LOCAL TEACHERS TO BE HONOURED AS SUSSEX PGCE CELEBRATES SILVER JUBILEE

To mark the 25th anniversary of the University's school-based teacher training course, four teachers who have made outstanding contributions to the work of teacher-training over many years, will be honoured at a ceremony at the University on 3 March.

The honorary degree of Master of Arts will be awarded to Elizabeth Fletcher, now Headteacher of Patcham High School and previously at Thomas Bennett Community College, Crawley; Alan Morgan, Headteacher of Downs Junior School; David Morris, until recently Headteacher of Wallands Primary School, Lewes; and Rachel Proctor, Deputy Head of Beacon Community College, Crowborough.

Students on the one-year Primary and Secondary Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) course spend the majority of their time in schools in East and West Sussex with whom the University has built-up long-standing links, and much of the rest of it working with practising teachers to develop their knowledge and skills.

And it is this more school-based approach to teacher-training, already a quarter of a century old at Sussex, which the Government now wishes to see adopted generally.

The Sussex PGCE is funded to recruit 60 primary and 126 secondary trainees each year, a high proportion of whom go on to teach in local schools where the Sussex course enjoys a high reputation. It has been taken as a model for new school-based PGCE courses at Oxford, Keele and Leicester universities. It has also attracted Government attention, having recently been visited twice by Michael Fallon, the Minister responsible for teacher training.

The degree ceremony will be followed by a public lecture by Michael Ernaut, Professor of Education, entitled Developing the Professions: Training, Quality and Accountability, in the Molecular Sciences Lecture Theatre at 6.30 pm.

EXPLORING THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE POLICIES

Sussex researchers have begun a project to explore the impact of one of the most ambitious scientific advice enterprises ever established.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was set up in 1988 under the auspices of the UN's Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organisation with the explicit aim of informing national and international policy-makers on global climate matters.

The organisation, which comprises members of the independent scientific community, reported first in June 1990 and will update its findings before the Rio de Janeiro UN Conference on Environment and Development later this year.

Dr. Sonja Boehmer-Christianisen and Dr. Jim Skea, of the Science Policy Research Unit — whose two-year project has received a grant of almost £60,000 from the Economic and Social Research Council — will be assessing the extent to which the IPCC has been successful in influencing policy makers and national policies.

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**AFRAS**

'The greening of AFRAS' — A significant development is a series of new programmes and courses reflecting an increasing concern for environmental and ecological issues. The School now offers a Major in Geography and Environmental Studies which includes courses on environment and society, environmental systems and management and environmental change. In the AFRAS School course programme, a popular second year course is Environment, Ecology and Development. And there is a new MA in Environment, Development and Policy.

**Dr. Richard Burton** is visiting Tunisia this month to establish an exchange between the University of Tunis and Sussex, under which Sussex French majors will follow French courses in Tunis and also take a course in basic Arabic. Afras French Major students currently study in Martinique and Guadeloupe. Dr. Burton will be in Martinique in July to attend a conference on ethnic minorities in Europe and the Americas. The guest of honour will be Jesse Jackson — and Dr. Burton will be his interpreter!

A grant from the Nuffield Foundation to geographer Dr. Ieuan Griffiths for fieldwork on the international boundary between The Gambia and Senegal enabled him to travel to the remote eastern boundary of The Gambia where he examined the only boundary change to be made in Africa by bi-lateral agreement since July 1964. Closer to home, he last month attended a two-day conference on international boundaries at the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London on behalf of FICCI Investments Ltd for whom he acts as consultant on boundary issues.

**Dr. Tony Binns** beat a well-trodden path to The Gambia, West Africa twice in the Autumn Term. In November he undertook field research with fellow geographer Dr. David Robinson on the effects of falling water tables on rural communities, and then led a field course for 35 Sussex geography undergraduates. In December he returned to The Gambia to lead a field course for a group of geography and biology sixth formers and teachers from Beacon Community School in Crowborough. If you saw the Evening Argus of 24 January you will know that Dr. Binns led a workshop on the Gambia at Hangleton Infant School, Hove, for over 90 six- and seven-year-olds and 17 geography students from the Sussex PGCE course.

**Dr. David Robinson** has been appointed to the School Examination and Assessment Council’s Subject Core Steering Group for Geography, which is due to report to the Secretary of State later this year on the future shape of sixth-form geography.

Robert Nurick has recently returned from Kenya. He was working on an ODA-funded project assessing the costs and benefits of conserving Kenya’s biological diversity. This country study is one of 15 at present under way, the results of which will be used in drawing up a convention on biodiversity to be signed at the UNCED Conference in Brazil in June.

**MOLS**

Chemists have become concerned in recent years that many children switch off science before completing their GCSE course and choosing their A-level subjects. To combat this it helps to provide some exposure to scientific topics that go beyond their examination syllabus. The MOLS Outreach programme is designed to interest secondary school pupils in modern environmental concerns, demonstrate chemistry as a living science and encourage students to persist in studying it.

For many years talks have been given by MOLS faculty, but in a recent development our graduates and undergraduates give these talks in schools. They provide a good role model for aspiring scientists, because they are studying and enjoying science and see that it has good career prospects. Recent topics presented in this way include Degradable Plastics, Nuclear Power, the Greenhouse Effect, Pesticides and Why we believe in Atoms.

The talks have proved very popular and we have a large number of requests from local schools in hand. Funding has been provided by the Manchester Charitable Trust, the Dowland Section of the Royal Society of Chemistry and Pfizer plc: this money provides for the training of students in presentation skills and covers their travel costs.

**Congratulations to Mika Peck** who graduated last year. His dissertation on 'Alternative Strategies for Combating Acid Deposition in Fresh Water' won the Institution of Environmental Sciences 1991 student essay competition.

**CCS**

**An Age Old Problem** — What can an anthropologist contribute to transport planning? What is more, how does the CCS School course 'Concepts of Culture and Community' come in useful? Under the ESRC's Transport Initiative, Dr. Sue Wright (pictured below) and colleagues from Essex made a study of the transport needs of elderly people in order to demonstrate how qualitative research could be useful in transport planning.

Elderly people in two Essex villages took part in the study. It was found that elderly residents were less concerned with speed and frequency than with whether buses were user-friendly and safe. Elderly people rely more on lifts from other elderly people and on voluntary car services. To analyse this, Raymond Williams' ideas of two ways of organising, 'sharing' and 'service', were used. People felt comfortable where lift giving and voluntary transport services could be reciprocated or paid for in a nominal way. But where an idea of middle class 'service' to working class passengers entered voluntary arrangements and recipients were meant to feel beholden, passengers felt uncomfortable and minimised their use of the facility. The work has implications for transport planning and for state support for voluntary transport arrangements. The Essex County Council transport planners have now given contracts for further research to the project's research assistant.

The Bulgarian Ambassador, Mr. John Stancioff, will be visiting the School next week to speak on the economic and social transformation of Bulgaria, as part of the course on 'Transformation in East Europe' organised by Dr. Peter Ambrose. Next month, Mr. Robert McCloy, the chief UK observer at the Bulgarian elections, will give a talk on the change to electoral democracy in Bulgaria.
VCs’ REPORT HIGHLIGHTS STUDENT “DISTRESS AND UNCERTAINTY”

Evidence from the Committee of Vice-Chancellors to the House of Commons Select Committee which is investigating student hardship suggests that students’ debts are increasing. The Vice-Chancellors’ report is based on two surveys of universities. They show that on top of their debt to the Student Loans Company, students have debts to universities, banks and on credit cards.

Universities reported that the main causes of hardship were lack of vacation jobs due to the recession, and the withdrawal of welfare benefits. The recession has also hit parents, more of whom are now reported to be either unable or unwilling to meet their contributions, and some of whom either cannot or will not support their offspring in the vacations.

Sir Gordon Higginson, Vice-Chancellor of Southampton University, who presented the report to the Select Committee, said: “Some of our students are having a desperate time. At the moment, thanks to the efforts of our student union officers and of our staff, most are getting by; but the distress and uncertainty for some is too great. We need a better system and a better safety net.”

The other major factor which universities reported was the cost of housing. Rents remain high despite the falling market. Housing is particularly an issue in areas of SE England outside the capital, where students must pay London rents from non-London grants and loans.

The report found that mature students, especially those with families, are in particular trouble. The withdrawal of benefits has played havoc with their financial plans. Most support themselves all year round, and many have paid National Insurance contributions which they are now unable to claim.

The survey showed no increase in drop-out rates. In fact, there was a slight decrease, although institutions were reluctant to commit themselves to the figures which they provided. The survey only covered unexplained non-registrations in October, and would not have picked up those students who had registered, but dropped out later.

‘WOMEN IN BRITAIN’ CONFERENCE

A national conference exploring the diversity of women’s experience through a period of rapid change — ‘Women in Britain 1914-1945’ — is to be held at Sussex during April.

Organised by Sybil Oldfield of the School of Cultural and Community Studies, it will run from the evening of Friday, 10 April to Monday, 13 April. Saturday will be devoted to Social History, Sunday will be concerned with Political History, while the final day will focus on Cultural History.

For programme and booking details, contact Pam Roue in the Centre for Continuing Education.

EXPLORING THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE POLICIES

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According to Dr. Boehner-Christiansen, the underlying objective of the project is to assist both the scientific and the policy community in gaining mutual understanding of their respective needs, tasks and limitations. For, although science and politics have an interdependent role to play in efforts to protect the environment, “Consensus on global policy responses remains elusive,” she said.

The project will involve interviewing scientists and policy-makers to evaluate the IPCC process from the perspective of international treaty making. The impact of the IPCC’s advice will be studied at the national level by looking at three policy realms — research agendas, technology and energy — each of which may direct climate change policy towards different goals. These national responses will be analysed for the United Kingdom, Germany, the United States and Norway.

The work will be carried out in close association with related projects under-way at SPRU and through informal collaboration with the Norwegian Centre for International Climate and Energy Politics at the University of Oslo, and environmental policy researchers in the USA, Australia and Germany. Research scientists will advise the project.

CHRISTMAS APPEAL RAISES £900 FOR CAMBODIA

The Meeting House Christmas Appeal raised £900 for the Cambodia Trust. Many thanks from the organisers to all those who worked for and contributed to the Appeal.
MORE DELAYS ON THE A27

The journey to work is likely to get worse before it gets better. For 14 weeks from 24 February major repairs will be carried out on the Lewes by-pass between Ashcombe and Southerham roundabouts. Urgent work is needed to sections of the road which have become 'deformed' by the flow of 30,000 vehicles each day. Among the restrictions, there will be single lane traffic in each direction and the lane leading to Kingston village will be closed at its junction with the A27 at Ashcombe roundabout (except for traffic approaching from the by-pass which will be allowed to turn left in to Ashcombe Hollow).

THE SUBWAY

Work on the A27 by-pass has necessitated the temporary propping of the subway which links the station with the campus. East Sussex County Council, which is responsible for the subway, says the props will be in position for about six months. The roadworks have also caused problems with the lighting in the subway — every effort will be made to maintain the existing lighting.

HAVE YOU GOT A STORY?

Have you got a story which might be of interest to the world outside the University? Perhaps you have and just don't realise it. Press coverage is unlikely to be the first thing on your mind in the midst of a busy term when you are trying to juggle the many, and rising, demands on your time.

But the value of press coverage should not be overlooked. Used positively, it can be of real benefit to the individual and to the University community. Not only does it bring your work to the attention of a wider audience, it can provide a free opportunity to put over a favourable impression of Sussex as a whole.

What sort of stories are newsworthy? More than you might think — research across the whole range of disciplines (it doesn't have to be at the point of conclusion, research-in-progress can generate much interest); an innovative approach to teaching; an interesting new course; an outstanding student project.

While some stories are of national interest, others are more suited to the local press or to specialist journals. In some cases, stories can be placed locally and nationally.

Each School has its own public relations representative. Please talk to him or her if you think you may have something newsworthy or get in touch with the Information Office. We can advise on whether stories are better suited to national, local or specialist media and prepare and distribute press releases for you. Contact Sue Yates on ext. 8384, or Sara Dyer on ext. 8209, or drop in to the Information Office, Room 230, Sussex House.

NEWS FROM THE COMPUTING SERVICE

This year will see the withdrawal of the VAX/VMS service which was the principle source of academic computing power at the University during the 1980s. The service was introduced in 1981 with three VAX-11/780 computers and enhanced with additional equipment in 1986. An indication of the explosion in computing power is that each of the 50 Computing Service workstations are 10 times as powerful as a VAX-11/780 computer when performing complex calculations.

Although the VAX service has been superseded in terms of raw power it continues to be popular with nearly 600 individuals still using the system during last December. However, the increasing costs of maintaining the service plus the overheads of running two different systems mean that the older VAX service must be withdrawn. It is imperative that everyone who is using the VAX service should begin to transfer their work to one of the newer systems soon so that any problems can be solved before the VAX service is closed on 31 July 1992. It should be noted that to reduce costs, maintenance has already been terminated on the MicroVAX computers that form part of the VAX Cluster and that this has already resulted in a degradation of service as one of the disks has been corrupted.

The Computing Service will be organising workshops during the latter half of this term and during the Easter vacation to introduce the new system. Contact Roger Discombe (ext. 2953) for further information.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

Manuscript, special and out of sequence collections in the Library — a list of the many specialised collections, many of which are not recorded in the main catalogue, is now available.

Access to the computer catalogue from the campus network has been improved recently by changing to a simpler route which can cope with a large number of simultaneous calls. From most PCs and terminals which are connected to the campus network "CALL LIB" typed at a PAD prompt will establish contact. If you do not get a connection, try typing "CALL GATE" at the PAD prompt, then type "LIB" at the GAT(W) prompt. Please ring 8161 if you still have difficulties.

A Library suggestions book is now available on the counter in the Reserve Collection corridor on the ground floor.

Newly-available figures show that each week-day during term-time nearly 1,500 different people borrow at least one book from the Library.

News from the Gardner Centre

The Gardner Centre is offering a rare treat on Friday, 28 February, when music fans will be able to see The Beatles in concert — the 'Bootleg' version, that is. And according to the music press they are "Closer to the real thing, than the real thing would have been had they ever reformed".

The absolute ultimate in nostalgia, the concert is an amazing musical history of the Beatles and a genuine tribute to the 'Fab Four', from the early days of Help and Can't Buy Me Love to the major songs from Abbey Road.

Formed out of the hit West End musical Beatlemania 11 years ago, the Bootleg Beatles have gone on to create quite a phenomenon of their own, with tours throughout the UK, Europe, America, the former Soviet Union and Hong Kong. If you missed The Beatles the first time round... don't miss this... it might be your last chance!

Anne Burrill

THE PIRATES OF PENDANCE, performed by the Brighton-based Wandering Minstrels, will be at the Gardner from 11 to 14 March.
SOFIA MEETS SUSSEX

When he is not busy as a part-time Chaplain at the University, Alec Gilmore may well be found in eastern Europe for he is not only Associate Baptist Chaplain here but also Director of Feed the Minds. His most recent travels have taken him to Sofia where he was able to swap notes with Archpriest Shivarov, University Professor of Old Testament. Professor Shivarov’s pleas for help with library books and money to publish one or two works of scholarship are echoed all over eastern Europe. As part of his work for Feed the Minds, Alec has recently been responsible for dispatching books worth £3,000 to libraries in Estonia and Latvia and has led a one-week training course in Latvia for Baptists on Desk Top Publishing and how to set up a professional commercial publishing house.

In all these journeys he acts, too, as an ambassador for the University of Sussex, using his experience here to assist those he meets, and reporting on eastern Europe to the Meeting House team. In Bulgaria, for instance, he found that after years of restriction and isolation, Professor Shivarov could hardly wait to begin to talk about the new academic and religious freedom which people now enjoy. But although there is a real thirst for training in theology, persecution is not entirely gone. This is particularly true for the Orthodox Church which was thought by some to have been too closely tied to the old regime. Professor Shivarov said he had been threatened in the street by angry young people. “And that is in the city! In the rural areas it is far worse,” he told Alec.

Back at Sussex where he is Associate Baptist Chaplain, Alec sometimes has the pleasure of welcoming to the campus students from countries he has visited. In his dialogues with church and state officials abroad, Alec regularly encounters interest in the spiritual life of these islands and the way in which religious issues are handled. He finds himself intrigued at the way in which religious issues are studied in other countries and especially by the renaissance of religious interest in eastern Europe. “Communism may be dead or dying. Christianity certainly is not,” he says.

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY

John Maynard Smith, FRS, Emeritus Professor of Biology, has become a Vice-President of the Royal Society for the coming year. He will have responsibilities for relations with the British Academy.

In April, Professor Maynard Smith will be a speaker at a major conference to commemorate the centenary of J. B. S. Haldane’s birth, organised by the Royal Society, the Science Museum, University College London and the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine. He will give the opening Introduction and speak later on Haldane’s contributions to evolutionary biology. The meeting will take place at the Science Museum on 10 and 11 April.

NEXT DIRECTOR OF IMS

Richard Pearson, currently Deputy Director of the Institute of Manpower Studies, has been appointed to succeed John Elliott as Director from 1 March. Richard Pearson joined the Institute soon after its foundation in 1970 and has played a key role in its development over the last decade. He is known as the UK’s leading researcher and commentator on the changing graduate labour market and on the international scientific labour market.
Vivienne Griffiths, a student in the School of English and American Studies from 1966 to 1970, is now a Lecturer in Primary Education in the Institute of Continuing and Professional Education, specialising in drama and gender issues. Here she writes about her memories of Sussex as an undergraduate.

**A ROOM OF MY OWN: memories of Sussex in the ’60s**

This academic year the Institute of Continuing and Professional Education will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Sussex Postgraduate Certificate in Education course. For me this has a pleasing symmetry, for it is 25 years ago that I started as an undergraduate at Sussex.

Arriving in 1966 as a shy, cloistered 17 year-old, life at Sussex came as something of a shock. This was the era of the Jay twins (the daughters of the then Home Secretary, Douglas Jay). Everyone seemed to be a celebrity, or the son or daughter of one. TV cameras were frequently on the scene. The other women students looked frighteningly confident. They wore ultra-short mini-skirts and made seemingly brilliant remarks about *Paradise Lost* or *The Tempest* in tutorials.

And of course there were men. Coming from an all-girls’ school, I had never studied alongside men or been taught by them, so this was a new experience which took considerable readjustment. My personal tutor, Alan Sinfield, whom I later realised was very approachable, seemed most daunting to me at first. During my time at Sussex, only two of the literature courses I took were taught by women, and I found it hard to adjust to the masculine perspective. This was before the days of feminist literary criticism, so to me it felt as though there was a gap in interpretation, but an undefined one.

Virginia Woolf’s *A Room of One’s Own* provided me with something to cling on to, and an inspiration to work towards.

In the early years of Sussex, myths about the initiation of ‘freeshers’ abounded. In those days the moats around Falmer House were full of water (luxury!). I had heard that new first years were given a ducking by older students, so spent the whole of my first week in fear and trepidation as I walked up from the station. I was also told that the photographs of all under-age students were posted up behind the Falmer House bar. As I was a month off my 18th birthday, I made sure someone else bought the drinks for the first few weeks.

*Vivienne Griffiths’ registration photo from 1966*

... and a photo taken last week

At that time all first years lived in guest houses in Brighton or Hove. Judging from my own experience and that of my friends, many of the landlords and landladies were eccentric. My first Kemp Town landlady was no exception. Every night she made a tour of the bedrooms, checking in the wardrobes and under the beds for any men we might be trying to smuggle in. She imposed a strict curfew. Anyone caught out after hours (11.00 pm in the week, midnight Saturday) would be locked out. This always struck me as inconsistent. If she was so concerned about our moral safety, why jeopardise it by locking us out? She also listened in to ‘phone calls from her extension in the basement. It all ended in a showdown over the bacon and eggs one morning when she wrongly accused me of insulting her over the telephone the previous evening.

The final term of my first year was spent in Norwich House, one of the three halls of residence, normally reserved for finalists. I loved it, even though I was miles from friends and Brighton night life. For the first time I felt really independent — and for the first time I had achieved a room of my own. The hall was supposedly women-only, but on most mornings there was a pleasant mixed-sex atmosphere in the kitchens, after students and their boyfriends had tiptoed past the warden’s flat at night, shoes in hand. In my final year I saw the inside of that flat when I took an inspiring course on D. H. Lawrence with Ric Winkler, the woman warden. And since my return to Sussex in 1983, those same rooms have become home from home, as they now house the creche where my two children have happily spent their early years.

My interest in drama flourished during my time at Sussex. In 1966 the ‘Arts Centre’ consisted of a row of terrapin buildings (on the site of the Sportscentre), where writers and artists in residence held workshops and exhibitions. Drama productions were held in the most exciting and imaginative venues. In 1968 I took part in *The Seventh Seal*, performed in the open between Arts A and B, and a memorable open-air production of Euripides’ *The Trojan Women* on the steps of the Chemistry Lecture Theatre (now MOLS), in which the gods materialised in shining white on top of the roof. Many performances were held in Mandela Hall, and most workshop productions took place in the Debating Chamber. Successful productions often found their way to the Brighton Combination in West Street, sadly now an NCP car park, which was the Zap Club of the sixties.

Many now famous names started with the Sussex Drama Club. They included Di Trevis and the late Buzz Goodbody who both became
directors of the RSC, Andy de la Tour, the writer and alternative comedian, and Jim Carter, who starred in the TV series A Very British Coup and in the 1989 BBC production of Andrea Newman's A Sense of Guilt, partly filmed on campus. My own most memorable dramatic involvement, which was the inspiration for my later career in Theatre-in-Education, was with the Apple Peel Players. This was a company set up in the summer of 1968 by David Peel, and sponsored by the Beatles' Apple enterprises (hence the name), to perform children's theatre on Brighton beach. For this event I wrote my first audience-participation play for children, called Jehosephat, starring Jim Carter as the cat who became a king.

The club did give humble students the chance to mix with the famous. I was Nicol Williamson's dresser for the inaugural production at the Gardner Centre, Gogol's Diary of a Madman. This was a one-man performance, a tour de force which involved numerous rapid changes of costume. My main task proved to be making sure Nicol Williamson actually got on stage. This was no mean feat as he was prone to moods not unlike the character he was portraying. It was particularly traumatic on the night the London critics were due to attend; Nicol Williamson disappeared shortly before the performance was due to start and was only found and persuaded to appear just in time.

Those were heady innocent days, with summer balls and dancing to the music of Russell's Chump—a bit like Oxbridge without the panting. Basil Spence arches instead of dreaming spires. Later years brought Vietnam demonstrations, sit-ins and the 'red paint' incident (when the visiting American Ambassador had red paint thrown at him). Returning from my year in the USA (1968-69), on the first of the Sussex-American exchanges, where there was draft card burning and tear gas on the streets of Berkeley, I viewed these newly radical events at Sussex with a cynical superiority born out of new experience. Some of the erstwhile left-wingers at Sussex from that time have long since joined the establishment, whereas I chart my own leftwards path from that momentous year in the States.

The summer of 1970 was the last year that degrees were assessed purely through three-hour final exams. I was not expected to do well because, as my Dean put it, he thought 'America had put me off my stroke'. I was pleased to prove him wrong.

I have left and returned to Sussex twice during the last 25 years. If I noticed considerable changes at Sussex after a year's absence in the sixties, how many more were there after a gap of 15 years, from when I graduated in 1970, to 1985 when I took up my lectureship here. When I arrived at Sussex in 1966, it consisted of Falmer House, Arts A and B, the Meeting House, the first Science buildings and not much else.

Then, as now, much of the campus was a building site, but Basil Spence's vision was new and beautiful, and Henry Moore sculptures dotted the grass. The campus was set in unspoilt countryside, the by-pass was just an idea, and 'academic corridors' were confined to Arts B.

When I returned as a lecturer, the campus had changed out of all recognition, and many of my old memories had been obliterated. The Library had quadrupled in size, and although the entrance steps looked the same, once inside the building, it had been transformed. Only the basement remained recognisable, down to the graffiti in the toilets. I am sad that the centre of life on campus has moved away from Falmer House. Although it still houses the Union offices, it seems the shadow of its former self. It is hard to envisage that large echoing room full of pinball machines as the JCR (Junior Common Room), which was the main gathering place for students and faculty, full of comfortable chairs and music, and so full sometimes for a meeting or folk evening that people used to sit up the stairs.

The economic climate had changed too, of course. In the sixties everything was possible, and Sussex and the other new universities had a pioneering vision. In 1985, the first round of cuts were already biting—they had already been felt in schools where I had spent my working life up to then—and there was a sense of contraction.

But with this have come positive moves too. There is a commitment to attract groups previously under-represented in the student body, which I welcome. There are some exciting new courses, such as the Media Studies degree, and developments in ICAPE and the rest of the University in response to changing needs. I hope that Sussex will weather the present storms and keep hold of the philosophy and ideals which made me choose it as the university at which I longed to study in 1966.

And of course, in a way I never expected, I now have a room of my own.

Viv is collecting archive material for an exhibition as part of the PGCE Silver Jubilee celebrations, and would like to hear from anyone associated with the PGCE course at Sussex in its first years, circa 1966. Please write to her in the Education Development Building.
EUROPEAN CHALLENGE

The Games of the Third Millennium is a new European event which aims to bring together students across Europe in a general knowledge contest based on European culture, economics, politics and science.

The games, under the patronage of Jacques Delors and Vasso Papandreou, will be run using a computerised communication network and will take place simultaneously all over Europe.

Teams of five students will, after registering, go through a selection process and the 24 best teams (two from each country) will participate in the semi-finals later in the year. The best team from each country will take part in the finals due to be held in December 1992 at the European Parliament.

Registration for the event is now open — the closing date is

HAVE YOU THOUGHT OF BEING A RESIDENTIAL ADVISER?

Recruitment of Residential Advisers (RAs) for the 1992-93 academic year will soon take place. RAs are second and third-year undergraduates and some postgraduates, from both home and overseas, who live in University-managed residences and are available to advise between 10 and 20 new students when they arrive at Sussex and during their first year here.

RAs provide practical help and information to enable newcomers to settle into campus life. They act in an advisory and referral capacity and provide liaison between residents and the Residential Services Area. They are not prefects, still less any sort of warden. A rent rebate is paid retrospectively to all RAs completing their duties in a satisfactory manner. For 1992-93 there may be some RAs located off campus in Holland House and other properties.

Selection of RAs
If you are interested in becoming an RA, fill in an application form (to be returned by 6 March) available from Residential Services Reception, York House. Interviews and selection take place during week commencing 6 April (in the Easter vacation) or in the first week of the Summer Term. Those selected will attend a series of training sessions in the Summer Term, and small group meetings are held during the year.

Applicants are expected to discuss the scheme with current RAs before they complete a form, as references will be followed up before interview. Further information is also available from Ann Bylles, RA Co-ordinator, Residential Services Reception.

SUSSEX AIDS TRUST — marshals needed for race

The Sussex AIDS Trust, which is building a hospice in Brighton, is repeating last year’s successful half-marathon, this year in conjunction with Heartbeat 2000, on Sunday, 1 March.

Marshals are needed for the race. If you would like to volunteer, there will be a briefing meeting at the Marlborough Pub, 4 Princes Street (opposite the Royal Pavilion) at 7.30 pm on Friday, 21 February, or you can find out more by ringing John Jenks, the Appeal Director, on 696011.

More marshals will be needed this year as the Trust hopes to stage a fun run in association with the half-marathon.

Want to take part?
If you want to take part in the race, entry forms will be available from the Students’ Union offices in Falmer House in due course.

PARKING PERMIT

All staff, faculty and students are reminded that an official parking permit must be displayed on any motor vehicle which they park on the campus.

There are a number of reasons why a parking permit must be shown: it indicates that you have registered your vehicle with Security and Traffic Control, thus allowing you to use the car parking facilities of the University; you can be contacted in an emergency (e.g. if your car has been broken in to) or if you have left your lights on; by registering your car, you give us some idea of how many people are using the parking facilities, thus providing valuable evidence for traffic surveys on future parking needs.

Application forms for parking permits are available from Porters’ Lodges or from Traffic Control in York House. When you receive your parking disk it should be displayed in the right-hand corner of the windscreen. If requested to renew your permit, you should do so promptly, as the design and colour of the disk may change from year to year.

Ted Chapman
Traffic Control
York House
PRIVATE MEDICAL INSURANCE

If you are thinking of taking out private medical insurance, or changing your existing insurance, you may be interested to know that the Superannuation Office has information on two schemes which give discounts to employees of the University. The British Universities Private Medical Insurance Plan offers a discount of 15 per cent on the Private Patients Plan. BUPA offers a 25 per cent discount on its rates, with a discount of 40 per cent for single people aged 18 to 24.

As a special concession under the British Universities Private Medical Insurance Plan, medical evidence will be required and the clause which excludes pre-existing conditions for the first 24 months will be cancelled, provided you join by submitting your application form to the brokers before 1 April 1992. Following this period, those who join will not be required to provide medical information but claims will not be paid during the first 24 months of membership for conditions existing at the time of application. However, following a two-year period, all claims will be met under the rules of the Plan.

Details of these schemes are held as information which may be helpful to you and do not represent an endorsement of any particular scheme by the University. Please telephone ext. 3795 if you would like to receive details. Before selecting a scheme, you are advised to compare the cover provided and the premiums available, not only of these two schemes, but also of any others which may grant discounts.

THE UNIVERSITY'S PENSIONS SCHEMES — an important message to all members

Are you looking forward to retiring on a full pension (based on 40 years' service)? If not, have you considered making additional voluntary contributions (AVC's) in order to boost your pension benefits at retirement?

Contributions (which are tax free) are calculated according to your age and will buy you extra years of service at retirement. You can elect to pay monthly or by lump sum and can choose how much you pay (subject to your total contributions not exceeding 15 per cent of your salary).

If you are interested in this option and would like further details, please call at the Superannuation Office in Sussex House, or ring ext. 3795.

PUBLIC LECTURES

Tuesday, 3 March — Professorial Lecture — Developing the Professions: Training, Quality and Accountability by Michael Erat, Professor of Education

Tuesday, 10 March — Issues in Environmental Science — Making Environmental Law Work by Lord Nathan, President of the UK Environmental Law Association

These lectures will take place in the Molecular Sciences Lecture Theatre at 6.30 pm. Admission free; no tickets required.

SALAD BOWL OPENS

The 'new' Salad Bowl opened last month on level 1 of the Refectory. It boasts an interesting healthy-style menu in bright, warm and attractive surroundings. If you have not already done so, give it a try.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Madam,

I cannot be the only person who has watched with concern while the physical surroundings of the University deteriorate sharply and swiftly. Litter is an increasing problem: drink cans, food wrappers and, in summer, fragments of plastic cups and cutlery and paper plates all over the grass. The practice of using masking tape to stick posters to the pathways means, at best, an array of cut-out announcements underfoot and, at worst, sodden fragments of paper drifting over campus and tatty remains of tape all over the paths.

These, at least, can be cleared away. In the last few months, however, the wide stretches of grass which have always been one of the great pleasures of the campus are being criss-crossed with muddy and every-widening tracks simply because people will not walk the extra few yards involved by keeping to the pathways. Once a track has been worn, people will use it. Of course we should all be free to walk on the grass, to sit with friends in summer, to read, have lunch or sun-bathe; this doesn't damage the grass. But steady tramping across the grass to take short cuts is quite soon going to turn the campus into a dreary expanse of mud if it goes on. I do urge other readers of the Bulletin to take a good look at Fulton Court and decide if they like what they see.

I don't know if the Estates Department has plans to stop this erosion of the campus. But we are all concerned, one hopes, with the wider issues of the environment, global warming, air pollution, the destruction of forests and so on. Could we not try to improve our own immediate environment by respecting it a bit more?

I am,

Yours truly

JOY PRESTON
Library

THE BEREAVEMENT SERVICE

FOR ST. WILFRID'S HOSPICE and MACMILLAN HOME CARE TEAM

People are needed who can spare time each week to join a team of volunteer bereavement visitors. Training is given. Men and women of all ages are welcome (though people are recommended not to apply within two years of a personal loss). If you are interested, write to: Pam Barker, Bereavement Co-ordinator, St. Wilfrid's Hospice, 2 Mill Gap Road, Eastbourne, BN21 2HJ.

PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF SCIENCE

On behalf of COPUS, the Committee on the Public Understanding of Science, the British Association hopes to offer up to 10 Science & Technology Media Fellowships in 1992 to enable scientists and engineers to experience first-hand how the media work. Fellowships span four to eight weeks with a newspaper, magazine, radio or TV. Application forms from the Information Office or from the British Association (MF), Fortress House, 23 Savile Row, London, W1X 1AB. Closing date: 31 March 1992.

Grants are available from the Royal Society and COPUS for innovative proposals to promote the public understanding of science. Application forms from Dr. Alison Evans, The Royal Society, tel. 071-839 5561. Closing date: 31 March and 31 October each year.
**NOTICEBOARD**

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

Assertiveness Training:
March and May courses are fully booked. Some places are available for June. Names are being taken for September.

Customer Care:
places available for June.

Telephone Techniques:
places available.

Supervisory Management:
a few places left (starting in April).

Communication Skills (to include minute-taking and report writing, etc):
- taking names of those interested in a course later this year.

Time Management:
taking names of those interested in a course later this year.

**Dates and locations are to be confirmed.** Nominations (via Section Heads, please) to Alison Lyner, ext. 3806.

**LEICESTER GRADUATES IN BRIGHTON**

Leicester University Graduates are holding a social evening in Brighton on Friday, 3 April, to which all Leicester graduates and their friends and families are welcome. The informal evening starts at 6 pm at the Old Ship Hotel, Kings Road, and no bookings are necessary. For further details please call Richard Adams on 0533 522931.

**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, and application forms are obtainable from the Personnel Office, Room 227, Sussex House. This list was compiled on 7 February and is subject to revision.

**Teaching Faculty**

- Lectureship in Philosophy
- Lectureship in English
- Lectureship in History of Art
- Lectureship in German

**Executive Officer in Administration**

- Clerical and Secretarial and Related.

**Technical Staff**

- Computer/Electronics Technician, Grade E
- Trainee Technician

(Applications for these two posts should be sent to the Laboratory Manager, Biols.)

**SELF-DEFENCE COURSE**

There will be a further course of four free self-defence training sessions for women staff from 1 to 2 pm on 26 February and 4, 11 and 18 March. The course provides a basic grounding in self-defence techniques. For full details contact Richard Price, Staff Welfare, ext. 3598, now.

**THE BIBLE AND TRAGEDY**

The 10th Bible and Literature Seminar will take place on 11 March from 10 am to 5 pm. Lunch and refreshments for the day £6 (students £3); tenpence coffee and biscuits only £3. Further details from Barbara Barber, The Meeting House.

**WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

Friday, 6 March at 1.00 pm in the Meeting House. A warm invitation is extended to everyone on campus who would like to take part in this special day. Speaker: Patricia Haley.

**RECENT BOOKS**

Recent publications by Sussex authors include:

- *The Inhuman* by Jean-François Lyotard has been translated by Geoffrey Bennington and Rachel Bowlby. Polity Press. £35.00.

All available from Sussex University Bookshop.

**BULLETIN**

The Bulletin is published three times this term. Copy for the last issue of term (to be published on 11 March) must be received by Jenny Payne, Internal Communications Officer, Room 230, Sussex House, by no later than 1 pm on Friday, 28 February. If you have any news items or ideas for feature articles, you would be pleased to hear from you (ext. 8208).

The BULLETIN is for the information of staff and students of the University of Sussex. Published by the Information Office. Campus photography by the Photographic & Design Unit. Printed by the University of Sussex Printing Unit.

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

University of Sussex, Sussex House, Falmer, Brighton, BN1 9RH.