BRITISH ACADEMY AWARDS SUCCESS

Sussex has again done well in the competition for British Academy Postgraduate Studentships in the Humanities.

For the third year running, Sussex was the highest ranking university in the country, outside the ‘golden triangle’ of Oxford, Cambridge and London, for the number of awards received in the 1991 competition. Sussex received 41 major and state awards.

Sussex’s ‘high placing’ and ‘thriving postgraduate schools’ were referred to in a paper for the British Academy’s Postgraduate Studentships Selection Committee.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

For the story behind the cartoon, see page 3, column 1

POPULAR CAPITALISM — ‘A MYTH’

‘Popular capitalism’ — the ‘big idea’, of the 1980s — turns out, sociologically, to have been much ado about nothing.

That is the conclusion of a major study by Professor Peter Saunders, of the University’s Centre for Urban and Regional Research, in which he evaluates the arguments for and against privatisation by looking at the impact of water privatisation on members of the public.

Over 800 people were interviewed three months before the sale and were then reinterviewed nearly two years later. The study, which is analysed in a working paper, found that:

— Privatisation was massively unpopular before it happened (only 11 per cent approved and 76 per cent disapproved), and it is still widely disapproved of today (21 per cent approve but 60 per cent still disapprove). Surprisingly, 54 per cent of those interviewed this year said they would support a proposal to take water back into ‘public ownership’.

— Many people (68 per cent) believe that privatisation led to price rises, and only 4 per cent believe that the new arrangements are improving water quality. On the question of the environment, however, the public is less negative. While 55 per cent of people believed in 1989 that the environment would suffer at the hands of the newly-privatised plc, only 28 per cent now believe that this actually happened.

— Although many pundits assume that the new ‘army of shareholders’ represents an electoral support base for the Conservatives, there is no evidence from this study to support the claim. People who buy shares become more supportive of privatisation, but this does not change the way they vote. Looking at those who bought shares for the first time between 1989 and 1991 (whether in water, electricity or some other stock), they voted 38 per cent Conservative and 24 per cent Labour before they bought any shares, and 35 per cent Conservative/21 per cent Labour after buying shares. It seems that there are few votes to be won or lost in the privatisation issue.

continued on page 3
CAR PARKING — WHAT DO WE DO?

The problems of car-parking on the campus are too obvious to require elaboration; at peak times on several days of the week no parking spaces are available and at most times on all weekdays no spaces are available in some areas of the campus.

Whereas the problem is obvious, the solutions are not. The Management Committee has had a preliminary discussion of the issues and factors involved. Amongst other outcomes, it asked me to write an article for the Bulletin inviting any user of the campus to submit views on ways in which to tackle the problem.

PHYSICAL FACTORS
The physical aspects of the problem include control of access to a site with two main entrances and to which vehicles can gain access at many other points across grass. There is no doubt that motorists would use any access available if the main entrances were controlled. Control of vehicular access to the site would thus mean ‘fencing’ much of the perimeter — a non-starter for reasons of cost, social acceptance, aesthetics and the probable lack of permission from external authorities.

Another problem is the number of car-parking spaces to be provided. This involves considerations of land usage, cost and environmental v. social demand (and marketing) factors. Up to this session, the University has maintained a reasonable balance between supply and demand (probably including demand from some people using the campus only for parking) but with the proposed expansion of the University the supply would have to be increased significantly to meet demand.

The land usage factor prevents us from simply expanding the provision to meet free social demand. The University can, and undoubtedly will, create further car parking spaces (at a cost of approximately £800 per place) but not in sufficient numbers to meet demand.

These factors indicate the need to develop control over car-parking, through combinations of technology and manning which:

- accept open access by cars to the campus;
- regulate access to car-parking spaces;
- prevent car-parking in unauthorised places.

MARKETING, CUSTOMERS AND PERSONNEL
Environmentalists might argue that the University should be in the vanguard of the enforced education of people towards much greater usage of public transport (and even that such a declared policy would have marketing advantages). Short of that view, actions should take into account the following factors:

* Visitors to the University need to be able to park their cars until such time as public expectations about that ability are changed generally, rather than by the University. Thus, the University needs an identified and controlled (probably staffed) car park for visitors.
* The University is competing in the admissions market with universities in lower-cost parts of the country; it should consider the adverse effect on its position in that market if students cannot bring their cars onto the campus or have to pay a price for so doing which removes the present economic benefit to them of group travel to the campus by car rather than by public transport. The University should not suddenly introduce a policy of restriction or pricing without warning.

SUMMARY
Positive action has to be put in place. For the foreseeable future the University cannot control access to the site. Further car parking spaces should be provided but they will not be sufficient to meet peak demand.

The costs of controlling access to car parks and policing parking in unauthorised places are inevitable but significant (and would be increased if the University subsidised public transport services to Brighton, Lewes and other areas in order to reduce the social demand from motorists). Controls will have effects upon marketing and personnel strategies and cannot be introduced suddenly; there is a difference between controls based on the rationing of access and controls by price.

The costs could be met from the following sources or a combination of them:

- The University budget, i.e. by reducing allocation to the main budgetary centres;
- by charging for car-parking at a standard rate or rates differentiated by categories of University member;
- by franchising car-parking on site to a commercial company.

* Staff have been used to free car-parking, and the University needs to be careful before depressing further their economic situation and morale by the introduction of restrictions and charges. If charges are introduced it might be, at least for certain categories of staff, that they should be paid from the unit budgets?

COSTS
Control over car-parking on a site with open access will involve significant costs; any notion of profits from such charges should be put aside. Controls will be a drain upon the University budget and possibly the pockets of staff and students. As a minimum:

* The costs of creating and manning a visitors’ car park will fall upon the University and thereby reduce the funds allocated to budgetary centres.
* The costs of preventing parking in unauthorised places will require physical barriers funded from the University budget (and which will probably by contrary to the University’s environmental policy, e.g. by increasing ‘Fences’ on campus).
* The costs of having controlled (by technology or manpower) car parks and preventing car parking in unauthorised places will probably involve contribution from both the University and car owners.

CONCLUSION
Anyone wishing to put forward views, especially on solutions, should address their contributions to:

- The Car Parking Survey
- The Information Office
- Sussex House

Dr. Geoff Lockwood
Registrar and Secretary
BESSBOROUGH AWARD PRESENTED

Jillbob Newton, a second year student in COGS, has won the Bessborough Award for the best paper on Technology and the Arts.

The Bessborough Award is open to all students of the University and is the gift of the Earl of Bessborough, whose stately home Stanstead Park, is a charity foundation with strong educational links.

Before coming to university to study Linguistics, Jillbob worked as a technical writer, during which time she developed an interest in human and computer interaction. In her prize-winning essay, she examines the psychological effects of various types of computer language.

Lord Bessborough presented Jillbob with the £1,000 award at a luncheon at Stanstead Park. Also present were Professor Fred Bayley, Professor Richard Coates and Dr. Mike Sharples. Commenting on her work, Dr. Sharples said: "Jillbob's essay is a witty and scholarly study of an important topic. The more computers take over parts of our daily lives, the more important it is that their communications with us are informative and polite."

Award-winner Jillbob Newton with (from left) Lady Bessborough, Dr. Sharples, Lord Bessborough, Professor Bayley and Professor Coates.

continued from front page

— More than half (56 per cent) of those who bought water shares are pleased with the returns they have made, and many of those who bought with the intention of selling again to make a quick profit have, in fact, held on to their shares. Of all the buyers, 68 per cent still owned their shares 18 months later, and most of them (88 per cent) have gone on to buy other shares. It seems that privatisation creates a momentum and does encourage greater interest in share ownership.

— Nigel Lawson claimed in 1988 that, 'New shareholders follow the prices of their shares in the newspapers, receive regular information about how the company is performing, can attend the AGMs ... That is real ownership.' The study suggests Lawson was over-optimistic. None of the buyers in this sample had attended an AGM, although 52 per cent claimed to have read the annual report and 24 per cent said they had voted by proxy. While 70 per cent said they regularly checked their share price, more than half could not estimate what the current price was.

As Professor Saunders concluded, 'While small-scale shareholding is still growing in Britain, it does not bring about the political and sociological changes which its supporters have hoped for. Neither customers nor share buyers seem much affected by privatisation. Popular capitalism appears to have been a myth.'
AROUND THE SCHOOLS

COGS

People who organise academic conferences in exotic locations are sometimes chagrined to find the participants drifting away to see the sights, but there was no danger of that when Geoffrey Sampson of COGS took part in a working meeting of the Text Encoding Initiative at Myrdal, Norway, in mid-November.

The meeting was held in an isolated hotel at 3,000 feet in a remote mountain area North-East of Bergen; the scenery was very beautiful, but, with 15 degrees of frost at midday and deep snow on the ground, it was best admired through the windows!

The Text Encoding Initiative, sponsored by a number of US agencies together with the European Commission, is said to be the largest single research project ever in the arts area. It is developing guidelines for the processing of human language by computer.

At present, word-processing and computerised typesetting are one of the leading areas of computer application, but there are no agreed standards for representing the subtle complexities of human language in electronic terms. The symbols on a computer keyboard are few compared to the range found in books and newspapers; and there are no conventions for representing the logical structure of a document as a hierarchy of paragraphs, chapters, headings, footnotes, and so forth, which may be realised on paper in different ways according to a publisher’s typographical preferences.

The Text Encoding Initiative will produce standard coding conventions, allowing documents to be generated in ‘marked up’ form from the moment they are first entered at a keyboard. To commercial companies and government agencies involved in publishing documents, this promises to be a great labour-saving boon. (Authors may have a different perspective: anyone who writes for publication will soon be finding the texture of their working life regimented in ways never before known.)

In three days of intensive work, interrupted only by magnificent meals featuring reindeer steak and many kinds of pickled fish, the Myrdal meeting took the Text Encoding Initiative a significant stage closer to its goal (which is due to be completed in 1992). The message is clear: if you want hard work out of your academics, take them North!

MAPS

The pioneering and highly successful exchange scheme which allows third-year Physics students to spend their final two terms at the University of Uppsala in Sweden, is to be extended. It is now also available to students studying Physics with Astronomy, who will carry out project work at the Institute of Astronomy in Uppsala.

It is likely that the scheme will form part of a new ERASMUS Inter-University Co-operation programme, between physicists in Sussex, Uppsala, the Universities of Stockholm, Linköping and Hamburg, the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, University College Dublin and the Free University of Amsterdam.

CCS

Jane Cowan, Lecturer in Social Anthropology, (pictured here) joined CCS this term from Swansea. Dr. Cowan grew up in Cleveland, Ohio, but has been living on this side of the waters for nine years. She says she is delighted to join CCS, where her own interests in culture, gender, power and identity, and in feminist and critical theory, are shared by many colleagues and where her inclinations to transgress disciplinary boundaries in her reading, writing and thinking are positively encouraged.

Dr Sampson, Reader in Computer Science, joined the University in September. He was formerly a self-employed language engineering consultant.

After 16 years in the Centre for Continuing Education, Dr. Dorothy Jerrome was surprised and pleased to find that her skills as an adult educator were still in demand when she moved across to CCS and the Social Policy and Social Work subject group: seven of her eleven first year undergraduates are over 30. Of her 74 students this term, only 12 fall into the traditional category. “Of the rest, one of the oldest is a finalist I first encountered as a diffident ‘woman returner’ at a community course in Hastings, about 12 years ago.”

Carol Dyhouse also transferred from the Education Building to CCS. Formerly a member of ICAPE, she is now a full-time Lecturer in History. She is currently working on a project which explores the history of women teachers and students in British universities between 1870 and 1939.
TOAD NO LONGER IN A HOLE

The future of the natterjack toad looks secure following a Sussex scientist's plea to Euro officials in Strasbourg last week.

Amphibian expert Dr. Trevor Beebee told Council of Europe members that the natterjack — one of the rarest amphibians in the world — was under threat in Ireland because of unhindered golf-course development.

Dr. Beebee was asked to visit County Kerry, in the Southwest of the Irish Republic, this summer to do an on-the-spot appraisal of the problem. In a report, which he presented to the Council, he warned that the development of golf courses on the Maharees peninsula, around Castle Gregory, had disastrous implications for the natterjack, which is the only species of toad still found in Ireland.

The natterjack — a particularly noisy creature, recognisable by a yellow stripe on its back — is found in only 17 countries, all of which are within Europe. In Britain it likes to make its home in selected coastal areas, often in sand dunes. However, unlike in England where most of those sites are protected in recognition of the natterjack's dwindling numbers, in Ireland the toad has, until now, enjoyed no such protection. The problem has been compounded by the fact that golf courses can be built in Ireland without planning permission.

"The destruction of dunes has caused substantial damage which could lead to the extinction of the natterjack on the Maharees — one of its last remaining strongholds," Dr. Beebee, a biochemist, had warned.

The Council of Europe has no legal enforcement powers and Dr. Beebee had been skeptical as to the outcome of the meeting. He was, therefore, delighted when representatives of the Irish Government agreed to accept all his recommendations. "They are going to develop a strategy to make planning permission a legal requirement for golf courses and intend to purchase land to be used as nature reserves for the natterjack," he explained. "It all went remarkably well and hopefully the situation will improve now."

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT POLICY UNDER SCRUTINY

With endless rounds of high level talks and passionate disputes dominating the headlines, the political and economic questions raised by the European Union have been assured a high profile. While not denying the significance of those issues, Sussex researcher Roy Williams is keen to ensure that the environmental implications of the Single Market are not overlooked.

Roy Williams, of the Institute of Continuing and Professional Education (ICAPE), is currently co-ordinating a project to develop an educational approach for teaching about the environment in the light of the Single European Act.

As he explained, the widening of the European community set to take place over the next decade will have a significant effect on the state of the European environment and its exploitation as a resource for future economic growth. This, in turn, will influence the social, political and cultural arrangements and forms that exist within the diverse countries of Europe.

"If the economic and political enlargement of Europe is to proceed without those tensions and conflicts which engender formalism and debilitating rivalry," he said, "then the realisation of the environment as a common heritage and ecological harmony as a unity must be central to the message that education conveys for the future of the European community."

Entitled "Diversity within Unity: An Approach to Education for the Environment of Europe", the project will take the form of a cooperative programme of research involving people and institutions from selected member states of the EC. It aims to provide information about the environmental state of Europe and to link this with the converging economic, political and social policies being developed and implemented by the EC.

The programme will include critical evaluation of EC environmental policies and their implementation and also case studies representing environmental issues and concerns together with an appropriate methodology for their implementation within educational systems.

Among the fundamental premises of the project, said Roy Williams, is the notion that the care and protection of the European environment can serve as a metaphor for the need for the unity of Europe as a whole — economically, politically and socially.

However, he is keen to stress that the diversity of the different countries and cultures should not be ignored. "The acceptance that all the countries of Europe must enjoin to preserve and protect its natural resources does not deny each the right to bring to the common cause different experiences, different understandings, and different perceptions and perspectives in respect of environmental issues and problems," he said.

The project, which will run for two years, is being jointly funded by the Commission of the European Communities and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). It is being conducted in association with the Education Network for Environment and Development which was set up at Sussex in 1987 by a group of people who were worried by the speed at which environmental destruction was proceeding and the slowness of our society to respond. Funded by the WWF, the Network aims to promote debate at all levels, from schoolchildren through to those instrumental in deciding environmental policy.
EXCHANGING IDEAS WITH SOVIET SOCIOLOGISTS

Sussex sociologist William Outhwaite will be swapping ideas with his Soviet counterparts as part of a sociological conference in Moscow later this month. Dr. Outhwaite is one of a number of British sociologists invited to attend the conference, which has been organised by the British Sociological Club in Moscow (BSCM), with the help of the Soviet Sociological Foundation, the Russia Sociological Association, the Soros Foundation and the Institute of Sociology.

The BSCM was set up earlier this year, following several successful British summer schools for Soviet sociologists. It aims to promote further scientific and social contacts between the Soviet and British sociological communities.

Entitled 'The Social Critique of the Theory of Modernisation: Transforming Europe and the Soviet Union,' the eight day colloquium will include papers by both the British and Soviet sociologists. Dr. Outhwaite, who teaches in EURO, will be speaking on the subject of 'Critical Theory and the Theory of Modernisation'.

COMPUTING APPOINTMENT

Professor Gerald Gazdar has accepted nomination by the British Academy to serve on the new ISC Networking Policy Council. This is the body which will determine policy for academic computer networking in the UK—JANET and SUPERJANET.

LECTURES IN MILAN

John Barrow, Professor of Astronomy, is in Italy this week to deliver the Sigma-Tau Laterza 'Lezioni Italiane'.

He is giving a series of three lectures at the University of Milan under the title 'Why is the World Mathematical?'

NEWS FROM THE GARDNER CENTRE

Kenneth Grahame's classic story The Wind in the Willows is this year's Christmas show at the Gardner Centre. The endearing tale of the creatures of the riverbank has become a firm favourite with children... and adults alike!

Adapted into a musical treat by local hit-writer Mike Carter, the show runs from 11 December to 4 January. Fantastic sets, colourful costumes and catchy songs will make this a Christmas show to remember. The cast, too, has more than a touch of authenticity with actor and international oarsman Lewis Hancock (pictured here with Mole, Toad and Badger) ready to put his rowing skills into practise in the role of Ratty.

Debbie Bradstock, who works in Personnel in Sussex House, with the cake she has made for a raffle in support of this year's Meeting House Christmas Appeal.

The intricate and delicate design is all Debbie's own handiwork and took around a month to complete. In her spare time, she enjoys making beautiful cakes for weddings and other celebrations. The cake pictured here was a particular challenge she said—and it could be yours if you have the winning ticket! Raffle tickets are on sale in the Meeting House and from Debbie in Room 227, Sussex House (£1 for a strip of five or 20p each).

The winning ticket will be drawn at the University party on the evening of Thursday, 19 December. This year's Meeting House Appeal is in aid of the Cambodian Trust to provide artificial limbs for those maimed in the Cambodian civil war.

PARTIES

The University Christmas party for students, employees and friends will take place on Thursday, 19 December, in the Falmer Bar—Hot House, from 5.30 pm to midnight. Tickets: £1.00 in advance, £1.50 on the door, to include buffet, raffle and disco. Tickets available in most buildings.

A campus Christmas party to meet fellow students and their families who will be here over the vacation will take place on Friday, 20 December at 12.45pm in the Meeting House. Admission is free and all are welcome.

Anne Burrill
INTERNATIONAL PRIZE FOR PROFESSOR KROTO

Professor Harry Kroto has just been awarded the 1992 International Prize for New Materials by the American Physical Society. The prize, which is shared with Professor Robert Curl and Professor Richard Smalley, will be presented at the March 1992 Meeting of the American Physical Society in Indianapolis.

The purpose of the prize is to recognise and encourage outstanding achievement in the science and application of new materials. The citation by the Prize Committee reads: “For the discovery of C60, a new form of carbon.”

MORE THAN £700 FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

Garry Majors, the Estates Porter/Driver, collected the magnificent sum of £702.22 from around campus for the Children in Need appeal last month. This is nearly £200 more than he raised last year. Garry would like to thank everyone for their generosity.

TRAINING CENTRE FOR THE ARTS INDUSTRIES

A Regional Training Centre (RTC) for people working in the arts industries is to be set up within the University’s Centre for Continuing Education.

The decision to establish the RTC follows a pilot project designed to assess the need for arts management training in the region. The Arts Council, Southern Arts and South East Arts have agreed to provide over £100,000 to fund the Centre — which will be known as Arts Training South — for an initial two-year period.

There are currently three other such RTCs in the country — based at Leicester and Newcastle Polytechnics and Liverpool University — and organisers believe this latest Centre will provide an invaluable service for the South.

As Keith Pickard, Programme Director of Arts Training South, explained, the Centre will provide for the training and educational needs of arts administrators and managers in the areas covered by both Southern Arts and South East Arts.

“It is a very large region — stretching up to Milton Keynes and across from Kent to Wiltshire — with a diverse range of often small and medium-sized arts organisations,” he said.

Keith Pickard’s role will be to develop a training and educational programme appropriate to regional needs before Arts Training South is formally launched in May 1992.

BACK TO KENYA

Sussex economist Diana Hunt is hoping to revisit parts of Kenya’s Eastern Province early next year to track down households which took part in her research work almost 20 years ago.

If all goes well, Dr. Hunt should receive a grant of £183,000 from the Economic and Social Committee for Overseas Research (ESCOR) to carry out a new project to measure the extent of changes in production patterns and income levels in a semi-arid region of Eastern Kenyan. If she obtains the necessary clearance from the Kenyan government to undertake the research — a governmental requirement in most developing countries — Dr. Hunt, a Lecturer in AFRAS, will be leaving for Kenya in February.

The earlier study, which Dr. Hunt undertook during a secondment from Sussex to the Institute for Development Studies at the University of Nairobi, involved a detailed study of household production patterns, income levels, expenditure, diet and health. It also looked at local responses to government agricultural policy interventions.

As well as assessing the changes which have taken place over the last two decades, she also hopes to establish the impact on the region of the introduction of individual freehold land tenure. “One of the consequences of this, which had not been anticipated,” said Dr. Hunt, “is that because land can now be sold, there appears to be more cash in circulation in the area. I want to look at how the money has been utilised.”

According to Dr. Hunt, this is an issue which has received little recent attention in the developing world but has significance for the many parts of Sub-Saharan Africa in which individual land tenure has yet to be introduced.

During her stay she also intends to examine the nature and dynamic potential of the various linkages between the farm and non-farm sectors, both within the local economy and between it and the rest of Kenya’s national economy.

Dr. Hunt, who is hoping to be accompanied by a research fellow, has visited Eastern Kenya twice recently. She is, therefore, already aware that there have been a number of other important changes in the region. “There have been notable developments in the infrastructure,” she said. “Areas that were previously isolated and remote remain so but they do, at least, now have some links with the outside world. For example, some townships have electricity supplies and telephone lines.”

Although the Centre will be based at the University, he anticipates that courses will be run throughout the region.

The programme envisaged is a broad one, covering short courses; seminars and conferences on issues and themes across the arts as well as consultancy work with specific organisations or sectors of the arts.

Arts Training South is also expecting to work in close co-operation with the other RTCs to develop an integrated approach to arts management training and the raising of professional standards. It is planned, for example, to develop modular and credit bearing courses allowing successful participants to gain nationally recognised awards.

Keith Pickard is keen to ensure that training programmes will be available not only for senior managers but at all levels within the arts industry. “We hope to run courses of specific value to voluntary workers in arts management and administration,” he said.

Formerly assistant director with Shape London — an arts organisation which works with disabled people, elderly people and other under represented groups — he is also keen to reach such people in his new position.

Although confident of the advantages arts training has to offer, the Programme Director is also aware that he may encounter opposition. “There has been perception in the arts, particularly in the subsidised arts and community-based organisations,” he said, “that management techniques have nothing to offer. Fortunately, however, the equation that management systems and structures stifle and inhibit creativity and art is now being overturned.”
FELLOWSHIPS AND OTHER AWARDS

MRC Special Training Fellowships for Health Service Research 1992-93

Three special fellowships to train medical/non-medical graduates to participate in multidisciplinary research on problems of direct relevance to health services. Closing date: 6.1.92.

Royal Society
Rutherford Scholarship — 2 appointments, tenable for 3 years, available to graduates under 26, for research in any branch of natural sciences (pref. experimental physics) in some part of the Commonwealth other than that in which applicant graduated. Closing date: 14.2.92.

Sorby Research Fellowship — 3-year renewable fellowship, supported jointly by the Royal Society and the University of Sheffield, in any science dept. at Sheffield. Closing date: 28.2.92.

Royal Society University Research Fellowships — 20 fellowships tenable for 5 years, possible renewals, any branch of science. Applicants must have doctorate or equivalent experience, aged 26-33. Closing date: 14.2.92.

Royal Society Leverhulme Trust Senior Research Fellowships — 5 fellowships to provide scientists in mid-career with opportunity to be relieved of teaching/admin duties for 1 term to 1 year, to do full-time research. Closing date: 31.1.92.

British Academy

European Community
Biomedicine and Health — call for proposals for the following areas and topics:
Area 1: Development of co-ordinated research on prevention, care and health systems. Harmonisation of methodologies and protocols in epidemiological, biological, clinical and technological research.
Area 2: Major health problems and diseases of great socioeconomic impact: AIDS, cancer, cardiovascular disease, mental illness and neurological disease, ageing process and age-related health problems and handicaps.
Area 4: Research on biomedical ethics.
(Area 3 — Human Genome Analysis will be included in call scheduled for 1992-93.)

Human Capital and Mobility — This programme has been amended. The aim of it is to help increase the human resources available in the EC for R&D. This programme is also open to Central and Eastern European countries and consists of:


devlopment of a Community system of research fellowships; assistance for the creation and development of scientific and technical co-operation networks; establishment of access to large-scale and technical facilities; and Euroconferences.

Further details on the above are held by the Research and Industry Support Unit, Sussex House.

SUSSEX STUDENT IN PRIZE-WINNING COMPUTER PROJECT

Stephen Kendrick, a computer science finalist in COGS, played a key role in the project submitted by Dr. Peter Smith, which has been awarded £1,000 for the best public sector application in the annual PC Rewards competition.

The winning project — Dossier — is a clinical information and patient management system. Not only can it store and print a full dossier on each patient but it can also be used to produce form letters and reports, run patient recall and appointments systems and enables doctors to look for associations and produce statistics.

Dr. Smith, who works at Llandough Hospital in Penarth, South Glamorgan, had developed the basic idea in dBase III Plus — a language which is slow and difficult to use. He therefore asked Stephen — a friend of his daughter, who is also a student at Sussex — to rewrite the program in Clipper.

Stephen, who is now working on a network version, said that Dossier saved users "endless quantities of time". Data can be coded and entered in several seconds compared to up to 20 minutes per case manually and data can be recovered quickly. "Everyone using the system loves it," he said. The project was funded by the South Glamorgan Health Authority and the Chest Unit Research Endowment Fund and the prize-money has been put back into

Stephen Kendrick

the research funds. There are plans to offer the program for sale, probably for under £1,000, which is a vast saving on other clinical information systems, most of which run on minis or mainframes and cost more than £10,000.

The competition results were announced at the Grosvenor Hotel in London recently where the nine finalists made presentations. The judges included representatives from The Guardian and KPMG Management Consulting who sponsored the competition.

Stephen, who joined Dr. Smith at the final judging session, said he was delighted. The experience has confirmed his desire to find work as a systems analyst. "I enjoy writing software, so ideally I'd like a job which enables me to do so," he said.
CROSS-CULTURAL MANAGEMENT CENTRE SET UP

Dr. Peter Smith, Reader in Psychology in the School of Social Sciences, has been appointed Director of Research of a new joint project on cross-cultural management set up by Sussex and Roffey Park Management College.

The Centre for Research in Cross-Cultural Organisation and Management (CRICCOM) will conduct research into helping managers who have to work within a different culture from their own.

The project will explore different decision-making methods used in different cultures, ways of developing and evaluating management training for cross-cultural managers, and study the way Japanese management techniques are used in the West.

"I will be helping Roffey Park in developing ways of working across cultures, and developing the use of systematic research evaluation for the work of CRICCOM," Peter Smith said. He has already developed close ties with the Management College, being involved in the Master in Business Administration course run jointly by the University and Roffey Park.

The Management College, based in Horsham, has been in the business of training managers for more than 40 years.

ART HISTORY EXCHANGE WITH V & A

Two art historians have been able to gain first-hand insights into each other's working lives as part of a pioneering exchange scheme between the University and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London.

For two days each week, Dr. Maurice Howard, a Senior Lecturer in EURO and History of Art Subject Chair, swaps roles with V & A Curator Dr. Clive Wainwright, a specialist in 19th century applied art and architecture.

The scheme formalises the existing close working links between Sussex and the V & A. As Dr. Howard explained, the professional life of the art historian working in academia overlaps considerably with that of the gallery-based art historian. He has, himself, organised exhibitions and during his time at the V & A will be helping to set up a new permanent gallery of European ornaments and will also be writing a book with the official curator.

According to Dr. Wainwright, who has given lectures all over the world, the exchange arrangement is unique. "I am finding it extremely interesting," he said. "Teaching students enables me to focus my knowledge."

It is the second time in three years that the exchange has operated and Dr. Howard believes that it has already proved to be of immense value, not only to the faculty exchange participants but also to students.

The previous V & A visitor helped a group of art history students organise an exhibition in London. "It's great experience for undergraduates and a tremendous thing for them to be able to put on their CVs," said Dr. Howard. This year, Dr. Wainwright has already taken students behind the scenes in galleries and the Houses of Parliament.

The scheme is scheduled to run for a further two years, with other Sussex faculty and V & A experts being offered the opportunity to participate in the exchange. "We also hope that further ventures with the V & A will be possible in the future," said Dr. Howard.

"The Art of Death", a major exhibition organised by Sussex History of Art Lecturer Dr. Nigel Llewellyn, opens at the Victoria and Albert Museum next month. It is the second time that the exhibition, which features objects from the English death ritual, has been assembled. Last spring the V & A postponed it because of sensitivities over the Gulf War.

Exhibits range from an elaborately illuminated will of Henry VII to the death mask of Oliver Cromwell and a life-size cast of a dissected body. Visitors will hear 18th century funeral music, which was recorded recently in Firle Church, as they walk through the galleries. The exhibition opens on January 8 and runs until March 22.

NEW COMPUTING CENTRE OPENED

The University's new state-of-the-art Computing Centre was officially opened recently — 25 years after the installation of the first computer.

Almost £2 million has been spent upgrading equipment and moving the Computing Service into specially converted accommodation at the centre of campus, despite doubts that such a move was feasible.

As Technical Manager Ken Blanshard explained, 'All communication lines usually radiate out from computer centres. As time goes by, the number of lines increase and tie the place down.' However, by investing in new technology the University has managed to sever those ties, he said.

Hundreds of personal computers are now available throughout the campus for use by students and staff and there are also more powerful workstations and central facilities which are required for much of today's work.

The hardware has been funded mainly by a special grant from the Computer Board for Universities and Research Councils (which is now the Information Systems Committee of the Universities Funding Council).

Director of Computing Services Professor Alistair Chalmers said that the developments constituted a major investment by the University and by the UFC in support of high quality teaching and research.

The Centre was officially opened by Sir Lindsay Bryson, Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex and Chairman of the University Council. Among the other guests at the ceremony were Mr. Alan Kirk, Director of the Computing Service from its inception in 1966 until 1984, and Professor Roger Blin-Stoyte, Chairman of the University Computing Committee at the outset.
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 2 December and is subject to revision.

Teaching Faculty
Lectureship in Italian Studies, full-time

Miscellaneous
Integral Solutions Ltd — Teaching Company Associate — Hypermedia in Poplog Project, ft

Technical staff representation on campus: There are many members of the University whose interests are not represented by any organisation, and there are those who are represented, but who may wish for a change.

We have decided that the time has come to offer an alternative to the representation currently on offer to the technical staff of the University of Sussex. We are at present exploring the options which would culminate in giving people a choice of organisation which represented their interests at work locally. The organisation will not be affiliated to the TUC, or under the control of any political party. Subscriptions will be at a low level, and will be used locally and not to finance an expensive head office.

You can help to make this happen, by writing to or 'phoning us — Mick Henry and Dave Weedon, Molecular Sciences, tel. 3156.

☐ POPPY APPEAL
The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal raised £342.25 on campus. Many thanks from the organisers to all who helped and contributed.

Don't forget the Meeting House Christmas Appeal to help the thousands of Cambodians maimed in the civil war.

☐ DISCIPLINARY PANEL
The Disciplinary Panel, consisting of four faculty and also two student members, met on 19 November 1991 to consider a case of alleged indiscipline.

A student in COGS was found guilty of conduct seriously prejudicial to good order and discipline in the University in that he used threatening and aggressive behaviour towards another student, and physically assaulted him, in campus accommodation.

The student was suspended from the University until the beginning of next term, and warned that if he is found guilty by a Disciplinary Panel of any further anti-social or violent behaviour he will be permanently expelled from the University.

☐ NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY
Self-service laser printing
In collaboration with the Computing Service, the Library now provides a self-service laser printer, which is sited next to the public PCs on the ground floor of the Library (G09). The cost to users is 80p per sheet, charged via the Copypay system used with Library photocopiers.

Off-air recording
Under the Educational Recording Agency licence now held by the University it is possible for the Library to record radio and television broadcasts, or to copy programmes recorded by others. A booklet giving details is available from the South Counter. Helen Swayer (ext. 3408 or 3492) will be pleased to receive suggestions for new stock, and to deal with enquiries about this service.

☐ WHISTLER PRIZE ESSAY 1992
A prize of £100 is offered annually for an original essay on natural history or archaeology. The prize is open to all students of the University, including registered members of CCE classes. Essays, which should not normally exceed 5,000 words, should be submitted by 30 April 1992. Further particulars are available from Ms J. D. Skeel, Centre for Continuing Education, ED 5 B.

A reminder that the Porters in the Refectory are collecting non-perishable pet food to donate to an animal charity.

☐ FIRE! — URGENT REMINDER
Following a recent fire in a University office building, staff and visiting workers in all University buildings are warned that private portable heating equipment is NOT permitted in University buildings. Prohibited items include electric bar radiant heat fires, flame radiant fires and paraffin heaters.

University Safety & Radiation Protection Adviser

☐ CLOSURE DATES
The University will be closed for the Christmas and New Year holiday from Monday, 23 December to Friday, 27 December, and from Monday to Wednesday, 30 December to 1 January, inclusive.

There is only a short break at Easter: the University will be closed on Thursday, Friday and Monday, 16, 17 and 20 April.

☐ TERM DATES
The 1992 term dates are: 6 January to 13 March; 22 April to 26 June, and 5 October to 11 December.

BULLETIN
This is the last Bulletin of term. Thank you to all those who have contributed in any way. Copy for the first issue of the Spring Term (to be published on 22 January) must be received by Jenny Payne, Internal Communications Officer, Room 230, Sussex House, by no later than 1 pm on Friday, 10 January. If you have any news items or ideas for feature articles, she would be pleased to hear from you (ext. 8208).

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BEST WISHES FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR