Enterprise in Action

Rather than add to endless graduate dole queues, a group of enterprising COGS graduands have celebrated the end of their Finals by immediately setting themselves up as computer consultants. Ian Partington, Ian Fallon, Alan Jackson, Chris Hogg, and Mark Roworth, are now seeking custom as Computer Experts, with offices based in COGS.

Says Ian Partington, “About six months ago a group of us had the idea to set up when we finished, and immediately after our last exam we began.” So far, business has been, “very hectic indeed” with work coming not only from campus but the whole of the Brighton area. Although based in COGS at present — for whose support they are very grateful — they are already seeking larger accommodation.

Computer Experts are keen to point out their experience in all aspects of computers, including design work, PCs, commercial databases, Windows, Macs, and UNIX programming. “We can supply PCs or any type of computing equipment, set it up, write programs of any nature — and as we are commercially-oriented we are extremely fast.”

In the long term, they hope to expand into other universities, and to have several branches throughout the UK. So are there any problems at present? The eternal business dilemma: “Cashflow is very slow!”

Search for additional funding ends in disaster

An ambitious new scheme intended to identify and exploit non governmental sources of income to the University ended in disaster this morning as police moved in to arrest organisers. The scheme, known as Developing Opportunities for Private Earning was set up earlier this year as a ‘joint’ initiative between the administration and the Enterprise Unit. The scale and nature of the activities encompassed by the DOPE scheme, which was approved by Management Committee, Planning Committee and Council last term, seem to have come as a shock to most members of the University community. A Pro-Vice-Chancellor said, “We knew absolutely nothing about it. The whole thing has come as a complete surprise to us. Although, he added, “It might help to explain why the grass outside Sussex House has been cut so often this term.” Further down the corridor, the atmosphere was extremely tense, One Senior Administrator, stunned by the morning’s events was heard to mutter, “Stone me, I thought we’d cracked it. Someone”, be snorted, as he was led away at high speed, “has made a real hash of this.” The Registrar, who had departed hours earlier for his holiday home in northern Cyprus was unavailable for comment. Photo: Beatrice Merrick.

Anne Robinson visits the Trafford Centre

Television presenter and journalist Anne Robinson visited the Trafford Centre recently to observe the research being undertaken there into Alzheimer’s Disease. Her visit followed her opening of a drop-in centre for Alzheimer’s sufferers earlier the same day in Hastings.

Anne’s mother developed the brain disorder aged 74. Said Anne, “Nothing in my life had trained me to deal with it. I nursed her for six months and the society saved my life. The Government is not doing enough about it because it is not embarrassing them.”

The research at the Trafford Centre has been greatly aided by local Alzheimer’s Disease Societies who have donated research equipment to the Centre.
The recent meetings of Senate and Council approved nine new Professorships.

Seven members of Sussex faculty have been promoted to Professorships with effect from 1 October:

- **Dr Bob Benewick** (Politics) joined the School of English & American Studies as Reader in 1972, and is currently Dean.
- **Dr Jonathan Dollimore** (English) came to Sussex in 1976 as lecturer, then Reader in the School of English & American Studies.
- **Mr Robin Milner-Gulland** (Russian Studies) has worked at Sussex since 1962, first as lecturer in Russian, then Reader in Soviet & East European Studies.
- **Dr William Outhwaite** (Sociology) came to Sussex in 1972 to do an MA and joined SOC in 1973 as lecturer in Sociology.
- **Dr Alan Parkin** (Experimental Psychology) started as lecturer in EP in 1979 immediately after gaining his DPhil at Sussex.
- **Dr Josef Perner** (Experimental Psychology) was educated at the University of Toronto and came to Sussex in 1979 as a lecturer after a year in Switzerland.
- **Dr Norman Vance** (English) came to Sussex from Oxford in 1976 as lecturer, later Reader in the School of English & American Studies.

**New Chair Appointments**

**Professor Russell King**, currently Professor of Geography at Trinity College, Dublin has been appointed to the Chair in Geography from 1 October 1993

**Professor Michael Lipton**, a Fellow of the Institute of Development Studies and a Sussex Professorial Fellow, has been appointed to the Chair in Development Economics to take effect from 1 April 1994.

**New Deans**

**Professor Ben du Boulay** has been appointed Dean of the School of Cognitive and Computing Sciences, from 1 August 1993.

**Dr David Robinson** has been appointed Dean of the School of African and Asian Studies from 1 August 1993.
ALL IN A DAY’S WORK

The day to day running of the laboratories in the University’s Science Schools falls into the hands of laboratory technicians. Their range of duties includes preparing the laboratories for undergraduate experiments, replenishing stocks, and ensuring the general safety of the laboratories. Mick Henry, who is the Principal Technician for teaching in MOLS and looks after their teaching laboratories along with three assistant staff, talked to Matthew Ledbury.

I’ve been at Sussex 15 years now. I’ve always worked in the labs in MOLS, first as deputy and now as Principal Technician. Before coming here I spent nine years in another teaching department at Royal Holloway College, so I’ve been in laboratories some 25 years. At present the job is standard 9—5.30 hours - we haven’t introduced evening classes yet! Although there’s not really an average day, it’s fairly predictable during term time when practical classes are running. But there are always regular visits from chemical, glassware, and other company reps which break the day up.

“I’m in charge of the first and second year practical classes in organic, inorganic, and physical chemistry and also recently the third year medicinal chemistry classes. I have to make sure that all the solutions, the apparatus, and other specialised equipment that the undergraduates use is there, that there are spares if anything gets broken, and that I know how to operate everything. I’m also responsible for safety in the lab and hence everything that goes with that. My job is mainly student-oriented — I don’t get involved in that much research.

“In terms of my own interest in the lab, I suppose that I have a bias in my own field towards a specific technique — I particularly like what is called Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometry (AAS) which involves determining elements in very low-level concentrations. We have two instruments, one of which does parts of a million and the other which goes down to parts of a billion. They are incredibly sensitive machines. With environmental science on the up, this sort of technique is very relevant to pollution of rivers, roadside soils etc. We had last summer, for example, people taking grass cuttings and soil samples from the verges both before and after the bypass was built, and it was very interesting to see what sort of results they got.

“I also like the helpfulness of my colleagues. I remember a few years ago in lab 5, a pipe burst in the plant room above it. I came in on Monday morning and the lab was completely flooded.

Everyone came down and helped out — it was a nice feeling, it really was, because there were some people I hadn’t necessarily done anything for in the past. Ultimately we could have a laugh because it was insured so we got a newly-painted lab out of it, but at the time it was a real low point. It’s a very nice feeling to know that you can go in somewhere and someone will listen and try and help you. That’s academic and technical as well — all staff.

On the down side of the job, what I dislike most is the cleaning out of lockers of students who haven’t bothered to come back and clean them out themselves! Sometimes there’s good reason, other times they can’t be bothered. There is a system where they don’t have to and we charge them £10 for the privilege of doing it! However, it is part of the job and you do accept it. I also sometimes wish we were consulted more over the important decisions and changes that are made. I know our role is not always pivotal, but it’s nice to be listened to — things happen in my area that I don’t even know about. I’ve realised that many academics here, while they are so talented and very, very skilled in one particular area, are not necessarily expert communicators. Some of them are very good, but you get the personality with the post, and when the posts change you can lose consistency. It’s something that I’ve learned to live with, but I have found that the other people who come here from outside the University area find it a little surprising at first.

“As for the University site, I love the rooks. I look out across Fulton Court, and before the leaves come on the trees watch the rooks going up and down. Wonderful! I really do appreciate the view across there, it’s a great site. You know what time of year it is by looking at what the rooks are doing. When you see the daffodils and the crocuses coming out, you feel that the whole year’s starting again, a new awakening almost.”

BORDER CROSSINGS

A one-day conference in memory of the late Christopher Thorne, Professor of International Relations at Sussex, and organised by some of his former students, is to be held on Saturday 16 October in the Meeting House. Speakers will be: Dr. Jan-Aart Scholte, University of Sussex, “New Border Crossings: Christopher Thorne and International Historical Sociology”; Dr. Kelley Lee, University of London, “Historical Analysis and the United Nations: The ITU and Historic Blocs”; Professor Robert O’Neill, All Souls, Oxford, “From Total War to Limited War”, and Dr. Rosemary Foot, St. Antony’s, Oxford, “Christopher Thorne, the United States and the Demanding Dream.” For further details please contact Gillian Youngs, Lecturer in International Relations, Department of International Studies, The Nottingham Trent University, Clifton Lane, Nottingham, NG11 8NS.
The MOle

In the spirit of identifying potential income for the University, the Mole has come up with the following proposal for the funding of the Library. Clearly, not all students read everything (let alone anything) on their reading lists. Those that do will generally get better degrees. To the extent that reading entails use of the library, it follows that undergraduate library users will tend to get better degrees. And according to the government, these students will tend to earn more in their future employment. It is only a small step to suggest that these students should pay for the privilege of using a service which will render them richer in the longer term. And why stop at students? Faculty who use the library probably do so to improve their teaching and/or research, and in so doing they ultimately improve their prospects of promotion and increased income. Let them pay too. To the extent that the library is currently funded by all sectors of the university population, why should those sectors that don’t use the library subsidise all those people who, by using it, will earn so much more? The University should quite clearly introduce a Pay-As-You-Read scheme whereby any student who achieves a higher than average standard in their degree, and any faculty member earning above the average lecturer’s wage, should reimburse the University for library services rendered. A bottle of champagne to anyone who can convince the Mole that this proposal is very much more ludicrous than the proposed introduction of a Graduate Tax.

And on the subject of raising income, how many readers of the Bulletin actually read the VC’s Consultative Paper on the management of Car Parking? The Mole was surprised to see that parking has cost the University nearly £2 million. Just how this figure has been arrived at is not explained. There are, of course, costs associated with a car park, such as maintenance, lighting, the occasional patrol, and so on. But £2 million? The Paper fails to reveal whether the £2 million is the true cost of the car parks, and it is therefore impossible to assess the desirability of raising “an annual income in excess of £450,000”. What would the true annual cost be? And should cashless (but doubtless hugely expensive) “smart card” barrier controls be an “essential long term aim”? The Mole suspects that several strapped-for-cash students would be only too willing to spend a few hours each week as a University Parking Warden.

Not that the Mole has any better ideas — although a quick calculation shows that at virtually no cost, and on the basis of the fact that “counts show that each day some 100 or more cars are parked illegally”, a fine of £155 per day per illegally parked car should provide an adequate deterrent against the profligate parkers, as well as providing a revenue of some £225,000 per annum (and that’s just on the basis of the fines collected Monday to Friday during term times).

And still on the subject of the Consultative Paper, the Mole is happy to enlighten the readership with respect to the origins of the term “Parking Stock” (as in “More Efficient Management Of…”). Apparently the term is inspired by British Rail’s usage of the expression “Rolling Stock”. Users of British Rail will know that Rolling Stock is generally prone to being quite unsatisfactory with respect to doing much in the way of rolling. Similarly, University of Sussex Parking Stock is quite unsatisfactory with respect to providing much in the way of parking.

And finally, the Mole’s bottle. The recipient this time around must be Steff Hazlehurst (outgoing VP Finance of the Students’ Union). It is not for her detailed list of possible uses to which the Palmer House moats could be put that she wins her prize, although the list was certainly impressive, and excerpts will appear in future editions of this column. No, it was instead her suggestion for a competition that warranted this reward: “The next competition should be how long it would take Estates to complete any one of these projects, how much they would charge, and how much higher than the next tender this charge would be.” Roger Bailey, his family and staff may not take part in this competition. The Editor’s decision is final. Bottles of bubbly await.

PEOPLE

Dr. Felicity Mellor was recently chosen as runner-up in the Daily Telegraph Young Science Writer of the Year Awards for her essay, Physics as Fantasy. Dr. Mellor who teaches in Astronomy said “most people outside Science regard all Sciences as exactly the same”. As a theoretician she made the point that there are divisions within science — experimental work is different from theoretical work and there is very little contact between the two.

Professor Margaret McGowan has been elected a Fellow of the British Academy.

Julie Hall (MOLS) obtained a First class degree in Environmental Sciences and has a job with the British Antarctic Survey. She will be one of the first women on their team to spend an extended period in the Antarctic.

Mark Saurin (MOLS) will have a double celebration on 13 July; he receives a first class degree in Chemistry with Management Studies and he is marrying Kelly Haynes who was an exchange student at Sussex from the USA in 1991.

This year’s winner of the Ede and Ravenscroft Prize is Mr Jan Dehn, a final year student in AFRAS. Ede and Ravenscroft are the University’s gown makers, and give an annual prize of £500 for the best student in a particular subject, which this year was Economics.

University Colours

Congratulations to all the following on winning University colours and Sports Federation awards

Full Blues
Andrew Griffin (Cricket); Daniel Rathbone (Athletics); Bernd Kasche (Volleyball); Herve Ghellai (Judo).

Half Blues
Roberto Simonetti (Cricket); Ian Cross (Cricket); Adrian Burnett (Judo); Lawrence Webb (Chess); Tay Butler (Sub Aqua); Nigel Band (Ski); Steve Davey (Ski); James Bard (Ski); Richard Sataiyah (Fencing); Mark French (Fencing); Kashi Way (Ski).

Sports Fed Awards
Jennifer Hughes (Mountaineering); Jon Carr (Men’s Soccer); Sonia Parsons (Women’s Soccer); Pietro Galli (Volleyball); Daran Simmons (Fencing); Mark Burchfield (Volleyball); Karen Menzel (Sports Federation); Kate Barnham (Sports Federation); Samanthia Gould (Cricket); Jon Yarears (Sports Federation); Sarah Young (Volleyball).
RESEARCH REPORT
By Matthew Ledbury

MONEY DOES GROW ON TREES

Although the destruction of the rainforests and their resources remains constantly in the news, there exists at Sussex a small biotechnology company who are trying to tap a valuable Third World resource and harvest the hidden potential of plants before they disappear. Located in the heart of MOLS is Biotics Ltd, who, as science brokers, promote the search for useful new pharmaceuticals and agrochemicals. The majority of plant species are found in tropical regions, and by giving Third World countries access to high technology screening leading to subsequent commercialisation, Biotics hope to help them sustainably exploit their resources.

Biotics started life at the University of Surrey ten years ago when Professor Bob Thomas, the founding director of the Biotechnology Unit, set up an independent consultancy company. He chose its title by simply omitting the somewhat unfriendly prefix of antibiotics, an area of research that he had worked in for many years.

After first developing along with University biotechnologists a portable unit for monitoring drinking water quality in the Third World, Biotics was approached in 1986 by the Concertation Unit for Biotechnology in Europe (CUBE), a newly-formed European Commission Unit, to explore the, “safe and sustainable exploitation of the indigenous genetic resources of developing countries”. With a year’s initial support from the European Commission they took the chance in 1987 to rent office accommodation in MOLS from where a programme was launched under the title ‘Forest Focus’.

Since then, the programme has achieved the screening of more than 3,000 plant samples from ten countries in Africa, Latin America, South East Asia and the Pacific Rim. The first step in any analysis of plant samples necessitates the preparation of solvent extracts, for which purpose a dedicated laboratory facility called ‘BioEx’ has been established in MOLS. This research facility is also of considerable academic interest and Biotics’ staff have been supervising four undergraduate Environmental Science Degree projects on the exploration of tropical forest products. In collaboration with MOLS, they are also planning to train Third World phytochemists in extraction procedures and data handling, prior to launching a series of independent extraction laboratories in plant source countries.

The strategy of Western-led exploitation of Third World resources inevitably raises concerns about possible one-sided benefits for the industrialised countries. As Bob points out, however, “Our pilot projects were designed as an experimental approach to identifying and reconciling these concerns based on the equitable distribution of future botanical bonanzas awaiting discovery. The initial financial benefits to plant source countries include payments for dried plants, while in the longer term they will receive an equal share of royalties arising from any successful commercialisation by screening organisations.”

Why one pint is never enough ...

Now that summer is finally here, not only is the hot weather producing a greater desire to drink beer, but according to Dr Erik Millstone in SPRU, so is possibly one or more constituents in beer which make drinkers more thirsty. In a recent test, a range of beers were assessed for their potential to induce thirst in a group of male volunteers who had been led to believe that they were judging the taste of the ales.

The results showed marked differences between the various beers in terms of the thirst they induced and urine output.

Dr Millstone, in collaboration with Dr Keith Thomas of Brewlab examined several possible explanations such as ethanol strength and the chemical ingredients of beers but found that none of them adequately explained the differences. He concludes that further research might isolate a key ingredient which accounts for the observed effects. Curiously, of the beers tested, Stones Bitter which induced the most water drinking, and Carling Black Label which induced the least are both brewed by Bass Charrington.

A spokesman for the brewers was quoted as saying, “If we knew what made Stones give you a thirst, we’d be putting it in our Carling Black Label too!”

Mapping the human body

Approaching fruition in the biomedical division of ENGG is a project which could, according to its creators, bring a cut in the number of heart attacks by showing previously undetectable warning signs.

The ECG (Electro-cardiograph) mapping machine began as an idea in the minds of Dr Mike English (ENGG) and Professor Richard Vincent (Trafford Centre) three years ago. Essentially the ECG is a tiny portable computer with a number of terminals that are attached to the surface of the human body. Whereas similar devices have previously been able to record just one or two channels using a tape recorder, the ECG machine can record up to 32 signals simultaneously giving a ‘map’ of the chest and back and detecting changes in the body that previous developments couldn’t detect. Twenty-four hours of information is recorded after which it is played back through an analysis machine which picks up any abnormalities.

As well as detecting ischemia (a major cause of heart attacks) and angina, both of which are easily treatable if detected early enough, the ECG machine will be particularly useful for people who suffer from intermittent problems (such as fainting). It will also show the distribution of any problem around the heart muscle which is of interest both diagnostically and in terms of deciding treatment, and in the case of angina, show the extent to which the heart muscle is involved (which has not been possible before). Patients can then be more effectively selected for further investigation and treatment.

Comments Professor Vincent, “This is a step forward in opening the way for a greater recording of not only the heart muscle but a number of other things happening in the body. The long term potential is very large.”
Summer Vacation in the Library

In addition to its standard vacation opening hours (9.00 am to 5.30 pm, Monday to Friday), the University Library will remain open until 7.30 pm each Tuesday evening during the vacation. This is an experiment. All normal evening services, including book borrowing, will be available. The Library will also be open (primarily for Open University Summer Schools) from 10.00 am to 5.00 pm on the seven successive Sundays from 11 July to 22 August inclusive. On these Sundays borrowing services will not be available, but stock may be consulted and most self-service facilities (e.g. the library catalogue, photocopying, PCs) will be available.

It is expected that during the course of the summer there will be some rearrangement of bookstock and equipment (e.g. catalogue terminals) on the ground and first floors. Inconvenience to Library users will be kept to a minimum, but inevitably there will be effects both on noise levels and on particular services from time to time.

Preventative maintenance of the Library’s Geac computer means that book borrowing, the computer catalogue, and other Geac-based services will be unavailable during the mornings of Wednesday 14 July and Wednesday 15 September.

The fines charged on overdue Short Loan and Reserve Collection books will be increased from 1 August 1993. Details have been approved by the Library Consultative Group and will be displayed in the Library.

Bob Young, Sub-Librarian

Goodbye Judi

The School Administrative Secretary of EURO, Judi Clarke, retired at the end of the Summer Term after 21 years in the post. About 150 colleagues gathered in the Meeting House to bid her farewell.

Visits to the Library top one million per year for the first time

Sometime during Thursday of the last week of the Summer term, the counting mechanisms at the University Library’s exits topped 1,000,000 for the first time in a single academic year — another indication of the relentless increase in pressure on the Library’s stock, staff, and services (not to mention the carpet!)

Changing Face of Campus

As well as work in Biology, the Health Centre and installation of water meters already reported in the Bulletin of 11 June, the following work is being undertaken by the Estates Division. You are asked to take care in the vicinity and to stay outside any safety barriers.

Works in Progress

Refectory: Major repair of electrical visors. Building user is aware of programmed disruption to supplies.

Park Village: Window replacement. Blocks 13—33 and Social Centre. Completion due September

Meeting House area: Four trees felled and other surgery due to Dutch Elm Disease.

CRPC (to the South and East) clearing of scrub and removal of dead wood to make safe.

Planned Future Works in 1993

IDS: Residential wing refurbishment. Mid July to mid October. Octagon window replacement. in September.

Arts B: West side. New paving. End of July to end of August.

Computing Centre: Disabled access ramp. Summer vacation (anticipated).

Sports Pavilion Road: Resurfacing. Summer vacation.

Southern Ring Road/Knight’s Gate Road: Possible traffic control disruption for installation of BT ducts. Summer vacation.

EAPS I: Major repairs have been cancelled for this year due to the requirement for listed building consent.

Rob French
Quality & Standards Manager

Visit by Lauretta Ngcobo

The University was privileged to hear a most remarkable woman at the end of the Summer term. Lauretta Ngcobo is not only a distinguished Infant School Headmistress in London, but also the first woman Zulu novelist, a respected literary critic, and a veteran political exile from South Africa. Before returning to work in and for rural South Africa after 30 years in exile, Lauretta Ngcobo made time to come and talk to Sussex students from CCS, AFRAS, IDS and Women’s Studies about “Black Women Writers in South Africa Today”. She held her audience absolutely engrossed as she first read a short story and then talked about the reasons for there being so few women writers in that sub-continent. Many people afterwards commented, “We wish she could have talked for ever!” A video of the talk and reading is now held in the University Library.

Pauline Thorne School Secretary, CCS
The ‘Golden Girls’ leave CCS

Friends and colleagues from all areas of the University gathered in the CCS Common Room recently to say farewell to Audrey Thomas and Phyllis Smith, known to all in CCS as the ‘Golden Girls’. Between them they have worked at the University for some 41 years – a wealth of experience to lose in one day! It was a measure of the esteem in which they were held that so many people attended, and Audrey and Phyllis left laden with baskets of flowers and gifts. A ‘golden era’ is over and they will be much missed. The best wishes of all their colleagues and friends go with them for a long, happy and healthy retirement.

Phyllis Smith (left) and Audrey Thomas with Terry Difffey, Dean of CCS.

LETTERS

Whilst we welcome letters on any subject we should point out that all correspondence concerning the consultative document on car parking, included in the last issue of the Bulletin, should be sent to Roger Bailey, Estates Manager, Estates Division. The two letters below arrived before the paper was published, hence their inclusion.—Editor

In Support of Public Transport

As a member of the University who arrives rather than drives on campus, by any method but the automobile, I feel compelled to contribute to the great car debate. I may show a lack of political awareness, but I fail to see the logic behind Pam Strange’s call for improved parking arrangements. While wishing to address a very real concern, it is a letter which falls into the very same category it seeks to exhort. It smacks of economic naivety and social elitism.

For one, having graduated six years ago, still cannot afford a car and rely heavily on public transport which considering the lack of government investment, works very efficiently. This is a safe healthy option. It is rapid in comparison to the amount of time spent waiting to enter the University and then searching for a parking space, and even economic if we consider the fines levied at those who in frustration succumb to illegal parking (Nancy McKenzie). For those of us who do have an environmental conscience and lack financial parity with car owners (you could never afford a car on a student grant in my time and unless I’ve been horribly mislead by the media it’s even less likely now) Pam’s derisory summons to be “on yer bike” is a very real alternative.

While I freely acknowledge the Downland location and the right of many staff who choose to live in rural communities, I am unwilling to accept that these constitute the majority of car users. To support public transport, where possible, can only benefit the framework upon which it is based in the long term.

Jonathan Rowell

Dear Editor,

I read with great interest Richard Fox’s response (4 June 1993) to my recent letter about the never-ending saga of car parking on campus and the possibility of us having to pay a charge for the privilege of so doing.

I do indeed agree that, without the motor vehicle, our campus would become a truly peaceful and beautiful location for us all to enjoy. It would be a perfect world if my young children could walk to school without fear of being molested and/or murdered. However, coming back to reality, I have to chauffeur my two children to school every morning at 9 am and pick them up again at 3.30 every afternoon. If I took advantage of the ‘excellent train and bus routes’ available it would mean that I would have to take no less than six bus rides every day and my working hours would be reduced by at least two hours every day. Let me stress that I am in no way addicted to the motor car — in fact my whole family enjoys cycling and walking at weekends. I do not, however, live on cloud nine and I have to face, as I am sure do many working mothers these days, the realities of a not-so-nice world. In my opinion, ‘one of the greatest causes of environmental damage’ is mankind itself — so maybe the ultimate answer to the whole environmental issue is to curb the growth of the population and impose a limit (levy a charge?) on the number of children we choose to bring into the world!

Pam Strange ENGG

Dear Editor,

With ever increasing pressure on computing facilities, and an increasing pressure on undergraduates to hand in essays in a typed format, is the University planning on making more computing facilities available to the students?

Sarah Lanaway

AFRAS First year undergraduate

Reply from Colin Brooks,
Pro-Vice-Chancellor

The University, of course, does not have resources to meet all the personal computing and word-processing requirements of users, but it is continuing to monitor the use which students make of its computing facilities with a view to putting the most appropriate developments in place, and it does plan to make more facilities available to students. To help achieve this, the Teaching and Learning Advisory Group has organised a questionnaire on the use of computing facilities which was sent to 2200 students.

We very much hope that recipients will return full and considered responses. Many students use their own word-processors; many use typewriters — and Sarah’s note refers specifically to typed rather than word-processed format.

Dear Editor,

From a supervisor’s report on a prospective candidate for a British Academy Postgraduate award this year: “This candidate has a real feeling for the twelfth century, which makes his choice of topic (George Formby) particularly appropriate”. Is this the harbinger of History-with-Media Studies? I think we should be told.

Professor Willie Lamont
Research Opportunities

For more information on any of the following sources of research funding, call Louise Vincent, Research Office, ext. 5761, or email deeb@admin.

SERC RESEARCH GRANTS: UNIFIED CLOSING DATES: With immediate effect the closing dates for all Boards will be 1 October and 1 March. This means Science, NP and APS are postponed and Engineering advanced.


MANAGEMENT OF INNOVATIVE MANUFACTURING: ESRC invites comments on a draft proposal for a research programme in this field by 22 July.

DTI/SERC JOINT FRAMEWORK FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: 1994 conference 22/23 March. Call for papers available.

DTI CARRIER TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMME: To diffuse and adapt existing technology from one industry or type of firm to others where it is new. Brochures available.

NUTRITION: Dept of Health/MRC programme for research directly relevant to DH policies on public health; novel approaches, including non-clinical intervention, welcome. Closing date for outline proposals 26 July 1993.

MARINE SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY: EC call for expressions of interest in field research on biological processes. Closing date 2 September 1993.

LIFE SCIENCES & TECHNOLOGIES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: Call for this EC programme closes 30 November 1993.

HUMAN CAPITAL & MOBILITY: Next closing date for individual fellowships is 15 July 1993.

BIOTECHNOLOGY: Third call for this EC programme in areas of molecular approaches, cellular and organism approaches, and ecology and population biology, closes 15 December 1993.

ADVANCED COMMUNICATIONS: EC programme on implementation and impact of transnational telework systems. Closing date 3 September 1993.


FACULTY EXCHANGES WITH THE USA: Fulbright grants of £3,000 for each party in direct exchanges of posts in 1994/95. Closing date 31 October 1993.

STUDY VISITS TO/ FROM THE NETHERLANDS: British Council scheme for visits of 2 weeks to 2 months, for setting up or conducting research collaborations. Next closing date 1 October 1993.

STUDY VISITS TO/ FROM PORTUGAL: British Council Treaty of Windsor programme 1994/95, for visits amounting to four weeks. Closing date 29 October 1993.

Fellowships

1994 WINSTON CHURCHILL TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIPS: The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust awards up to 100 Travelling Fellowships every year to UK citizens from all walks of life. Average stay overseas is eight weeks with all expenses paid. For further information send s.a.e. to: The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, 15 Queen's Gate Terrace, London SW7 5PR, tel: 071-584 9315. Closing date 29 October 1993.

THE HARKNESS FELLOWSHIPS: Up to 12 Fellowships are offered to individuals active in any part of the public, business or voluntary sectors for study, practical experience and travel in the United States for 7 to 12 months starting in August 1994. Requests for application forms (accompanied by a self-addressed envelope 10x7" 7", carrying 34p postage) should be addressed to The Harkness Fellowships, 28 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3EG. Closing date 20 October 1993.

Enterprise Opportunities

Interested in social research and willing to help produce a much-needed information resource? A student is needed to help produce a leaflet of services, e.g. childcare facilities, legal aid etc. for one of Brighton's poorest communities in Brunswick.

Interested in gaining experience in public relations, marketing or dealing with the media? Sussex Rural Community Council, a voluntary organisation in Lewes, is offering a one-year placement for a student to raise its profile through publicity and media relations.

For further information on the above opportunities contact Tessa Gooderson on ext. 8543.

Interested in working with Voluntary and Community Organisations/Charities? The new Student Community Action Group needs a Co-ordinator. The post is 6-month paid graduate internship based in the Students' Union, and involves matching student volunteers with local voluntary groups, co-ordinating existing projects, e.g. Kids Karnival and initiating new projects linking students and the community. You will need to be a recent graduate, have experience in voluntary work, the ability to work with students and voluntary organisations and good communication, organisational and basic word processing skills.

For further details and an application form please contact: Personnel Office, Sussex House. Closing date for applications 16 July. Interviews 26 July.

Erasmus and Lingua

The new ERASMUS and LINGUA ACTION II guidelines for applicants for the 1994-95 academic year are now available. The guidelines contain the application forms for Inter University Cooperation Programmes (ICP) and for visit grants. For a copy of the guidelines and further details contact Jane Johnson on ext. 2026.

Zambian Football Tragedy

On the 28th February an aircraft carrying the Zambian national football squad to a World Cup qualifying match against Senegal crashed killing all 30 people on board. To raise money for the bereaved families, the Zambian community on campus is selling T-shirts with the logo SOS FOOTBALL ZAMBIA. The T-shirts (cost £5 each) are obtainable from Mwene Monze on ext. 2619 or 677533 and Felix Kani on ext. 2453 or 623993.

Summer Playscheme

The Students' Union will be running a Summer Playscheme for the children (ages 5 - 12) of students and staff from Mon 2 August to Fri 27 August. Financial help is available for low income families. Registration takes place from Mon 5 July to Fri 30 July. For further details contact Welfare Reception on ext. 8149.

Small Ads

ACCOMMODATION TO LET: Spacious furnished flat available immediately for visiting scientist or postgraduate student. Contact 678341 or 685349.

ACCOMMODATION TO LET: 2 pleasant rooms in family house with cooking facilities, share bathroom. £32 pw. Contact Pauline O'Reilly on ext. 8209 or 607602.

WANTED TO RENT: Female research student requires flat / house-share / house sit from 23 August mostly for Mon - Fri. Contact Sarah on 0062 485591 (day) or 0602 228243 (eves).

FOR SALE: Amstrad 1512: colour monitor, 32MB HD, 640K RAM, and mouse. Good condition. Also software, books, manuals and disks. £150 ono. Contact Ian on 746754.

FOR SALE: Boy's racing bike, suit 7-10 year old, 20" wheel, good condition. £35 ono. Contact Lee on ext. 8216.

Miscellaneous

VACATION OPENING. The IDS Dining Room is open for coffee from 10.30am to 11.30am, lunch from 12.30pm to 2.00pm and for tea from 3.30pm to 4.30pm.

Bulletin

The Bulletin will next appear in the first week of the Autumn Term 1993. We would like to thank all those who have provided us with news, details of events, letters and small ads, etc. and wish them and all our readers a very happy summer. The Bulletin is produced and published by the Information Office. Campus photography is by the Photographic and Design Unit and printing is by the University's Printing Unit. PRINTED ON ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PAPER.