Past and present Council members to be honoured

At the Winter Graduation Ceremony on 30 January Mr. Raymond Blackwood, ex-member of the University Council and a former Mayor of Brighton, will be awarded the honorary degree of Master of the University. The same degree will also be awarded to Mrs. Joan Mont, a member of the University Council and Chair of East Sussex County Council.

Chief Constable

At the Court Graduation Ceremony on 15 March, the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws will be presented to Mr. Roger Birch, Chief Constable of Sussex; while Mr. Hywel Jones, Director of Human Resources and Education at the European Commission, and Mrs. Ann Longley, Headmistress of Roedean School, will become honorary Doctors of the University.

Lady Trafford

At a special ceremony (date to be arranged), Lady Helen Trafford, widow of the former Senior Pro-Chancellor, will be awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Science.

University credit card launched

Members of staff will shortly receive a letter from the Registrar & Secretary introducing the University of Sussex Mastercard, which is being launched in association with the Bank of Scotland.

The Bank and the University have teamed up to produce what is known as an affinity card. What happens is that the University receives a sum of £5 for each credit card issued and a further small amount each time the card is used.

Affinity cards are well established in the charity world and include groups such as the National Trust and the World Wide Fund for Nature. However, Sussex is one of the first universities to take part in such a scheme.

The University card can be used exactly like any other credit card (full details will be in a brochure being sent with the Registrar & Secretary's letter) although the terms are rather better than most — no charges for the card and lower interest rates, for example. There is no cost to the cardholder in using the Sussex card.

The University wants, initially, to use the proceeds to expand the creche and nursery, where even small sums of money will make a real difference — so, watch your mail carefully over the next week or two and fill in that application right away!

Winter Graduation Ceremony

The Winter Graduation Ceremony which takes place on Wednesday, 30 January, will be held at 11.30 am in the Gardner Centre.

Any member of faculty who wishes to attend will be seated on the stage. Those wishing to attend are asked to contact Dr. D. E. Tutt in Sussex House as soon as possible. Please let him know if you also wish to borrow a black gown for the occasion.

Nice Work

The University has entered into partnership with industry in a Teaching Company Programme aimed at enhancing POPLOG, the powerful programming system originally developed by the University. The Programme has been set up by Dr. Mike Sharples, Lecturer in CSAI and Director of the University's Centre for Advanced Software Applications (CASA) located in COGS, and Integral Solutions Ltd, a software company based in Basingstoke, which markets POPLOG.

This is the first time ever that Sussex has participated in the Teaching Company Scheme which was originally devised in 1974 by a working party appointed jointly by the then Science Research Council and the Department of Industry. Its chief aim then, as now, was to bring institutes of higher
educaton and companies, especially small firms, together in order to solve design, manufacturing or management problems for which the company lacks expertise ‘in-house’.

The main objectives of the Scheme are to

- raise the level of industrial performance by effective use of academic resources;
- improve industrial methods by the implementation of advanced technology and new ideas;
- develop able graduates for careers in industry;
- give academic staff broad and direct involvement with industry to benefit research and enhance the relevance of teaching.

Dr. Sharples will contribute directly to the Programme. He will be assisted by two graduates, recruited in consultation with the company on two-year academic appointments as Teaching Company Associates. Seventy-five per cent of the direct costs of the Programme are provided by the SERC on behalf of itself and the Department of Trade and Industry. (This would normally vary between 50 and 75 per cent depending on the size of the company.) These direct costs include the salaries of the Associates at appropriate industrial rates, the salary of a Senior Assistant to work in the University to allow Dr. Sharples time to collaborate effectively on the Programme, and certain other expenses, such as travel.

Apart from the financial advantage to the company, both partners will benefit in a variety of ways from participation in the Scheme. In general, the company benefits from the contribution of the academic staff and Associates to its business objectives and from the application of advanced technology to its problems. The University is enabled to extend its research and postgraduate training into an operating company with manufacturing facilities. Also the Senior Assistant is a useful extra resource of manpower.

Specifically, ISL will receive a major injection of transferred technology in human computer interaction; the POPLOG based products will have a better user interface and added functionality, enabling them to compete more strongly in their current market sectors, and the addition of hypermedia and multi-media capabilities to POPLOG will allow ISL to address new market sectors.

The University will gain from the development of existing expertise in software design human computer interaction and hypermedia, and will improve productivity in software research and development. It will also be of direct benefit to postgraduate and undergraduate teaching: all students and staff will benefit from an improved POPLOG interface and hypermedia ‘help’ and ‘teach’ system.

The long-term aim of the Teaching Company Scheme is the formation of close and lasting collaboration between companies and academic institutions. For Sussex and Integral Solutions Ltd. the Programme represents an important new stage in an already fruitful partnership.

our intellectual resources.’

The conference will explore these aspects of the loss of a common academic culture, language and purpose, and will suggest ways in which this might be redressed at the levels of the curriculum and of academic activities more generally.

Professor Tony Becher is to deliver the keynote speech entitled ‘Esperantists in a Tower of Babel’. With the march of specialisation, we seem to have lost a coherent academic culture. What are the prospects of promoting a sense of underlying unity?

The conference will be held at the Froebel College, Roehampton Institute of Higher Education from 22 to 25 March. The fee for residents is £160, non-resident £120 (less £10 for HEF members).

Further details from: Dr. John Gay, Secretary, Higher Education Foundation, Culham College Institute, 60 East St Helens Street, Abingdon, Oxford, OX14 5EB. Tel. 0235 520458.


Welcome back!

The New Year sees several changes in the Administration. Making a welcome return to Sussex after 20 years is George Kiloh (pictured above). He has taken up the post, formerly held by Geoff Ivey, of Deputy Registrar. Geoff Ivey has become Deputy Secretary, his responsibilities including the Committee Secretariat.

Sarah Butler, formerly Assistant Secretary (Planning), has taken up the new post of Committee Officer. Later this month, Assistant Registrar Elizabeth Stewart moves from the Admissions Office to the Undergraduate Office, with responsibility for undergraduate affairs and examinations. Joining the Admissions Office, also this month, will be David Cunningham, who comes to Sussex from Brunel University.

Twenty years ago, George Kiloh was Assistant Admissions Officer in Essex House (then the Administration building). He finds coming back to Sussex more a new arrival than a return. He said last week: 'When I left the Administration in September 1970 most of the present staff were not yet appointed and probably most of the present students yet unborn. We lived then in a different world, with the sixties only just ending and the eighties mercifully hidden.'

He has spent the intervening years working at the Open University, City of London Polytechnic, the Open College and institutions in Australia and Hong Kong. 'Some former colleagues stayed on here; and a few are still here now,' he said. 'It's a pleasure to see them again, even if recognition is sometimes inhibited by the ravages of time. Now that I have taken over from Geoff Ivey as from 1 January, I look forward to working with colleagues old and new.'

...and off to the Poly

Congratulations to Dr. Stuart Laing, currently Dean of the School of Cultural and Community Studies, on his appointment as Assistant Director (Academic) at Brighton Polytechnic. He takes up his new job on 1 April.
News from the Gardner Centre

All of Shakespeare in one evening!

The new Spring programme at the Gardner Centre begins tonight (15 January) with the Phoenix Dance Company performing the programme that has been delighting audiences in Sadlers Wells. As ever, the season is packed with all star entertainment with something to appeal to everyone — drama from Charles Dickens Hard Times to the documentary drama I Bertold Brecht, music from the Palm Wine Guitar of S. E. Rogie to the jazz sax of Tommy Smith, mime with two new productions from David Glass and Trestle Theatre; and cabaret from Cynthia Payne to Britain's answer to Bette Midler, the outrageous Joan Turner.

But for anyone who has ever found Shakespeare a little 'dry' or for fans of his who haven't managed to see or read all of his works, a special treat is in store. Tomorrow evening, 16 January, the Gardner Centre offers you the remarkable opportunity to see the entire works of William Shakespeare in just one evening! In this roller coaster of a show, the RSC (the Reduced Shakespeare Company (pictured above) — not to be confused with that other company going under the same initials!) perform all 37 of Shakespeare's plays complete with sonnets. The company of three — Jess Borgeson, Adam Long and Daniel Singer — were formed in American in 1981 with the intention of combating the increasing tendency towards dry, pedantic and overly reverential treatment of the great Bard's plays and judging by their sell-out successes both in this country and America they have certainly achieved their goal.

As well as drawing on necessary classical and literary material, the trio also draw on more recent influences — Bugs Bunny, Monty Python and the Marx Brothers! The show encompasses a variety of styles and approaches to the plays, including a rap version of Othello, Titus Andronicus transposed to the set of an afternoon gourmet cookery show and the 'histories' transformed into a football game that is interrupted by a referee's yellow flag when King Lear sneaks on to the field.

The RSC are a refreshing company, brimming with energy and an instinctive comic ability and the show, done at a whirlwind pace and with great delight, is sure to win over even the most sceptical. The company flies back to Los Angeles after the Gardner Centre show, so make sure you don't miss out on your opportunity to see The Complete Works of William Shakespeare — Abridged.

But a word of warning from company member Jess Borgeson: 'The show is a high speed roller-coaster type with non-stop laughs but is not recommended for people with heart ailments, bladder problems, inner-ear disorders, and/or people inclined to motion sickness.' — Anne Burrill

Christmas competition result

The winner of the 1990 Christmas competition was Jerry Mitchell of EAPS, who wins a bottle of Champagne. He correctly identified the buildings as:

A — EAPS 1 (viewed from the direction of MOLS 1); B — the link between Arts A and Arts B (taken from the east side near EAPS 1); C — Gardner Arts Centre; D — Biology Building, with the Biology Lecture Theatre in the foreground; and E — Park Village.

Small Ads

LEWES: 3 bedroom Grade II listed town house; 5 mins. station. Exc. condition, c/h, d/glazing. Delightful patio garden. OIRO £90,000. Tel. 477977 (eves.).

FOR SALE: £7,500 — large stone barn in French Pyrenean hill village of Orna south of Perpignan, for conversion to 3 bedroom villa with roof terrace & balcony. Approved plans and builder's estimates for conversion. Superb location, 45 mins. beaches/mountains. Architect available for advice/consultancy. Tel. 557519 (eves.) or ext. 8278 (am).
To lecture at John Hopkins University

Professor Christopher Thorne, in conjunction with Dr. Vladislav Zubok of the Soviet Institute for U.S. and Canadian Studies, is to deliver the Albert Shaw Lectures at John Hopkins University, on the subject of The End of the Cold War: Views from Abroad. These week-long proceedings are organised jointly by the History and Political Science Departments at John Hopkins and the School of Advanced International Studies.

Research in Spain

Dr. James Thomson of the School of Social Sciences has been awarded a three-month research fellowship by the Dirección General de Investigación Científica y Técnica of the Spanish Ministry of Education to enable him to carry out research in Spain the Summer Term.

Journal editor

Richard Clutterbuck of the School of Social Sciences has become Editor of Local Government and Law, a monthly magazine for local authority executives and legal advisers, published by Monitor Press.

Off to Cleveland

Dr. Sue Wright of the School of Cultural and Community Studies has been seconded to Cleveland County Council for a year to undertake a policy evaluation of unemployment strategy.

Music prize

Sam Hayden, a third year Music student, has won the Cornelius Cardew Memorial Prize for musical composition 1990.

All the best!

May Aitkin, Wages Supervisor based on Sussex House, bade farewell to colleagues when she retired at Christmas after 21 years at the University.

Well done!

The School of Engineering & Applied Sciences annual Christmas raffle brought in £67.40 for Multiple Sclerosis research.

Thank you

The Refectory Porters wish to thank all those who contributed pet foods at Christmas. They got a good collection of canned items which were donated to animal charities.

Looking at radical local government initiatives

During the 1980s British local government received an uncharacteristic amount of public attention. In particular, the establishment of new and radical policies such as the setting up of police monitoring committees or the selling-off of graveyards provoked intense debate. During this period, greatest attention was paid to the fact that the policies had been introduced at all — with arguments raging about democratic accountability and the ‘proper’ activities for local government. Little notice was paid to the effect of these new initiatives or what they were actually achieving.

Susan Halford and Simon Duncan from the University’s Centre for Urban and Regional Research have recently completed a two-year research project funded by the Economic and Social Research Council examining one particular area of radical non-statutory local government activity. The project focused on local government women’s committees and examined the extent to which these initiatives have been able to bring about changes in the policies and practices of local government.

A major national survey of British local government carried out by the researchers showed that increasing numbers of local authorities are continuing to set up women’s committees (and other similar initiatives).

Contrary to popular images, the councils taking this action are increasingly diverse in terms of political control (with non-Labour and even strong Conservative councils becoming involved) and are scattered across the country from Grampian Regional Council in Scotland to Southampton City Council in Hampshire.

There is also great diversity in the intentions behind particular initiatives, the types of initiative being set up, and the resources which are being allocated. Obviously, all these factors affect the extent of policy development and implementation.

But despite these differences the researchers found astonishing consistency in the processes determining policy implementation across a range of different initiatives. The three key processes were as follows:

(a) political commitment and leadership — without the involvement of leading politicians, active support from a significant number of local councillors and strategic planning, implementation of change was difficult;

(b) organisational support or resistance — women’s committees are not responsible for delivering council services and do not control council employment. Therefore they rely on the participation of other areas of the local authority for actual policy implementation. Gaining such support was difficult;

(c) political mobilisation by women in the local area — mobilisation was often low, and sometimes in conflict with the objectives of women’s committees. However, the power of such mobilisation when effected was considerable.

Some women’s committees have already demonstrated the considerable capacity which local government has to improve women’s opportunities and experiences. This research project has been able to explore in detail the processes by which this is achieved, as well as the impediments to policy implementation. Whilst the research has highlighted the considerable problems involved, it has also contributed to the development of improved strategies for policy implementation within this context.

No. 25 bus

Extension of the No. 25 bus service in to the campus is of benefit to everybody, and has contributed considerably to the convenience and safety of students, staff and visitors travelling to the northern end of the campus. Its continuation is, however, being jeopardised by the stupidity of a few people.

According to the driver’s official report, at 11.30 pm on Friday, 9 November, the incoming bus was prevented from pulling up at the Refectory bus stop by a crowd of inebriated people standing in the roadway; was then prevented from turning round at Norwich House Road by people standing behind it; and people then banged on the door to be let on board. The bus eventually left 12-15 minutes later after ‘the people at the University just pushed on the bus’.

Continuation of such anti-social and inconsiderate behaviour will not only bring the University’s name into disrepute, but can only lead to the drivers refusing to bring the service in to the campus and the bus company reverting to the previous situation where the service terminated at the front of the University.

It’s surely in everyone’s interest not to let that happen but at the end of the day whether or not it does is up to the users.

Estates Manager
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 4 January and is subject to revision.

Teaching Faculty
Lectureships in Molecular Genetics, BIOLS
Lectureship in Environmental Economics, AFRAAS
Lectureship in International Relations

Other Faculty
Staff Development Officer
Purchasing Officer

Secretarial, Clerical and Related
Assistant Services Engineer, full-time, grade 5/6
Word Processing Support Asst. & Sect. Secretary, f/t, grade 4
Audit Asst., Finance Office, part-time, grade 3/4

General
Nursery Nurse, Creche/Nursery, temporary, f/t, grade 1

Manual and Ancillary
Grounds Person, Pavilion, f/t

Catering Services
Apply to Philip Gassmann, Refectory, ext. 8221:
Trainee Chef, f/t
Kitchen Porter, f/t

Library
Apply to Librarian's Secretary, ext. 8158:
 Clerical Asst./Typist, p/t, grade 2

Scottish Education Department
Postgraduate Studentships in Arts and Humanities Subjects

SERC Graduate Schools 1991

6-day career workshops for postgraduates
FREE to SERC students. Other
PhD students £330.
Venues for 1991: Brunel, Cardiff, Durham, Oxford, Sheffield,
Stirling, Warwick, York.
Tel. 0223-4600277

News from the Library

Two 'silence zones' are being introduced in the Library. In response to a
number of complaints about noise levels, and following discussion at the
autumn meeting of the Library Consultative Group, areas at the north
(IDS) end of the ground and first floors are being designated as 'silence
zones'. It is hoped that readers wishing to work in an area free of
whispered conversations will use one of these zones, and will ask anyone
ignoring the convention of absolute silence to leave the zone. The success
of the concept will be measured, in part, by observing seat occupancy
rates; further zones may be established if the principle is seen to work and to
be valued by many readers.

Term dates

This term ends on Friday, 15 March. The Summer Term runs from 22 April
to 28 June. The Autumn Term 1991 is from 7 October to 13 December.

Bulletin

This is the first Bulletin of the Spring Term. The next issue will be
published on Tuesday, 29 January. Copy for this issue must be re-
ceived by Jenny Payne, Internal Communications Officer, Room
230, Sussex House, by no later than 4 pm on Monday, 21 January. If you
have any news items or ideas for feature articles, she would be pleased to hear from you (ext. 8208).

Publication dates for the remainder of the term are: 19 February
(copy date 11 February) and 12 March (copy date 4 March).

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