BACK FROM THE FRONT

Mary Kaldor, of the Sussex European Institute, has just returned from Sarajevo. The declaration of a ceasefire immediately before her trip seemed to change the city’s fortunes, but the people of Sarajevo, she reports, were not rejoicing.

“Obviously people were very pleased that the shelling had stopped, but they were also very apprehensive that the end result would be a divided city,” says Mary. “The ceasefire came as a direct result of the market-place massacre; it’s not really something that anyone could celebrate. Six months ago there was a fantastic spirit – a real popular resistance – but now people are just exhausted and fed up.”

Mary chairs the Helsinki Citizen’s Assembly, an international coalition of peace and human rights groups. The HCA has just established an office in Sarajevo, which Mary visited to assess its role and potential.

The HCA have been consistently campaigning for a widespread effort to restore multicultural living in Sarajevo and Mostar - a campaign started by local groups well before the war began. On her return from Sarajevo, Mary wrote an article for the Independent newspaper in which she called for the establishment of a civil administration that would reconstruct a united city:

“Ethnic partition is based on the assumption that the war cannot be solved by outsiders and that ethnic hatred is deep-rooted, especially after two years of war. My impression is different. Most people do, even now, want to live together; they blame nationalists, gangsters and warlords, not their friends and neighbours who happen to come from different ethnic backgrounds. They need help to find a viable political solution”

Mary does now feel that they are getting somewhere. “Finally, they are going to have a UN administration in Sarajevo and an EU administration in Mostar. The problem is that it will take a lot of effort to restore multicultural living, and they are never really prepared to put enough resources into it. We feel very frustrated, but we will keep going.”

4 March 1994

set7

seven days plus exploring science, engineering and technology

- Computer jazz improvisation
- How to stay healthy in a wicked world
- The territorial and social behaviour of badgers
- Magnetic levitation and the linear train
- Seeing your heart from the outside

These are just some of the wide range of research topics which will be on display on Monday 14 March when all the Science Schools will be opening their doors and inviting school parties and members of the public in to “celebrate science and technology.”

The Science Open Day is the University’s contribution to the UK’s first National Science, Engineering and Technology Week. The week, which is supported by the British Association for the Advancement of Science is known as SET7 and is described as “seven days plus exploring science engineering and technology.”

Each of the Schools involved (BIOLS, COGS, ENGG, MAPS and MOLS) is organising a range of activities including laboratory tours, displays, demonstrations and talks. Research faculty, fellows, assistants and students will be involved in the programmes and each School co-ordinator has organised his or her day in such a way as to allow movement between Schools. All the Schools have detailed plans to display, explain and demonstrate, not only their equipment and results, but also their enthusiasm for science.

According to David Betts, who is responsible for general co-ordination and the overall timetable, “The Open Day is aimed primarily at 15 to 18 year olds but it is not an admissions day. It is an opportunity for the Science Schools to display our research activities. So in addition to school parties, anyone within reach of the campus is invited to come and see something of what we do and members of the University are also most welcome to attend.” The day begins at 10:30 am with an introduction and orientation by David and is due to end at around 4.30 pm.

The University of Brighton is also staging a series of events as part of SET7. Its programme of talks and demonstrations includes: “Sharp, bright, pure light: some of the things you can do with lasers” and “Somewhere over the rainbow” an illustrated talk on the mathematics of rainbows.
CONGRATULATIONS TO PETER WAY, A LECTURER IN AMERICAN STUDIES (HISTORY) IN EAM. HE HAS RECEIVED TWO AWARDS FROM THE ORGANISATION OF AMERICAN HISTORIANS.

First, the prestigious Frederick Jackson Turner Award for 1994 for his book Common Labour: Workers and the Digging of North American Canals, 1780-1860, published by Cambridge University Press, New York. The prize is awarded for an author’s first book on some significant phase of American History and must be published within seven years of his gaining his PhD. Peter’s book which covers original ground, is considered significant in its research, and advancement of historiographic debate. It is only the second book by a non-US author to win the prize.

Secondly, Peter has won the Binkley-Stephenson Award for the best scholarly article published in the Journal of American History during 1993. The article, Evil Humors and Ardent Spirits: the Rough Culture of Canal Construction Laborers was considered the most scholarly of the year.

Peter is a Canadian who came to Sussex in 1989. He was awarded his PhD by the University of Maryland in 1991. Last year he gained a Faculty Enrichment Grant from the Canadian High Commission to pay for travel in Canada, collecting material to develop a course Canadian Culture and Society which will start in EAM this Autumn. He will be going to Atlanta in April for the OHA’s presentation ceremony.

... ALSO FROM EAM:

IMON BAATZ recently presented a paper on the relationships between science in the United States and the Caribbean at a symposium held at the Universidad del Sagrado Corazon in San Juan to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the inauguration of the Scientific Survey of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The symposium, sponsored by the Fundación Puertorriqueña de Conservación, was attended by speakers from Britain, the United States, and the Caribbean; the proceedings of the symposium will be published next year by the New York Academy of Sciences.

PETER NICHOLLS, lecturer in EAM, is organising a Conference on the poetics and politics of recent American poems entitled Writing at the Limits on 21 and 22 May at the University of Southampton, Centre for Language and Cultural Theory. Four leading poets associated with ‘Language’ poetry: Lyn Hejinian, Bob Perelman, Margoria Welsh and Charles Bernstein, will debate key issues concerning contemporary poetics with leading UK theorists of poetics.

MARY HUTCHISON from Canberra is a visiting research fellow at the Centre for Continuing Education during March and April. Mary’s research interest is in community writing about identity and place and she is keen to exchange ideas about issues and practice in community writing and publishing. She will be talking about her experience in different adult and community education contexts in Australia – at the Continuing Education Research Forum on Monday 7 March in Arts D310 at 12.30 pm. During her visit, she will be conducting workshops with ABE writing groups, as well as with QueenSpark, Spiral Arts and other groups in the South East. If you would like more details about Mary’s work do contact her on ext 4343. Her visit has been supported by the Australia Council for the Arts.

AULD LANG SYNE

BEST WISHES TO PROFESSOR CHRISTOPHER GANE, CURRENTLY DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRE FOR LEGAL STUDIES, ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE CHAIR OF SCOTS LAW AT ABERDEEN UNIVERSITY. HE TAKES OVER ONE OF THE OLDEST CHAIRS IN THE UNIVERSITY AFTER THE RETIREMENT OF PROFESSOR MICHAEL MESTON WHO HELD IT FOR 23 YEARS.

LAST WEEK MEMBERS OF CCS DID FAREWELL TO LIZ MAXWELL, MUSIC AND MEDIA STUDIES SECRETARY. LIZ IS RETURNING TO HER NATIVE SCOTLAND TO WORK FOR THE TECHNICAL DIRECTOR OF THE EDINBURGH FESTIVAL SOCIETY.

Pauline Thorne, School Secretary of CCS, writes: “The Festival Director is Brian McMaster, who also knows Jonathan Cross, Music Subject Chair. It’s good to forge these new links with Scotland. Liz leaves with all our good wishes.”

ALSO LEAVING US FOR NORTH OF THE BORDER ARE JANE JOHNSON, EUROPEAN PROGRAMMES OFFICER AND HER HUSBAND SWEYN HUNTER, DATABASE SUPPORT ANALYST FOR ADMIN COMPUTING SERVICES. SWEYN IS RETURNING TO HIS ROOTS IN THE ORKNEYS TO MANAGE THE COMPUTING SYSTEM FOR THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

EURO AND ACS JOINTLY HOSTED A SPLENDID FAREWELL PARTY IN THE MEETING HOUSE FOR A GATHERING OF FRIENDS FROM ALL DIFFERENT AREAS OF THE UNIVERSITY. BEATRICE MERRICK, ASSOCIATE REGISTRAR IN THE POSTGRADUATE OFFICE IS TO TAKE OVER FROM JANE AS EUROPEAN PROGRAMMES OFFICER IN EURO A After Easter.

FOLLOWING ON FROM THE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE WOMEN IN BRITAIN 1914-45 HELD AT SUSSEX IN APRIL 1992, SYBIL OLDFIELD OF CCS HAS EDITED A BOOK OF THE PAPERS PRESENTED: THIS WORKING-DAY WORLD: WOMEN’S LIVES AND CULTURE(S) IN BRITAIN, 1914-45.

PLAGUES OF LOCUSTS
COULD BE ANCIENT HISTORY

Researchers in the Sussex Centre for Neuroscience may have found a key to controlling the huge locust swarms that devastate crops and vegetation across Africa and Asia. Each locust can devour its own body weight in vegetation every day, and the swarms can be composed of as many as 10 billion individuals, covering nearly 2000 square kilometres. They fly for hundreds of miles without rest, fuelled by stored fats, called lipids: without the lipids, the locusts could only fly for a few minutes at a time.

Lipids are mobilised for use as fuel by the action of a hormone known as AKH (Adipokine Hormone), which is manufactured in the locust’s brain by the split of a large protein. The Sussex group, led by Professor Michael O’Shea and Dr Richard Rayne, have found that an enzyme in the brain breaks the protein (a chain of amino acids) at a specific point in the amino acid sequence. Here, the special way in which the protein is folded acts as a “cut here” signal to the enzyme. Although this pattern is repeated in more than one place on the hormone, the enzyme only splits the chain at this particularly vulnerable ‘cleavage point’; at the other sites the structure is too tightly coiled for the enzyme to grip and break it.

The researchers hope to be able to stop the production of AKH by making this one cleavage point inaccessible to the enzyme. This would leave the locust unable to mobilise its lipid stores, and effectively ‘grounded’.

ROBIN LEE POETRY PRIZE

This is an annual competition which is open to all students and staff of the University (except faculty). Cash prizes are awarded to the winner and the runners-up. Entrants may submit up to four poems, totalling not more than 100 lines. Entry forms may be obtained from Pat Hemsworth, ext. 2154. Closing date: Tuesday 19 April 1994.

RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

1. Start with a Symphony of the Sea (a three fish mousse).
2. For the main course, serve a medallion of lamb with spaghetti potatoes and wild mushrooms.
3. Round off the meal with a lime cheesecake accompanied by a white and dark chocolate sauce.

This certainly did the trick for Derek Ashew, the University’s deputy head chef. He was part of the British Universities team of five chefs that recently won a coveted Silver Medal in an international competition. The team was selected from regional competitions held all over the country, and competed against chefs from the Armed Services and the Bank of England, as well as a number of private catering companies.

The event took place at the prestigious World of Hospitality “Parade des Chefs” at Earl’s Court, and it was the first time British Universities had competed at this level. There were no Gold Medals forthcoming from the judges, so the British Universities team were delighted with their achievement: with more competition experience there could be even greater triumphs ahead.

RESEARCH FUNDS FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME IV
1994—1998 is worth £1,680m a year

SARAH MATTERS, UK Research & Higher Education European Office
Monday 21 March 1994, 9.30 am BIOLS Lecture Theatre

9.30—11.00 The Research and Development Programmes: how to apply and how to improve your chances of success (see Bulletin, 21 January, page 8, for programme titles)

11.30—12.00 Training & Mobility of Researchers (successor to HCM)

12.00—12.45 Co-operation with non-EU countries (successor to PECD, COPERNICUS, INTAS) and the current calls for the last two

NO PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OR BOOKING NEEDED


Enquiries to the Research Office: Dee Burns, ext 3762

CULILFFE SEMINAR

The first Culilffe Seminar on Constitutionalism and National Identity took place on 23 February. Professor Elizabeth Meehan from Queen’s University, Belfast, the Chair of the Political Studies Association, gave a paper on Citizenship, Women, and the European Union. This was the first in a planned series of research seminars on constitutionalism and national identity sponsored by the Culilffe Centre which will take place once a term here at Sussex.
Monday 7 March – Sunday 13 March

Lectures, Seminars, Colloquia

- Monday 7 March
  12.30pm Sussex Continuing Education Research Forum: Community Writing in Australia and Britain. M. Hutchinson, Arts D310.
  2pm Palmer Language Group: Awaiting Confirmation. T. Crowley (Southampton), Arts D310.
  3pm Analysis Seminar: Waves and the Poincaré Halfplane. R. Streeter (Kings), PB2A2, MAPS 1.
  4pm Women’s Studies Research Seminar: Home as Workplace: Deconstructing Dichotomies (this paper arises out of her forthcoming book: Home to Work: the Politics of Industrial Household in the US. Prof E. Boris (Helsinki), Arts D310.
  4.30pm Neuroscience Seminar Series: Visual Pigments in Deep Sea Fish. J. Partridge (Bristol), Biology Lecture Room.
  5pm European School Lecture: Subjects & Objects. R. Trickett (Oxford), Arts A5.

- Tuesday 8 March
  2pm Joint Chemical and Condensed State Physics Seminar: Electrochemically Deposited Magnetic Multilayers. W. Schwarzacher (Bristol), PB1A6, MAPS 1.
  3pm Sussex European Institute: Delors’s White Paper. J. Rollo (Chief Economic Adviser, FCO), Arts A670.
  5pm German Research Colloquium: The Jews of North Germany: Their History in Outline. S. Nichols (Crawley), Arts A155.

- Wednesday 9 March
  1pm IDS Seminar Series: Why Strong National Economies Are Not a Utopian Dream at the End of the Twentieth Century, and How ‘State Capacity’ Matters. F. Bienefeldt (Carlton University), Room 221, IDS.

- Thursday 10 March
  12.30pm Gender and Feminist History Seminar: End of Term Party and Summer Term Planning Session: Bring Food, Drink and Ideas! Room 303, EDB.
  1pm RUPAG/IDS Seminar: Rural Change in Eastern Kenya: Some Preliminary Themes. D. Hunt, Room 221, IDS.
  2pm Theoretical Physics Seminar: Spectral Statistic in the Vicinity of the Anderson Transition. I. Lerner (Birmingham), PB1A6, MAPS 1.

Friday 11 March
  2.15pm SPRU Seminar: Technology, Consumption and Socio-economic Structure. Prof J. Gershuny (Director, ESRC Research Centre on Micro-social Change, Essex), Room 121, EDB.

Word for Windows Courses

As part of the Computing and Information Handling Programme, the Computing Service is running courses on Introduction to Windows and Word for Windows for Non-University members. The courses cost £25 and provide 6 hours of hands-on tuition. The courses may also be attended by University members without charge. Courses in the Computing Centre at the times and dates below:

Introduction to Windows — Mon 14 March, 6pm-9pm
Introduction to Word for Windows — Thurs 17 March, 6pm-9pm
For details and a booking form contact Penny (Computer Reception) on ext. 8090 or 678090.

International Women’s Day

International Women’s Day falls on Tuesday 8 March and to celebrate the event the Women’s Movement urges you to dress in traditional feminist colours namely, purple, pink or lilac.

Students’ Union Chamber Choir

The Students’ Union Chamber Choir performs Faure Requiem and music by Debussy, Ravel and Alain. Meeting House, Wed 9 March, 8pm. Admission £2/£1. Proceeds to Palmer Church Organ Appeal.

Sport Service Vacation Classes

- Body Conditioning
  Wednesdays 16, 23 and 30 March. 1.10pm-1.50pm. £2 per class.

- Step
  Mondays 14, 21 and 28 March. 1-2pm. £6 for 3 sessions.

Miscellaneous

- France Day Excursion
  Day excursion to Lille on Sat 25 June. Leave campus 6.30am - return 11.30pm. £17.50 inclusive. Details from N. Pitman or N. Pullen. Tel: 660261 ext. 4067/4163.

- Stressed at Work?
  Back and neck massage by ITEC qualified masseur. Available lunchtimes in your office. £5 for 20 minutes. Contact Jill on ext. 8356.
  Full massage also available in the Counselling and Psychotherapy Centre between 9.30am-2.30pm, Mon and Fri. Contact Janet on ext. 8156.

- Sussex Trugs (jazz group)
  Live at the Sports Pavilion every Friday lunchtime during Term.

Small Ads

FOR SALE: Amstrad PC1512 double disk drive (5 ¼”) and Daisy Wheel printer. Colour monitor, keyboard, mouse, Wordperfect software. £100. Contact Philip on ext. 3826 or 725569.

FOR SALE: (1) Original Victorian Pine Kitchen Table. 30” x 48” with farmhouse-style turned legs and cutlery drawer. Ideal for cottage. £195.00. (2) Large Cheese Plant, 6 feet tall, 25 plait leaves, superb display piece. Sensible offers. Contact Jerry on ext. 4237.

FOR SALE: Hi-Fi from Currys — £20. Also a Bush Radiogram (record player and radio only). Free! These items would suit OAP club or similar. Contact Peter on 3883.

HOLIDAY HOME TO RENT: 3 bedroomed Villa on hillside overlooking sea in quiet section of the Costa del Sol. 30 mins east of Malaga Airport. Swimming pool included. Tennis and Golf available. £175 per week. Contact Tricia Grassie on ext. 8305.

ROOM TO LET: Large bright single room with balcony and view, CH, washing machine etc. Preston Park area. Share with 2 ex-students (& 2 cats). £40pw inclusive. Contact 884714.


ENGLISH TUITION: Tuition in English as a Foreign Language for foreign students by experienced teacher. £10 per hour. Contact Ellen on 884714.

BACKING REQUIRED: A partner/backer required for the Thinking Person’s Business. Could be ideal for u/g, p/g or faculty. More information available from the Entrepreneurial Network. Email: dave@cogs or Dave Trevena (COGS) u/g, p/h.

Bulletin

The Bulletin appears on Fridays with copy deadline the preceding Friday. We welcome suggestions for news, details of events, letters and small ads. Please send contributions to Pauline O’Reilly (editor), Mike Brooks (features) or Terry O’Donnell (What’s On) at the Information Office, Sussex House, ext. 8209 or Email: bulletin@sussex.ac.uk.