Kevin Apps, a second year undergraduate student at Sussex, shot into the media stratosphere this September after he was credited in an astronomy journal with the co-discovery of a new planet. Kevin’s discovery hit the headlines in a dramatic fashion, being splashed all over the British and American press. In addition to coverage in *The Times, The Independent* and the *Washington Post*, Kevin appeared on local and national radio and TV, including a live slot on the highly popular Big Breakfast.

Kevin’s discovery has a threefold significance. Firstly, he is the first UK astronomer to co-discover a new planet. Secondly, he is an undergraduate and an amateur, which is also an international first. And finally, Kevin’s audacity and boldness have been crucial in winning him his 15 minutes of fame: he approached the world famous planet hunters Geoff Marcy and Paul Butler out of the blue, only to become critical to their search. Kevin, who has been an astronomy enthusiast since he was seven, requested a list of 300 stars being scrutinised by Marcy and Butler, and churned the data himself to discover that 30 of the stars would never turn up planets. Plucking up the courage to tell Marcy and Butler their stars were unsuitable was “pretty intimidating”, but it paid off - they were “really grateful that I’d dug out these bad stars which were never going to turn up planets”. Offering to choose thirty more stars as a replacement paid off too: “It was a joke, but they said ‘Yeah, go for it’”.

To Kevin’s amazement, one of the stars he selected, which is around 154 light years away in the Cygnus constellation, has turned up a planet which is itself incredible. At twenty five times closer to its star than the Earth is to the Sun, it is much nearer to its parent star than any planet found before. A deep blue-violet colour, the planet has an orbital period of only 3.1 days, and a temperature of around fifteen hundred degrees.

For Kevin, the find is “like a fairy story”. He was delighted to have his stars monitored on the Keck telescope at all. “It’s the world’s largest telescope and very few professionals get to use it - only a dozen or so groups in the world. So for an amateur like me to get his stars on it is amazing - I was over the moon.”

But to be credited as the co-discoverer of a unique planet was beyond all expectation. *Continued on page 6*

**WELCOME FROM THE VC**

At the start of my first academic year as Vice Chancellor, I would like first to thank so many of you for your good wishes on my appointment. It is a great privilege as well as a responsibility to lead this University, and I will do my best to fulfil your hopes and expectations.

Sussex University has a distinguished record in research and teaching, it has a very strong international reputation, and it enjoys great loyalty from its staff and students. We need to maintain and build on these strengths.

I want to see us all work to improve our student admissions. In an increasingly competitive higher education system, that must be our top priority. We also need to strengthen the financial position of the University by developing new teaching and research activities that will earn money for us, because traditional government funding will not be enough to allow us to fulfill our ambitions. We have to encourage more innovation in the curriculum and in teaching.

There are important short-term priorities. The next research assessment exercise will happen in 2001 and most of the rules of the game have been announced. We did very well in the last two rounds of the RAE and we must maintain that level of performance. Early in 2000, the Quality Assurance Agency will conduct a week-long institutional audit, and there will be much to be done over the next 15 months to prepare for that assessment of our activities and organisation.

I want to encourage open discussion and decision-making. I will hold open meetings for faculty each term. I will write regularly in the Bulletin to keep all members of the University informed about current issues and policies. New technologies open up new possibilities, and we are just beginning to exploit electronic communication. Last year’s debate on Arts structures showed some of the potential of this new medium for collective discussion. My email address is vc@sussex.ac.uk. I promise to read all messages sent to me, and try to answer most of them!

Alasdair Smith

---

**Inaugural Lecture**

**Wednesday 14 October**

Dr Jessica Rawson

Merton College Oxford

*Reading Artefacts: Is it possible to see “Ideas”? Changes in Ritual and Belief in Early China*

6.30 pm

A5 lecture theatre

All Welcome
THE LIVING IS EASY

Tearing yourself away from a sun-kissed holiday is always hard, and as the chill of Winter draws near, many of us fantasise about the prospect of returning for a longer stay. Wishing we could leave our lives behind and live in a warmer, more relaxed country may seem a highly attractive option. But are the pleasures of abandoning a drizzly Britain outweighed by the trauma of language barriers, separation from loved ones and the lack of a good pint?

According to ESRC-funded research conducted by Professor Russell King, Dean of EURO, the dream of migrating southwards has become a rosy reality for many. Despite fears that the experience rarely lives up to the expectation, Professor King’s study - undertaken with colleagues from the Universities of Sheffield and Exeter - shows that those who have taken the plunge are largely enjoying themselves and determined to stay.

The trigger for this study was a glut of adverse publicity in 1995 which portrayed retired people abroad as sad, lonely and trapped. Russell King found quite the opposite - “By and large we found very much more of a positive result than we expected - a vibrant set of people who were pretty content with the climate and the way of life”.

Concentrating on those who have retired in the sun, the study shows that Malta, Tuscany, the Algarve and the Costa del Sol are the ‘hot spots’ for emigration, with Tuscany the more popular destination from those from professional and managerial backgrounds. Malta attracted more former manual workers, largely because of its armed forces connections. The trend towards retirement emigration is set to rise as social and cultural mobility and European integration increases, and with the projected increase in ageing populations.

Attracted by the slower pace of life and the greater respect for the elderly in Southern Europe, many of the emigrants have launched themselves into the local culture with gusto. Their only complaint has been with bureaucratic red tape and persistent language barriers, particularly in Spain and Portugal.

Surprisingly though, separation from loved ones didn’t impede enjoyment too much, as family members came to visit on holiday. In fact, as Russell King points out, “sometimes respondents found these visits disruptive, as people stayed for weeks on end”.

Sussex in September
In September, 12 pioneer American students inaugurated our new ‘Sussex in September’ programme for American students, each taking one three-week course. The aim of the programme was to provide a flying-start introduction to study in England and to make it more possible for American visiting students to come here in the autumn. Adding this programme on to the Autumn term gives the students half a year’s credits back home.

The students came from high quality colleges all over the US, from Maine to southern California. Most of the group were science students yet four of them chose to take English Literature and History; Sussex Perspectives with Emeritus Professor Angus Ross. The six students pictured above did a rigorously law-based course, Idea of the European Union with law lecturer, Vanda Ksjałkovski, and two others did Issues in the Environment with Dr. Tim Metham.

The programme’s social co-ordinator, Dr. Hazel Cox of CPES, helped by a Sussex student aide, Michael Odereye, organised social gatherings, British film evenings and trips to Cambridge, Chichester and Petworth. An interesting result of the latter was an essay by Paige Morrison, a student on Angus’s course, comparing Turner’s painting, ‘Petworth Park with Keats’ peom, ‘The Eve of St. Agnes’.

According to Professor Rupert Wilkinson, the Director of North American Programmes, not everything went swimmingly. The students reported a persistent famine of toilet rolls, the room phones were costly to use and on September evenings the campus is not exactly Piccadilly Circus. However, he says, “Our Sussex in September visitors were a wonderful, highly self-selected group who made the best of everything and much appreciated the courses, the conversations - and the flicks.”

A STEP up the ladder
If you need a hand with your logo, Biochemistry student Rebecca Rutter is your woman. Third year Rebecca won a prestigious prize in the annual Shell Technology Enterprise Programme (STEP) this summer for the graphics and advertising package she designed for DNA sequencers Genpak.

The STEP scheme encourages students to develop skills they can use in the workplace. Participants are placed with local companies, undertaking projects in marketing, IT, electronic engineering and software design. Rebecca, along with several other participants, was based at the Sussex Innovation Centre, which forges links between the University and high-tech industries.

Rebecca’s brief was to redesign the Genpak logo, produce advertising flyers and a catalogue and co-ordinate press releases. Doing Biochemistry as a degree meant that Rebecca was thrown in at the deep end when it came to design, but she took it in her stride - “Genpak has fantastic equipment and once I got into the package it was quite simple to use.” Her enthusiasm helped Rebecca to take third place in the regional finals.

Pronouncing the STEP scheme a resounding success, Rebecca said “It put me in a real business environment and gave me all sorts of experiences I wouldn’t have had otherwise. The proof of the pudding will be whether I get a job!” She shouldn’t have to worry too much though, as Genpak took her on for the rest of the summer when her STEP placement was over.

Seaboard is to undertake an investigation of a major power failure which occurred in the main high voltage substation early last month. The investigation will require a total electricity shutdown of the University from 08.00 on Sunday 25 October, involving a power loss to the whole campus for around six hours. Every attempt will be made to provide a temporary power supply to the Refectory and to student accommodation.
Prinny writes .....  

I was delighted to be asked to continue in my role as an observer of life here on the A27. My summer at the Pavilion has been rather dull - damn few parties and several days sick-a-bed. We had no opportunity to revel in glorious sunshine and there are only so many times one can find pleasure in trying to detect original or radical thought in government pronouncements. Now, to business....

My congratulations on his appointment must go to the new Vice-Chancellor. Such a convenient appointment too - merely a re-organisation of offices in Sussex House and the bonus of having Swanborough Manor unoccupied. Finally, room to store all those consultants and their reports! Of course one was bemused by the cost entailed in employing international head hunters only to find out that Professor Smith was, in fact, the right chap for the job. Imagine how much more money we could have spent if we had brought in someone from somewhere altogether more remote and obscure. What if the head hunters had lighten on, say, John Dearlove, and we then had to hire him all the way from Arts E. By the way, I understand that the Vice-Chancellor is to set up a rival column within these pages - I'm sure however, that my devoted readers will remain loyal to the Columnist Who Dares to Snigger Behind Their Backs.

Can I just extend my welcome to our new students - we enjoyed being trapped in our carriage on campus whilst your parents all decided to leave at the same time last Wednesday. You will find your life here is greatly improved by not trying to leave campus between 4.30 and 6 pm. Another traffic control test is to occur in the near future - those failing it will be summarily shot.

One was very pleased to hear of a new planet being discovered by a Sussex undergraduate called Kevin. Despite the repeated claims in the press, I hear that his collaboration with the American academics did not arise directly from work set for him by his tutors. We can only applaud such enterprise - perhaps some newly-enrolled first year biochemist will now find a cure for cancer in a pile of unwashed dishes in an East Slope kitchen. Perhaps someone can suggest a suitable name for a planet discovered by a Sussex undergraduate?

Possibly the most intriguing recent event was the local radio advert calling upon the fair maidens of the South to sign up for an Engineering degree at Sussex because their male colleagues (and presumably also their tutors) are immaculately attractive hunks, the Chipperdahes of the world of process automation. I'll give a bottle of cheap wine to the student who can best complete the following sentence "My School is the most sexually arousing because......" I am not expecting many entries from what must now be the most disappointed intake of female Engineering students of all time.

Sussex Student's Meteoric Rise to Fame

Continued from front page

"Marcy and Butler have been working on this for ten years at least, they are world famous, and they've put in hours and hours of work. I'm just an undergraduate who's done a couple of weeks work, dug out a few stars and gets credited with having helped to discover this planet." Luckily the media stardom hasn't gone to Kevin's head. He has suffered from the pressures of unflattering photographs, repeated references to the new planet as Planet Kevin, and jokes about it being a Planet of the Apps, but he is still over the moon about his discovery. He has become rather sage about all the attention, claiming "It was all easier than I thought it would be." For him, the highlight was his appearance on the Big Breakfast, which was "a real buzz." "I was really nervous, but when I was actually sitting there talking, I felt fine," he said. The programme took an innovative approach to Kevin's discovery, demonstrating the relative distances between the sun, the earth and the new planet, known as HD187123, using a pea, an orange and a brussels sprout. The pea and the orange represented the earth and the sun, and the brussels sprout, held up by a man (supposedly) in Hawaii, represented the planet.

For Kevin, though, the most exciting aspect of his appearance was meeting Denise Van Outen - for a man with his eyes on the stars, he's certainly got his feet on the ground.

Election of Students to Senate

Nominations are now being sought for three of the students elected to the Senate annually. Two of these are to be elected by and from among the postgraduate students other than those in the University of Sussex Institute of Education (USIE) or the Centre for Continuing Education (CCE). The third student is elected by and from among the students at USIE and CCE. Notices of Election and Nominations Forms (if not collected at registration) may be obtained on request from Jenny Payne in Sussex House (ext. 3855; email J.M.Payne@sussex.ac.uk). The closing date for nominations is Tuesday 27 October 1998.

Major Increase in Campus Pcs

The Computing Service has introduced a major enhancement to its service with three new PC clusters in Pevensey 1 - doubling the availability of Computing Service PCs on campus. The three rooms contain 120 new PCs which offer a range of software under the Microsoft Windows NT operating system. The rooms will be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

One large Open Access room contains 63 PCs and the two smaller rooms 34 and 23 PCs respectively. The smaller rooms, which will be bookable for teaching, will be equipped with video projectors to enable the whole class to view the display on the lecturer's PC. It is hoped that these rooms will be available for booking from the Spring term, 1999. The PCs in the rooms will be available for individual use when not booked for teaching.

An additional cluster of 22 new PCs is scheduled to be available in the Library for the Autumn term. This cluster will be located at the southern end of the second floor (right of main staircase).

Freshers' Registration - An Apology

The University would like to apologise to the new UK undergraduates who found themselves queueing for unacceptable lengths of time to register last Friday.

The underlying cause of the problem - difficulties with the new national fees arrangements - were beyond our control, but we accept that our local arrangements could, and should, have been much better.

Although it may be of little comfort to those who queued for hours on Friday, we can at least report that the extra emergency session arranged for Saturday went well, and we will take on board the lessons of this year to ensure there is no repetition. Sorry once again for the inconvenience you were put to.
GRADUATION DAY - SUMMER ’98

Over 1,500 students, together with their families and friends, returned to Sussex in July to receive their degrees and to attend the various celebrations laid on to mark the occasion by the Schools of Studies. Many of the students and their families travelled long distances for the occasion, including the latest group of Engineering graduates from Prime College Malaysia, (pictured below right). Students from the college have been coming to Sussex for several years via a special admissions scheme and, according to Lionel Ripley, ENGG Admissions Officer, “Prime College has been a rich source of good students and we are delighted to have such a fruitful relationship with our colleagues in Kuala Lumpur.”

The graduation ceremonies also marked a return to Sussex for three former members of the staff of the University who received honorary degrees: the former Vice-Chancellor, Professor Gordon Conway, who left the University earlier this year to take up the post of President of the Rockefeller Foundation in New York; Dr Paul Nurse, the Director General of the Imperial Cancer Fund, and one of the most celebrated biologists of his generation, who was at Sussex between 1979 and 1984; and former Sussex Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Professor Barry Supple, who is now Director of the Leverhulme Trust. The other distinguished figures to receive honorary degrees were Andrew Davis, Director of the Glyndebourne Festival Orchestra and one of Britain’s leading conductors and Dr Jessica Rawson of Merton College, Oxford.

This summer’s ceremonies were the first University occasions to be presided over by Lord Attenborough who will be officially installed as University Chancellor at a special ceremony to be held in the Gardner Centre in January. The occasion was also the first as Vice-Chancellor for Alasdair Smith, whose appointment was announced at the end of the previous week. In his speech to the congregation he highlighted the achievements of students who were graduating this year, including those who had won prizes for their projects and those who had done admirable work in the local community and overseas. He observed that, even before the introduction of tuition fees, students have had to pay a higher proportion of the cost of University education and acknowledged the moral and practical support given by their families, “most notably the support and sacrifices of the families of the many mature students graduating today.” Referring to the University’s proud record of mature student admissions, he stated that, in the light of changes in student financing, Sussex would have to find new ways of meeting the needs of mature students and contributing to the mission of life-long learning.

Two students who clearly exemplified the benefits of life-long learning received their degrees at the afternoon ceremony. Katherine Storr, a former teacher, and Shirley Wright, who has worked in the administration at the University for 22 years, were the first two graduates to have completed part-time BA degrees at Sussex. They started part-time study in CCE some six years ago and were the first students from the Centre to graduate with a part-time degree - a BA in Cultural Studies. Both students have now gone on to MA courses, Katherine at Sussex and Shirley at the Shakespeare Institute in Stratford. According to Shirley (who is pictured below right with Katherine) “I find it a powerful notion - that someone, with the right support, can start something in their mid-fifties and end up at retirement age being able to take their life forward into so many new areas.”
The Alfords have taken root in Sussex - over the last twenty years, no less than five members of the family have graduated from the University, and four of them in Maths. This year, Samuel Jonathan Alford graduated with a first in pure Maths, joining both of his parents, his aunt Valerie Wilson and his uncle Nicholas Alford as maths and science graduates of Sussex. His father, Michael Alford, graduated with a BSc in Maths in 1968, also gaining a first. Samuel’s mother, Kathleen Alford (nee Wilson) also gained a first in 1968, with a BSc in Chemistry.

The proud parents - pictured above in their graduation finery in 1968 - met whilst studying here. The interdisciplinarity of Sussex was successful for the Alfords in more than academic terms - it was due to Sussex’s innovative approach to science teaching that the couple met. In the late 1960s all science postgraduates took a Core Curriculum Science course together, and this is how Michael met Kathleen.

Their experience here resulted in them recommending Sussex to their son, and Samuel ended up in the same School as his father had been in thirty years ago. Mr Alford claims that little has changed since then - “all the guys who taught me are still teaching, and some of them taught my son.”

The Isle of Thorns Training Centre

The University’s year round training centre is located in 70 acres of grounds on the edge of the Ashdown Forest, at Chelwood Gate. It offers a perfect location for conferences, courses and meetings. University groups also benefit from a discounted rate.

Meetings for up to 50 residential or 80 non-residential delegates can be accommodated.

For further information please contact:

Paul Knight (Manager)
Tel: 01825 740283
Fax: 01825 740683
E-mail: paulk@iot.u-net.com

INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES CATERING SERVICE

Sussex

Open during Term Time from
Mon - Fri 8.00 - 2.00 & 3.30 - 5.00 for delicious homemade cakes and scones (some vegan), hot drinks, sandwiches etc.

8.00 - 10.30 Serving breakfasts

12.00 - 2.00 Lunch including vegetarian and some vegan food, home made soups and ethnic dishes, freshly made salads, toasted sandwiches and baked potatoes. We offer a take-away service. Meal tickets can be pre-booked.

We welcome bookings for dinners (min 12 people) and other social gatherings and can suggest interesting menus.

For further information contact Debbie Rapson in IDS
Tel: (67) 8666 E-mail: D.H.Rapson@sussex.ac.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

16, 17 & 18 December at 19.30 back by popular demand ... book your office Christmas Party now and enjoy a traditional candlelight Christmas dinner for only £10.00 per head plus special offers available at IDS bar.
All in a Day's Work

As the lines snake out of the EURO coffee bar at lunchtime, it’s clear that there must be something special pulling in the multitudes. Carole Martin, who runs the coffee bar with her partner-in-cakes Mandy Quick, tells us the secret of her success.

I’ve been working in catering at the University since 1990, but we’ve been running the EURO coffee bar since 1997. We’ve also run the CCS common room for a year, and we’ve just taken over the EAM common room. The Schools of Studies have franchised these common rooms out to us, which is something which hasn’t been done much before.

EURO is definitely the most popular of the common rooms we run, but this is partly because it’s on the most direct route through campus - it’s the easiest one to find. I suppose it must have built up a reputation over the last year - it is a lot busier than it was when we first came.

It is certainly true to say that it has changed a lot since we first came. That is not to say anything was wrong with it before - the people who worked here did a wonderful job. We came in and did things differently, but it isn’t necessarily better. But I suppose we have made some changes which might account for the success we’ve had. One of the major changes is our home-made cakes. I make them all myself, and they are very popular.

I think it’s very important to make sure that food is presented well, and that there is a lot of variety. The standard has always got to be good - just because the people who eat my food are students doesn’t mean they don’t deserve the best standard! We try and do specials every single day - now people even phone us to see what we’re doing. Our most popular standard baguette is probably the BLT, but with the specials, the Mexicana cheese with tomato salsa is a very popular filling. The most popular cake has got to be the flapjack - it goes out of the door as soon as I put it out. It is very tasty though, and completely different to what you get in a packet.

My day starts very early, usually at 7.15, because there’s a tremendous amount to prepare. We bake upwards of 150 baguettes a day, in addition to the 300+ small rolls, which are delivered each morning. We also bake all the pastries, and if I’m making scones I have to start at 5.00, because I make them from scratch. When everything is cooked, we spend the rest of the day continually making up the rolls and baguettes. We can have upwards of 650 people through the EURO coffee bar every day.

Things have changed a lot in catering since the early 90s. The pastries aren’t as popular as they used to be - people tend to avoid pastry now, they’re eating much healthier food than they used to. Now, people like things like houmous and freshly cooked baguettes. We do special breads like ciabatta as well. We also make lots of different vegetarian fillings. Avocado has become very popular - if you’d have offered someone avocado in a roll five years ago, people would have looked at you in a strange fashion. People eat different cheeses too - like mozzarella or feta, which is very popular with olives as well! We’re about to start selling sun dried tomato rolls, and we are expecting that they will be a big success. I think food will carry on getting healthier. People are slowly changing - they don’t want fish and chips now, they want healthy food. There’s so much stress and strain on everything else that eating needs to be both healthy and easy.

• EURO common room is in Arts A.

ONE WAY SYSTEM - REPEAT TRIAL

The first trial of a one way traffic flow system on Boiler House Hill and Eastern Ring Road, to ease evening queuing, was carried out from 8th to 12th June.

Subsequently a survey questionnaire was distributed to gauge opinion. There were 727 questionnaires distributed and 261 (36%) returned. Of the returned questionnaires 185 were in favour of the scheme (71%) and 37 were against (14%).

The University is arranging for a repeat trial to assess the scheme under peak traffic conditions. This will last for four weeks, and will start in late October or November. Precise dates and other details will be notified in advance as before.

Alongside the one way system the University has still been pursuing the option of traffic lights at the exit from campus. The University commissioned a report to investigate the viability of signal control at the roundabouts on both sides of the A27. This report includes traffic flow models produced using the Transport Research Laboratories' computer-generation software. It concludes that installation of traffic lights would work to the benefit of all.

The Vice Chancellor and University representatives will shortly be meeting with The Highways Agency to advance this proposal.

Farewell

Bulletin would like to offer best wishes to all those who retired from the University over the summer. Among these was Geoff Ivey, Deputy Secretary, who left the University at the end of September after 27 years of service.

Geoff came to the University from Reuters in 1971 having conceived the, arguably bizarre, desire to become a University administrator. His first role in the administration was in the Science Office from where he went on to become Secretary of the then Education Area. His other roles at the University include two spells as PA to the Vice Chancellor, a period as Acting Information Officer, then Deputy Registrar and latterly Deputy Secretary.

At his leaving party on 30 September, the Registrar paid tribute to Geoff’s administrative skills, notably his unfailing mastery of complex detail, the “elegance of his minutes” and the supreme conscientiousness with which he carried out all his duties. The Vice-Chancellor will be hosting a small dinner for Geoff on 21 October.

New Senior Pro-Vice Chancellor

The Vice-Chancellor has announced that Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Tony McCaffery has accepted his invitation to become Senior Pro-Vice-Chancellor for two years and that a formal proposal to this effect will be put to Council following consultation with the Senate in December. The Senior PVC’s responsibilities are in the process of being agreed and will be announced shortly. Tony McCaffery will be moving to Sussex House and can be contacted on ext 8212, email A.J.McCaffery@sussex.ac.uk.
Conference on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission

The South African High Commissioner Cheryl Carolus (pictured right with Vice-Chancellor, Alasdair Smith) opened a two-day conference on Evaluating the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission held at Sussex in September.

The Conference was sponsored by the Centre for Southern African Studies and the Cunliffe Centre and organised by Richard Wilson and Merle Lipton (both AFRAS). Richard and Merle brought together 70 social scientists, lawyers, human rights workers, historians, members of the truth commission and one former Robben Island political prisoner to examine the achievements and limitations of this latest attempt to ‘deal with the past’. What types of truths about the apartheid era were revealed by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and what were the effects of these truths?

There was a consensus among an international panel that included human rights researchers on Europe, Latin America and the Chair of the Presidential Commission on Human Rights in Sri Lanka, that the TRC was the most significant post-authoritarian national commission of investigation into past human rights abuses. There was, however, dissent over whether the narrow legal mandate facilitated or obscured an understanding of the structural nature of political violence and ongoing questions of social justice.

Changes in the Administration

Following Geoff Ivey’s retirement from the University, John Gaunt has taken over as Senior Assistant Secretary. His principal duties include working Secretary to Senate and Council, legal matters, student discipline and oversight of the publications office and print unit. He will be replaced by a new Assistant Personnel Officer, Philip Willatt, who will take up his appointment on 1 January 1999. Management responsibility for the Media Services Unit and the Photographic and Design Unit has passed to the newly created Services Support Section in the newly named Buildings and Services Division (formerly Estates) led by Tony Middleton.

The Services Support Section, which combines the management of general teaching space with media services, photography and design services, will be headed by a Resource Services Manager who will also carry responsibility for porterage, cleaning, security and mail services. Safety Officer, Peter Ballance formally retired on 30 September, but will continue on a part-time basis until the end of December. He is on campus two and a half days a week and is contactable by mobile phone at all other times.

Senior Assistant Finance Officer, Noel Sladen, moves from Management Accounts to a part-time position dealing with insurance. He replaces Tricia Grassie who leaves at the end of the year.

New Faces in the Information Office

There are two new faces in the Information Office. Sally Hall, who joins the Office as the new Graduate Intern, has just completed a Masters degree in American Literature and Theory since 1945. She will be promoting media coverage of University research and news and also be reporting for the Bulletin - which is now under the editorship of Harriet Sexton. Harriet, the new Assistant Information Officer, is also responsible for the Public Lecture programme and developing the Information Office Website. She comes to the University from Southdown Housing Association which she joined after completing a BSc in Social Policy at the London School of Economics.

If you have any stories for the Bulletin or for local and national media, please contact Sally on ext 4353 or Harriet on ext 8209 or email bulletin@sussex.ac.uk. Any budding cartoonists are also urged to get in touch.

Research Opportunities

This is a selection of Research Opportunities. More details of these and other opportunities are available from the Research Grants and Contracts Office, ext 3812. 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 and Research’, ‘Research Funding at Sussex’.

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation second call for proposals on two main themes; the community, employers and work. Please let us know if you want to receive the formal call for proposals. The deadline is 15 Dec.

Visiting Professorship to promote the participation of women in academic study. Available at the Queen’s University of Belfast for the calendar year 1999. Award-holders receive a payment of £1,600. Deadline for applications is 14 Oct.

EPSRC soft solids initiative last call for proposals. Proposals accepted from areas such as physics, chemistry, engineering and material sciences. Preference is for work understanding industrial needs, including collaboration. Deadline 6 Nov.

Howard Hughes Medical Institute invites applicants for research directed to understanding basic biological processes or disease mechanisms. Broad range of eligible fields. Deadline 10 Nov.

The Royal Society’s International Programme is inviting applicants for three types of grants: Study Visits, Fellowship Grants and Joint Projects. Scientists must be of PhD status and the geographical coverage for the programmes is extensive. Deadlines for applications vary with the grants and the countries in question.

For more information contact the RGCO.

Wingate Scholarships are designed to help with the cost of specific projects, up to three years in length, and are awarded to individuals of great potential or proven excellence in all subject fields. The average total award is £6,500 and the maximum in any one year is £10,000. Deadlines for all scholarships are 1 February 1999.

The Darwin Initiative invites applications in the Research areas of: biodiversity management plans; improving information on particular species; development of tools to measure biodiversity change. PhD studies not eligible. Deadline 23 Nov.

The European Science Foundation Committee has called for scientific programme proposals which should aim at networking approaches on: chemical and physical systems at extreme scales and conditions; novel materials systems and complex molecules; complex technical systems and technologies; advanced computing methods/systems. Deadline 1 Dec.

Sir Henry Wellcome Commemorative Awards for Innovative Research encourage ‘high risk’ research proposals in the biomedical sciences. The awards will provide around £75,000 for up to 18 months. Deadline 2 Nov. - no late applications.
Noticeboard

Lectures, Seminars, Colloquia

Friday 9 October 2.00 pm SPRU Seminar: Norman Baker, MP (Liberal Democrat Environment Spokesperson), How the Government is Tackling the Environmental Agenda. EDB Lecture Theatre (Room 121).

Monday 12 October 7.00 pm New Metaphysical Art Seminar: Michael Tucker, Dreaming with Open Eyes: Then and Now. Sallis Benney Theatre, Grand Parade, Brighton (£3.00).

Tuesday 13 October 2.15 pm Sussex European Institute Seminar: Professor Dr Ulrich Preuss, University of Berlin, Concepts of Citizenship in Europe - the German Case. Rm A71 SEI.

4.15 pm Biochemistry, Genetics and Development Seminar: Professor Laurence Pearl (UCL). Structure and Function of AmiR: the prototype of a new family of RNA binding CcdB-Coil transcription regulators, BLT.

5.00 pm Social Anthropology Graduate / Faculty Seminars: Professor Ralph Grillo “Transnational (see also postnational)?” in Rm D722. Followed by welcome party for new faculty and postgraduates - All welcome.

Thursday 15 October 4.00 pm CPES School Colloquia: Professor Douglas Brewer (Sussex), The Quest for Absolute Zero II, Chichester Lecture Theatre.

5.00 pm History Work-in-Progress Seminar: Brian Young (Sussex), The lust of empire and religious hate: Christianity, history and empire, c. 1790-1820, Rm A185.

4.00 pm Geography Research Seminar: Professor Tony Fielding (Sussex), Migration and cultural diversity in Japan, D340.

Friday 16 October 2.00 pm SPRU Seminar: Dr Geoff Mason, National Institute for Economic and Social Research, High-level Skills, Knowledge Transfer and Industrial Performance: Electronics in Britain, France and Germany. EDB Lecture Theatre (Rm 121).

Miscellaneous

- ROKPA, a University Society and charity for humanitarian projects, is organising a Freshers' Barn Dance with the Catsfield Streamers on Saturday 10 October, in the Refectory, Level 1, from 8.00 pm-11.00 pm. Tickets are £2.50 available on the door.
- THE COMPUTING SERVICE will be running a selection of advanced IT courses throughout the Autumn Term. Booking commences on the 19 October, full details are available from the Computing Service Web pages at Reception.

CDU Information

Employer Talks and Presentations - when an employer looking to recruit graduates describes opportunities in their field - are held regularly by CDU. If you are interested, please sign up in CDU beforehand.

- Public Relations - Wednesday 14 October, 5.30 pm, CDU, 1st Floor, Falmer House. Talk by Public Relations specialist and Sussex graduate.
- Bank of England - Thursday 15 October, 6 pm, CDU, as above. Discussing their opportunities for graduates of any discipline.
- Logica - Monday 19 October, 6.30 pm, in the Refectory, Top Floor. Presentation by a major computing company - for any discipline.

Small Ads

FOR SALE: Pentium Panasonic Colour Notebook, Multimedia, 32RAM, 2.2 GB Harddisk, Built-in soundcard, stereo speakers, mike, CD-ROM, Floppy drive, 12.3” TFT colour, Win97, Office97, many business and other software, excellent mint condition, many more, only £900 for the lot. For viewing and information please call 01273 888828.

AU PAIR AVAILABLE: for occasional babysitting, or cleaning and ironing, in Hove/Brighton area. Reasonable rates. Contact Angi Drew ext 8022.

FOR SALE: Good home needed for my Peugeot 205 XE, D reg, 45,000 miles, new MOT. Very reliable. For sale at just £900! Contact Becky on 2334 or R.F. Reid@sussex.ac.uk.

FOR SALE: Jaycees Long John carved oak coffee table in antique finish £100, 1 Windsor chair in gold oak finish £100, 1 Farmhouse table in antique pine finish with barley twist legs £100 (ono). Contact Lorraine ext 3281 or 699596.

FOR SALE: MPhil Graduation Gown in excellent condition. £65. Please contact Rod Fielding on 01903 740045.

FOR SALE: Kayak Canoe, good condition £50 ono. Call 705955 and leave a message.

WANTED: Flatmate to share lovely large old house with one other. 2 mins from Brighton station. 2 rooms (furnished or unfurnished) + shared living room/kitchen/bathroom; all mod cons. Women preferred. Contact Kate on 381245/email stfc9.

WANTED: Volunteer interested in teaching about Japan at local primary and secondary schools. Contact Fumio: IDS 606261 ext 4115 or email F.Beppe@sussex.ac.uk.

FOR SALE: Notebook computer (486DX2), new hard drive, built-in modem, with Windows 95 software. Light-weight, reliable, well treated, perfect for internet and writing. £500 ono. (0115) 985 9729.

FOR SALE: Zanussi Fridge Freezer ZFG61/27, £125; Electra Superbe si oven/cooker £100; Hini Lifestyle Toaster £5; Reproduction pedestal desk £60; Alba stereo double cassette system £20. All excellent condition. Ring 474795.

FOR SALE: Doll's luxury pram £15, pushchair £2, high chair £5 or all three for £20. Ring 474795 after 6pm.

Can you spare 2 hours a month? We need practical people to help with all aspects of running a Rescue Team. The Team is trained by the East Sussex Fire Brigade and is provided with high quality equipment. Contact the following people for more information and an opportunity to meet the team:

Janet Claydon (Safety Office) Ext: 3296,
Jim Kelly (Rescue Team Leader) Ext: 2555,
Steve Gurr (Deputy Team Leader) Ext: 3111.

Bulletin

The Bulletin appears every Friday during term time with copy deadlines the preceding Friday lunchtime. We welcome any suggestions for news, events, letters and small ads from staff and students of the University.

Please contact the Information Office in Sussex House on Ext. 8209 or Email: Bulletin@sussex.ac.uk.