HONORARY DEGREES

Charles Wheeler  Sir John Cassels

Joe Farman  Sir Lindsay Bryson

CYBERSPACE CREEPS OVER EAST SUSSEX

East Sussex County Planning Department recently commissioned the University’s Centre for Urban and Regional Research (CURR) to review the likely effects of new communications technologies and industries on the social development of the county over the next 20 years.

The starting point for the review was the fact that East Sussex was under-performing in terms of employment, average wage levels and the rate of formation of new firms. About 80% of jobs in East Sussex are in the service sector, many of them are low paid and the area has been described as an “elderly service centre”, reflecting the county’s economic and demographic characteristics.

On the positive side, though, East Sussex is advantaged by the quality of its built and natural environment, its proximity to mainland Europe and the existence of the ‘Academic Corridor’ – the three major Higher and Further Education Institutions: the Universities of Sussex and Brighton and the Brighton College of Technology. It is also predicted that the area is likely to have a younger age profile over the next 20 years. The task is to promote the local economy and generate more and better paid jobs; the search is on for environmentally benign, ‘purposeful’ jobs which will enhance the overall image of East Sussex as a place in which to invest.

The CURR report assesses the state of play in the emerging information economy and notes the current lead enjoyed by the Brighton and Hove area in the multimedia industry. It then proposes a number of steps towards an informed strategic planning policy in the face of these bewildering new technologies. The Centre is organising a conference in July to consider the report and the role of telecommunications and cultural policy in the development of East Sussex.

Luminaries from the fields of environmental science, journalism, the civil service and the Navy will receive honorary degrees at this summer’s graduation ceremonies. The honorary degree of Doctor of Science will be awarded to Joe Farman, the scientist who discovered the hole in the ozone layer. BBC foreign correspondent, Charles Wheeler, and Director of the National Commission on Education, Sir John Cassels, will both receive the degree of Doctor of Letters and retiring Chairman of the University Council, Sir Lindsay Bryson the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. They will attend the ceremonies on 18 July at the Brighton Centre, together with over 1,000 students, their families and friends.

Graduands from ICAPE, MOLS, CCS, ENGG, EAM, SOC and Roffey Park will graduate at the morning ceremony which starts at 10.15 am. Those from AFRAS, BIOLS, COGS, EURO, IDS, CLS, MAPS and SPRU will graduate in the afternoon. The ceremony begins at 2.30 pm.
What the papers say

Writing in The Guardian (15 April), Jennifer Temkin called for rape victims to continue to seek redress through the criminal justice system despite recent evidence of its imperfections. She highlighted the inappropriateness of civil proceedings which require the defendant to be a man of ‘substantial financial means’, and pointed out the extent of the progress made within the criminal justice system over the past 20 years. The abolition of marital rape exemption, and the rule by which boys under 14 could not be charged with rape, as well as restrictions on the use of evidence based on the victims sexual history are marked improvements, she said. In conclusion, she called for rape victims “not to abandon ship, but to press on solidly, refighting old battles if need be, refuting the hysteria with rational argument.”

A Daily Telegraph report (28 April) of a pony emitting a loud ringing noise from its ear called upon Ian Russell for his opinion on the bizarre case. Professor Russell explained that the condition, a form of tinnitus, was caused by a group of sensory cells in the ear which vibrate on hearing an incoming sound and can create a sound which is then transmitted back out of the ear. He said that in one case, a Leicestershire couple had called an engineer to fix their new television before discovering that the whining sound in the living room was coming from their child’s ears.

John Maynard Smith’s favourite scientific phenomena appeared in the last of the BBC 2 Seven Wonders series (28 April, 8pm). His ‘wonders’ included the replication of DNA, the flight of the albatross and the sidewinding snake. Newspaper reviews of the show commended Maynard Smith for ‘pitching his ideas at an accessible level’ (Independent, 28 April).

LINKS WITH CRAWLEY COLLEGE

The Bulletin would like to apologise for an error contained in the issue of 28 April. The person pictured with the Vice-Chancellor was Les Perrin, Programme Manager for Construction Crafts, and not, as the text alleged, John Cox, Director of Crawley College. John Cox is pictured here with Professor Conway, after signing a Memorandum of Agreement between Crawley College and the University.

HELP AT HAND FOR ESSAY WRITING

Frustration, anger, confusion, isolation: these are just a few of the feelings that have at some time plagued most students when trying to write an essay. Tutors, on the whole, do their best to aid ailing students but their time is limited and so cannot always give students the assistance they need.

A new scheme, Supplemental Instruction in Writing, pioneered by the Enterprise in Higher Education Unit and Dr Robert Snell of the Counselling and Psychotherapy unit aims to give students the type of help they are looking for. Since January this year, students of all ages have had the opportunity to develop their essay writing skills in a series of sessions run by fellow students. Hands-on practical advice covering a range of difficulties from punctuation to essay planning is offered. Just as important, a listening, sympathetic ear is also available.

CCS tutor, Andy Medhurst, fully supports the Supplemental Instruction scheme. He thinks that peer group help is very important as students are less likely to be intimidated by going to a fellow student for help than to a tutor. Mr. Medhurst also commented that tutorial back-up for students has, to an extent, fallen by the wayside due to mounting pressure on faculty members. Despite this, he believes, “helping students, particularly those who are experiencing difficulties, should be made a priority.”

The fact that this particular scheme is run by students for students makes it stand out from other schemes on offer. So far, the course has only been available to students in CCS and SOC. The extremely positive response which has been received from students who have taken advantage of the scheme demonstrates that it is a much needed resource from which other Schools would benefit.

The scheme is set to run again in the forthcoming academic year. As yet, it is again only available to students in CCS and SOC. For further information contact Belinda Kelly (CCS u/g p/h).
PEOPLE AND PRIZES

ANNIS MAY TIMPSON, Lecturer in North American Studies in EAM has won the 1995 Prix du Québec for the work she has done to develop research and teaching on Québec in British Universities. Since arriving at Sussex in 1994 she has helped to develop Canadian Studies in EAM and worked with colleagues in EURO and the Language Centre to promote the study of Québécois. The author of a range of publications on Canadian politics, Annis May Timpson is frequently called on by the British media to comment on contemporary Québec politics. She is pictured here receiving the prize from the Agent General of Québec, Mr Harold Mailhot.

AT THE RECENT ANNUAL British Association for American Studies Conference in Cambridge, Sussex Americanists swept the board of prizes. Dr Peter Nicholls collected the Arthur Miller Prize for the best article in the field of American studies to be published in 1994 and DPhil candidate Joe Moran won the BAAS Essay Prize for the best essay to be written by a current postgraduate student. Nicholls, Reader in American Studies and Research Co-ordinator for the subject, wrote on "An Experiment with Time: Ezra Pound and the Example of Japanese Noh" in the Modern Language Review (vol 90, no 1). Moran’s essay, "The Author as Brand Name: American Literary Figures and the Time Cover Story", will appear in the Journal of American Studies later this year.

Law Moot Final

There was a good turn-out for the Centre for Legal Studies 1994-95 Moot Final at the County Court In Lewes. H.H. Michael Kennedy QC and James King-Smith kindly volunteered to sit as a two-man Court of Appeal. The four finalists, Beverley Wedge (EAM), James Beverley (CLS), Paul Turner (CLS) and Ann Howes (SOC), each had 15 minutes for their submissions to the Court. The choice of two winners was a difficult one for the judges, but they finally decided that Beverley Wedge and Ann Howes should be this year’s winners. They were awarded book tokens from CLS, and a week-long placement at Donne Mileham & Haddock Solicitors in Brighton.

Pictured from left: James King-Smith, Michael Kennedy QC, Beverley Wedge, James Beverley, Ann Howes, and Paul Turner. (Photo by Sarah Randall).

BRITISH COMPOSER AND FORMER Sussex student David Osbon (MA 1988-90), has been awarded the Hilda K. Nitsche Music Prize for his work String Quartet No 2. The prize, which includes a cash award, is presented by the University of Pennsylvania where Osbon is a Thouron Fellow in composition.

DR DAVID WALTON (MOLS) has been awarded the Lolimbawansa Award of the Sri Lanka Educational and Cultural Foundation for his work on the Malalasekara English-Sinhala Dictionary and for the creation of the first word processor linking English, Sinhala and Tamil. This was noted as a pioneering contribution towards the world of communication, ethnic understanding and the cultural development of Sri Lanka.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PAULINE KENT (above) on obtaining a BA Open University degree. Pauline has been studying over the past eight years as well as working in the student finance office in Sussex House and later in the postgraduate office. She says "it has been a long haul and there were many times when I felt like giving up but all my family have been studying, including my husband who was retraining as a secondary school teacher, so we all supported each other."

NOTICES

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

For more information, call Mylene Powell in the Research Office, ext 3812 (mornings only), email M.G.Powell@sussex.

UNEMPLOYMENT & TECHNICAL & STRUCTURAL CHANGE: Leverhulme Trust is offering up to £750K over five years to a group of senior researchers or an existing research centre, for a major programme of interdisciplinary research. Brief, preliminary, submissions by 15 June 1995.

PPARC INDUSTRIAL PROGRAMME SUPPORT SCHEME (PIPSS) aims to improve links between scientists and industrial researchers by stimulating and promoting closer collaboration. Closing date 30 June 1995.

DOWN’S SYNDROME ASSOCIATION STUDENTSHIPS: proposals invited from supervisors with projects to improve quality of life of people with Down’s syndrome and their families. No closing date given.

BBSRC CORPORATE PLAN 1995-99 available in BIOLS and Research Office: an important statement of priorities.

WELLCOME TRUST STATEMENT OF POLICY 1995 available in BIOLS and Research Office.

MRC PROGRAMME GRANT APPLICANTS may nominate up to three potential referees, from 1995/96.

Simon Alford

We are sorry to report the death of Simon Alford, a first-year student in MAPS. Simon died in the Intensive Care Unit of the Royal Sussex County Hospital at the beginning of term. He was admitted to hospital in March as a result of complications arising from a kidney-transplant that he received earlier in the year.

Simon joined the University in October 1993, successfully completed the preliminary year of the Physical Sciences degree programme, and embarked on the first-year proper of the Physics course in October 1994.

Our sympathy extends to his family and friends, especially his girlfriend Lisa, also a student in MAPS, who has been his steady companion through all the ups and downs of his prolonged illness.
Monday 15 May — Sunday 21 May

**What's on...**

**Lectures, Seminars, Colloquia**

- **Monday 15 May**
  - 12.30pm Sussex Continuing Education Research Forum: Between Cultures. J. Preece (Lancaster), Arts D310.
  - 1pm Experimental Psychology Seminar: Vision and the Road Ahead. Prof M. Land, EP3.9, BIOLS.
  - 4pm Woman Studies Research-in-Progress Seminars: The Relationship Between Virginia Woolf's Diary and Literary Form. R. Cottam, Arts D410.
  - 4pm Centre for Composition and Contemporary Music Research: Graduate Colloquium: What's American About American Music? Prof E. Schwarz (Bowdoin College). Recital Room, Falmer House, 120.
  - 4.30pm Neuroscience Seminar: Neural Mechanisms of Alcohol Dependence. H. Little, (Bristol). Biology Lecture Room.
  - 4.30pm University of Brighton Language Teaching Group: A Critique of Current Methodologies for Listening Skills in Language Teaching. J. Field (Cambridge), Language Centre, Falmer Site, University of Brighton.

- **Tuesday 16 May**
  - 2pm Condensed State Physics Seminar: Microbes, Magnetism and Microscopy. E. D. Dahlberg (Minnesota), PB1A1, MAPS I.
  - 2pm Sussex European Institute: EU Membership for Central and Eastern Europeans and the Alternatives. Prof R. Baldwin (Geneva) Arts A71.
  - 4pm COGS Seminar: The Dynamical Systems Hypothesis. T. Van Gelder (Australian National University), PB5C11, MAPS III.
  - 4.15pm Biochemistry and Genetics and Development Seminars: Ball Control in Vision Yeast. J. Armstrong, Biology Lecture Room.

- **Wednesday 17 May**
  - 12.30pm Environmental Science Research Seminar: Management of Ambient Air Quality. T. Crosett (Council for Clean Air), MS3, MOLS.

- **Thursday 18 May**

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**Small Ads**


**FOR SALE:** Aconc 3000 Archimedes computer. 2MB. Colour monitor, games & useful software. Excellent condition. £299. Contact Mike on 690370.

**TO LET:** Comfy single room in Fiveways area. Easy access to Uni. All mod cons. £45 incl. Contact Philip on ext. 8668 or 501390.

**TO LET:** Very attractive 2-bed house on Kingston Ridge. Lovely garden, view of Downs. £110pw. Suitable for family or staff. Contact 472650 (around 6pm).

**TO LET:** Flat in Toulouse. Available July/Aug. 2 beds, Office, Computer, fax & phone. 2 lounges (TV, video etc.). Rent 4500£ incl. Contact Anna on 00 33 61 22 10 33.

**TO LET:** Lge single room in Lewes. £45pw incl. Mature female vegetarian & non smoker preferred. Contact 477319 or ext. 4264.

**WANTED:** Member of faculty seeks furnished 2 bed flat/house in B'ton to rent from July for one year. Contact Emma on ext. 3854.

**WANTED:** Visiting faculty couple seeking self-catering accommodation to rent/house sit or for exchange with home in Calgary, Canada from 25 May to 26 June. Local references available. Please leave messages for Anne and Morris on 01793 770287.

**WANTED:** Visiting academic seeks 1 bed flat or room(s) for month of July preferably in Hove area. Please email: duuds063@bay.cc.kcl.ac.uk.

**WANTED:** Faculty member seeks furnished flat during July/Aug. Non smoker. Contact Reiner on ext. 3019.

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**Bulletin**

The Bulletin appears on Fridays with copy deadline the preceding Friday. Please send contributions to the Information Office, Sussex House on ext. 8209 or email: Bulletin@sussex.ac.uk.