HOW MANY UNIVERSITIES ARE THERE IN EAST AND WEST SUSSEX? THE UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX, OF COURSE. THE NEW UNIVERSITY OF BRIGHTON. THEN THERE IS THE OPEN UNIVERSITY WITH ITS REGIONAL OFFICE IN EAST GRINSTEAD. BUT PERHAPS THE LEAST KNOWN AMONGST STAFF AND STUDENTS AT THIS UNIVERSITY IS THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE. U3A IS A VOLUNTARY AND SELF-HELP EDUCATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR OLDER PEOPLE. IT IS ACTIVE IN MANY EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND THE SUSSEX BRANCHES OF U3A HAVE GROWN ENORMOUSLY IN RECENT YEARS.

On 15 May, the Sussex U3A committee and the Centre for Continuing Education held a conference at the University marking both the ‘European Year of Older People and Solidarity between Generations’ and Britain’s own Adult Learners’ Week ’93. Despite the Eurospeak, the European Year 1993 is both a celebration and reflection of the concerns and hopes of older people. The Sussex conference, opened by the Vice-Chancellor, explored the theme of new opportunities for the third age in Europe. Speakers included David Hobman, writer, broadcaster and first Director of Age Concern, and Dr. Anton de Man, Dutch representative to the European Parliament of Senior Organisations.

MEMBERS OF THE CAST OF SUSSEX UNIVERSITY DRAMA SOCIETY’S PRODUCTION OF DAISY Pulls it Off pictured here at Brighton Marina shortly before their extra performance in the Brighton Festival.

CONFERENCE EARNINGS
DEFY THE RECESSION

The University is weathering the storm that has hit many parts of the conference and meetings industry. Conference income during the recent Easter vacation was up 16.5% on the corresponding period last year. This has brought about a recovery in conference earnings which were slightly down in August and September.

The total income generated at Easter was nearly £300,000 and the overall performance compares very favourably with the substantial downturn in business being reported by many hotels and universities.

Earlier in the year the Council Committee on Trading Services received an estimate of the financial benefit of the University’s residential conference business and requested that this information be made widely available. The figures showed that in 1991/92 the net contribution of conferences to University overheads was an impressive £465,000.

This figure represents the net gain to the University from its residential business. Without this revenue it would be necessary to increase student rents by some 10% and radically reduce the range of catering services available. In addition, the current annual contribution of some £45,000 to Children’s Facilities would cease, and the academic areas (including the Library and the Gardner Centre) would lose a sum in excess of £50,000 p.a. These figures exclude cash purchases in, for example, the bookshop. It all adds up to a major financial contribution.

Much of the University’s vacation business is academic-related and in recent years there has been a growth in short courses and summer school programmes. This year also marks the 20th anniversary of the Open University Summer School at Sussex.
What the papers say... Sussech through the eyes of the press

In the recently published, and highly controversial Times Good University Guide (The Times 10-14 May and THES 14 May), Sussex was well placed in the following tables of 96 British Universities: 6th in Library Spending (£369 per student), 6th in Government Supported Research (£20,600 per academic staff), 3rd in contract research (£21,800 per academic staff), 8th in International Students (22% of all students) and finally 23rd in overall degree of excellence (all measures taken together).

"A golden period for the composer Jonathan Harvey" is how The Times (19 May) describes Professor Harvey's recent achievements. (see Around the Schools under CCS.)

The Guardian (15 May) features an article entitled "Curbing the over-mighty priests" by research student Jacqueline Tratt (EAM). Jacqueline argues that the deeply authoritarian and hierarchical structure of the Catholic Church is increasingly threatened by education, the secularisation of disaffected society, and the aspirations of modern women. "The church", she maintains "in a more or less free and educated society, must scale down its authority to a level compatible with the credibility and aspirations of modern society".

The largest student run event in the UK, the four day Mammoth Music Extravaganza, organised by Sussex Students' Union opens with a 70s Night at The Event in Brighton on 2 June (Independent 21 May). The festival then switches to a marquee, the size of a football pitch, in StAnner Park and culminates in a world music 'all-dayer' on Saturday 5 June.

News and People

Around the Schools

MAPS

During the last few months the research group of Peter Townsend, Helen Rendell and David Betts has attracted a variety of new grants for their luminescence work. The largest of these is a four nation EC collaboration with labs in Sussex, Paris, Grenoble, Clausthal (Germany) and San Salvo (Italy) to study properties and effects of impurities in a new type of superpure glass. The material is grown in a furnace, without contact with the walls of the crucible, by floating the liquid on a gas jet. The total budget is some 2.4 million ECU of which 192,000 ECU (approximately £154,000) comes to Sussex. A year's renewal grant of £44,000 was announced by the SERC for studies of thermoluminescence spectra with the Sussex high sensitivity system.

DR. DMITRI VASSILIEV has been awarded a 1993 Junior Whitehead Prize by the London Mathematical Society.

WALTER LEDERMANN, Emeritus Professor of Mathematics, was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Science by the Open University at a ceremony at Edinburgh on 1 May.

DR. ANDREW LIDDLE has been given post-doctorate funding in the form of a five year Royal Society Fellowship.

Congratulations to DAN RATHBONE and MARK WINSBURY (both finalists in MAPS) who took part in the London Marathon. Dan came 27th and completed the course in 2 hours 18 minutes, while Mark made it to the finish in 3 hours 22 minutes. They were both exceptionally good times and Dan now holds the record for the fastest competitor in Sussex.

Professor Boris Yerololimsky is to visit MAPS from 29 May to 18 June. He was formerly head of the Neutron Physics Group at the Kurchatov Atomic Physics Institute, Moscow and is now at the Jefferson Physical Laboratory, Harvard University.

CCS

It has just been announced that JONATHAN HARVEY, Professor of Music, is the winner of the 1993 Britten Award for Composition for his work Song Offerings. The award comes with a cash prize of £10,000, a bronze medal bearing the head of Benjamin Britten, and sponsorship from the Britten-Pears Foundation of a commercial recording. As reported in the Bulletin (14 May) Jonathan Harvey's opera, Inquest of Love, is due to open at the Coliseum on 5 June. His work has been described recently by the Independent as "some of the most fastidious and subtly beautiful music of the present day".

A former member of Sussex faculty has, at almost 80, just achieved the distinction of becoming Britain's oldest debut novelist. Sybil Marshall, a Reader in the School of Education (later CCS) from 1967 to 1976 has fulfilled a lifetime's ambition with the publication of her first novel. A Nest of Magpies is a love story set in the Fens in the 1960s, and is based loosely on her own experiences. Writing a novel so late in life is nothing unusual for Sybil who has lead a rather unconventional life and didn't go to university until the age of 47. Following complimentary reviews of the book, she is now already at work on its sequel.

Visit to South Africa

Dr Tony Binns (AFRAS) has recently returned from a rewarding two-month trip to South Africa where he was invited to lecture at a number of black colleges and universities. He was mainly based at the University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, a University with which Sussex is establishing links. During the visit, Dr Binns also lectured at the Universities of Natal and Bophuthatswana and at the Gyiambi College of Education, north-east Transvaal.

In between lecturing, Dr Binns travelled extensively visiting the Eastern Transvaal, Eastern Cape, Cape Town and Zimbabwe. A visit to the Hlupekani Refugee Camp near Gyiambi, home to some 10,000 refugees who fled from the war in Mozambique, made a lasting impression upon him.

Reflecting on the trip, Dr Binns said: "The opportunity to travel within South Africa at a time of great change and visit a wide range of different educational institutions was particularly useful". He added: "I am keen to continue to be involved in the developing of links between Witwatersrand and Sussex Universities and intend to investigate the possibilities of links with other institutions which I visited".

Finally, the trip turned out to be an excellent PR exercise as Dr Binns was able to talk about the opportunities for further postgraduate research at Sussex and is "confident that some applications from prospective graduate students will follow".

FINALISTS

Interested in a career in Journalism?

An opportunity exists for a one-year placement in the University Information Office starting in September. Salary £11,500.

For details please contact Sue Yates, Information Officer, ext. 8384 or call in at the Information Office, Room 230 Sussex House.

Closing date for applications: 7 June 1993
Universities bid for £3.2 billion

The Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals (CVCP) has told the Government that the universities need at least £3.2bn extra in the next public expenditure round. The CVCP submission to the public expenditure survey (PES), which concentrates on capital needs, includes the following:

- £1.35bn to clear the maintenance backlog—a sum identified by independent survey. ■ £581m for capital expenditure on teaching over the next three years. ■ £818m over the next three years for 55,000 extra student beds. ■ £45m to meet new Health and Safety Regulations. ■ £170m for 52,000 extra library spaces. ■ £100m for innovative technology-based learning systems. ■ £144.5m recurrent funding for staff pay.

The submission describes how universities have delivered many achievements—such as an 80% increase in students since 1979—despite a period of falling income per student. It warns that further travel along this path will only increase overcrowding and decrease the quality and efficiency which has always distinguished UK Higher Education.

It also notes that university lecturers’ salaries have failed to keep pace with average UK non-manual earnings. While their pay has risen 53% since 1979, academics’ pay has risen 9% in the same period. The CVCP believes this decline must be halted in 1994/95, and thereafter reversed.

Robin Lee Poetry Prize

Following the announcement in the last issue of the Bulletin of the results of the Robin Lee Poetry Prize, we are pleased to publish this week one of the poems by this year’s winner, Andy Archibald, an English MA student in EAM. Poems by the runners-up will be included in later editions.

FIAT LUX

The Romans must have been here in the past; these Texas roads are straighter than a nun.
On the skyline seems to be a flood but, closer up, it’s nothing but the sun.
Jeff died this morning. Now, we drive the truck out to the park at Brasos River Bend to get a glimpse of nature sitting down and making its amends. Just at the end Jeff would talk in Latin. Drifting out to sea he’d call and call “Let there be light” and, somehow, a flicker on the waves lit up the fields of maize and burned them bright. No other road but this one we can take. Nowhere to drink but the distant burning lake.

People

DR. ROBERT CHAMBERS, Fellow of the Institute of Development Studies, has been awarded the Developing Countries Award of the Justus-Liebig University of Giessen, Germany. The award, given alternately to candidates from countries of the South and the North, was given in recognition of his methodological work on participatory rural appraisal. It carries a prize of DM 10,000.

PROFESSOR ERIC LAITHWAITE, Visiting Professor in ENGG has been elected an Honorary Fellow of the Institution of Electrical Engineers in recognition of his distinguished and innovative contribution to electrical machines, especially in the field of novel linear motor topologies, and for his outstanding work as a lecturer and broadcaster to young people.

ROBERT O'BRIEN (International Relations, SOC) is to give a paper entitled The Political Economy of Regionalization and Democracy to a panel on ‘Democracy and Institutional Reform in Canada and the European Community’ at the Canadian Political Science Association meeting in Ottawa, Canada on 7 June.

DR. KENNETH EDWARDS, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Leicester, has been elected Chairman of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals. He will succeed Dr. David Harrison on 1 August this year. He is the first Chairman to be elected by the enlarged CVCP.

LETTER

Professor John Murrell wrote in last week’s Bulletin about the benefits of moving to School-based ceremonies on campus. This is something which will be considered this summer in a review of graduation arrangements.

A number of members of faculty have expressed a preference for School-based ceremonies, but few comments have been received from students. We will therefore be asking this summer’s graduates what kind of graduation they would like and reviewing arrangements accordingly.

Comments and suggestions would be welcome from any members of the University. Please send them to me in Sussex House.

Beatrice Merrick
Administrative Assistant

In brief

Research Opportunities

For information on any of the following call Louise Vincent, Research Office, ext. 3761 or Email: deeb@admin.


EC CO-OPERATION WITH EASTERN & CENTRAL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES: programmes are Environment, Non-nuclear energy, Nuclear fission safety, Biomedical and health research, and Human Capital & Mobility. Closing date 2 July 1993.


NEUROSCIENCES APPROACH TO HUMAN HEALTH: MRC has launched an initiative, with specified areas of interest and encouragement of collaborative work involving basic, clinical and social disciplines. No given closing date, but early action is advised.

DENMARK, FINLAND, NORWAY, SWEDEN: British Council travel grants for setting up academic links or joint research projects.

KOREA FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIPS for academic staff and research students undertaking research in Korea, for 2 to 10 months starting in 1994. Closing date 31 July 1993.

How do you learn a foreign language?

Surprisingly, perhaps, there are dozens of different ways and styles of learning.

The Language Centre’s facilities are increasingly taking account of this. We are particularly interested in helping foreign-language learners to be partly or wholly autonomous, especially during times when teaching in classes is not taking place.

For this reason, the Language Centre will be open five days a week for the rest of the Summer term, and through the vacation period. Anyone on campus can make use of the language laboratory, audio, video and satellite television facilities. You would be surprised at what even a small amount of time, such as 20 minutes a day, could do to help your language learning.

A Man for All Seasons

Auditions in the Debating Chamber for next term’s Gardner production will be held on Tuesday 1 June, 2.30—4.30 pm and Thursday 3 June, 5—7 pm. Parts for female, male and mature people. All welcome.

Further information: Richard Fox, Meeting House, ext. 3876.
What’s on...

Lectures, Seminars, Colloquia

- Tuesday 1 June
  12.30pm Mass Observation Seminar: Writing in the Community: Collaborative Ethnography. David Barton (Lancaster), Library Seminar Room.
  2.00pm Condensed State Physics Seminar: Reactive Probing of Macroscopic Quantum Objects. Dr T D Clark, PB1A1, MAPS I.
  4.15pm Biochemistry, Genetics and Development Seminar: Myogenins and muscle patterning in Drosophila. Dr Michael Bate (Cambridge), EP4.9 BIOLS.
  4.30pm COGS Seminar: VIEWS of the future. Dr Hilary Buxton, PB1A6, MAPS I.

- Wednesday 2 June
  5.00pm English Graduate Colloquium: The Disintegration of the Word in "Gerontion". Stephen Medcalf, Arts D640.

- Thursday 3 June
  12.30pm Inorganic Discussion Group: Rhodium Catalysed Hydrogenation of Carbon Dioxide Formic Acid. Dr W Leininger (Jena), M51, MOLS III.
  12.30pm Gender and Feminist History: Women’s Studies in China. Min Dong Chao (Tianjin Normal), Arts D421.
  2.00pm Theoretical Physics Seminar: Path Integral Approach to the Tunnelling Time Problem. D Sokolovski (Manchester), PB1A6, MAPS I.
  5.00pm Social and Political Thought Seminar: Marx, Benjamin and the Philosophy of History. Drew Milne, Arts E419.

- Friday 4 June
  4.00pm Astronomy Seminar: Magnetic Reconnection. Dr Moira Jardine, PB1A7, MAPS I.

Vacancies in the University

The following University Posts are vacant:

TEACHING FACULTY
Lectureship in German, Grade A. Closes 10.6.93.
2 Lectureships in Chemistry, Grade A or B. Closes 18.6.93.

ADMINISTRATIVE FACULTY
School Administrative Officer, Grade 1 or 2. Closes 11.6.93.

CLERICAL AND RELATED
Deputy School Administrative Secretary. Closes 11.6.93.
Further details for the above posts are available from the Personnel Office, Room 227, Sussex House.

PROGRAMMER
Programmer wanted (for 1 year minimum). Suitable for self-motivated and with proven experience in 'C', XView and SunOS. F/T (flexible hours) 4-6 months followed by FT (flexible hours) for approximately 6-12 months. PAG rates. Start ASAP.
Contact Dr Paul Gough on ext. 8421, or Dr Peter Davies on ext. 8599.

Monday 31 May – Sunday 6 June

Small Ads

HOUSE TO SHARE: Postgraduate or faculty to share house in Woodingdean with university professor from 1 June. £50p.w. single, £80p.w. double (inclusive gas/electric bills). Contact 307739.

FLAT TO SHARE: Person required (preferably female) to share rented 2 bedroom flat (2 mins from B’ton Station) from 1 July. £239pcm plus bills. Contact Louise Daly on 606799 (day) or 775610 (even).

TO LET: Fully furnished 4 bedroom house in attractive village of Kingston (Lewes 2 miles) from 1st July (short or long term). Contact Kim Nixon on 606755 (day) 493993 (even) or John Nixon 678536 (internal).

TO LET: Fully furnished 2 bedroom luxury flat in Hove from 1 July. 2 minutes walk from seafront. £450pcm. Contact ext. 4242 or 821630.

TO LET: Self contained 1 bedroom flat in converted house near B’ton Marina. £47p.w. Contact 682054.

FOR SALE: 2 bedroom 6th floor flat in Whitehawk (on main bus route). £40.000. Contact Ted on ext. 3274 or 68872.

ACCOMMODATION WANTED: Former research assistant and family require furnished or unfurnished flat or small house in B’ton or Lewes from mid-July. Must be near public transport for University. Temporary let possible (4 months plus). Contact Sinnet on IDS ext. 8283.

AU-PAIR AVAILABLE: Austrian female student, aged 21, seeks au-pair work for 1 month (between July and August) in exchange for lodgings, board and pocket money. Contact Jennie Fontana on 592604.

FOR SALE: 3 Metallica tickets for concert on 5 June at Milton Keynes. £20 each. Contact Dr Mike English (EMGO) on ext. 8049.

WANTED: People aged 45 plus to take part in experiments into revision methods aimed at helping those who have suffered head injuries. £8 for 3 half hour sessions. Contact Frances on ext. 2831 or leave a contact number on ext. 8058.

WANTED: Sussex University Musicals Society requires a Director, Production Manager and Musical Director for their 1994 production ‘Orpheus in the Underworld’. Interviews (open to anyone) Friday 4 June, 5pm in Quiet Room, Meeting House. Contact Hilary on 687006 for further details.

FOR SALE: IBM XT PC. Colour monitor, keyboard, mouse and software. Dot matrix printer and computer stand. £250. Contact ext. 3492.

SKI RESORT WORK: Paid employment available as Ski Resort Representatives and Technicians from 1st March to 93 or May 94 in Europe for French, German and Italian speakers. Contact Jenny Murny on ext. 2062.

Gardener Centre

- AS YOU LIKE IT
  Presented by Sussex University Drama Society. 7.45pm, Wed 2 June - Sat 5 June. £7 / £5.50 (concs £1 off).

- THEA VIDALE
  The USA’s Thea Vidale, stand up comedy hit of last year’s Edinburgh Festival, is back in UK. 8pm, Sun 6 June and Sun 13 June. £7 (no concs).

Miscellaneous

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE: Endsleigh offer University staff competitive premiums on Motor, Home and Contents, and on Travel Insurance. Endsleigh is situated in Palmer House and is open from 11.30am to 2.30pm during term. Contact ext. 3225.

POSTGRAD TOURNAMENTS: All postgraduates are eligible for badminton and chess tournaments during weeks 7 and 8. Contact Stuart Mitchell (EAM), Alastair Jones (MOLS) via pigeonholes.

SOUTH ASIAN EVENING: South Asian cultural evening 6pm to 9pm, 2 June, Meeting House. Music, food etc. Tickets £3 from the International Office or Students’ Union reception.

SNACK BAR OPEN: The Library Basement Snack Bar is now open at weekends from 2.30pm to 5.30pm serving hot and cold food.

MEETING HOUSE:

LANGUAGES FOR PLEASURE: CCE and Language Centre offer the following 4 day courses:
JUNE 28 - JULY 1 French, Japanese, Spanish (Beginners).
Italian and French (Getting Started Again). French (Taking it Further).
JULY 5 - JULY 8 German and Russian (Beginners). Spanish and French (Getting Started Again). French (Taking if Further and Advanced). Closing date for enrolments 11 June. Contact Rosemary Millen in CCE.

Bulletin

Copy deadline for the Bulletin to be published on Friday 4 June is 1pm, Friday 28 May.
We welcome news, details of events, posters, and small ads, etc. Please contact the Information Office, Sussex House, ext. 8209 or E mail: Info.Office@uk.ac.sussex.admin.
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