A walk on the wild side

It was Thursday morning and 30 people were standing on a metal walkway, wearing hard hats and natty red lifejackets, all hoping they wouldn’t fall into the murky sea 30 feet below. Dr Fred Gray (CCE) had invited Bulletin and some assorted colleagues on a tour of the West Pier.

Fred is well known for his love of crumbly seaside architecture, and as the pier’s honorary historian had promised some associates a stroll around Brighton’s best-loved (and loathed) monument of Victorian construction. For some, the pier is a rotting eye-sore; for others it is one of the finest pieces of historic seaside architecture remaining in England.

The Grade I listed pier has been well-publicised during the Brighton Festival. It was featured in a photographic exhibition in the Gardner Arts Centre, and the focus for a Lighthouse multimedia project – Re: a pier – as part of the Virtual Festival.

“The West Pier is an atmospheric reminder of seaside holidays long gone,” said Fred. “It is an enduring symbol of Brighton past and present, and its proposed £34 million restoration plans offer promise for the future.”

International Policy Workshop at Sussex

Last week the Sussex European Institute held a workshop on the theme of International Competition Policy sponsored by the ESRC Global Economic Institutions Programme. Participants included senior officials from a wide range of international organisations and government departments, as well as faculty and graduate students from Sussex.

Dr Peter Holmes introduced the discussion by summarising the research undertaken at Sussex and seeking to define the agenda. Are there still cross border anti-competitive practices? Can they be addressed under current rules? If not, is there scope for an international regime? Rob Anderson of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), then updated the meeting on the latest work of the WTO working group on the subject. The analytical issues of the relationships between trade and competition and regulatory policy were then debated. In later sessions, sectors were highlighted where a case could be made that current rules were inadequate, notably airlines and telecoms. The representatives of the various governments then presented their positions and a fascinating disagreement broke out between the EU and the government of Hong Kong, concerning the scope for trading off anti-dumping policy and international competition rules. Finally the visitors from the main international bodies reported on what

Graphics with Chips

Paul Lister
Professor of Electronics
6.15pm Tuesday 9th June

Paul Lister’s Professorial Lecture will be a multimedia presentation on 3D computer graphics and chip design. 6.15 pm in Chichester Lecture Theatre. All welcome

Getting home

New traffic flow system starts on Monday 8 June
**In brief**

**International Policy Workshop**
*(Continued from front page)*

the future role of their organisations would be, and highlighted the existence of sharp differences of opinions between trade officials and competition officials.

The consensus seemed to be that the present situation is not satisfactory but that a fully-fledged set of WTO rules on competition policy was totally unrealistic for the time being.

The atmosphere of the conference was one of strong intellectual engagement and good social interaction, thanks in no small measure to the heroic efforts of the conference organiser Jeremy Kempton of SEI.

**Not the World Cup – just a fantasy**

Paul Vincent (PDU), a.k.a. Gladstone Gritt, the season’s champions of the prestigious Sussex House Fantasy League, pictured at a glitzy award ceremony at Falmer House. Paul was presented with his winnings and the coveted trophy and gave an emotional speech in which he thanked his Manchester United players for their fine performances.

**News**

**HEAVENS ABOVE Community Project**

"PLEASE can we come again?" was the request from St John’s School in Crowborough, after 28 schoolchildren visited the Isle of Thorns for an evening of astronomy in the Harold Robin Community Study Centre.

‘Heavens Above’ is a community astronomy project which originated from a programme organised by the University, after the purchase of a telescope from amateur astronomer Harold Robin. He sold it to Sussex on the understanding that it would be used regularly for educational purposes. A generous grant from the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council is being used to build 5’x 6’ reflecting telescopes and other astronomy equipment.

After two successful pilot events in February, attended by the Crowborough schoolchildren and a group of MENCAP adults, the project is well underway. As the summer evenings are too light for events, project members are busy grinding mirrors for some home-made telescopes, aided by young people from four schools and a technician from the University of Brighton. The group aims to complete the telescopes in time for a star party on November 18 to observe the Leonids meteor shower.

**Mooting Competition**

The finals of the Centre for Legal Studies mooting competition took place in Lewes Crown Court before their Honours Judge Michael Kennedy and Judge Richard Hayward. This was the fourth successful year of the mooting competition sponsored by Donne Mileham and Haddock, Solicitors.

This year’s winners were Michael Roques (studying the Common Professional Examination) and Richard York (an LLB third year student) earning themselves a share of £1000 prize money and a work experience placement at Donne Mileham and Haddock.

A moot court is one in which law students argue hypothetical cases honing their reasoning and advocacy skills. The two finalists won against stiff opposition, as did the two semi-finalists, Raphael Jouenne and Winston James, (LLB students, third and fourth year respectively), in a number of qualifying rounds. They then faced the ultimate test of their advocacy skills by arguing their case before the two senior Judges. Pictured below from l to r: Michael Roques, Judge Michael Kennedy, Judge Richard Hayward, Richard York, Martin Allen (Senior Partner, Donne Mileham and Haddock).

**Fish for jobs on the Net**

Universities and other institutions of higher education currently spend in excess of £30 million pounds on staff recruitment advertising each year. The increasing use of the internet as a communications medium, has presented higher education with an opportunity to substantially reduce this figure and, eventually, to channel this money back to universities to be spent on education. With this end in view, a purchasing consortium of higher education institutions has established a new national recruitment website as a convenient way for staff and students to look for suitable job vacancies. The website carries advertisements for vacant posts, fellowships and scholarships at a significantly lower cost than is feasible in the daily or weekly press.

The site can be found at http://www.jobs.ac.uk. It has been live for four months now and has carried adverts for over 2,000 academic positions, ranging from research posts and lectureships through to chairs and senior administrative staff. Over 110 institutions, including Sussex, are currently supporting the venture and more institutions are joining each week. According to Helen Scott, Deputy Personnel Officer, “The more widely jobs.ac.uk becomes known amongst staff and students, the sooner it will become a viable alternative to expensive newspaper advertising.”

**Dr Clive Rouse MBE**

A service of thanksgiving for the life and works of Dr Clive Rouse will be held at 3pm on Saturday 13 June in Saint Michael’s Church, Plumpton. Clive Rouse was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters in 1983 for his outstanding work in the field of Medieval Archaeology and Conservation of wall and panel paintings.
The case of the missing robot

Have you seen this robot? Matt Quinn and fellow researchers at the Centre for Computational Neuroscience and Robotics have “mislaid” three khepera robots (similar to the one pictured above). It seems that after an excursion to the Powerhouse:uk exhibition in London, some of the hi-tech electronics decided not to return.

Since an item in the THES last week, two khepera have been liberated “from a suitcase in a bag of foam”, but the third is still missing. With an estimated value of £2,000, this inch-high robot is a little more costly than the average item of lost property. If anyone has any information, please contact the CCNR on ext 7386

CCE on show

Potential students from across East and West Sussex flocked to last week’s Centre for Continuing Education Open Evening in the Refectory. Staff were on hand to promote the range of part-time programmes being offered in 1998/99, including Advocacy and Empowerment, Archaeology, Arts Management, Creative Writing, Life History and Women’s Studies. There are also two part-time degrees currently being offered by the Centre - BA Cultural Studies and BA Landscape Studies. Educational guidance and learning support advice was also offered by the Centre’s Educational Equality Unit.

The event attracted a number of University staff, many of whom are already studying on CCE courses, perhaps because of the generous fee reductions for staff or maybe it was the prospect of a free glass of wine after a gruelling day.

Organiser Mary Hour said, “For the first time we were able to attract a large number of young people to the event. CCE has a track record of provision for older learners but we are keen to ensure that our student body reflects the diversity of our community.”

Guides to CCE’s courses can be obtained by telephone (67)8040.

Research Opportunities

This is a selection of Research Opportunities. More details of these and other opportunities are available from Mylène Powell in the Research Grants and Contracts Office, ext 3812 or email: M.Powell@sussex.ac.uk.

ROYAL SOCIETY EXCHANGES WITH JAPAN, KOREA AND SOUTH-EAST ASIA: study visits intended for postdoctoral scientists to exchange ideas and information, acquire new techniques and carry out collaborative research. Deadline: study visits: 3 months in advance of visit. For Japan only: JSPS Fellowships: 1-2 years and STA Fellowships: 6-24 months. Deadline: 20 September; Joint projects: support provided over a 2 year period (up to £6,000 available). Deadline: 7 October.

ROYAL SOCIETY AND BRITISH ASSOCIATION MILLENNIUM AWARDS: a new and prestigious scheme to encourage public understanding of science and technology in the community. In total £1.5 millions will be distributed under the scheme. Deadlines 30 June 1998 and 31 December 1998.

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

SIR JULES THORN CHARITABLE TRUST: Financial support for medical research and medically related projects; some grants to specific non-medical projects; annual special projects for one charitable area; single donations to selected charities. No deadline.

IFUW INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS: The International Federation of University Women invites applications from women graduates for advanced research, study and training. The competitions are held every two years. For the 2000/2001 competition the national deadline will normally fall between 1 September and 1 October 1999.

Monday 8 June – Sunday 14 June

Lectures, Seminars, Colloquia

**Monday 8 June**

12.30 pm Sussex Continuing Education Research Forum: Anne Bellis, Changing the culture? Working with minority ethnic groups in adult and continuing education. Room D310

1.00 pm Experimental Psychology Seminar: Kate Cain, Comprehension skill and the use of context. Biology Lecture Room (EP 3.9)

2.00 pm Particle Theory Group Seminar: Claus Kiefer (Freiburg University) Semi-classical black holes and entropy. Room Pevsey 2A1

3.00 pm Centre for Mathematical Analysis and its Applications Seminar: K Khanin (Edinburgh University) Rigidity in circle dynamics. Room Pevsey 2A2

4.30 pm Neuroscience Seminar: David Warburton (Reading University) Neurochemistry of memory. Biology Lecture Room (EP 3.9)

5.00 pm Sociology and Social Psychology Seminar: Cate Kelley, Smoking cessation intervention in pregnancy using social coalition theory. Room D310

**Tuesday 9 June**

4.00 pm COGS Seminar: John Jackson, The pandenomium association engine. Room COGS 5C11


5.15 pm German Research Colloquium: Astrid Kohler (Queen Mary & Westfield College) Space, time and identity in post-unification East German literature. Room A155

6.15 pm Professorial Lecture: Paul Lister, Professor of Electronics, Graphics with chips. Chichester Lecture Theatre

**Wednesday 10 June**

1.00 pm IDS (Poverty Research Programme) Seminar: Howard White (ISS, The Hague) Qualitative and quantitative approaches to the measurement of poverty. Room IDS 221

3.00 pm Sussex Centre for Optical and Atomic Physics Seminar: Terry Clark, Interactions and records in a quantum-classical circuit system. Room Pevsey 2A2

4.00 pm Centre for Mathematical Analysis and its Applications Colloquium: Andrew Stuart (Stanford University) - Statistical properties of computations for large coupled systems of oscillators. Room Pevsey 1A1

**Thursday 11 June**

11.30 am Economics Seminar: Ahmad Jazayeri (Financial Services Associates International) User-owned, user-financed and user-managed microfinance in developing countries. Room D310

1.00 pm IDS (Participation Group) Seminar: Tilly Sellers (University of Hull) PRA and sexual behaviour assessing vulnerability to HIV infection through analysis of local problems. Room IDS 221

2.15 pm Cunliffe Centre Roundtable Seminar: Robert Hazell (UCL) & Brice Dickson (Ulster) Constitutional change in the United Kingdom. Room IDS 109

5.00 Centre for Modern French Thought Seminar: Speaker and title t.b.a. Room A71

**Friday 12 June**

2.00 pm SPRU Seminar: Simon Guy (University of Newcastle) Property developers and environmental innovation. Room EDB 121

4.00 pm Astronomy Centre Seminar: Andrew Liddle, Constraining the density of the universe with galaxy clusters. Room Arundel 401

4.00 pm Applied Mathematics and Numerical Analysis Seminar: Erik Van Vleck (Colorado School of Mines) Analysis and computation of travelling wave solutions for bistable differential difference equations. Room Pevsey 1A1

**Miscellaneous**

- Lunchtime recital at the Meeting House - Charles Macdonald (organ) 9 June at 1.20 pm in the chapel
- Philosophy society mini-conference at the Isle of Thorns on June 12 and 13 - twenty-four hours of philosophical discussion at a delightful location in the Ashdown Forest. Includes speakers Sarah Patterson (Birkbeck) and Martin Stone (King’s College). For further details, contact Sue Murray-Smith on ext 8900
- The Gift of Tears - an evening with Margery Kempe. A seminar of theology, music and dance with Dr June Boyce-Tillman (King Alfred’s College of Further Education) on June 11 at 6 pm, Meeting House Quiet Room

**Small Ads**

**FOR SALE:** two sling chairs, £30 each. Please e-mail: pafe3@sussex.ac.uk

**TO LET:** two rooms in house from 1 July to 30 September, also whole house from 1 to 30 September. Close to University, well-equipped kitchen, lounge, TV, garden. Also, a four-bedroom house immediately available until 30 September. Contact ext 8125 (mornings) or e-mail: A.Stone@sussex.ac.uk

**TO LET:** attractive two/three bedroom self-contained flat in quiet area adjacent to Brighton Marina (Roedean Road/Wilson Avenue) available from June. Fac/staff/PG only please, would suit single person or couple, £120/week excl. Contact 706911 or e-mail: tauj4@sussex.ac.uk

**TO LET:** furnished four-bedroom house in Kingston near Lewes. Contact ext 8536 or 692005 (day) 483993 (eves.)

**FOR SALE:** 2CV Dolly, E-reg, recent clutch, electrics, tyres, brakes, exhaust and battery, with MOT, tax, 52,000 miles, fsh, maroon/cream, perfect for summer, £900. Contact 231768

**TUITION AVAILABLE:** to students studying Italian. Please e-mail: danieleve@net.ed.ac.uk

**FOR SALE:** Apple Powerbook Duo 230, 8MB RAM, 120MB HD, ultra-slim computer with battery, power supply, Duo MiniDock and software, £450 o.n.o. Contact ext 4328 or 622021

**FOR SALE:** Fiat Panda, 1989 (F-reg) vgc throughout, excellent runner, new exhaust and distributor, quick sale required, £300 o.n.o. Contact Simon on 542944 (eves.)

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Bulletin

The Bulletin appears every Friday of term, with copy deadlines 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