one marked peculiarity: at any time a quarter of our students are not here. They are, of course, on their year abroad, mostly scattered across the universities of Italy, France, Belgium and Germany, and even Poland, Bulgaria and the Soviet Union.

Recently the European Student Mobility Scheme, ERASMUS, sponsored by the European Community, has provided the incentive for an explosion of schemes for study abroad. Euro was able to be at the forefront of such schemes, and a number of our University exchange arrangements are now supported by ERASMUS. This not only provides our students with welcome financial help towards their costs whilst abroad, it also helps in other ways.

For example one of our historians, Peter Campbell, is in Bologna at the moment, teaching there for six weeks, with ERASMUS bearing the costs of replacement teaching here. ERASMUS has also enabled us to widen some of our links, which now become not just bilateral exchanges, but component parts of multilateral networks.

One of the features of the ERASMUS programme is the European Community's increasing insistence that we must recognise the value of the teaching provided by our partners elsewhere, and accept the validity of their assessments. We have to find ways of building the results which the students bring back into our own degree classifications. This, together with our own realisation that students need more of a framework to their time abroad, has led to the development of structured programmes at our partner universities, as part of the syllabus in many subjects, although it is still open to those who prefer to pick a more individual programme and write a dissertation.

Another feature of ERASMUS — and perhaps the approach of 1992 also has something to do with it — is that it seems to have encouraged an increasing flow of students from other European Community countries into EURO. This year we took in 53 visiting and exchange students from the European Community, alongside our entry of 143 first years, who also included a number of people from other parts of the Community. This is a development that delights me, although I realise all too well the strain that receiving and looking after our visitors, ensuring that they get the courses they need, and that they are happy here, puts upon our very hard pressed School Office.

Such students are of course to be found in all the other Schools, but I do find it encouraging that when I stand in the Euro common room I am very likely to hear conversations in French, German and Italian all around me.

EURO's belief that our common room is the best in the University is unshakeable. Life without Joy and her helpers behind the tea bar is unimaginable. We have managed recently to enlarge and improve the space they have to work in and to my eyes the common room is brighter and better than ever, partly — yes, I'm prejudiced — because it is now a no smoking zone.

Like the other Schools, EURO is facing up to the challenge of modularity. The 'Jenkins reforms' of the mid 1970s gave our School courses a coherence and structure that proved remarkably stable and successful. Since then there have been two major innovations. Modern European Mind lost its monopoly as the School course of the final year. I do not think that MEM has suffered from the competition.

The other major innovation has been the development of joint language degrees. These involve language work in both languages throughout, with courses in both majors, during the middle terms. They leave space for School courses at the beginning and the end.

Stable and satisfactory as our School courses have proved, it was time to take a new look at them; Norbert Lynton began the process, and it has now linked in with the moves towards modularity. As the new structures emerge it is clear that some of the successful parts of the old pattern will persist; but there will also be worthwhile new possibilities, especially a new first term course on the Idea of Europe which we hope will be an attractive and stimulating framework for much of what follows.

Another field into which a lot of thought and effort is going is the improvement of our language teaching. Amongst the valuable new things that have emerged has been increasing specialised language teaching for the second year minors, so that they are better prepared to operate within their own discipline, be it as lawyers, or economists, or as historians, during their year abroad. Our close relationship with the Language Centre continues. It is good that the Centre now has a clearer role and a more settled and independent basis, but it is also good that the mutual flow of advice, encouragement and practical help has not diminished.

I began with one peculiarity of the School; let me end with two others, even more important. I know of no other European School in this country that so genuinely combines the study of both East and West Europe. Our School lecture series this term, under precisely that title, has drawn large and enthusiastic audiences. We did not, I confess, originally anticipate condemning our lecturers to hasty revisions only hours before-hand as events overtook them. As we have celebrated change, so I, at least, have been helped to understand it by the bringing together of the varied expertise that the lecture series, like the School, embodies.

Secondly I know of no other European School that is so genuinely a School both of the humanities and the social sciences; demonstrated by two amongst the new books published this term: Peter Holmes, along with Margaret Sharp in SPRU, has edited Strategies for New Technology. Two members of the School have contributed, and others have been associated with the research from which it stemmed. Myself, as Me Voy, was edited by Margaret McGowan and George Craig and contains contributions from other members of the School as well. It celebrated John Cruickshank's long achievements as founding professor of French. These books seem to me to epitomise Euro's diversity and strength.
Mathematics Master Classes

The seventh series of Royal Institution Mathematics Master Classes for gifted 12- and 13-year-olds were again held at the University on 10 successive Saturday mornings during the Autumn Term. As usual they were organised by the local branch of the Mathematical Association, with financial and other support from ICL Computers plc, and both East and West Sussex County Councils. Fifty-two boys and girls attended regularly and the lecturers included the following present and former university staff: Dr D J Ward (Lecturer in Mathematics and Education), Mr J M Taylor (Lecturer in Mathematics), Dr L R Matthews (former Lecturer in OR, now with British Airways Authority) and Professor W Ledermann (Emeritus Professor of Mathematics). There were four other lecturers, including Professor E C Zeeman, FRS, formerly Professor of Mathematics at Warwick and now Master of Herford College, Oxford. It was his Christmas Lectures in 1978 which inspired the start of Mathematics Master Classes at the Royal Institution in 1981. There are currently 19 different Mathematics Master Classes throughout the country and also some in other subjects, such as the Physics classes and the Technology classes at Sussex.

Professor Zeeman, who is fundamentally a topologist, demonstrated his extreme mathematical versatility by talking on Gyroscopes and Boomerangs — it is obvious from the photograph that both he and the majority of the audience thoroughly enjoyed his demonstrations.

Lynne Knight of Chailey School suffers from the effect of gyroscopic forces, whilst (from left) Jeremy Burgess (Heathfield School), Jonathan Halling (Bexhill H.S.) and Professor Zeeman look on. (Photo: Sue Bullock)

Professor Erart at Education Ministers’ meeting

Professor Michael Erart attended a Council of Europe Standing Conference of European Ministers of Education in Istanbul earlier this term. There were delegates from 23 Council of Europe nations, as well as observers from Poland and Hungary. The conference, which meets every two years, tackled the theme The information society: a challenge for educational policies? Professor Erart prepared one of the three expert reports for the conference and will be editing a book including the three reports and other conference documents and discussions.

He has also edited The International Encyclopedia of Educational Technology, recently published by Pergamon Press at £60.00.

Count of ten

The Bulletin is pleased to sponsor a new party game/quiz for the festive season — although historians (who should know the answer already) and Information Office staff may not join in.

So, using as many fingers and toes as you have/need/can get access to, count up to ten: ‘one, two, er three... ten.’ Now count the years in the decade. ‘81, 82...’ then work out when the decade ends and, if you still get the answer ‘89’, borrow someone else’s toes and start again.

Of course, if you still have to go to a mistaken ‘end of decade’ party, there’s always the consolation that there should be another one next year....
Noticeboard

☐ VACANCIES

The Personnel Office has issued the following summary of posts to be filled. Advertisements for these vacancies have been placed in local, and where appropriate, national papers, as well as being circulated to the relevant Section Heads and Union representatives for circulation to staff and noticeboards. Copies of these advertisements and further particulars, if available, as well as application forms, are available from the Personnel Office, Room 227, Sussex House. This list was compiled on 4th December and is subject to revision.

Teaching Faculty

Lecturership in Music, EAM
Lecturership in Law, EAM
Lecturerships in International Relations (2 posts)

Secretarial, Clerical and Related

Secretary, Residential Services, full-time, grade 3
Secretary, CAPE—MA/Bed Office, f/t, grade 3/4
Secretary, EAPS, f/t, grade 2/3
Clerk/Typist, EAPS, f/t or part-time, grade 2
Secretary to Research Teams, SPRU, f/t, grade 3
Secretary to Research Teams, SPRU, p/h, grade 3
Clerk, Registry, p/h, grade 3
Secretary, Student Admin., f/t, grade 3
Secretary, COGS, temporary, f/t or p/h, grade 2
Secretary, BIOLS, p/t, grade 2
Typist Receptionist, Student Admin, f/t, grade 2
Library Asst., School of Education, p/h, grade 2
Staff Records Clerk, p/h, grade 2
Welfare Receptionist/Asst., Students' Union, p/h, grade 2

General

Porters, on and off campus, f/t, grade D
Porters, MAPS, f/t, grade D
Nursery Nurse, f/t, grade 1
Cleaners, Residential Services, p/t
Catering Supervisor, Sports Pav., p/t
Teamakers, f/t

☐ WINTER GRADUATION CEREMONY

The Winter Graduation Ceremony will be held at 11.30 am on Wednesday, 24th January, 1990, in the Gardner Arts Centre. Any member of faculty who wishes to attend will be seated on the stage.

If you wish to attend, please write to Dr. D.E. Tutt, Sussex House, as soon as possible; please let him know if you also wish to borrow a black gown for the occasion.

☐ CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF ST. LUCIA

Come and join the students of Gothenburg University in celebrating the feast of St. Lucia tomorrow, Wednesday, 13th December, at 6 pm in the Grapevine Bar, Refectory building. There will be a candlelight procession followed by traditional Swedish carols. Mulled wine will be on sale. Children most welcome.

☐ TO ALL ANIMAL LOVERS

Please spare a thought for pets and help them to have a Happy Christmas. The Refectory Porters are once again asking for donations of non-perishable pet foods (no money, please, only pet food). Please hand in your contributions to Peter or Terry at the Refectory Porters Office — all donations will go to a pet charity.

☐ THANK YOU!

Poppy Appeal: a total of £313.58 was collected at the University for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Many thanks to all who helped and contributed.

Children in Need: The Accommodation Office would like to thank everyone who helped them raise £90 for Children in Need on 17th November — we couldn't have done it without you.

☐ HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM 1990-91

The 23rd edition of this handbook for students and their advisers was published this autumn by Longman (price £14.25) for the Association of Commonwealth Universities. A copy is held in the International Office, Sussex House.

☐ WHISTLER PRIZE ESSAY 1990

A prize of £100 is offered annually for an original essay on Natural History or Archaeology. It is endowed by the late Mrs. M.J. Whistler in memory of her husband, Hugh Whistler JP FZS, who had a special interest in ornithology. The prize is open to all students of the University of Sussex, including registered members of classes run by the Centre for Continuing Education.

Essays, which should not normally exceed 5,000 words, should be submitted by 30th April, 1990. Full particulars and guidelines for the submission of essays should be obtained from Mrs. J.D. Skeet, Centre for Continuing Education, EDB. Tel. (67) 8025.

☐ CLOSURE DATES

The University will be closed for Christmas and the New Year from Monday, 25th December to Friday, 29th December, inclusive, and on New Year's Day, Monday, 1st January, 1990.

☐ TERM DATES

This term ends on Friday, 15th December. The Spring Term runs from Monday, 8th January to Friday, 16th March, 1990. The Summer Term is from Monday, 23rd April to Friday, 29th June, 1990.

☐ NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

Peter Stone, Sub-Librarian, has been appointed Chairman of the newly-established Steering Committee of the UK Office for Library Networking.

Reading lists for next term should ideally already have been sent to the Teaching Support Office. Any lists only now available should be sent in as quickly as possible.

☐ HITACHI LECTURE 1989

'Collective Bargaining in Europe Beyond 1992' by Bill Callaghan, Head of the Economics Department, TUC. 6.15 pm tonight, 12th December, in Terrace Room, Refectory Building.

Bulletin

This is the last Bulletin of the Autumn Term. The Information Office would like to thank all those who have contributed in any way to the Bulletin during the term.

The first edition of the Spring Term will appear on Tuesday, 9th January, 1990. Copy for this issue must be received in the Information Office, Sussex House, tel. 8208, by no later than 4.00 pm on Monday, 18th December. Publication dates for the remainder of the Spring Term are: 30th January (copy date 22nd January), 20th February (12th February) and 13th March (5th March).

Please remember to let us know about news events — we can only inform you, if you inform us.

The Bulletin is for the information of staff and students of the University of Sussex. Published by the Information Office. Photographs by the Photographic and Design Unit. Printed by the University of Sussex Printing Unit.

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year

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