Seagulls at Sussex

The Vice-Chancellor welcomed Brighton & Hove Albion to its new home at the Sports Pavilion last week. He handed over the keys of the club’s new temporary home to the Seagulls’ general manager Nick Rowe and the team’s captain Gary Hobson.

The occasion marked another milestone in the long association between the football club and the University. The club has been using the University pitches for training for over a decade and now, following the move from the Goldstone Ground, the manager, Steve Gritt, has an office above the changing rooms and the physio has set up his treatment room and gym equipment in a purpose-built Portakabin.

The arrival of the Albion coincides with a major project to improve the University sports facilities following a half a million pound award last year from the Lottery Sports Fund. The project, which will provide key benefits for the local region, involves the provision of a new floodlit artificial turf pitch; creation of a new fitness training area and dance exercise studio in the Pavilion building, up-graded changing facilities and improved access for people with disabilities. According to Simon Tunley, the sports pavilion operations manager, “This new link with the Albion is the start of the new Palmer Sports Complex site becoming a focal point for the local community.”

A key moment: Professor Gordon Conway presents the keys of the pavilion to Albion captain Gary Hobson (left) and general manager Nick Rowe.

CCE receives large award to work with small firms

The opportunities for employees in the local region to up-date their skills has been given a major boost through a new project due to start at the University this April. The Department for Education and Employment has just announced an award of £171,000 to the Centre for Continuing Education to help enhance the high level skills and knowledge of the workforce in the south coast region.

One of the government’s key objectives within education is to promote lifelong learning whereby people in the workplace, as well as those who are unemployed, have access to education and training at a high level. Provision of appropriate training can be particularly difficult, however, within regions such as Sussex, where the majority of companies are too small to provide fully for their employees’ training needs.

The new project in CCE will begin by identifying the learning needs of employees in these small companies and then, in partnership with employers, will design and provide courses which will meet those needs. The courses will be provided directly by CCE, by the University of Southampton and also in collaboration with large organisations within the region which currently run their own development programmes. It is also intended to develop a series of postgraduate qualifications, in partnership with employers, so that students gain high level credit for the work they undertake.

Mary Stuart (CCE) is the project co-ordinator. She says, “This project will greatly increase the University’s profile within the local region. Our work should make a real difference. It is a wonderful opportunity to form partnerships with employers which will continue over a number of years.”
Help needed

R O K P A is organising a Lucky-Dip lunch on Thursday 5 March in the Meeting House from 12.30-2.00 pm to help raise poverty awareness during One World Week. A lucky-dip on the door will determine the menu. The ‘rich’ 10% will be given homemade vegetarian chilli and rice, apple juice, and homemade cake; the 25% ‘middle class’ will be served with homemade vegetable soup, a baguette sandwich and apple juice; the 65% ‘poor’ will be served with a decent sized sandwich and water. All tickets are available on the door at £2.50. Homemade cakes will also be on sale. ROKPA will simultaneously run an exhibition stand and a tombola in Fulton Court, as part of One World Week.

All proceeds will be divided three ways: ROKPA, Tibet; ROKPA Nepal and to a local organisation working for the homeless in Sussex. ROKPA is the Tibetan word for ‘help’, and its motto is giving help where help is needed.

Perfection Preserved

A puzzle for evolutionists is that certain important DNA sequences seem to have persisted unchanged for many millions of years. In today’s edition of the journal Science, Dr David Waxman (CPES) and Dr Joel Peck (BIOLS) show that such conservatism could be a consequence of the multiple effects of the genes concerned.

IES on the Net

The Institute for Employment Studies (IES) in the Maniell Building, now has its own website. Reflecting its twin roles in influencing employment policy and improving human resources management practice, the new site is a good source of information on what the Institute does and why. Anyone interested in employment policy and practice, in studies of graduates and their fortunes beyond university, can find IES at: http://www.employment-studies.co.uk

IES is an independent and not-for-profit body, working with the UK’s largest employers, government departments and European foundations. The new website will widen access for the academic community as well as professionals.

News from the Centre for Legal Studies

S U SSEX has benefited from a collection of old and valuable law books, thanks to a donation from solicitors Donne, Mileham and Haddock. The firm has been associated with the University, as its solicitor, for over thirty years. More recently Donne, Mileham and Haddock has developed close links with the Centre for Legal Studies and has sponsored a number of events including the annual moot competition, which is partly judged by members of the firm. Future plans include holding joint conferences between the firm and the University, as well as the possibility of student work placements which will count as credit towards the Law degree.

Prof Harry Rajak, director of CLS (left) accepts the valuable law publications from Martin Allen of Donne, Mileham & Haddock.

T H E new Graduate Centre for Legal Studies will be inaugurated at a launch party next Tuesday (24 February) following the decision by the Senate last June.

This new GRC will be responsible for two thriving LLM programmes in International Criminal Law and the postgraduate course for the Common Professional Examination, a conversion course for students without a law degree who intend to qualify as lawyers. These LLM students will be transferred to the GRC along with the existing cohort of Law DPhil and MPhil students.

Dr Richard Vogler, deputy director of graduate studies, said that the growth of the postgraduate student body in law in recent years has been remarkable and justifies a celebration.

T H E student law body organised a careers evening for law students on 5 February. The seminar comprised talks discussing a graduate’s options after a Law degree. Speakers included representatives from Donne, Mileham and Haddock solicitors and Pegah Sharghy, a trainee barrister who studied at Sussex.

The talks emphasised how competitive the route is to becoming a senior barrister, as a mere 500 pupillage (workshadowing) placements are offered annually in the UK, for possibly ten times as many law graduates. The position of barrister is coveted as he/she is qualified to plead at crown, county and high court, as opposed to a solicitor, who contacts their client directly and prepares cases.

T H E R E are high hopes for Sussex law students in two competitions this month. Raphel Jouenne and James Beverley earned themselves a place at the national negotiation competition finals in Kingston, for a chance to win vacation placements at Allen and Overy, a top legal firm. The team had to negotiate a fictional problem on behalf of two clients and come to a mutually fashionable outcome using communication skills, teamwork and creativity.

Sussex is well represented in the annual client interviewing competition, where Mary Lee and Catherine Bancroft-Rimmer acting as solicitors, will be interviewing a fictional client to help them solve their problem. If the pair win at the national finals, they will represent England and Wales at the international final in Vancouver this April. Heather Keating, senior lecturer in law, says, “I am delighted that for the fourth year running, a Sussex team has got through to the national final.”

Fractal Flesh Gets Wired

Science meets art when Australian performance artist Stelarc comes to Sussex next week. Famous for his alternative art, Stelarc’s previous work includes footage from the inside of his lungs, stomach and colon. During his visit he will demonstrate a robotic arm which is controlled by his muscles, using electrodes inserted into his abdomen and legs. The performance, backed by the Arts Council, will focus on the philosophical issues of science and art, in the A2 lecture theatre at 6.30 pm on Thursday 26 February. For more details, contact Inman Harvey, Centre for Computational Neuroscience and Robotics, on ext 8754.
Tree trap for polluting particles

Roadside trees help to improve air quality in towns and near traffic hot spots, says Paul Beckett, a DPhil student in BIOLS. Paul is working with Dr Gail Taylor, and with the Forestry Commission, on the ways in which trees remove dangerous particulate material from the air. They have been studying trees near busy roads in the neighbourhood and elsewhere, and have written a review which will be published shortly.

Fine airborne particles pose a serious and increasing health problem. High concentrations of particles with a diameter less than 10 microns (PM10) have been linked with increased incidence and severity of respiratory illness. The most dangerous particles are those below 2.5 microns and almost all of these are produced as a result of human activity, about 80%, from road traffic, mainly from diesel-powered vehicles.

Trees act as important biological filters, removing significant amounts of particulate material, because they expose very large surface areas to the surrounding atmosphere. A London plane tree can expose a total leaf area of about 900 square metres, a much greater area than that of any building occupying the same ground space. Particles stick to the exposed surfaces, particularly if these are covered with hairs or sticky waxes. Collected matter is eventually washed off by rain or shed with the leaves. Paul and colleagues have found that lime trees collect about four times as much as plane trees, possibly because lime leaves are hairier and stickier.

Choosing the right sort of tree must take into account not only its efficiency as a filter but also its ability to withstand a polluted environment. Conifers can be the most efficient filters as they present the greatest surface areas and keep their foliage throughout the winter, however, they also suffer more than deciduous trees because pollution levels are higher in winter.

Paul and colleagues are showing that trees can play a very important part in improving air quality. Nevertheless, it would be better if the particles were not there at all.

People

Norma Binnie, General Manager of the Gardner Arts Centre for the past ten years, has decided to step down this summer. Norma, who has vigorously campaigned for more funding for the centre, has been instrumental in promoting the Gardner's reputation as an arts venue. The Chairman of the Centre, Reg Morgan, said, "She was appointed during the Gardner's financial crisis in 1988 and restored it to continuing financial stability. She has steered the Centre through unexpected challenges and will leave exciting opportunities for her successor." Norma (pictured above) feels she has achieved her personal objectives "with the centre's finances stable and its artistic reputation so well respected."

All those who knew Julius Carlebach will be delighted to hear that he has been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal of the Land of Baden-Württemberg for his outstanding contribution to Jewish scholarship, the study of German Jewish history and German-Jewish reconciliation. He taught sociology and Jewish studies at Sussex from 1968 to 1988 when he left to become Rektor of the University for Jewish Studies in Heidelberg. After his retirement last year he returned to live in Brighton and is still closely associated with the University and its Centre for German Jewish Studies.

On 5 March John Gribbin (Visiting Fellow in Astronomy) will be one of the participants in a Times/Dillons Science Forum, at the Institute of Education in London. The topic of debate will be 'Why Science Matters'. The other contributors will be Susan Greenfield, Sir Roger Penrose, Sir Martin Rees, and the chairman, Melvyn Bragg.

Research Opportunities

More details of these and other research opportunities are available from Mylene Powell in the Research Grants and Contracts Office, ext.3812 or email: M.Powell@sussex.ac.uk.

For an extensive listing of funding opportunities see REFUND linked to the Research web site: http://www.sussex.ac.uk/Units/research or SUSIS Home Page, select 'Teaching & Research', 'Research Funding at Sussex'.

TEACHING AND LEARNING FUND: The HEFCE require an evaluation of the fund for the development of teaching and learning. The emphasis is on: achievements to date of the FDTL; how far objectives have been met; lessons that can be learnt by the funding bodies, national coordination team and project teams from the management and procedures of the FDTL. Deadline: 27 February 1998.

JAPANESE OPPORTUNITIES FOR BRITISH SCIENTISTS IN CATALYTIC CHEMISTRY: The British Council Science Section in Tokyo wishes to promote UK academic expertise to small and medium sized Japanese companies. Japanese companies are interested in: publishing; subscriptions to UK academic institutions Research collaboration (strongest interest); other research links; employment of UK researchers. Preliminary expression of interest: by end of February 1998.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE GRANTS SCHEME: applications invited for travel and subsistence grants to enable UK academics to attend overseas conferences. Applicants must hold a PhD in the natural sciences. Deadline: 1 March 1998.

ROYAL SOCIETY EUROPEAN JOINT PROJECTS: applications invited from postdoctoral scientists for bilateral research projects in the natural and applied sciences. Projects should support collaboration between two individuals or research groups, one in the UK and the other in another western European country. Deadline: 1 March 1998.

FULLBRIGHT COMMISSION AWARDS 1998/99: Scholarships for lecturing and research are open to any field of study and carry a grant of £1,750 (minimum three months). Fulbright Cancer Research Fellowships; Fulbright Louise Buchanan Fellowship for Research into Cancers and Lymph Glands; Fulbright/Zeneca Research Scholarship in Cell Biology, Molecular Biology or Bio-Informatics. Deadline: 20 March 1998.
What's on...

Monday 23 February – Sunday 1 March

Lectures, Seminars, Colloquia

- **Monday 23 February**
  - 1.00 pm Experimental Psychology Seminar: Jenny Rusted, *Everyday memory and Alzheimer's: another cup of tea?* Biology Lecture Room (EP 3.9)
  - 2.00 pm Centre in Global Political Economy Seminar: Mary Kakkor, *Title tbc.* Room A71
  - 3.00 pm Centre for Mathematical Analysis and its Applications Seminar: M Joshi (Cambridge University) Recovering asymmetry of metrics and potentials from fixed energy scattering data. Room Pevensey 2A2
  - 4.00 pm CULCOM Lecture: Elin Diamond (Rutgers University) "Rockabye baby gone the treetop": natural history and feminist performance. CCS Common Room
  - 4.30 pm Neuroscience Seminar: Wijnand Geraets (Free University, Amsterdam) A novel acetylcholine binding protein: characterisation and putative role in neuronal signalling. Biology Lecture Room (EP 3.9)
  - 5.00 pm Sociology and Social Psychology Seminar: Torsten Reiner (University of Potsdam) The impact of attributions on the adequacy of group members' partner spaces. Room D310
  - 6.00 pm Lapidus Seminar: Nicki Jackowska, *On her book, Write for Life: A Practical Approach to Creative Writing.* Room D410

- **Tuesday 24 February**
  - 2.15 pm Sussex European Institute Research in Progress Seminar: Albert Weale (University of Essex) A theory of the democratic deficit. Room A71
  - 4.00 pm Engineering Colloquium: Paul Thompson (ERA Technology) An overview of satellite communications. Room Arundel 401
  - 4.15 pm Biochemistry, Genetics and Development Seminar: Gordon Peters (ICRF) The p53BNK4a tumour suppressor in cell cycle control and replicative senescence. Biology Lecture Theatre
  - 4.30 pm Social and Political Thought Seminar: Joseph McCarney (South Bank University) Hegel and the end of history. Room D630
  - 5.00 pm American Studies Seminar: Alan Wade (George Washington University) American theatre and the racial divide. Room D730
  - 5.00 pm Social Anthropology Seminar: Katy Gardner, *Narrating location: oral history and Bengali elders in London.* Room D722
  - 5.00 pm New Metaphysical Art Seminar: Roger Poole, Jacques Derrida and The Gift Of Death. Room EDB 302
  - 5.15 pm German Research Colloquium: Paula Hill (University of London) Rassenkunde: the indoctrination of children in Nazi ideology. Room A155

- **Wednesday 25 February**
  - 11.30 am Plant Science Seminar: Steve Quarrie (John Innes Centre) From genes to yield in a single step: the role of molecular markers in plant physiology. Room Pevensey 2A1
  - 1.00 pm IDS Environment Group Seminar: Simon Shackley (Lancaster University) Constructing future climates: how international organisations produce and use scenarios. Room IDS 221

Lectures, Seminars, Colloquia

- 1.30 pm Sussex Centre for Optical and Atomic Physics Seminar: Paul French (Imperial College) Ultrafast all-solid lasers and their biomedical applications. Room Pevensey 2A2
  - 4.00 pm Centre for Southern African Studies Seminar: Malcolm Segal, *Health policy in South Africa.* Room C337
  - 4.30 pm History of Art Work in Progress Seminar: Lindsay Smith, *Photography and symbolism.* Room A5
  - 4.30 pm Centre for Legal Studies Seminar: Leslie Moran (Lancaster University) Homophobic violence, sexuality, space. Room D610
  - 5.00 pm English Graduate Colloquium: Diane Purkiss (Reading University) Are fairies a "race"? Anthropology, folklore and the supernatural. Room D640
  - 5.00 pm Centre for Modern French Thought Seminar: Andrea Rehberg (Manchester Metropolitan University) Nietzschean divinations. Room A71

- **Thursday 26 February**
  - 11.30 am Economics Seminar: TimBesley (LSE) Public-private partnerships in development: an economic analysis of NGOs. Room D310
  - 11.30 am Topology, Algebra and Geometry Seminar: CP Roukie (Warwick) Order automatic mapping class groups. Room Pevensey 2A1
  - 12.30 pm Postgraduate History and Gender Seminar: Barbara Parshunson & Joan Doern, *Community and history: the Braamcorpe project.* Room D520
  - 4.00 pm Geography Research Seminar: Janet Hooke (University of Portsmouth) Modelling impacts of desertification on river channels in the Mediterranean region. Room D610
  - 4.00 pm Experimental Psychology Colloquium: Paul Harris (Oxford University) Absorption in fiction: links between pretend play and text processing. Biology Lecture Room (EP 3.9)
  - 5.00 pm Sussex Development Lecture: Richard Wilson, *Human rights, globalisation and culture.* Room A12
  - 5.00 pm History Work in Progress Seminar: Dorothy Sheridan, *Ethics, mass observation and history.* Room A155
  - 6.15 pm Professorial Lecture: Jim Skea, *Climate policy: social transformation or technical fix?* Chichester Lecture Theatre

- **Friday 27 February**
  - 2.00 pm SPRU Seminar: Keith Pavitt, Technologies, products and organisation in the innovating firm: what Adam Smith tells us and Joseph Schumpeter doesn't. Room EDB 121
  - 4.00 pm Astronomy Centre Seminar: Paul Crowther (UCL) Massive stars in extreme environments. Room Arundel 401
  - 4.00 pm Chemical Physics Seminar: Alison Mainwood, *King's College* Modelling radiation damage in semiconductors. Room Chichester 3R24
  - 4.30 pm Philosophy Society Seminar: Raymond Geuss (Cambridge University) *Ari and theodicy.* Room A155

Miscellaneous

- Lunchtime recital at the Meeting House, Beric Williams (piano) 24 February, 1.20 pm in the chapel.
- A time of prayer at the Meeting House. Brother Paulo from the ecumenical Taizé community in Burgundy, will lead prayer with the Chants of Taizé, 26 February at 6 pm
- Students planning to move into private rented accommodation - the Students Union and University Housing Office are running workshops providing valuable information about the renting process. First three workshops on: 23 February 1 pm, Falmer House room 126; 25 February 12 pm, Falmer House room 126; 26 February 6 pm, Lanes House common room, all welcome.
- Accessing the Internet - a course run by Computing Services, 23 February 6 to 8 pm. Contact reception for more details.
- University of Sussex Film-making Society presents 'The Trickle Down Effect', a film by Keith Sicat. Free admission to a showing on February 25 at 6.25 pm in the A2 lecture theatre, includes other 1997 shorts.

Small Ads

WANTED: witnesses to a crash on 16 February, 5.35 pm. A Royal Mail van crashed into a white Micro beside boiler house car park, please contact ext 8003

ACCOMMODATION WANTED: three/four bedroom furnished house for family of six required for twelve months from April. Must be close to University. Please e-mail: shefiner@tezuakamya-u.ac.jp

ROOM AVAILABLE: for PG/maurice student (over 25) in shared house near London Road station, comfortable warm house with two others plus cat, garden and mod-cons, £180 p.c.m excl. Contact 541881

ACCOMMODATION WANTED: for faculty member, one bedroom part or unfurnished flat in Hove from April. Contact ext 8612, 8543 or e-mail: K.Jones@sussex.ac.uk

Bulletin

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

Bulletin on the web: [http://www.sussex.ac.uk/information_office/bulletin/](http://www.sussex.ac.uk/information_office/bulletin/)