Three senior academics appointed as Sussex PVCs

L-R: Professors Bob Allison, PVC (Research); Paul Layzell, PVC (Resources) and Deputy VC; and Joanne Wright, PVC (Education).

Following an open recruitment process the University has appointed three new Pro-Vice-Chancellors (PVCs), who will provide strong new senior academic leadership at Sussex, working with the Vice-Chancellor and colleagues in the Executive Group.

Professor Paul Layzell will be appointed PVC (Resources) and Deputy Vice-Chancellor. He will provide leadership on business planning and resource allocation, and will be appointed as DVC following on from Professor Tony Moore when he steps down this summer.

Professor Layzell is currently Vice-President for University Development at the University of Manchester. He managed the project to bring together UMIST (University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology) and the University of Manchester to form a new, single institution in 2004. Prior to that he was a Pro-Vice-Chancellor at UMIST with responsibility for finance and estate, head of the Computation department and a professor of software management.

Professor Bob Allison will be appointed PVC (Research), taking responsibility for the research agenda at Sussex. Professor Allison is currently Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Health at Durham University. A physical geographer, he was previously head of Durham’s geography department.

Professor Joanne Wright will be appointed as PVC (Education) with responsibility for teaching and learning and the student experience. Professor Wright has been Dean of the Faculty of History and Social Sciences at Royal Holloway, University of London since 2002 and is a professor of international relations.

In addition to their other PVC responsibilities, Professors Allison and Wright will provide senior management support and advice to individual Deans.

Reporting the appointments, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alasdair Smith, said: “This open recruitment process has brought forward some exceptional candidates and has created a very strong academic leadership team that is well equipped to take forward the University’s agenda, and to make a step change in the performance of the whole institution.”

Professor Allison will start at Sussex on 1 September, and all three are expected to take up their posts by the start of the new academic year. Specific start dates will be announced once they have been agreed.

The full set of roles and responsibilities for the new PVCs will be published in the autumn.

The composition of the Vice-Chancellor’s Executive Group is Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, PVC (Research), PVC (Education), Registrar & Secretary, Director of Finance and Director of Human Resources.

University takes action on assessment boycott

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alasdair Smith, has urged all academic staff at Sussex to consider the interests of students and play their normal role in assessment. The Association of University Teachers (AUT) nationally is seeking a 23% pay increase over three years and is asking its members to boycott assessment as part of a pay dispute.

In a letter to all academic and academic-related staff on 19 May, the Vice-Chancellor wrote: “My over-riding concern is the interests of our students as we move through this difficult dispute.”

Exams are currently going ahead as normal at Sussex, although the position on marking remains unclear. The University is considering how the grading rules for exam boards can best be applied to maintain standards where marks are missing, and Deans are trying to ensure the exam boards themselves can still meet. The University is still planning to run graduation ceremonies in July.

The University also intends to do all it can to support any finalists who are left in difficult situations by the AUT action, e.g., by providing supporting statements and transcripts to employers. Further information and advice is being sent to students from Academic Registry in consultation with the Students’ Union.

Where members of the AUT do not take part in the normal assessment processes, the University has said it will withhold 20% of salary on an ongoing basis until the member of staff indicates they are resuming their full duties, including clearing and submitting all outstanding marking as quickly as possible. Pay will be withheld with effect from today (Friday 26 May).

As the Bulletin went to press, further national talks were taking place, facilitated by ACAS (Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service) in relation to the employers’ 12.6% offer, which the Vice-Chancellor said was "generously at the limit of what can be afforded by the higher education sector as a whole and by individual universities". He said he regretted that the AUT had not put this offer to its members.

Acknowledging the goodwill of all staff, the Vice-Chancellor said that if a national settlement is not reached by the end of June, he is minded to recommend that Council should agree on an interim basis to increase pay for all staff (both academic and support staff) by 3% from 1 August, and a further 1% from 1 February 2007, matching the offer made by university employers nationally.

For the full text of the VC’s letter to academic staff, see www.sussex.ac.uk/Units/VCoffice/.

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Sussex astronomers among first to see new stars and galaxies

Two Sussex astronomers were among the first to see a new, high-resolution map of the Universe, returned by the world's most advanced infrared space survey telescope.

Dr Seb Oliver and Dr Richard Savage, based at the Astronomy Centre, have been working with a UK team of scientists involved in analysing data produced by the AKARI telescope, which blasted off from the Uchinoura Space Centre in Japan on 21 February.

The pair have just returned from Japan, where they spent an exhausting time looking at the first data from AKARI.

As it orbits Earth, AKARI, developed by the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) with European and Korean partners, has been mapping the Universe at mid- and far-infrared wavelengths, revealing the heat glow of objects hidden behind clouds of cosmic dust.

The survey has been studying some of the rarest objects in the Universe including 'starbursts' – dramatic explosions of star formation in distant galaxies.

Richard said: "It's wonderful to see the first images coming from the AKARI space telescope, after so much hard work by everyone on the project. It's particularly gratifying to see how well AKARI is functioning; this bodes extremely well for the science we will be able to produce from the mission."

Seb added: "We are delighted that everything appears to be performing just as we hoped and look forward to many exciting results to come."

Sussex wins four research fellowships

Sussex has been awarded four academic fellowships, worth a total of £500,000 over five years, in a competition run by Research Councils UK (RCUK).

The scheme is designed to help researchers move from short-term contracts to permanent positions. The awards, worth £25,000 per fellow each year, were made on the basis of how they can contribute to the University's strategic aspirations and academic plans.

Two academic fellowships will be based in the Centre for Computational Neuroscience and Robotics (CCNR), as joint appointments in the Schools of Life Sciences and Science and Technology.

"We have always had a number of excellent research fellows in this group," says Professor Michael O'Shea, director of the CCNR. "These individuals become highly competitive for jobs in the very best institutions worldwide. The academic fellowship scheme affords us the opportunity to ensure that very high-calibre young people are recruited into permanent positions at Sussex, and given the opportunity to develop in collaboration with established researchers."

A further two fellows will work in the School of Social Sciences and Cultural Studies on emerging global capitalisms and development studies. The research will explore how the world economy and society are being reconfigured in the early part of the 21st century by both public and private action, and how this is being driven by - and is shaping - transformations in developing countries.

Through the School's European and global networks, each fellow will have the opportunity to spend time working in a partner institution overseas, helping the School to consolidate a strategic set of global partnerships.
As I write, there appears to be no end in sight for the industrial action being taken by the AUT in support of their pay claim.

It's an unhappy situation. I know that academic staff don't actually want to take action that harms the interests of their students. Nor does the University actually want to deduct pay from loyal staff who, even during the dispute, are working well beyond a standard working week. We can all agree that the sooner the situation is resolved the better.

We can also agree that there is a problem about pay in higher education. Some progress has been made in recent years: average earnings of staff in HE have gone up by over 20% in the last three years. Academic staff in particular have benefited from incremental scales and from enhanced promotion opportunities, as universities have employed a higher proportion of staff on more senior grades.

The implementation of the new framework this summer will benefit many staff: at universities where this pay modernisation has already taken place, the paybill has increased typically by between 3% and 5%.

The employers' offer of a 12.6% increase over three years is on top of the effects of pay modernisation; the actual increase that will be received by many members of staff over three years will be well above 12.6%.

Maybe we can all agree that the progress made in the past three years and promised for the next three is only progress and does not fully address the problem of pay in higher education. I hope we can all agree that pay is not the only issue. For many members of staff, long hours and stress are also issues. Universities need more staff as well as better-paid staff.

But we also all know that finances are an issue. The offer of 12.6%, on top of the costs of pay modernisation, pushes this university hard against the limits of what we can afford. An unaffordable offer implies fewer jobs, either through job losses, or through not filling posts that would otherwise have been filled. There is no secret about the University's finances; the hard and unpleasant facts are available to us all.

This is not an issue for Sussex uniquely: many other universities face severe financial constraints, and unpleasant trade-offs between pay rises and jobs.

I'd like staff to have the opportunity to make their own decisions on these important matters. It's time for the AUT to ballot their members.

↓↓↓

I'm very happy that Senate and Council agreed to my proposals for the future of chemistry at Sussex. The debate that led up to the decision was not always easy, but it was a healthy debate in which the voice of both staff and students were powerful. On a future occasion, I'll reflect on the wider issues. For now, let me simply affirm that the decision was not a conservative decision that change must be resisted at all costs, but a positive decision to create a strong future for chemistry at Sussex within a strong and successful School of Life Sciences.
Students play visual Chinese whispers

An experiment involving a visual artist, two Sussex scientists and some students from Life Sciences examines how copied drawings evolve.

Rachel Cohen’s project, with Professor Michael O’Shea and Dr Andrew Philippides of the Centre for Computational Neuroscience and Robotics (CCNR), grew out of a way of making art.

“To make my work,” explains Rachel, “I create a set of rules that allow a degree of accident or loss of authorship. When I started playing the game of visual Chinese whispers, it was simply a way to make paintings.

“I began with a line drawing. I asked someone to copy it and then another person to copy the copy so the original image would distort and eventually become unrecognisable. These I transferred onto a sequence of canvasses.

“It occurred to me that the system of copying the copy was a sort of evolution. It was at this point that I met Michael, who has worked with artists in the past. The hypothesis that I brought to our first meeting was that the copied drawings became increasingly alike, whatever the original subject. Moreover, I predicted that they would always become abstract. Why this happens is still not clear but I think we have demonstrated that it does.”

With funding from Arts Council England, Rachel invited students to copy drawings and collected a good sample of data. She included drawings of a range of subjects – figures, still life, scenes – to see if this made a difference. It does. Unsurprisingly, faces are preserved for more generations.

In order to determine when a drawing stopped representing what it began as, Rachel asked participants also to name the drawings they copied.

Andrew is able to track changes in the drawings by identifying individual elements using algorithms. This part of the research is still in progress. Rachel says: “I am intrigued by resulting graphs – new visual images that re-describe the original drawings.”

Working with scientists has been “a really interesting experience” for Rachel (who also happens to be a Sussex History of Art graduate). “I have approached my own work from a new angle. As well as being much more systematic in collecting data and recording outcomes, I have begun to ask different questions.

“The experiment turns out not to be about evolution as scientists understand it, since there is no selection involved. I think it is about how we perceive and interpret our visual world, how a few black lines can become a face or a chair. So, in fact, it is about drawing.”

This was a pilot project and Rachel is looking forward to developing further research. Findings will be reviewed and posted on the CCNR website: www.cogs.sussex.ac.uk/ccnr/. You can also contact Rachel at: mail@rachelcohen.co.uk.

Below: Progression of drawings in the generative drawing project.

Free English classes in July and August

New teachers of English as a foreign language will be training at Sussex in the summer, which means up to 30 hours of free lessons is on offer. The next courses will be 3–26 July and 31 July–23 August. Classes are from 2–4pm Monday to Friday. There will be two levels: pre-intermediate and upper intermediate/advanced. Collect a form from the Language Learning Centre or contact Mike Donelan in Arts A67 (elf@sussex.ac.uk, ext. 3234).

ITS now in Engg 1

IT Services staff in Chichester 1 and Sussex House have now moved to their new offices on the first floor of the Engineering 1 building. Telephone numbers remain the same as before and IT Services Enquiries remains open in Chichester 1 until the user area is moved in July. In the meantime if you are visiting IT Services staff in Engineering 1, continue to go to Enquiries in Chichester 1 and they will arrange for you to be met.

University consortium scoops £5m

Sussex is part of a consortium that has won £5m to help build closer ties between business and higher education. The consortium was successful in winning funding in the competitive round of the Higher Education Innovation Fund (HEIF), a joint scheme run by HEFCE and the Office of Science and Innovation (OST). The scheme brings together university research with private-sector investment and stimulates a culture of entrepreneurship within higher education.
Four to receive teaching honour

Four academics will receive awards at July's graduation ceremonies in recognition of their excellent teaching.

The annual Teaching Awards scheme is open to all academics at Sussex who teach courses or supervise higher degrees. Shortlisted nominees prepare a portfolio of evidence for consideration by a judging panel, which is chaired by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alasdair Smith.

Experienced teacher

Second-year law student Alexis Jackson nominated Heather Keating, who teaches her criminal law. "She knows the subject inside out, always explains the topics clearly, provides excellent overheads and keeps us all fascinatd in her lectures. She is also always willing to provide us with information, help or advice outside class."

Alexis' perspective is borne out by the head of the Sussex Law School, Professor Malcolm Ross, who confirms that law students recurrently cite Heather's clarity, enthusiasm and responsiveness to their needs.

Andrew Stephens, who is now a criminal barrister, studied law at Sussex from 2000-2003. He recalls: "It is not just the quality of Heather's teaching that is first class, it is also her way of engaging with a subject and by so doing enabling and encouraging her students to do likewise."

Heather's teaching extends across a broad range: undergraduate studies in criminal law and family law, as well as taught postgraduate and research students. "She is very skilled at tailoring material and methods to accommodate different levels of learning and student backgrounds," says Malcolm.

As well as demonstrating individual teaching excellence, Heather is also involved in raising the profile of teaching excellence in the Sussex Law School and in disseminating good practice.

Professor Russell King's Teaching Award recognises his pivotal role in establishing and delivering postgraduate teaching and doctoral supervision on migration studies at Sussex over the last decade.

In the mid 1990s Russell launched the Sussex MA in Migration Studies - the first of its kind in the UK. He continues to teach the core course on the degree and achieves consistently positive student evaluations.

Dr Michael Johnson, the Dean of Social Sciences and Cultural Studies, describes Russell as a "challenging and demanding teacher, who is self-critical and reflective".

To ensure that his teaching is informed by the widest and most up-to-date evidence, Russell draws on 30 years of his own scholarship (about 150 publications on migration) and professional practice (e.g. as leader in several research projects), as well as established literature by others.

He tries to bring the same research-led and open-minded approach to DPhil supervision as he does to MA teaching. He generally supervises around 8-10 research students at any one time and most of his former doctoral students are now pursuing academic careers at other universities.

Within the Geography department Russell has acted as a mentor to numerous younger colleagues, advising them on their teaching, learning and assessment strategies.

Rising star

Although Dr Lynne Mayne has been a senior biochemist at Sussex for many years, she transferred from a research post to a teaching faculty post only three years ago.

She was involved from her first term in teaching on two new degree programmes: for the Brighton & Sussex Medical School (BSMS), which admitted its first students in 2003, and on the BSc in Molecular Medicine that began at the same time. Lynne was thus faced with a considerable challenge and responsibility very early on.

Despite starting her teaching career later than most faculty, Lynne has involved herself from the outset in pioneering methods, to the extent that she now effectively acts as a major catalyst for innovation not simply in her own teaching but for others as well.

Lynne has worked energetically to support colleagues in their professional practice in areas such as developing learning outcomes and promoting student feedback. She has taken it from strength to strength in developing and in student support to encourage good academic writing and prevent plagiarism.

Lynne also puts a great deal of effort into supporting students with disabilities. With a colleague, she has recently developed guidelines that encourage biochemistry faculty to develop inclusive teaching practices.

The transition from teaching pupils in schools to teaching adults in higher education is a challenging one. Angela Jackin, Julia Sutherland's colleague in the Sussex School of Education says she has been "enormously impressed with Julia's ability to make this transition, the speed with which she did so and her ability to transfer learning to a new professional context".

Julia leads the PGCE (Post Graduate Certificate in Education) English programme and has taken it from strength to strength in the last few years, achieving an 'excellent' rating from Ofsted (the Office for Standards in Education).

This she has achieved in a number of ways, including learning from colleagues at Sussex, from the students themselves and from research, as well as by developing effective partnerships with colleagues in schools.

Her head of department, Pat Drake, says: "Julia's work has simultaneously consolidated the reputation of English PGCE at Sussex as being innovative and developmental."

As convener of the new BA in English Education Studies, Julia has developed from scratch a challenging and creative curriculum, designed to develop academic and professional knowledge among non-standard students (teaching assistants). The high retention rate and impressive student attainment on this programme is evidence of Julia's strong support for the student learning experience.

From the top: Teaching Award winners Heather Keating, Professor Russell King, Dr Lynne Mayne and Julia Sutherland.

A view from TLDU

Sue Clayton
TLDU Development Officer

In the Teaching and Learning Development Unit (TLDU) we see the Sussex Teaching Awards as an opportunity to highlight and reward innovative teaching, with a strong emphasis on student feedback and the impact that individual colleagues can have on their departments, the University and the wider national scene.

TLDU have evolved the award structure to reflect the National Teaching Fellowship Scheme (NTFS). This is to ensure that our awards are one way in which we can prepare and support staff to submit successfully for the NTFS, which offers substantial individual benefits, but also promotes the national standing of Sussex.

This strategy seems to have worked, as we have had more NTFS winners than any other.1994 Group university since the scheme began: three winners in as many years.

Over the past three years participation in the Sussex Teaching Awards has increased threefold and the quality of portfolios submitted has risen exponentially, making each successive year a real challenge for the awards panel, chaired by the Vice-Chancellor.

This year it was particularly evident how much more embedded individual teaching innovation has become within departments. Also notable was the engagement of students in supporting nominees; increased feedback from peer observation in supporting evidence; and the integration of research and scholarly approaches to teaching.

Award winners and indeed all participants in the scheme have joined the strong network of "teaching champions" being built up across campus.
Former student remembers Sussex in his will

A former student who spent just one year at Sussex has left almost £55,000 in his will to the History department.

David Solomon (1948–2004) was born in Ottawa and received his BA from the University of Winnipeg, from where he won a Woodrow Wilson Scholarship from the United States to study in England. After only a year at Sussex he went in 1971 to teach in Nigeria. His tutor at Sussex, Professor John Burrow, wrote that David Solomon had “impressed all his tutors by his industry, thoroughness and dedication, by the scholarliness of his approach and by his grasp of philosophical and historical issues ... We are sorry to lose him.”

David Solomon later settled in Vancouver and then Victoria, British Columbia, where he worked as a history lecturer focusing on Medieval, European, British and Asian history.

Commenting on the bequest, Dr Stephen Burman, Dean of the School of Humanities, said: “We are always delighted to learn that alumni enjoyed their time at Sussex.

“It is particularly humbling, however, to know that, in a relatively short period 35 years ago, it made such a strong impression on Mr Solomon that he chose to leave this generous sum for the History department, where it will make a real difference.”

The department will use the bequest to award an annual David Solomon Prize for the best history doctorate and to fund a series of postgraduate scholarships.

If you are interested to know more about making provision for the University in your will, contact the Development & Alumni Relations Office in Bramber House and ask for a free copy of the new booklet on this subject. Email r.e.walkington@sussex.ac.uk or call ext. 6574.

Competition inspires enterprising pupils

Budding tycoons from Holy Trinity School in Crawley have won first prize in a University of Sussex competition with their innovative and creative business plan for an empty retail unit in a Brighton street.

A panel of judges – acting as potential investors – commended the year 10 pupils for their impressive presentation skills and the feasibility of their business plan for ‘Half Pipe Heaven’, an indoor skateboarding venue with specialist facilities and training for a wide range of users and ages in a safe environment.

A total of 36 secondary schools entered the competition and 22 business plans were submitted to the judges for short listing. Six schools were short-listed as finalists and invited to present their plans to a live audience. The winners received their prizes at a special award ceremony on 11 May.

The annual Entrepreneurs for Tomorrow competition is run jointly by the University with the Specialist Schools Trust, the Sussex Innovation Centre and Sussex Education Business Alliance.

The competition aims to inspire school students to start thinking about enterprise, innovation and technology; to encourage their communication and team working skills by creating and presenting a business plan; and to allow them to experience student life on campus for a day.

It links into other enterprise activities at Sussex, including a week-long residential programme this summer for 60 students from 25 universities in the south-east of England; a recent social-enterprise competition for bright ideas; and “Enterprise Thursdays”, a series of four presentations in February for students and staff.

FIRST CLASS ↓

Sussex graduate Professor Calestous Juma has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society (the UK national academy of science) for his work on the application of science and technology in developing and developed countries. Professor Juma, who now works at Harvard University, studied for an MSc in SPRU – Science and Technology Policy Research from 1982–83 and then a DPhil from 1983–86.

Second-year Music student Jack Westmore is this year’s Composer of Dyfed for the second year running. Jack, from Llanwyddfa in Carmarthenshire, took the top prize with a composition called Rho.

Enterprising: Pupils of Holy Trinity School show off their awards.
Glitz and glamour abounded at this year’s USSU Sports Ball, held in the ballroom of the Thistle Hotel. The awards presented at this glittering occasion recognise both sporting excellence and contribution to USSU sport.

Individual sporting success is rewarded with Full and Half Blues, given to those who have represented the University at national/international and county/regional levels respectively. Full Blues were awarded to Laurence Halsted, fencing; Kieran O’Callaghan, beach football; David Stone, cycling; Rosalie Birch, cricket, and Carol Beever, softball. Ben Warren received a Half Blue for his contribution to athletics.

Rosalie Birch was named Sportswoman of the Year for her achievements as part of the England women’s cricket team and David Stone was named Sportsman of the Year for his cycling achievements in several major international championships, including three medals in the New York Cerebral Palsy Championships, and a double gold medal at the European Championships. He is hotly tipped for a gold at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

USSU Sport Awards were presented to a range of individuals who have gone beyond the call of duty for their club. Coach of the Year went to squash coach Simon Tunley for his contribution to the squash club’s development. The Team of the Year award was shared between the men’s squash first team and the women’s volleyball team, both of which achieved the same feat: after being promoted last year, they came top of their league this year to be promoted again.

The award for Most Improved Club went to Sub Aqua which, after being threatened with closure, fought back this year to be stronger than ever. The club has gone from doing very few dives to organising trips to Egypt, Plymouth, Weymouth, Lands End, the Isle of Wight, Swanage and local dives and has also expanded its training scheme for new divers and instructors.

The prestigious Club of the Year award went to Sussex Snow for the second year running. This enormous club functions as several clubs in one: organising ski and snowboard trips (including 250 people on the annual trip to France), socials, training, race teams, beginners’ lessons and much more.

To find out more about USSU sports clubs, check out www.uusu.info/sport.

Taking fun to its boundaries

The inaugural boundary fun run and walk, which took place on 10 May, saw around 30 runners and 150 walkers out in the sunshine to complete the five kilometre circuit of campus.

The event was a cross-campus event, with SussexSport organising and marshalling. Estates and the branding team providing permanent signage to mark the boundary route, and Dr Martyn Stennig from Life Sciences providing an ecological commentary for the walkers.

The event was so popular that the 2007 fun run and walk has been scheduled for Wednesday 9 May. Start training now!

Top runners

Ben Warren, Life Sciences: 16m 55s
Josh Guilment, Sussex Inst.: 17m 44s
Roger Hylton, USSU: 18m 42s
Rachel Baker, Finance: 24m 16s
Tracey Beck, Academic Office: 25m 03s
Linda Gee, Postgraduate Office: 27m 18s

Walking the walk: More than 150 staff and students enjoyed the scenic boundary walk, now signposted for all to enjoy.
**Academic events**

**TUE 30 MAY**

1pm **Biochemistry, Genetics & Development Seminar**: Sally Wheatley (Sussex), title TBC. JMS LT.

4pm **COGS seminar**: Stephen Stich (Rutgers), Philosophy, intuition and culture: An overview of a research program. Pevensey 1A1.

**WED 31 MAY**

1pm **Genome Seminar**: Aidan Doherty (Sussex), title TBC. GDSC Seminar room.

2pm **Physics seminar**: Paula Chadwick (Durham), Latest results from the HESS gamma ray telescope. Pevensey 1A1.

4pm **Latin America in the spotlight**: Laurence Whitehead (Oxford), Joe Foweraker (Essex), Mick Moore (IDS) Sue Branford (journalist), Francisco Toro (journalist), Politics in Latin America: Deconstructing the meanings of the left and the implications for the region's development. BSMS LT.

**THU 2 JUN**

1pm ** calling Chinese seminar**: Adrian Ely (Sussex), Benefits and risks of GM food. Social Space, Freeman Centre.

2.15pm **SPRU-CENTRIM seminar**: Jason Rutter (CRIC), title tbc. Freeman Centre G24/G25.

3pm **South Asia seminar**: Martin Rogers (Sussex), Between 'reality' and 'fantasy': Fandool, film deletion and the Tamil film star fan club networks in Tamil Nadu, India. Arts D730.

**MON 5 JUN**

2.30pm **Neuroscience seminar**: Rob Harris (Sussex), Adaptation and prediction in the visual system. Genome Seminar room.

5pm **Education seminar**: Jenny Parke (London), Children and violence in South Africa. Arts E419.

**TUE 6 JUN**

10am **Cultural Studies seminar**: Sibhal Kattago (International University of Concordia Audiences, Estonia), The power of representation: Soviet war memorials in north-east Estonia; liberation or occupation. Arts C233.

12noon **Biochemistry, Genetics & Development seminar**: Julian Thorpe (Sussex), Are ageing and neurodegenerative brain neurons pining for a protein? JMS LT.

**WED 7 JUN**

1pm **SPRU-CENTRIM seminar**: Flora Marshall (Sussex), Sustainable development and technology. Social Space, Freeman Centre.

1pm **Genome Centre**: Claran Morrison (Galway), How DNA damage signals to the centrosome and leads to mitotic catastrophe. GDSC seminar room.

2pm **Physics seminar**: C. Lazzeroni (Cambridge), Recent results from NA48. Pevensey 1A1.

4.30pm **Social Work seminar**: Debi Rober (Trust for the Study of Adolescence), The parenting of young people: Conceptual, methodological, and political issues. Russell 27.

5pm **IDS seminar**: Uma Leile (World Bank), Global public goods and the changing aid architecture: Lessons from evaluations.

**THU 8 JUN**

6.30pm BSMS inaugural lecture: Chirakwathi Rajkumar (BSMS), Blood pressure, arterial stiffness and more. BSMS LT.

**FRI 9 JUN**

2.15pm **SPRU-CENTRIM seminar**: Lea Velho (University of Campinas, Brazil), The nature of north-south partnership in bioprospecting and impact on capabilities and innovation systems. Freeman G24/G25.

3pm **South Asia seminar**: Praveena Koloth (Trivandrum) & Ratan Tata (LSE), The role of gender in the shaping of the stable marriage norm in Kerala, India. Arts D730.

**Small ads**

**For sale**: 3-bed house in Lelawong Place, 3 storesy, 2 bathrooms, patio garden with bicycle storage. £275/9. Tel Daves/Heine on 0237759 or 07963 826762, E hkh35@sussex.ac.uk.

**To let**: 2-bed flat on Brighton. From end June -mid Sep. Suit visiting researchers. Between sea & 25 bus. E jycfj@sussex.ac.uk.

**For sale**: Child's cabin bed. Includes mattress, pull-out table, drawers & cupboard. £60. T Sam on ext. 8229 or 476336, E s.r.nahler@ucl.ac.uk.

**For sale**: 1990 red Audi 80 Sport, 8 mths MoT. £1,000. T Ext. 8080, E jwjh@ucl.ac.uk.

**Wanted**: Accommodation for visiting academic, partner & 13-yr-old child. Staying 18 June -15 Nov; need a place either for the entire time or for the first week or two until find longer term accommodation. E Greg Hooper at gh.hooper@out.edu.au.

**Wanted**: Accommodation to let for Sep-Nov, pref. Lewes area. For visiting academic (+ wife & 9-yr-old). E charles.cothers@out.ac.uk.

**Wanted**: Accommodation for visiting professor for 3 mths from Sep. E v.s.stykes@sussex.ac.uk.

**For sale**: Double bed, sofa, 2 tables, chairs, chest of drawers. £ cheap or free; buyer collects (B'ton). T 077789 628155, E 22@ucl.ac.uk.

**For sale**: Maxi-Cosi Taxi Speedi 3-wheel all-terrain travel system. Pram + interchangeable carry cot £100. Inc. rain covers, d/s, Charcoal colour. T on ext. 8701.

**Wanted**: Web designer looking to improve skills by working on commercial venture. Future prospects of pay and exposure. Good opportunity to build portfolio of design work. E Nicola on nmm50@sussex.ac.uk.

**Wanted**: 1-bed flat in Brighton area for couple. Inclusive bills. Garden or balcony pref. £550 -£600 pcm or less. E Naomi on rv42@sussex.ac.uk.

**To let**: 3-bed Woodingdean house with sea views. Garden, garage. £800 pcm. Gas CH. T 07904 982166.

**Arts events**

**EXHIBITION**

**Until Sat 10 Jun**

**Billy Childish - Childish**

Paintings of a Backwater Visionary

Paintings, drawings, woodcuts and writings from the cult musician, writer, artist, poet and revolutionary, GAC.

**Work starts on first phase of new heating system**

Work starts imminently on the first phase of a complex and large-scale project to replace the University’s ageing heating network with a new, energy-efficient system.

This first phase, from May to October, involves extensive trenching across campus and the laying of 7km of insulated pipes to replace the 1960s pipework.

The scheme has been designed to minimise disruption wherever possible, but the work will at times be noisy and disruptive.

**Campus roads**

**North-South Road (northern end)**

North-South Road will be closed at the northern end from 30 May, when the contractor will be trenching between Arundel, Engineering 1 & 2 and Chichester 1 & 2 buildings. Completion is scheduled by 12 July.

**North-South Road (southern end)**

From 13 July to 17 August the contractor will be trenching along the southern end of North-South Road between Sussex House and the JMS building. Access will be only for emergency services, essential deliveries, contractors’ access and designated disabled motorists.

**Eastern Ring Road**

From 30 May Eastern Ring Road will become two way at the top of Boiler House Hill. Advance notices will be displayed at strategic locations and there will be road signage at all key junctions. Eastern Ring Road will revert to one way at the end of August.

**Buses**

Buses will not be able to come on to campus between 29 May and mid September. Drop-off and pick-up will be at the bus stops outside the campus.

**Car parks**

**Boiler House car park**

Boiler House car park, and the upper terrace that links to it, will be closed from 30 May. Once trenching work has taken place the Boiler House car park will become the site area for construction of a new student residence opposite Bramber House, so it is likely to remain closed until September 2007 at the earliest.