Fancy a flutter? Before you grease yourself up for the slippery slope, heed the words of mathematician John Haigh. In his new book Taking Chances, Dr Haigh picks his way through the pitfalls of probability to answer a few questions even the most hardened gambler won’t have thought of. Never mind the odds on the 3.22 at Chepstow, John offers expert tips on Monopoly tactics, and reveals when it’s worth risking a red card to stop a goal.

John believes that an everyday understanding of probability can be highly beneficial: "People need to know about probability because it can help in making all sorts of decisions, and also because it is fun.” He was inspired to write the book by the fever which swept the nation following the first huge wins on the National Lottery. While we all crossed our fingers and hoped it would be us, John looked on in amazement as newspapers made claims about numbers ‘taking turns’ to come up. "Even well respected financial analysts claimed that the number 39 was more likely to appear because it hadn’t appeared for a year. If you toss a coin and you think that because heads came up ten times, tails must be next, then you’re investing the coin with some memory and some ability to change its mind, which of course it doesn’t have.”

Since the chances of winning the Lottery jackpot are around one in 14 million, Taking Chances might dissuade the most determined gambler of their desire to take that chance. It might, however, persuade them that some knowledge of probability would give an edge on the opposition in games like Monopoly. Although the most expensive properties in Monopoly give the best returns, they don’t guarantee a win. According to John, the key is in the orange properties, which are landed on more than any others on the board. Because the 'Go to Jail' square is the most frequently visited, landing on the orange properties is most likely because they can be reached directly from the jail square with a throw of 6, 8 or 9 - among the most likely totals in terms of probability.

John can even help the likes of Frank Leboeuf and Tony Adams with their soccer-playing strategy. In football, a professional foul, when a player brings down an opponent with a goal-scoring chance, can lead to the cynical defender being sent off. But as John points out, sometimes it’s worth the risk. "The higher the probability that a player will score, the earlier in the match it pays to commit a professional foul. If the person is sure to score, you should trip them as early as the 16th minute. But if their chance of scoring is only 30%, you should wait until the 71st minute."

Continued on page 3.

Sussex Adam casts doubt on Eve

Research just published by Adam Eyre-Walker, Noel Smith and John Maynard Smith, of the Centre for the Study of Evolution in BIOLS, has cast serious doubt on one of the main methods used to trace ancient human lineage. Their findings have led them to question the assumption that mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) is inherited only in the maternal line.

Mitochondria, the power houses of the cell, have their own DNA and reproduce like bacteria, passing on their genetic material separately from the rest of the cell. Information on the mtDNA has been used to build up evolutionary trees to show how different groups of humans are related, by assuming that variations in mtDNA could only be the result of mutations accumulated in maternal lineages since divergence from a common ancestor, and that similarities indicate close common maternal ancestry. The small amount of variation in the mtDNA of modern humans has led to the widely-held view that we have a common female ancestor (Eve?) who lived in Africa about 200,000 years ago. Continued on page 5.
New Faces

Martin Barker
Reader in Media Studies

Martin Barker’s decision to take up a new post at Sussex can’t have been an easy one. Not only had he taught at the University of the West of England for 29 years but in moving to Brighton he had to give up his passion for attending football games. He describes himself as a dedicated football fan and although it means changing allegiances he is just waiting for "the Albion to come home." He chose to come to Sussex because he wanted to test himself in a different environment and to go where there was an established postgraduate culture. He is also enjoying the opportunity to teach overseas students.

Martin has recently carried out two major pieces of ESRC funded research into audience and journalistic responses to film. The first was on the film Judge Dredd and he has just published the results with co-researcher Kate Brooks in a book entitled "Knowing Audiences – Judge Dredd – Its friends, fans and foes." He is currently working on a similar piece of research into David Cronenberg’s Crash, which is to be completed at the end of April.

Aside from being a football fanatic, Martin is very active and does a lot of running, particularly around Preston Park, where he enjoys the opportunity of meeting other runners. Luckily, he is not put off by the hills here as "Bristol is just as bad."

During the course of his research Martin interviews a lot of media studies students in schools. He gets some surprising responses and one of his favourites was to a question on the effect of studying media studies on watching films; "When we like a film we just watch it and enjoy it, but when it is really boring we do media studies on it."

Windsurfing Winners

Adam Hale, a first year philosophy student, was first in the under 19 Open Fleet division of the 1998 UK National Championship. This series travels to different race venues all over the country.

Sussex has a tradition of producing good shortboard windsurfers. Mike Birt, who graduated in Geography, has been National Champion in the Pro Fleet twice. Both Jon and Rob Claire (Maths and Computer Studies) have been Pro. Fleet winners and Andy Rochester (Geography) has been a top flight Pro Fleet sailor.

The 1999 National Championship series starts in April at Marazion in Cornwall and the BWA would like to extend a warm welcome to any students who would like to join them for friendly and exciting racing.

Car Park Closure

There will be restricted access to the Biology Road car park on 17 March 1999 as it will be used for coaches here for the UCAS fair. Free parking will be available in the Sportcentre car park.

COMMITTEE TIMETABLE ON THE WEB

In future the Committee Timetable will be published on the Web, rather than being circulated to individuals (though paper copies will still be sent to Deans and Directors). You can find the Summer Term 1999 Committee Timetable by going into the USIS Home Page, clicking on "Information for Staff" and then clicking on "Committee Timetables".

Any comments should be addressed to Jenny Payne in Sussex House (Ext: 3855; EMail: J.M.Payne@sussex.ac.uk).

PEOPLE

Peter Thomas (Reader in Astronomy) has recently been awarded a 3 year lecturer Fellowship from PPARC to carry out research on galaxy formation - only two such awards were made this year.

Professor William Lamont was one of the speakers at the 25th British Academy conversazione held in February. The subject was ‘Should we always respect the ethical beliefs of other societies?’ and Professor Maggie Boden was the Chair.

Professor Derek Atherton (ENGG) has been made an Honorary Fellow of the Institute of Measurement and Control, in recognition of his contributions to the subject area world-wide, and for his services in the interests of the Institute.

Professor Cedric Watts (EAM) was one of two keynote lecturers at an international conference entitled ‘Poseidon and the Muses: Arts, literature and the ocean’ held at the national Sun Yat-sen University in Taiwan.

Dr Peter Childs (ENGG) has been granted the 1999 John P. Davis Award by the Internal Gas Turbine Institute Board of Directors, for his paper entitled “The Impact of Machining Techniques on Centrifugal Compressor Impeller Performance”.

Millennium Bug.

Kenya ready for Millennium by June 2000!

Hmmm!

I hope I am not the only one to find this disturbing

Mathematician Takes His Chances with an Odds on Bestseller
Continued from front page.
These are the sorts of figures footballers should have in their heads when they’re in the middle of the park making these decisions."
Every day of our lives we take calculated risks - should we keep our foot down to get through the traffic lights, should we have that slice of beef on the bone, should we go jogging alone at night. Taking Chances may be able to guide us through this minefield of calculated risk, with its examples of probability in cards, dice, coins and TV shows. As John says, "It’s written to be enjoyed by people who don’t normally read maths books." Certainly it’s led him to take a hard line on the old vice of ‘having a flutter’ - he says "I'm such an expert gambler now that I know never to gamble at all."

Gardner Arts Centre Freebies
Shiva Nova - Wednesday 17 March 1999 at 7.45pm
Urban Mantras
The Gardner Arts Centre has free tickets to give away to the first 10 readers who turn up at the box office waving a copy of the Bulletin.

Brian Blackman
It is with great sadness that we report the death of Brian Blackman. Brian came to the University in 1963 to join the Plasma Physics Group as one of the University’s first research technicians and quickly developed a reputation as a highly skilled engineer. Because of ill-health, Brain was forced to retire early in 1992 but remained a regular visitor to CPES to catch up on news and to pursue his most recent interest, personal computing. Brian will be particularly remembered for his keen sense of humour and his lifelong enthusiasm for ‘celebrations’ of all kinds.

VC’s Voice
We are now well into the process of setting budgets for next year. For Sussex, as for most universities, this involves facing up to some unwelcome arithmetic. The government has treated higher education better than its predecessors were planning to do, but the treatment is still far from generous.
New money has been put into a variety of schemes (such as the Joint Infrastructure Fund) to repair the damage past neglect of equipment and infrastructure. But successful bids to these schemes at best require new expenditure to match the income received, and in some cases require us to put up matching funds from our own resources. They don’t give us extra money to spend as we choose. Our core funding for teaching and research is still subject to “efficiency gains”, that is to say, cuts.
Next year’s budget poses a particular challenge because of the forthcoming research assessment exercise in 2001. New academic appointments are needed to replace gaps in our research portfolio, and every research-active academic post at the 2001 census date will count in the calculation of research income for the following four or five years.
There are other priorities. We have to improve the quality of the student experience if we are to remain attractive to well-qualified student applicants. That means expenditure on maintenance and improvement of buildings. Leaking roofs and poorly equipped lecture theatres will not attract students.
It would be a mistake to see next year’s situation as being unusually difficult. The pressures will continue. The government will continue to give higher priority to further education than higher education. The political need to restrain taxation means that mass higher education can never be funded in the way that elite higher education was.
As an institution, therefore, if we maintain our dependence on government funding we have to reconcile ourselves to annual belt-tightening. A better alternative is to aim to reduce our dependence on our traditional sources of funding. We are setting targets for income generation in next year’s budget, and we should start planning now to meet much more ambitious targets in future years.
There are already academic developments and plans under way that will contribute to meeting these targets. There are promising new courses and research-funding initiatives in biological sciences. The University’s investment in manufacturing engineering is beginning to generate new income. SEI has developed a new diploma that has recruited a large number of overseas students. New programmes are being planned in the health-related social sciences. Collaboration in computer science between CGS and ENGG is another promising area that deserves exploration.
Looking further ahead, we have to prepare for fundamental changes in the public funding regime. At the moment, there are controls on the numbers of home students we recruit and on the fees we charge. Very few observers of the UK higher education system believe that these controls can be maintained indefinitely. When they are relaxed, we will have to survive and prosper in a much more competitive climate.
Close up on Research

We've all had that uncanny feeling we know someone without being able to remember why or from where. Usually it turns out they were a school mate or the spouse of a distant colleague. But imagine having that feeling all the time - when you'll never met the person involved. Dr Jamie Ward, a research fellow in BIOLS, is investigating this phenomenon of false memory in a Human Frontiers funded project. He talks about what false memory is and how it might be tackled.

"False memory is the opposite of amnesia, where people forget everything and nothing seems familiar. Instead, people with false memory recognise people they don't know, or objects they have never seen. People can have problems with false memory when the frontal lobes of their brain are damaged in some way, whereas amnesia arises when a different part of the brain, such as the Hippocampus, is damaged. Historically people have thought that damage to the frontal lobes of the brain wasn't very important, because afterwards people can still speak, and they still come across as intelligent. We've come to realise, however, that the frontal lobes of the brain play a crucial role, and that damage can lead to people remembering things they haven't done, or recognising people they don't know. It's actually a really new thing to examine memory as residing in the frontal lobes - previously it was thought that all memory processes took place in the Hippocampus. Our research is mainly looking at people whose memory has been affected by a head injury. Damage to the frontal lobes is especially common in car accidents, when the head can often hit the dashboard. We work with three groups of people - those with frontal lobe injuries, those with other types of memory problems, and a control group. In our tests we might show people flashcards of famous faces, ask them to remember who they have seen and then test them with a new set of cards. The new set would include some of the first faces, but lots of new ones. Those with false memory problems will say they've already seen a lot of the faces that are new. False memory also causes problems with people mistaking intention for act - believing that because they thought about putting the kettle on, for example, that they actually did do it. We test people for this by asking them to imagine or carry out an act - for example picking a pen up. Afterwards we ask them whether they really did it or they just imagined doing it. Crucially, none of these activities are completely 'abnormal'. I think everyone has at some time forgotten whether or not they really did something or only thought about doing it. Our work might be used to help rehabilitate people with head injuries - and it might also apply to the elderly, because an ageing brain shows deterioration of the frontal lobes. But we are also very interested in how 'normal' memory works. People who have had frontal lobe damage can teach us a lot about the normal sorts of problems we all have with memory - like déjà vu, for instance.

We work on the assumption that people believe they recognise something because their brain recognises a familiar sign and a decision making mechanism in the brain mistakes the sign for the real thing, leading the person with false memory to believe that they recognise something they don't. Indeed, this process could be described as being a little like déjà vu. Unfortunately it is very hard to train the brain out of this process. Although our work might help us devise strategies to improve 'normal' memory, we've had limited success so far with improving the memory of the accident victims. However, we have discovered that problems arise in encoding the memory rather than retrieving it, which is quite a revelation. If people have strong associations with the faces they see, they might be more likely to know whether they definitely saw them or not. So sexy faces and nasty faces are more effective than just plain nice ones!"

A Logical Honour for Birthday of 'Founding Father'

It's not just the Queen who gets to have two birthdays. Mathematician Dr Gavin Wraith won't really be 60 until the end of March, but his birthday has already been celebrated as the focus of a special meeting of the Peripatetic Seminar on Sheaves and Logic. Leaders in the field from across the world spoke at the conference, which took place at the prestigious Newton Institute at Cambridge on the 27 and 28 February.

Gavin was one of the 'founding fathers' of the PSSL, which began its meetings in 1976. Enabling mathematicians to mix with computer scientists, the seminars were, according to Gavin, inspired by Oxford academic Dana Scott, "who had the vision to see that the new developments in mathematical logic then taking place were likely to be important tools in computer science." Gavin points out that the seminars were always informal, with "hordes of people sleeping on living room floors and lectures given in icy locked buildings to which the host would luckily have a key. It was fun, and thank God we never dreamed of any kind of official permission or sanction." Despite the lack of official recognition or funding, he says, "In this way a whole generation of computer scientists and mathematicians were trained."

The conference, which was the 70th PSSL meeting, was well attended by many of the regulars. He says 'I was happy to see lots of old friends (and to meet new faces) at the meeting. I was surprised and touched that the seminar was linked to me.'"
Sussex Adam casts doubt on Eve
Continued from front page.

Using human mtDNA sequences, as well as material from a number of apes, the Sussex team have constructed a phylogenetic tree and found genetic similarities where they should not be, between diverged members of the tree, at about 8-10 times the frequency that would be expected from random mutation. The best explanation for this is that there has been sexual recombination of the DNA and that this has involved mtDNA from the male parent. Recent research has shown that mitochondria from the spermm can enter the egg and that they contain the necessary enzymes. How long these mitochondria survive is not known, but it now seems that there must be at least some fusion and recombination between mitochondria.

In the same edition of the Proceedings of the Royal Society of London, B, another group of researchers has come to a similar conclusion on the basis of work on the mtDNA in a human population of an island in Melanesia. All this has far-reaching repercussions and may lead to a reassessment of some lineages. According to Adam, data will be harder to understand and the variation that we see may be older than we thought. So may Eve.

Thinking of organising a conference?

The Conference Office has produced a booklet which is the definitive guide to organising a conference or workshop here at the University. Entitled Information & Guidance for Conference Organisers Arranging Events at the University of Sussex the booklet contains comprehensive information about the residential accommodation, catering services and meeting/exhibition space (including capacities and dimensions) available on campus, as well as covering such issues as Safety, Security, Finance & Insurance, Facilities on Campus, Useful Telephone Numbers, and Information & Activities for Delegates. Available free of charge to any member of the University, please contact the Conference Office, extension 8678 or email conferences@sussex.ac.uk, where you can also request a conference pack. This includes the 1999 conference tariff and details on the year-round conference centre at the Isle of Thorns.

Prinny writes ..... 

The Environmental Advisory Group, proud managers of the managed meadow, will soon be advertising for a skilful gardener and taking applications for allotments on Tottenham Meadow. What a splendidly neo-Georgian image it conjures up: the gently bleating sheep tended by a shepherdess in blue taffeta and a little bonnet whilst hardy students, stripped to the waist, sing folk songs, till the soil and harvest the earth's goodness. Knowing the fate of most worthy experiments, the reality is more likely to follow this pattern: what's left of the sheep, those who have not been traumatised by drunken students, huddle in one corner, raddled and nervous, whilst tumbledweeds bounce, desultory, across rows of abandoned runner beans, cos lettuce and potatoes.

Can I remind you that today is Red Nose Day - I shall be instructing my staff to wear them all day. I would ask His Majesty the King to wear one but since it forms part of his daily attire I have decided not to broach the subject.

John Haigh's latest book Taking Chances promises to be a fascinating read. Useful tips on how to win Monopoly aside, he provides the basis of a fascinating equation for professional footballers on the probability of being sent off for a professional foul against the likelihood of such a foul preventing a goal being scored. We should be surprised if Frank Leboeuf whips out a slide rule next time he's bearing down on Paolo Wanchope.

I hear that Professor Rajak's lecture on the culture of bankruptcy was attended in large numbers by the senior management. A car boot sale was planned to follow.

I noted that the campus launderette has a machine which can cope with 25 shirts at once - what of cravats, what of waistcoats, what of cummerbunds? A man of fashion, such as myself cannot abide grubby attire so I should be grateful for the efforts being made to ensure that the student body is a little cleaner than usual.

I was alarmed to read in Bulletin that humans, like cows, thrive best on a steady time regime and that the University should start each day with mass outdoor aerobics done to energising music. Is this already the case on our cattle farms? Is a bovine Mr Motivator taking sluggishly Friesians through step exercises? Are the university sheep the thin end of an exercise wedge? I hope not.
All in a Day’s Work

Paul Phillips, Student Business Officer at Barclays’ Bank, lets us into the high-
finance world of student accounting. All together now...“Overdrafts are only
there as a stop-gap, they are not a gift.”

The role of business officer at Barclays’ basically involves dealing with whatever students need to have dealt with when they come into the bank. There are three student business officers here, and we all deal with students all day. This can be something as simple as discussing statements or finding out whether wages or cheques have been paid in, right through to overdraft requests. This is what we spend most of our time on. We get people who need overdrafts in the short term, because there has been a delay in a grant cheque arriving for example. But we also get people wanting overdrafts for the longer term too!

I’m always impressed by the differences between people - there are students who get really concerned that they’ve got a £200 overdraft when they’re in the final year of their course, and those who’ve spent £1000 in the first week of being here.

I’ve been working at this branch for about a year and a half, but I have worked for Barclays’ for about twelve years in all. The job here is very appealing, as you can imagine. It’s completely different - very relaxed and a lot less formal than your average banking environment. I like the work out from their circumstances what’s best for them. It is definitely the personal side of banking!

I haven’t been here long, so I can’t really say whether students do more paid work or have more financial worries than they used to. A lot of students do work though, especially in the second year. In the third year, people don’t really have time to work any more, so the overdraft tends to go up. This is why we try to encourage people to keep their overdrafts down for the first two years. We definitely recommend that first year overspenders work their socks off over the summer period to get their overdraft cleared before their second year starts.

It’s surprising, but on the evidence so far, tuition fees have not had as much of an effect on overdraft requests as we expected. I think that payment of student loans in instalments has helped most new students with budgeting. There is less temptation to go spending-mad than there was when the loan was received in one lump sum. Having said that, the vast majority of students are very responsible, and if they do get into trouble it isn’t because they are irresponsible but because money is very tight. Providing someone is honest with us, we will always do our best to bend over backwards to help, because we understand how difficult it is.

“they come with their parents, all meek and mild, but give them six weeks of being away and they’ve got pink hair and all-over body piercings”

Cambridge Information Technology

An Opportunity for Sussex Students

The University of Sussex, in collaboration with Crawley College, runs a scheme that enables students at Sussex to obtain the internationally recognised Cambridge Information Technology (CIT) certificate. If there is sufficient demand, two modules, from word processing (Word), presentation (Powerpoint) and spreadsheets (Excel) will be run during the Summer Term 1999. For further information and an application slip see the posters any of the Computing Service PC cluster rooms.

Honour for Physics Professor

Professor Emeritus Douglas Brewer, of the Physics and Astronomy subject group, has been awarded the Fritz London Memorial Prize for outstanding research in Low Temperature Physics. This award, the highest international prize in the field, is made every three years by a committee of physicists in the USA. It will be presented at the 22nd International Conference on Low Temperature Physics to be held in Helsinki in August this year.

Douglas Brewer came to Sussex from Oxford in 1962 and set up a large low temperature group which rapidly achieved world renown. His own research has been mainly in the field of superfluid helium. He retired eight years ago, but continues to work with his long time colleague, Dr Low Thomson, on the so-called “high temperature” superconductors - still 270 degrees colder than ice! In 1997 he was elected as one of only two Foreign Fellows of the Georgian Academy of Sciences.

Engineering Games Night

The School of Engineering holds a games night every year to raise money for charity and to build and improve student-staff relations. Staff and students compete against each other in a variety of sports from fencing to football and poker to Pictionary in an event which is unique to ENGG. So far the staff have had the upper hand, being the overall winners of nine of the 15 contests, including the 1999 match. The event also raised £126 for Comic Relief with a raffle. The organisers would like to say a big thank you to everyone who supported the evening by donating prizes, buying raffle tickets and entering into the general spirit of light-hearted competition.

Fencers enjoying the 15th annual Games Night in the School of Engineering.
Sussex Cunliffe Centre Conference

When opponents in deeply divided societies seek to resolve conflict, they sit down to write a constitution. Once thought of as the preserve of lawyers, constitution-making has now become a wider forum for negotiation over power and rights, confrontation with the memory and truth of the past, and safeguards for a modicum of trust between the parties.

"Constitution-making, conflict, and transition in divided societies" was the topic of a Sussex Cunliffe Centre conference hosted by the Rockefeller Foundation at the Bellagio Centre in Italy in February. The event was organised by Professor Vivien Hart of EAM, and co-sponsored by the University of Ulster. Academics and practitioners from Hong Kong, South Africa, Canada, Ireland, Europe, and Sussex participated.

The group agreed that constitution-making entailed much more than writing a document, could be a resource actively used by all sides, and was a hugely ambiguous process which might both help and hinder reconciliation.

Two themes ran through the discussions: awareness of how many attempts at constitution-making were set in an environment of violence, so that the theoretical deficiencies of constitutionalism might pale before the alternatives; and the continuous role of constitutionalism in framing negotiation and action before, during and after the formal settlement. As constitutional crisis developed in Hong Kong during this meeting, it was clear that constitutional law could be the strongest or only defence against authoritarianism.

The final call was for 'sustainable constitutionalism,' a constant concern for the spirit as well as the letter of reconciliation and for the inseparable goals of social and economic as well as formal justice.

Workshops for postgraduate students and field-workers will continue this project; details on the Cunliffe Centre website: http://www.sussex.ac.uk/Units/cunliffe/

Sussex Historian Makes Fruitful Earth

Historian Dr Alun Howkins will be the anchor for a major BBC documentary series due to be broadcast this spring. Alun, who wrote and presented the four-part series, was involved in UK-wide filming throughout the summer of 1998.

The series, which has a working title of Fruitful Earth, will be looking into the ways in which changing agricultural methods have impacted both on the environment and on social history and will cover every major period of agriculture from Neolithic subsistence farming to the huge agri-businesses of the late twentieth century.

Alun's area of research centres on the industrial revolution period, but the scope of the series required him to discuss farming as far back as 4,500 BC. "Although I wasn't on such confident ground in the period before 1770, making the programme aroused my interest in the earlier periods of agriculture much more than I thought it would," he says.

The films will run chronologically, with the first programme featuring sites in the Orkneys and County Mayo in the West of Ireland which represent the features of Neolithic farming. Other sites include Petworth in Sussex, which has an excellent example of a set of eighteenth century farm buildings, and farming areas in Cornwall, East Anglia, the Yorkshire Dales and the Scottish Borders.

Despite filming in some of the most beautiful parts of the UK, Alun found the experience a tough and challenging one. "TV is full of endless re-takes and that can get so boring. It once took us eighteen takes and three and a half hours of filming to produce forty five seconds of footage. Although it was exciting and interesting a lot of the time, it was never glamourous." Perhaps next time he should try presenting the Clothes Show instead.

Research Funding Opportunities

This is a selection of Research Opportunities. More details of these and other opportunities are available from the Research Grants and Contracts Office, contact Debbie, ext 3812 or email: D.Foy- Everett@sussex.ac.uk For an extensive listing of funding opportunities see REFOUNd on the Research Web site: http://www.sussex.ac.uk/ Units/research or USIS Home Page, under Research.

Proposals are invited from organisations who wish to be considered for forming Research Partnerships with the Employment Service. Organisations should be able to offer experience and expertise in one of the following four subject areas: customer service issues; services for people with disabilities; evaluation of labour market research; analysis of performance information and service improvement. Deadline: 19 March.

The National Health Service New and Emerging Applications of Technology Programme wishes to invite outline proposals for strategic applied research. Aim: to develop products and interventions for improved health and social care for disease prevention and treatment. Deadline: 31 March.

The US-UK Fulbright Commission has announced that the Fulbright Cancer Research Fellowship scheme is inviting applications for 1999/2000. This award will enable a postdoc scientist or clinician to spend 6 months in the US. The Fellowship will comprise of a grant for £15,000 and the fellow's visa fee will be paid. Deadline: 1 April.

The Health and Safety Executive has expanded the Competition of Ideas Scheme and has issued a second call for research proposals. HSE has identified 4 portfolio research groups: occupational health; engineering; behavioural and social sciences; major hazards and risk assessment. Approx. 6 million will be available for new projects. Deadline: 30 April.

The EPSRC has issued a call for research proposals under its Renewable and New Energy Technologies programme. Up to £3.5 million will be available per year. The programme covers the following areas: supply technologies; demand-side technologies; and enabling technologies. For more info see RCGO. Deadline: 14 May.

The BBSRC has research grants available from £50,000-£100,000. Research programmes include: biomolecular sciences; biochemistry and cell biology; genes and developmental biology; and animal sciences and psychology. There are no closing dates for these grants.

The Royal Academy of Engineering is inviting applications for its Industrial Secondment Scheme for engineering academics to spend between 3-6 months in industry on a full time basis. Aim is to ensure high quality teaching gained by state-of-the-art experience in industry. No deadline.
Lectures

Monday 15 March 12.30 - 2.00 pm SPRU Environment Programme Brown Bag Lunchtime Seminar: Paddy van Zwanenberg, Expert Advisory Committees and BSE Policy-Making: Substance or Smokescreen?

Library Opening Times

Library opening hours during the Easter Vacation:
- Mon, Wed to Fri 9.00am - 5.30pm
- Tues 9.00am - 7.30pm
- Saturday & Sunday - closed, but open from 1230 - 6.30pm on the last weekend of the vacation, 17 - 18 April.
- The Library will be closed from 1 - 6 April.

Computing Centre Opening Times

The Computing Service area in Chichester will close at 5.30pm on Wednesday 31 March and re-open Wednesday 7 April. PCs will remain available on a 24 hour basis in Henry’s Bar, York house. Please be aware that:
- there will be no cover if equipment doesn’t work
- there will be no-one available to refill paper in the laser printer
- there will be no cleaning of the room
- and the room will be shut by security if the facility is misused.

If a fault or problem develops in this time it should be reported to the Fault Line (4141).

Computer Training for staff only

Introduction to Email (SIREN) Monday 15 March 9.30am - Noon. You will use SIREN to send, read, save mail. The course includes the use of the address book, house-keeping techniques and attachments.

Accessing the Internet Monday 22 March 9.30am - Noon. This module introduces you to some of the tools available for accessing information on the world wide web. It will include a discussion of good search strategy and techniques.

Introduction to Spreadsheets Wednesday 24 March 2.00 - 4.30pm Using Excel 5 you will create simple spreadsheets and charts.

Introduction to On-line Databases Thursday 25 March 9.30am - Noon. This module shows you how to use BIDS ISI and OCLC First Search. BIDS ISI is a database of citation indexes. OCLC First search is a collection of subject based databases. Both these databases form a valuable research tool for all academic disciplines.

Places are limited. Anyone wishing to book a place must book in person at the Computing Service Reception 9.00am to 5.00pm.

Conferences

Progress and Emancipation in the Age of Metternich: Monday 12 April 12.00 midday - Wednesday 14 April 4.30pm. Jews and Modernisation in Austria and Germany 1815-1848. International Conference to mark the anniversary of Metternich’s exile in Brighton, organised in conjunction with the Austrian Cultural Institute by the Centre of German-Jewish Studies. Speakers include John Rohl, Niall Ferguson, Silke Hassler, Eda Sagara and others. The conference will investigate socially progressive impulses within a system which was politically conservative, taking the position of the Jewish communities as an indicator of tentative moves towards modernisation in German-speaking Europe.

Landscapes of Memory: Annual Conference of the Oral History Society in conjunction with the Centre for Continuing Education on 15 -16 May 1999. This international, interdisciplinary conference will explore the relationships between memory and place and the contested meanings of diverse human and physical landscapes. For further information please contact Caroline Barnard (Conference Administrator) in CCE on 678040 or email oralhistory@sussex.ac.uk. There is also some information at the web site http://www.essex.ac.uk/sociology/oralhis.

Language Courses

From the Open Course unit in EURO - A level revision courses in French, Spanish and German from Wednesday 7 - Friday 9 April 1999. Cost £70, closing date is Monday 15 March 1999. Contact the Open Course assistant on ext 7258.

Sport Service News

Early Bird Registration. Register for all Sport Service Summer Term 1999 courses before April 16 and get £2.50 off each course (except for 3 week ballet course).

Small Ads

Small Ads are placed free of charge. We will always try to display them in the earliest edition but cannot guarantee this. Please help by limiting them to 20 words or less.

AVAILABLE: Accommodation for postgraduate/visiting scholar from mid-March. Own shower and toilet, use of kitchen, rent £55 per week incl., possibly negotiable in return for some babysitting. Phone ext 7043/ email p.drake@sussex.ac.uk

FOR SALE: Boys Mountain Bike (Zed), Medium-size frame, Black, 18 Shimano Gears, Good Condition £60. Contact: Alison Evans 678675 or aevans@ids.ac.uk.

WANTED: House or 2 bedroom flat in Brighton or Lewes for visiting professor from Oslo University, Norway, for 6 weeks from June 1 to July 15. Please reply to R.Wilson@sussex.ac.uk

FOR SALE: Brand new double mattress, Silentnight. £60. Real bargain. Tel ext 8348

FOR SALE: Large calor gas fire plus empty bottle £20. Contact 720810 (eves) or ext 2905 or email H.J.S.Stewart@sussex.ac.uk.

WANTED: new home for beautiful half-Siamese cat, due to change in circumstances. 18 months old, male (neutered), fully inoculated. Tel: 505795.

FOR SALE: Brother AX10 electric typewriter, VGC, £20. Chrome mixer taps with shower attachment £45. Also basin taps to match, £15. All VGC. Teresa 01825 722586.

BODY SHOP DIRECT: Sample and buy in the comfort of your own home. Hold a party - free gifts for host/ess. Makeover and facial massage. Anyone interested in holding a party at home or in office, call Teresa Wenban, 01825 722586 or ext 2697.

FOR SALE: Ford Sierra 2.0 Ghia, A reg, 6 months tax/MOT. Nearly new brakes. VGC, £300. Call Mrs D Foord, ext 2697 or 687946.

FOR SALE: Kandinsky blue, yellow and grey print. 5' x 3'. New Offers: fba2500@central.susx.ac.uk

FOR SALE: Renault Espace TXE 3.5 H-reg (91), fsh, pas, MOT, 7 seats, twin sun-roof, central locking, new brakes, burgundy red. £5,445 ono. Contact Marc Sheffner tel: 814229 or MSheffner@aol.com.

FOR SALE: Double sofa-bed (foam), vgc, £50. Mothercare baby car-seat, less than 1 year old, £40 single duvets £6, or £10 for 2, 6 pillows £10 and a number of other small household items. Contact Marc Sheffner tel: 814229 or MSheffner@aol.com.

FOR SALE: Mountain Bike. 16 inch Raleigh Kalahari. 3 years old, regularly serviced Shimano LX gearing system and v brakes. Strong, light frame, aluminium wheels. Excellent condition. £200 (£350 new). For more information call 01342 825837 or ext. 7275.

WANTED: Drummer for Industrial type band. Please contact Brighton 738501 or email jo.matt@btinternet.co.uk.

FOR SALE: One Max Pax hot drinks machine ideal for staff/ common room. In full working order. can sell a variety of drinks. £30 or nearest offer. Call Simon Tunley on ext 7230.

FOR SALE: 3 stalls, standing tickets for Kula Shaker at the Brixton Academy on Friday 26 March 1999. Only £13.50 each. Please call Brighton 235049.

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.