Election fever reaches campus

During the vacation the University played host to two Labour Party election campaign visits, including one from the Labour leader, Tony Blair.

Mr Blair answered questions from an auditorium full of young people, at the Gardener Centre. The event was organised by the local Labour Party, with the discussion being chaired by

the Labour candidate for Brighton Pavilion (the University’s constituency), David Lepper. Tony Blair spent a few hours on campus, addressing such local issues as the EU subsidies on flax farming on the Downs, before a dramatic departure by helicopter.

Margaret Hodge, Labour MP for Barking, was also recently in Brighton lending support to David Lepper. During her visit she paid a call to the University’s nursery, where she is pictured above with David, and talked to staff about the new Nursery Voucher Scheme.

To find out who, from the University, is running for Parliament, turn to page 2

Buildings and Signs

New names have now been approved for the following University buildings. The AFRC building becomes the Arundel Building, MAPS Stages I and II, the Pevensey Building and MOLS, Stages I, II and III, the Chichester Building (MOLS Lecture Theatre will now be Chichester Lecture Theatre). MAPS Stage III has been re-named the COGS Building.

The new names will be incorporated in the re-signposting of the campus, the aim of which is to provide greater assistance to the wide range of visitors, both pedestrians and drivers, who are unfamiliar with the campus. In order to improve the level and quality of directional information, out-of-date signs are being removed and a number of new map displays and fingerposts are being installed across campus. The new signposting should be completed during the Summer term.
The Sussex Science Experience

Three one-week courses in science, engineering, computing and mathematics have been organised in the period 28 July to 8 August this year, under the University's Continuing Education Programme. Brochures are now available from CCE describing the courses and will be widely circulated through pigeonholes. We hope members of the University will help to advertise this programme widely through the local community; there is something for everyone. For further information contact John Murrell 3268, or Tim Metham 8920.

Music Festival

The Essential Music Festival is to be held in Stanmer Park over the Bank Holiday weekend, 24-26 May 1997. During this time Falmer House Road will be closed from midnight on Friday 23 May to midnight on Monday 26 May inclusive. There will also be a barrier across Knights Gate Road at the B2123 entrance/exit where security staff will permit access only to University students and staff, and authorised visitors to the campus. It is hoped that these road closures will not cause too much inconvenience to campus users. If there are any queries or foreseeable problems please contact Peter Ansell, Head of Security Services, ext 8233, or Paul Feast, Operations Manager, ext 8262.

Caption competition

Thanks for your enthusiastic response to our 'Tony meets Harry' caption competition — good taste prevents us from printing many of your more risqué suggestions. Congratulations to Monika Leal in the Language Centre, who receives a bottle of something sparkling for: "It's just a conservative guess, but I'd say his policies are merely carbon copies!"

Amusing pictures meriting a caption should be sent to Bulletin for future competitions.

The recent meetings of Senate and Council approved the promotion of Tom Collett, Reader in Neurobiology, to a Professorship in Neurobiology with effect from 1 April 1997. He is currently studying insect navigation as an example of a natural, complex and sophisticated behaviour that is performed with great fluency by a relatively simple animal. This has led to over seventy articles in scholarly journals about strategies and mechanisms of visual learning and memory, sensory-motor interactions, and the coordination of behaviour.

Ken Blanshard, Technical Manager of the Computing Service, is standing for Parliament as Liberal Democrat candidate for Brighton Pavilion. Ken, a former Sussex student, came to work at Sussex in 1980. He entered politics as a councillor six years ago, becoming Leader of Mid-Sussex District Council. He is taking early retirement from the Computing Service on 30 April, the day before polling day, in order to give his full attention to politics.

Other University members standing for election are Human Geographer Richard Black (AFRAS) Arundel and South Downs (Labour) and Philip Mulligan (postgraduate in Development Studies) Hove (Green Party).

New line-up for the Students' Union

The winning candidates in the annual elections for the Students' Union sabbaticals, held at the end of last term, are finalists: President Catherine Copenhagen (English Literature and Theatre Studies in EAM); VP Finance Gabriel Hyman (Electrical Engineering in ENGG); VP Communications Jemima Kingsley (Social Anthropology in SOC); VP Education Karen De Jong (American Studies in EAM); VP Welfare Jo Souter (Experimental Psychology in BIOLS); and VP Sport Simon Cooper (Mathematics in SMS).

John Postgate, Emeritus Professor of Microbiology and Fellow of the Royal Society, is to be awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by Dundee University. Before his retirement Professor Postgate was director of the Unit of Nitrogen Fixation.

Human Geography Lecturer Tony Binns (AFRAS) was elected Honorary Vice-President of the Geographical Association at its annual meeting on 3 April. Tony was Honorary Secretary from 1985-89 and became the first elected President in 1994-95.

Tony has recently been awarded an Overseas Research Fellowship by the South African Human Sciences Research Council. He will spend a month at Rhodes University, Eastern Cape to pursue ongoing collaborative research into community-led rural development initiatives in the former Ciskei Homeland, Eastern Cape Province. He hopes this will lay the foundations of practical guidelines to assist communities and planners initiate further sustainable community-based rural development projects for the alleviation of poverty elsewhere in the Province and in South Africa generally.

Teaching Awards Scheme — Letter from the Vice-Chancellor

Dear Colleagues and Students

The launch of the annual University of Sussex Society Teaching Awards Scheme, as outlined in Bulletin Special, is a further sign that excellence in teaching is acknowledged and rewarded at the University. It comes at a difficult time of resource constraint and the fundamental review of higher education. But, during this questioning of priorities, the Scheme aims to reaffirm the crucial relationship between scholarship and learning, and between teachers and their students.

I welcome and appreciate the involvement of the University of Sussex Society in the Scheme: as well as the funds, I am sure that feedback from alumni will be an important source of evidence for the Awards Panel.

May I encourage everyone, staff and students, to nominate excellent teachers and to help recognise the achievements of those who are carrying out this crucial role with a high level of expertise and professional commitment.

Professor Gordon Conway, Vice-Chancellor
Environmental policy launch

Did you know that the University composts all leaves and grass-clippings collected on campus? Have you wondered about the University’s position on pesticides and fertilisers? All this information, and much more, is recorded in The Grounds Environmental Policy, launched last week with presentations and a guided woodland walk. To mark the occasion, the Vice-Chancellor presented a tree to David Streeter in appreciation of his contribution to progressing the University’s environmental agenda. David who is pictured planting the young elm, steps down as Pro-Vice-Chancellor in July.

For further information on the Grounds Environmental Policy, contact Penelope Chapple, Environmental Adviser, ext 8904, or John Higgins, Grounds Superintendent ext 3311. The policy is also on the environmental home page (http://www.sussex.ac.uk/Units/environment/grounds/html).

Freebies at the Gardner

There are some great films on at the Gardner from Sunday 27 April through to Thursday 1 May. As a special welcome back for the new term the following exclusive offer is available to readers of Bulletin. To claim a free ticket – it’s first come, first served and one film only – be at the box office with your copy of Bulletin. The offer is for the first 15 people only for each film.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Film</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 27 April</td>
<td>3pm</td>
<td>6pm 101 Dalmatians</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9pm</td>
<td>Evita</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 29 April</td>
<td>7.45pm</td>
<td>Sleepers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 30 April</td>
<td>7.45pm</td>
<td>Shine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 1 May</td>
<td>7.45pm</td>
<td>The Mirror has Two Faces</td>
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</tbody>
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In brief

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

This is a selection of Research Opportunities. More details of these and other opportunities are available from Mylene Powell in the Research Grants and Contracts Office, ext 3812 (mornings only) or email: M.Powell@sussex.ac.uk. For an extensive listing of funding opportunities see REFUND. Go to the Research web site: http://www.sussex.ac.uk/Units/research or USIS Home Page, select ‘For Staff’, ‘Research Funding’.

EUROPEAN SCIENCE FOUNDATION

PLANT ADAPTATION: applications invited for short visits. To enable scientists working in the field of plant adaptation to travel to a laboratory in another European country. Closing date: 15 May 1997.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY EXCHANGES WITH AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND CANADA: a) Study visits: two weeks to three months, for British postdoctoral scientists to exchange ideas and information, learn new techniques, develop international collaborative links and enable participation in international programmes. No closing date. b) Fellowships: for young British postdoctoral scientists to enable them to spend between six and twelve months based at a research laboratory in Australia or New Zealand. Closing date: 17 May 1997.

ODA PUBLIC POLICIES AND NATURAL RESOURCES INVESTMENT IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA: proposals invited for research which will enhance understanding of how policies can change human behaviour and hence prevent degradation and contribute to sustainable development initiatives. Closing date: 24 May 1997.

EPSRC WASTE MINIMISATION THROUGH RECYCLING, RE-USE AND RECOVERY IN INDUSTRY: innovative proposals invited, particularly, but not exclusively in the areas of electrical and electronic goods, batteries, oils, vehicles, tyres, newspaper and packaging. Closing date: 3 June 1997.

BBRC GENOME ANALYSIS OF AGRICULTURALLY IMPORTANT TRAITS: new thematic research programme to identify, characterise and manipulate the genes responsible for agriculturally important traits in crop plants and domestic animals. Closing date: 16 June 1997.

EPSRC MULTIPOLAR WIGGLER PROPOSALS: proposals invited for the development of a multipole wigglers, operating at the synchrotron source at the SRS. Closing date: 27 June 1997.
Monday 28 April - Sunday 4 May

### Lectures, Seminars, Colloquia

- **Monday 28 April**
  - **1pm** Laboratory in Experimental Psychology Seminar: Landmarks in context. Tom Collett, Biology Lecture Room (EP 3.9).
  - **3pm** Palmer Language Group: Jam sessions or serial monologues? Gender differences in the organisation of talk. Jennifer Coates, room A155.
  - **3pm** Analysis Seminar: Asymptotic formulas for the frequencies of a thin elastic shell. A.G. Aslanyan (Moscow), Pevsey Building 22A.
  - **4.30pm** Neuroscience Seminar: State-dependence life histories. John McNamara (Bristol), Biology Lecture Room.
  - **5pm** Women's Studies Research-in-Progress Seminar: Filipino women artists and writers. Dr Thelma Kintanar, room D730.

- **Tuesday 29 April**
  - **3pm** Sussex European Institute Research-in-Progress Seminar: Informal regulation in societies in transformation. Prof. Ulrich Albrecht (Frei Universität Berlin), room A71.
  - **4pm** COGS Seminar: Consciousness and its function. Benny Shanon (Dept. of Psychology, Hebrew University, Jerusalem). COGS SC11.
  - **4.15pm** Biochemistry and Genetics and Development Seminar: Peptideprolyl cis-trans isomerases (PPIases). What are they and why should anyone care? Dr John Kay, Biology Lecture Room.
  - **5pm** German Research Colloquium: The paintings of Eugen Spiró: from Café du Dome to Berliner Sezession. Peter Spiró (London), room A155.

- **Thursday 1 May**
  - **11.30am** Economics Faculty/Graduate Seminar: Equilibrium selection and evolutionary drift. Ken Binmore (UCL), room D340.
  - **12.30pm** Postgraduate History and Gender Seminar: History MA students round table session. An opportunity for history MAs to meet with fellow history PhDs and chat informally about dissertation topics.
  - **4pm** Laboratory of Experimental Psychology Colloquium: Psychology of food preferences. Anthony Schafani (Brooklyn College of CUNY), Biology Lecture Room (EP 3.9).
  - **4pm** Research Seminar in Geophysics: Complexity, change, uncertainty and conflict in natural resource management. Nigel Watson (Brighton), room D610.

- **Friday 2 May**
  - **2pm** SPRU Seminar: Innovation and German foreign direct investment. Dr Ray Barrett (National Institute of Economic and Social Research), EDB room 121.

### Miscellaneous

- **Tennis**
  5.30pm - Wednesday 7 May. Mixed doubles tennis tournament. £2 per team. Prizes to be won. For further details ring Simon (67)8230 or ext. 3950.

- **Golf**
  The University Golf Society is about to begin its annual campaign and any able golfer is welcome to participate. If you are interested, and have not yet had a circular, please get in touch with James Hirschfeld, tel: (67)36080, or 691312, or jwbp@sussex.ac.uk.

- **Computing Service Workshop**
  2.15pm Tuesday 29 April: Creating professional presentations. This workshop aims to give you a grounding in the use of Power Point for the production of presentations, lectures or demonstrations. For details contact the Computing Service Reception or call ext. 8900.

- **Lucas Research Scholarship**
  Applications are invited for the scholarship which is tenable for a maximum of 3 years from October 1997. The successful applicant will be expected to undertake a research programme on the Wissenschaft des Judentums movement. The value of the scholarship is £6,500 per year plus university fees at Home and EU rates. The closing date is 30 April 1997. For an application form contact the Postgraduate Office, Sussex House.

### The Sportcentre

- **Boxercise**
  Taster session 1 May: Thursdays 6-7pm £1 per session (advance booking recommended). Full 8 week course.

- **Trampolining**
  A chance for everyone to have a bounce, 6 week course with a qualified instructor. Fridays 2.15-3.35pm, from 2 May.

### Small Ads

- **PAINTER and decorator. Over ten years experience, continuing trade after May. Reasonable rates and very reliable, booking for summer now. Tel. John on: 698719.**

- **NOTEBOOK computer for sale, Packard Bell Statesman notebook for immediate sale. 4MB RAM, Cyrix 486, 33 Mhz, 205 MB Hard Disk Space, PCMCIA Slot. Price: £600.00. Please contact Ian at 88 1051, or i.matt@suplux.ac.uk.**

- **DO YOU HAVE a relaxed aged 70 and over who has normal hearing and would like a free hearing test and be paid at least £5? If so contact Hazel Beveridge, or Ann Brown on 678381, or ext. 2807, or email hazelbe@biols.susx.ac.uk**

- **SUITABLE FOR SUMMER VISITOR? Seeking house sitter/tenanted for large house in Lewes adjacent to Downs from beginning of July until end of August. Contact Thomas Collett on: 473717, or ext. 8507.**

- **HELP NEEDED with research. A study of European retirement migration (see Bulletin Feb 28) is seeking to interview return migrants. If you know of anyone who has returned to the UK having retired to live in S.Europe (Spain, Portugal, Italy, Malta or Cyprus), please contact Dr Guy Patterson, ext. 2452, or G.J.Patterson@sussex.ac.uk.**

- **NOTEBOOK: Digital HiNote Ultra Colour Notebook Computer. 486DX4/75, TFT, Lithium Ion, 12MB RAM, 540MB HD, PCMCIA Type II/III, Sound, IR, New, unused, Warranty, carrycase, accessories. £875 ono. ext. 8395, or 81244.**

- **MAThS tuition for GCSE, A level and university courses offered by professional maths PhD. Phone 556699.**

### Astronomy Centre Seminar

"How we measured the age of the Universe"

Using data from the Hubble Space Telescope, John Gribbin, Visiting Fellow in Astronomy at Sussex, and research student Simon Goodwin, set out to determine the age of the universe. John Gribbin will discuss how they made their calculations and what they discovered. The seminar will be held in room PB11A1, at 4pm.

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**Small Ads cont...**

ORGANICALLY grown plants for sale. Tomato plants at 60p each. Varieties include: Gardners Delight, Sungold, and many more. Also available at 80p each: aubergine, cucumber, sweet pepper, courgette, marrow, pumpkin, and squash. Trish Groves ext. 8237.

TO LET: Bedroom near station/shops in Junction Road, Burgess Hill. Mature female, non-smoker only. £37.50 per week. Tel: (01444) 245264.

SPAIN: A few weeks available in a 3 bedroom villa on hillside, overlooking sea, in a quiet section of the Costa del Sol. 30 mins. east of Malaga Airport. £175 p.w. Contact Tricia Grassie, ext. 8305.

BEDROOM and seale use of house Mon-Fri. Patcham area. Sunny garden, all mod cons, suit n/s, mature woman. Further information contact Jan on ext. 8229.

TO LET: Newly built, fully furnished two-bedroom ground floor flat with patio in Hove. Two minutes from Aldington station (15 minutes by train to university), £520 p.m. Single occupancy. Available end of May. Call L. Bishop 697648; or R. Relderbos ext. 3656, R.A.Relderbos@sussex.ac.uk.

WANTED URGENTLY: Room in house or flat by male Research Fellow at IES, for week-ends only (2 or 3 days a week). Rent negotiable. Ring N'Tackey on 680719; or 1st 3067 weeks (working hours), and (01223) 367740 at the weekend; or E-mail: isoj@fastnet.co.uk, for the attention of N'Tackey.

HOUSE SHARE: Huge comfortable house (all mod cons) and garden in quietest suburbia (Withdean) with one male (staff). £360pm plus bills and deposit. Nice place for a quiet adult. Noel Smith on ext. 8694, or 076@susx.ac.uk.

FOR SALE: B-reg. (1984) Vauxhall Nova 1.2, 3-door hatchback, low mileage, 6 months MOT and tax. £675.00 ext. 3414.

WANTED: Pleasant, light, central house/flat for reliable couple (professional and PhD) from Aug./Sept. onwards. Please contact Daniel Wyke on 734214, and after June on (01424) 717486.

FOR SALE, as new, Sharp QL310 portable electronic typewriter. Daisy wheel print quality, 20 character display, 2 line auto correction memory, 12,000 CTR memory with 80,000 word spell dictionary etc. For further details see Argos cat. p.360 (£114.50). Quick sale at £70 ono. Tel: Lewes 478629 or ext. 2062.

HAVE YOU ever had a bad experience doing voluntary work, or conservation work overseas? If so I would like to talk to you. Please call me on: 749147 evenings.

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**Bulletin**

The Bulletin appears every Friday of term with copy deadline the preceding Friday lunchtime. We welcome suggestions for staff, events, letters, and small ads. Please contact the Information Office, Sussex House, on ext. 8209, or email: Bulletin@sussex.ac.uk.

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**Bulletin is now on the web:** http://www.sussex.ac.uk/information_office/bulletin/
Introduction

The University of Sussex Society (UoS) is making up to three awards of £500 annually as one way of promoting excellence in teaching and learning at the University. The Awards are open to all those teaching courses approved or validated by the University at all levels (foundation, undergraduate, taught postgraduate), and for MPhil and DPhil supervision.

Applicants for an award may be nominated by one or more members of staff and/or students of the University, or be self-nominated. A nomination form and notes for guidance are available from the Teaching and Learning Development Unit for submission by the end of Week 5 of the Summer term 1997, Friday 23rd May 1997. Those who have established a prima facie case for excellence will be shortlisted at this stage, and will be asked to provide full supporting evidence by the end of the Summer term, 27th June 1997. The submissions will be assessed by a panel chaired by the Vice-Chancellor Professor Gordon Conway, and comprising Mrs Libby Lines (member of UoS), Pro-Vice-Chancellor Dr Colin Brooks, Mrs Margaret Collins (lay member of Council), Professor Michael Ernaut (member of Senate), and Ms Carolyne Culver (Vice-President, Education, Students Union). All nominees will be informed of the outcome by the end of the Autumn term 1997, and the awards will be presented at the Winter Graduation Ceremony, January 1998. The deadline for the 1997/98 Awards will be the end of the Spring term 1998.

Purpose of the Awards

- to encourage excellent teachers, regardless of occupational status (i.e. from graduate assistants to professors);
- to provide recognition for excellent teaching (in addition to promotion, not as a substitute for this);
- to raise the profile and status of curriculum planning, teaching and assessment, as an important activity requiring high level expertise.

Scope

The scope will be broad, and will cover all aspects of teaching, learning and assessment, including:

- curriculum development and course design;
- collaboration with colleagues in planning, teaching, assessment and evaluation;
- use and/or development of learning resources;
- delivery of material;
- use of research and recent experience and external resources;
- involvement of professionals and external organisations;
- learning activities and tasks for students;
- formal and informal assessment and feedback to students;
- approaches to advising, mentoring and tutoring students;
- evaluation by students and others;
- arrangements for improvement and enhancement.

Notes for Guidance

- Nominees can be self-nominated or nominated by an employee or student of the University.
- Nominations can be made for postgraduate teaching and research supervision.
- The Panel wishes to encourage nominations for an award which include more than one person, e.g. in the case of team teaching or collaborative course design.
- Awards will be made for a particular and recent achievement, rather than for distinguished long-term service.
- There is no minimum level of experience required for an award: it is open to those recently starting work in higher education as well as more experienced staff.
- Previous recipients of Teaching Awards may not be nominated (a) within five years of holding an award, or (b) for the same activity.
- The Panel will seek to verify nominees' claims by reference to independent testimony.
Criteria

The Panel will be looking for outstanding performance, characterised by teaching which is responsive, stimulating and challenging to students. Nominees must be able to make a case according to some or all of the criteria below, and provide evidence to support it. Such a case may include recognition by students and peers (including those external to the University) of an outstanding contribution to teaching and learning.

1. Demonstrates a continuing commitment to the quality, development and improvement of teaching and learning.
2. Communicates enthusiasm for the subject and stimulates critical thinking in students.
3. Demonstrates subject expertise and up-to-date scholarship, and a clear grasp of the relationship, where relevant, between research and teaching.
4. Accommodates the range of students' prior learning and prepares them for the demands of their further studies.
5. Stimulates curiosity, independent learning and creativity.
6. Uses methods of assessment in ways which make a significant contribution to students' learning.
7. Provides effective personal support and academic guidance to individual students.
8. Refines own practice as a result of self-reflection and evaluation by students and peers.
9. Offers insights into teaching and learning, and the factors influencing higher education, and applies this to own practice.

Nominees may wish to make a case based on different criteria in addition to those above, and should make this clear in their supporting statement and, if shortlisted, provide appropriate evidence.

Evidence

The following sources of evidence will be required:

- at the initial stage (by 23.5.97):
  - the nomination form, signed by the nominee (self-nominated or otherwise);
  - a supporting statement (maximum of 1,000 words);
  - the names of up to three referees (one of whom should be the head of the nominee's unit; the others may be internal, including students, and/or external, including alumni).
- after the shortlist has been drawn up (by 27.6.97):

A portfolio of evidence: which should include a self-evaluation; a curriculum vitae, highlighting teaching experience and achievements; and student evaluation of the nominee's courses and teaching. It may also include, for example, evidence from peer observation; supporting statements from peers, students, graduates and professional practitioners (not initially named as referees); demonstrable student learning outcomes; samples of course information and learning resources; publications on teaching and learning; and evidence of involvement in teaching and learning initiatives within and outside the University.

The Panel will also request a statement directly from the chair of the nominee's subject group, if not named as a referee at the initial stage.

Nomination forms and further information are available from:
William Locke, Teaching and Learning Development Unit, Arts D421
Tel. 8543, E-mail: W.D.Locke@Sussex.ac.uk