Physics research project with Japanese university

Professor Norman Dombey is to direct a three-year collaborative research project in theoretical physics between Sussex and Shizuoka University, with a grant from the Royal Society. This is the first such collaborative project in scientific research between Britain and Japan to be funded by the Royal Society.

It is hoped that this exchange agreement in research will lead to a more general exchange agreement between the two universities which will cover students as well as research.

The project, for which the Royal Society is providing a grant of £7,500, builds upon collaboration between Professor Mikio Nakahara of Shizuoka University and Sussex theoretical physicists. Professor Nakahara knows Britain — and Sussex — well. Most recently, he has just completed a 10-month stay at Sussex under the exchange agreement between the Royal Society and the Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science, and has been appointed a Visiting Professor of Physics by Sussex. Collaboration began in 1985 when Mikio Nakahara came here as a post-doctoral research fellow on an SERC-sponsored grant entitled "Applications of Field Theory to Condensed State Physics" under Norman Dombey and Dr. David Bailin. Several important papers by Mikio Nakahara and Dr. David Waxman were written on Superfluid. He before the Japanese researcher returned home to take up his appointment as Head of the Physics Institute at Shizuoka University.

At Shizuoka he began to work on topological singularities of the solutions of state of superfluid helium three (the rare isotope of helium), while at Sussex Dr. Waxman and Dr. Gareth Williams have been engaged for the past two years in similar work.

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Royal Geographical Society prize for Helen Rendell

Dr. Helen Rendell, Senior Lecturer in Geography, has won the Peek Award of the Royal Geographical Society. The award was to be presented to her yesterday during the Society’s annual general meeting.

The award has been made to Dr. Rendell for her contributions to the study of seismology and geographical archaeology. In announcing the award, the Society described her as: “a young geographer who has already gained a worldwide reputation for her work on thermoluminescence dating — a technique originally developed to date pottery, which is being adapted to work out the age of sediments.”

As reported in March, Dr. Rendell, Professor Peter Townsend and Dr. David Betts have been awarded a grant of £188,575 from the Science and Engineering Research Council to build a totally new physics spectrometer system to improve the accuracy of the technique, which is particularly useful for dating the wind-blown dust that covers archaeological sites.

Last year, Helen Rendell received the Publication Award for the best paper published by the American Association of Engineering Geologists.

Public lectures on environmental issues

A new series of lectures on environmental issues has been introduced this term; all the lectures are open to members of the general public as well as to staff and students.

On Tuesday, 19th June, the second in the series will be given by David Streeter, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Science), on “The role and future of our National Parks”. Mr. Streeter, a former Dean of the School of Biological Sciences and a frequent broadcaster, was recently appointed a member of the panel set up by the Countryside Commission to advise on the future of the National Parks. He will be speaking at 6.30 pm in the Molecular Sciences Lecture Theatre.

The first of the lectures was given last month by Professor Geoff Leigh on “Drinking Water and the Nitrate Story”. More lectures will be given later in the year — and all will take place in the evening to make it easier for members of the public to attend. Each lecture is followed by an opportunity for questions and a discussion.

Sold out!

This year’s Summer Ball looks set to build further on the success of previous years. Tickets for the Ball, being held on 15th June in Stanner Park, are sold out.

Gatecrashers, ticket touts and other undesirable need not attempt to get in without paying — as usual the Ball will be stewarded carefully.

On Sunday, 17th June, there is to be a cream tea for overseas students, also in Stanner Park. Tickets for that event, organised by the University and the University of Sussex Society, are available from the International Office, Sussex House, at £2.00 each.
Letters to the Editor

Mike Lewis (Letter to the Editor, Bulletin 15/5/90) would do well to remember two things:

1) no one working on campus lives in Brighton or Lewes with easy access to public transport;

2) for some of us (working mothers, especially) time is of the essence. My son already spends two and a half hours after school, at home alone or with friends, until I return, by car, at 6.15 pm. Use of public transport would extend this to 7.00 pm or later.

Further, there is no way, on a secretarial salary, I could (or would) pay £10 a week for car parking.

Gill Partridge
SPRU

I feel I cannot allow Mike Lewis’s letter in the Bulletin of 15th May, concerning future developments on campus to accommodate projected student numbers, to pass without comment. It has certainly generated much adverse comment from staff in the Library to his suggestions, from which we disassociate ourselves. Most of us these days are concerned enough to want to conserve the ‘natural beauty of the delightful rural setting we are fortunate enough to work in but we are totally in disagreement with the suggestions for discouraging staff and students alike from bringing their cars on to campus.

I can speak only from the point of view of Library staff, where there are a very large number of part-timers, very few of whom arrive and leave work at a time to coincide with colleagues who perhaps live in a nearby area, thereby making car-sharing impracticable. Also there is no direct public transport service from many districts of Brighton and surrounding areas to the University, so discounting the ‘public transport’ factor. This leaves us with the third option which was to cycle to work. All very well if you happen to live in a fairly flat area — not very likely in a town like Brighton — or if you live where the roads are wide enough not to constitute a danger or quiet enough to make this feasible.

Personally I am reluctant to daily risk life and limb to cycle to and from work via Coldean Lane!

Surely the suggestion to charge £2 per day for the privilege of parking on campus cannot be serious.

I cannot speak from a Faculty staff viewpoint (never financially having been in a position so to do), but I cannot see many Clerical and Related personnel being able to afford such a scheme. If this were ultimately implemented I can foresee droves of staff feeling this to be the final straw and resigning. I am not sure where all the replacement staff would come from as I think we are all aware of the difficulties encountered in attracting and retaining hard-working, loyal staff — most younger people (whom we need to attract if we are to keep the University ‘alive’) preferring to stay in the town centre with the attractions that offers, plus in most cases much higher salaries. What worries me not a little is that somebody in Administration may read Mike’s letter and think charging would be an easy way to increase the University’s revenue.

Take heart though, Mike, as I am sure you will be pleased to learn that we are all agreed on your last comment. We welcome the suggestion to support a scheme to recycle (excuse the pun) the enormous amount of waste paper which we as an organisation generate.

Rita Randall (Grade 3, Clerical)
(on behalf of Clerical & Related staff and those Faculty staff I have had an opportunity to speak with)

I should like to reply to Mike Lewis’s typically male solution to the problem of car parking space on campus. Many women only have the time and energy to undertake out of town paid employment because of the convenience of private transport. How would he like to take children to and from school, carry heavy bags of shopping and do the various other tasks women have to fit in whilst working — and on a bicycle?

As for the daily car parking rate of £2, no doubt it seems ‘reasonable’ on his salary, but for the majority of low paid women clerical workers it seems excessive.

In this era of ‘market forces’ some people seem to have overlooked the social factors. ‘Each according to his/her need’ should also be taken into account when trying to solve this problem.

Marlene Taylor
Library

Small ads

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED for foreign students attending the EFL Pre-Sessional Course at the Language Centre for July and August. Single rooms; breakfast and evening meal to be provided, plus lunch at weekends. Brighton or Lewes area — must be easily accessible by public transport. £65.00 per week. Please contact the Secretary, ext. 8006, if you can help. OSCILLOSCOPE, Philips, c. 5 yrs. old, 150 MHz, 2nd Time Base, 2CH, 2-Modulation, Hold-Off, etc. Mint condition. Reasonable offers. Joerg Parczen, pg/ph, SPRU or 774420.

FIVE-BEDROOM house to let in central Brighton, £750 p.c.m. Two bathrooms, washer, drier, dishwasher. Ideal for a family. Available 1/9/90. Tel. 563989.

TEAK sideboard, Nathan, 84" x 18", stands 31" tall. Two sets of cupboards and central row of 3 drawers, v.g. condition. Tel. Dr. I. Green, ext. 8404, Dr. M. Green, ext. 8120, or 303676 eves.

FOR SALE: semi-detached bungalow, Falmer Road, Woodingdean. 3 double bedrooms, large rear garden, close to shops/school/buses. £84,000. Tel. 309359.

FRIDGE FOR SALE: Electrolux refrigerator, excellent condition. only selling because of new kitchen. **** 13 litre freezer compartment. £30.00. Buyer to collect. Tel. ext. 8208.

FOR SALE: sunny walled garden complete with eminently desirable Edwardian terraced house near Fivesways, Brighton. 3 beds, all mod cons (no Avocado or Whisper Pink) and sea view from chimney tops. One careful lady owner over last 6 years, now leaving area. Must sell!!! Agents want £84,950; discount probable for a private sale. Contact Caroline Broadway, ext. 8384.

FOR SALE, Coldean, Brighton: 2 bedroom semi-detached house, gch, garage. Pleasant position overlooking fields. V. convenient for Universities. Reduced to £29,950, no chain. Contact Roger Sinnhuber, ext. 8394, or 454239 (eves.).

FURNISHED accommodation wanted by Professor from German university from mid-August to mid-October. Self-contained with 2 bedrooms and sitting room, or one bedroom and large sitting room, in or nr. Brighton. Rent c. £500 pcm, negotiable. Contact J. Abun-Nasr, c/o A. Imam, Afras, tel. 501443.

WANTED 4 bedroom house (pref. in countryside/Lewes) to rent for 1 yr. from end August for Visiting Fellow at SPRU. Contact Andrew Barnett, ext. 5560, or Gill Partridge, ext. 8172.


WANTED from mid-July to mid-August, house or flat with garden in Brighton/Lewes for visiting researcher & family. Tel. ext. 2469 or 500128.
studies of topological excitations in superfluid helium three and other systems.

The Sussex and Japanese researchers are at present working on several related topics which build upon the results already obtained. In particular, they plan to collaborate on:
- textures and topological solitons in superfluid $^3$He;
- solitonic excitations in linear polymers; and
- application of Skyrmions to superfluid systems including high temperature superconductors.

It is expected that recent work initiated at Sussex by Professor Nakahara, Dr. Waxman and Dr. Williams can be used to find important new results on all the above topics. Close contact between the Shizuoka and Sussex groups is seen as essential for the success of these studies. The Sussex researchers each have plans for visits to Shizuoka — Gareth Williams is spending a month there this summer.

It is also expected that someone from Sussex will visit Shizuoka in the near future to discuss the setting up of a student exchange agreement. Shizuoka University was founded in 1949 as one of Japan's national universities and has a number of similarities with Sussex. It has a national and international reputation in education and research, and, like Sussex, is based in a coastal resort town about an hour from the capital city.

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**Gardner Centre**

**Hugh the Drover**

Brighton-based Heber Opera returns to the Gardner Centre on 13th to 16th June with its new production of *Hugh the Drover* by Ralph Vaughan Williams, directed by Roger Clow and with Michael Witheras as Musical Director. The production is in association with The Wandering Minstrels who have been frequent visitors to the Gardner Centre with productions such as *The Merry Widow, Die Fledermaus* and *The Gondoliers*. Roger Clow says of *Hugh the Drover*: "This is a very exciting project, not only for Heber Opera and the Wandering Minstrel's by also for the residents of Brighton as it gives them a very rare opportunity to see and hear this colourful and romantic opera which teems with English folk tunes."

Heber Opera was formed last year when it presented *The Rape of Lucretia* by Benjamin Britten. This latest production continues the company's policy of presenting English operas which are invariably unjustly neglected in view of their more famous European counterparts. The Wandering Minstrels was established 15 years ago and is known for its innovative productions of Gilbert and Sullivan operettas.

*Hugh the Drover* is set at the time of the Napoleonic wars. The story starts in a Cotswold village — it is the day of the fair and all the village is assembled for the festivities. Before the day is out, Mary, the heroine, has fallen in love with Hugh. Hugh has beaten the brutal John the Butler in a prize fight, but has then been falsely accused of being one of Napoleon's spies. With Hugh in the stocks and Mary about to be married to John the Butler, a happy end seems unlikely. But the sergeant called in to take Hugh away knows more about Hugh than the villagers and the story he tells turns the tables on John the Butler. The story does end happily after all.

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**Disciplinary Panel**

The Disciplinary Panel, consisting of four faculty and one student member, met on 30th April 1990 to consider two cases of alleged discourtesy.

A second-year student in MOLS was found guilty by the Panel of conduct seriously prejudicial to good order and discipline in the University in that he assaulted a female student, and he was fined £500.

In the second case, a first-year student in EAPS was found guilty by the Panel of conduct seriously prejudicial to good order and discipline in the University in that he persistently harassed and intruded on the privacy of a female student. The Panel decided to take no further action in this case.

The Panel met again on 4th May 1990, to consider a charge against another student. The Panel found the charge proven.
Noticeboard

RECENT BOOKS

Recent books by Sussex authors include:

Housing Africa’s Urban Poor, edited by Philip Amis and Peter Lloyd. Manchester UP for the International African Institute. £40.00.

The South East from AD1000, by Peter Brandon and Brian Short. Longman. Paperback. £13.00.


Handbook of Applicable Mathematics Supplement, chief editor: W. Lederman; editors: W. Lederman, Emily Lloyd, Steven Novaja, Carol Alexander. Wiley. £52.50.

Obtainable from Sussex University Bookshop.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science will be held at the University College of Swansea from 10th to 24th August. The theme is “The Environment”. For further information, contact Dr. Connie Martin, Meetings Manager, 071-494-3326.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

— The first day of term was the busiest ever recorded in terms of the number of books returned from loan.

— The Library will be open from 10.30 am to 5.00 pm for members of Open University Summer Schools on the following summer vacation Sundays:

15th, 22nd and 29th July
5th, 12th and 19th August

Sussex users are welcome to use it at those times but should note that NO SERVICES will be available, in particular books will not be issued or accepted back from loan.

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 newspapers, 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 25th May and is subject to revision.

Teaching Faculty

Chair in German
Lectureships in Computer or Control Engineering.
Lectureship in Artificial Intelligence
Lectureship in Educational Psychology
Permanent and Temporary Lectureships in Psychology — Social Sciences
Lectureship in French
Tutorial Fellow in French
Tutorial Fellow in Russian Language

Other Faculty

Psychotherapist, part-time
Assistant Accountant
Secretarial, Clerical and Related
School Secretary, Social Sciences, full-time, grade 5/6
Executive Assistant to the Vice-Chancellor, f/t, grade 5
Senior Accounts Clerk, Business Accounts, f/t, grade 4
Central Service Supervisor, SPRU, f/t, grade 3/4
Secretary to Research Teams, SPRU, f/t, grade 3
Secretary, Language Centre, f/t, grade 3
Secretary, MAPS, f/t, grade 3
Clerk, Undergraduate Office, f/t, grade 3
Recruitment Assistant, p/t, grade 3
Secretary, MOLS, f/t or p/t, grade 2
Clerk/Typist, University Bookshop, f/t, grade 2
Superannuation Asst, Financial Accounts, f/t or p/t, grade 2
Resource Asst, Careers Advisory Service, temp. 6 months, f/t, grade 1/2

Technical Staff

Network Technician, Computing Service, f/t

General

Cleaners, Residential Services, p/t
Catering Supervisor, Catering Services, f/t
Teamworkers, f/t
Porter, MAPS, f/t

TERM DATES 1990-91

8th October - 14th December
7th January - 15th March
22nd April - 28th June

FULBRIGHT AWARDS

The Fulbright Commission offers awards in 1991-92 for British postgraduate students to spend a year of Advanced Study/Research in the United States covering travel and maintenance. For details and application forms (not available until July), send a stamped addressed 9 x 13 ins. envelope to: The British Program Administrator, The Fulbright Commission, 6 Porter Street, London, WIM 2BR. Closing date for applications: 26th October.

LUNCHTIME MUSIC

Meeting House Chapel
Tuesdays, 1.15 pm
Today, 5th June — Gavin Ashenden and Matthew Bright — Telemann Double Flute Concerto
12th June — John Birch (organ)
19th June — Christopher Stormont (organ)

Playing Fields Pavilion
Fridays, 1.00 pm
Sussex Trugs play mainstream/traditional jazz.

EARTHWATCH EUROPE

Earthwatch is an international, non-profit organisation (registered as a charity in the UK) which supports strategically important, labour intensive, post-doctoral field research in the sciences and humanities through a system of volunteers who pay to take part. It finds 3,000 volunteers annually to join over 100 research projects in 46 countries. Further details are available from Earthwatch Europe, Belsyre Court, 57 Woodstock Road, Oxford, OX2 6HU.

Bulletin

The Bulletin is published every three weeks during term. The next edition, and the last for this term, will appear on Tuesday, 26th June. 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 June.

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

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