Sussex chemist elected a Fellow of the Royal Society

The Royal Society, the UK's national academy of science, has elected a University of Sussex scientist to one of its prestigious Fellowships.

Professor Geoff Cloke, an organometallic chemist, learnt on 18 May of his election as a new Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS).

Election to the Fellowship of the Royal Society is recognised world-wide as a sign of the highest regard in science. A maximum of only 44 Fellows may be elected annually. Candidates must be proposed by at least six existing Fellows and are assessed by committees in each major field of science.

Geoff is internationally recognised for his original contributions to synthetic inorganic and organometallic chemistry, and is the acknowledged world leader in the application of synthesis using metal vapours for the bulk scale synthesis of new and thought-provoking inorganic molecules.

He said: "Making and understanding new classes of chemical compound that challenge the accepted limits of chemical bonding is not only of fundamental academic importance, but can also lead to new types of chemical reaction with important applications.

"For example, very recently we have discovered new uranium compounds that easily convert carbon monoxide into industrially important organic compounds. This is a peaceful use for uranium, which has nothing to do with its radioactivity.

"Not only that, but they will also turn the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide into potentially useful and harmless products for the chemical industry. So our work is also of relevance to global warming."

Welcoming the announcement, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alasdair Smith, said: "I am delighted at this news. Geoff is a first-rate scientist, an academic leader and an excellent colleague. This is a very well merited recognition of his talents."

Inside

2 Guinea pigs
Award-winning book celebrates the role of plants and animals

3 Royal visit
Duke of Gloucester visits CISC at BMS

4 Strike!
Sussex composer creates score for silent movie

6 Foxtrot
Amateur radio club starts up (again) at Sussex

7 Sporting
Teams from Sussex battled it out at netball, rounders and pool

IngenioUS ideas at science day

The School of Science and Technology (SciTech) is to open its doors for its first ever showcase on Wednesday 13 June, bringing together industry and researchers for a glimpse of innovations of the future.

The day offers an opportunity for academics, students, business leaders and funding bodies to meet and explore cutting-edge research projects through lectures, exhibitions, demonstrations and tours.

Guests expected to attend so far include directors from some of the largest blue-chip companies in the UK, careers advisors and leading research council representatives.

Helen Underwood, an electronic design engineer with Sussex-based machinery manufacturer Eurotherm, says: "As a company interested in the involvement of innovations in technology, we are keen to come along and see what is exciting the researchers at the moment. We have also found the University of Sussex a good place to spot new talent."

Exhibitions of research projects from SciTech's departments of Informatics, Engineering and Design, Physics and Astronomy, and Mathematics will cover areas such as robotics, medical monitoring and the future of computing.

There will be an opportunity to tour the Rolls Royce-supported experimental unit, where ground-breaking work is being carried out on jet engine technology.

Academics will also be on hand to talk about research projects they are currently working on. Cognitive scientist Dr Richard Cox will be repriming his presentation on 'vicarious learning', seen recently at the national Festival of Social Science. He will demonstrate how, through the use of puzzles and computer technology, the principle of learning by watching others learn is now being applied in education.

Dr Robert Prance, from Engineering and Design, will give a talk about a new type of heart monitor using technology developed by his team.

For details of the event, see www.sussex.ac.uk/scitech/ingenioUSevent.

In the afternoon, final-year Product Design students will be exhibiting their degree projects. These include designs for leisure equipment, medical kit and furniture of the future. For details, see www.sussex.ac.uk/showcase/productdesign07/
BOOKMARK

Anne-Meike Fechter (Lecturer in Anthropology)
Transnational Lives: Expatriates in Indonesia
Ashgate, £55 (hardback)
ISBN: 978075464743

The publisher says: "Privileged migrants, such as expatriates living abroad, are typically associated with lives of luxury in exotic locations. This fascinating and in-depth study reveals a more complex reality. By focusing on corporate expatriates the author provides one of the first book length studies on 'transnationalism from above'.

"The book draws on the author's extended research among the expatriate community in Jakarta, Indonesia. The findings, which relate to expatriate communities worldwide, provide a nuanced analysis of current trends among a globally mobile workforce."

John David Rhodes (Lecturer in Literature and Visual Culture)
Stupendous, Miserable City: Pasolini's Rome
University of Minnesota Press, £12.50 (paperback)
ISBN: 9780816649303

The publisher says: "Carefully tracing Pasolini's surprising engagement with this part of Rome and looking beyond his films to explore the interrelatedness of all of Pasolini's artistic output in the 1950s and 1960s — including his poetry, fiction, and journalism — Rhodes opens up completely new ways of understanding Pasolini’s work and proves how connected Pasolini was to the political and social upheavals in Italy at the time."

Alan Sinfield (Professor of English)
Literature, Politics and Culture in Postwar Britain
Continuum, £7.99 (paperback)
ISBN: 9780826449757

The publisher says: "A landmark work in contemporary literary and cultural analysis. It offers a provocative and brilliant account of political change since 1945 and how such change shaped the cultural output of our time."

Joe Tidd (Professor in SPRU - Science and Technology Policy Research) and John Bessen
Innovation and Entrepreneurship
Wiley, £32.99 (hardback)
ISBN: 978047032695

Developed for courses at both undergraduate and postgraduate level, Innovation and Entrepreneurship is an accessible introductory text written primarily for students of business and management studies.

The book is also suitable for engineering students studying courses in business and management. Contemporary issues in both innovation and entrepreneurship are used to engage and excite students, and lead them to the relevant theory, models and lessons.

A guinea pig's tale and other stories of biology

While great scientists have been revered and remembered for their discoveries, the role played by the plants and animals that helped them on their journey to greatness has rarely been celebrated.

Sussex science historian Dr Jim Endersby now pays tribute to some of these classic laboratory organisms in his first, award-winning book, A Guinea Pig's History of Biology.

In a down-to-earth and engaging style, Jim recounts the individual stories of how guinea pigs, fruit flies, evening primroses and many other common species have aided and advanced our understanding of mysteries such as genetics.

"Biography is currently one of the world's most exciting sciences, promising everything from better foods and cures for common diseases, to the most alarming prospect that genetic engineering could allow us to redesign life itself," writes Jim.

"Examining the organisms that have made all this possible gives us a different understanding of how we got here and perhaps new ways of thinking about where we might be going. Instead of a story in which great scientists have great ideas, the story of passionflowers and hawkweeds, of zebra fish and viruses allows us to understand the different kinds of work that make science possible."

The great scientists do get mentioned, but as characters in the organisms' stories. Jim devotes a chapter to the darling of the early biologists, the guinea pig, a docile domestic pet that helped Robert Koch identify cholera-causing microbes and tuberculosis, and contributed to the discovery of Vitamin C. Another chapter on passionflowers describes the cross-pollination work Darwin carried out in his quest to find out the effects of inbreeding (and whether his decision to marry his cousin would have harmed their children).

Jim, who decided against a career in biological research because he could not stomach animal dissection, also examines the virescence debate and concludes: "Those who claim that all animal experimentation is unnecessary are probably mistaken; if researchers could stop using mice, they would already have done so."

A Guinea Pig's History of Biology, winner of the £10,000 Jerwood Award for non-fiction in progress, was published by William Heinemann on 24 May.

Anthology explores the absurdity of old age

An unusual new anthology of poetry and prose explores the experience of ageing.

Co-edited by Sybil Oldfield, Research Reader in English, the selection focuses on strong emotional relationships and on the continuing spirit of resistance in the old, whether emotional or political - not to mention the many absurdities that attend our last stage of life. (Humour is the only faculty that improves with age," observes Sybil.)

"The University Print Unit, with the expert help of Vicky East and Keith Hunt, has produced an attractive ideal present for older readers," says Sybil.

Copies of The Old Familiar Faces cost £5 each plus £2 postage and packing (proceeds to Age Concern). They are available from Sybil Oldfield, 4 Houndean Close, Lewes BN7 1EZ.

Publication of the book was made possible with National Lottery funding by Awards for All, in conjunction with funding by Brighton and Hove City Council's Hedgetcock Bequest.

Bookmark is a regular review of new books by Sussex authors.

You can buy these books at the University Bookshop in Bramber House, or order online at www.sussexunibooks.co.uk. Staff get a 10% discount on all products in the Bookshop on production of valid ID.
It is excellent news that agreement has now been reached on the implementation at Sussex of the new national pay framework.

That framework is a welcome modernisation of our pay structure. It will deliver significant improvements in pay for many of our staff, in addition to the national increases agreed last year, and it will help ensure that we meet the important objective of equal pay for work of equal value. I am grateful for the hard work of all those who have made the agreement possible.

The UK higher education system is still absorbing the implications of last year’s difficult pay dispute. The resolution of that dispute included agreements to establish a review of pay and finance data in higher education, in an attempt to ensure that future pay negotiations start from an agreed factual base about the finances of universities and the evolution of remuneration costs, and a review of the system of national pay negotiations.

In addition, the Universities and Colleges Employers Association (UCEA) has been consulting its members about the lessons of last year’s dispute and their views about the future of the pay system in higher education, and no doubt the trade unions are having similar consultations with their members.

The pay and data review will take place next academic year, but the review of the pay negotiating machinery is well under way and is scheduled to complete its work in July. Good progress is being made in discussions about creating a more streamlined negotiating structure as well as number of less formal fora in which discussions can take place about important matters that are not subject to national negotiation.

One stumbling block is the wish of the Universities and Colleges Union (UCU) to retain a separate bargaining table for discussion of the pay of academic staff. As we now have a single pay spine covering both academic and support staff, both UCEA and the support staff unions believe strongly that there should be single table negotiation and that outdated status distinctions should be eradicated. Of course, there are some issues that are of particular interest to academic staff, and a more streamlined structure will have to address UCU’s legitimate concerns about such issues.

Two strong messages have emerged from consultations among UCEA members. The first is that universities need to be much better prepared, both individually and collectively, to deal with any proposed assessment boycott than they were last year. The second is that most universities would like to retain a national system of pay negotiation, but only if the system is very significantly reformed. If this year’s discussions fail to deliver that reform, I believe that many universities will start planning to walk away from the national pay system.

The new national pay framework gives much more scope than in the past for local negotiation about the way we reward staff. I am sure that in the future Sussex, like other universities, will be seeking to use the national pay spine as the base on which to build reward for performance. Sussex should be a high-pay, high-performance institution, and we all know that we can’t have one without the other.

New scanning facilities on the Sussex campus will directly benefit NHS patients in Sussex. The Clinical Imaging Sciences Centre will add to NHS capacity in the region in oncology, neuroscience and infection/inflammation.

Imaging scientists from the Brighton and Sussex Medical School (BSMS) and other university and clinical research groups will also use the facility for research investigations, as well as for teaching.

The Centre was officially opened on Friday 25 May by His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, who met medical students and researchers.

Professor Paul Tofts and his colleagues will be using the facilities to study the brain, with clinical areas including Lupus, HIV and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. Other researchers will carry out oncology studies in prostate and other organs.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alasdair Smith, was among those at the launch. He said: ‘’The mission of the medical school is to work at the frontiers of research, to offer excellent and innovative teaching to students and to contribute to clinical excellence and patient care in Sussex.

New facilities: Radiographer manager Stella Ahler demonstrates a PET-CT scanner to His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester at the official opening of the Clinical Imaging Sciences Centre on 25 May.

New survey for second year Sussex students

A detailed student experience survey is being piloted this term with second year English and Psychology students.

The survey offers an opportunity for students to comment on the whole University experience, including teaching, assessment and feedback, academic and welfare support, learning services, etc.

It complements the National Student Survey (NSS) of finalists, which is now in its third year and provides some useful and important information. As a result of findings from the NSS, the University has made some important improvements, e.g. on improving feedback to students, and on improving Library provision.

The Sussex survey, which will eventually be rolled out to all second year students in their summer term, is more detailed (and hence more useful) than the NSS.

Work on the survey is being led by Dr Ian Gazely (head of the History department), together with the Students’ Union and other colleagues (including staff in the Teaching and Learning Development Unit). It is being developed and refined based on practice elsewhere.

"It is important to ensure the University has a good understanding of students' academic and social experience on campus," says the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alasdair Smith. "This survey will be an important part of developing the student experience further at Sussex."
What was Daphne du Maurier really saying in Rebecca?

Nearly 70 years after the first publication of her best-selling gothic novel, Rebecca, Daphne du Maurier’s serious contribution to popular literature has been celebrated by the literary establishment.

On Saturday (26 May), as part of the Charleston Festival and to celebrate the 100th anniversary of du Maurier’s birth, Sussex creative writing lecturer Dr Sue Roe chaired a discussion to examine the author’s enduring appeal.

She was joined by journalist Justine Picardie, whose novel, Daphne, is about the interplay between Rebecca and its author; Nicholas Roeg, director of the film version of ‘Don’t Look Now’; and Neil Leyshon, whose stage play of the same short story is premiered this year.

Sue, who is also convener of the University’s MA in Creative Writing and Authorship, said: “Daphne du Maurier writes brilliantly about power relationships between men and women and she had an extraordinary imagination. There’s a lot about landscape and about what happens in the far reaches of the creative mind. She manages to bring these elements together in provocative ways.”

 SUSSEX COMPOSER ADDS SOUND TO SILENT FILM

New music to accompany a classic Soviet film will be premiered in full at London’s Barbican Centre on 17 June.

Dr Ed Hughes, Lecturer in Music, has recently completed a live performance score for the first silent feature film by director Sergei Eisenstein.

Strike!, which came out in 1924, tells the story of a workers’ revolt in a factory in Tsarist Russia.

Featuring historic experiments in the art of montage, Eisenstein used editing to juxtapose apparently unrelated images to create rapid and dynamic shifts in rhythm, as well as an uncompromising political message.

Ed’s score for the film will be performed at the Barbican by the New Music Players, an eight-piece ensemble that specialises in contemporary music and includes flute, clarinet, horn, trumpet, cello, double bass, piano and percussion.

The first section of Ed’s new work was recorded for broadcast on BBC Radio 3’s ‘Hear and Now’ programme in 2006. After the premiere on 17 June, the full version will tour the UK.

Ed is a prolific composer of orchestral, chamber and vocal music and has a particular interest in creating new scores for classic films. His previous projects include a live surround-sound score for Eisenstein’s 1925 masterpiece, Battleship Potemkin.

Conference offers day in the life of novelist Lowry

The life and times of one of the 20th century’s great novelists will be reviewed at a special anniversary conference at Sussex on Wednesday 27 June.

The conference marks the 50th anniversary of the death of Malcolm Lowry (1909–57). His best known work, Under the Volcano (1947), is a one-day novel following in the tradition of Virginia Woolf (Mrs Dalloway) and James Joyce (Ulysses), which takes place on Mexico’s Day of the Dead.

The one-day conference is sponsored by the English department and the Centre for Modernist Studies in the School of Humanities.

Lowry was born in Liverpool and studied at Cambridge during a period of great intellectual ferment and excitement. After many years in Mexico and Canada, he returned to England.

Lowry finally settled in the East Sussex village of Ripe after travelling in Europe with his wife, who had been a silent-movie actress. The cottage in Ripe where he lived still bears a plaque marking his stay and he is buried in the churchyard.

The conference organisers, Professors Andrew Hadfield and Laura Marcus, write: "Lowry’s reputation as a major 20th-century writer is not in question, but the ways in which his work is read are perhaps coloured by an earlier approach to questions of modernism and a mythology of an isolated creativity."

"The conference will re-evaluate his life and work, focusing on areas of particular interest for contemporary literature and culture: the relationship between literature and the cinema; the place of the mid-20th century text between modernism and post-modernism; time and narrative; and deconstruction and the literature of excess."

Speakers include Gordon Bowker, Lowry’s biographer, and Paul Tiessen, editor of Lowry’s letters.
CCE students named Adult Learners of the Year

Two Sussex students have proved that it’s never too late to learn.

Jacqueline Swayne and Deborah Tyndall, who are both studying with the Centre for Continuing Education (CCE), received Adult Learner of the Year awards at a ceremony on 23 May.

Jacqueline and Deborah were among 13 adult learners from universities and colleges across Brighton and Hove who were nominated by their tutors for being particularly inspiring in their learning over the last year. Each one has had an impact through their learning on their own lives, their tutors’ and their fellow learners.

Jacqueline Swayne, Foundation Degree in Community Development

“I could do that!” That has changed! Presently, I am volunteering for a community project as Project and Volunteer Support Worker.

“I love the feeling of achievement that studying has given me. My oldest child is also planning to go to university once she has finished college.

“What do I see myself doing in five years time? Well, finishing my Foundation Degree, possibly continuing for an extra year to make it a full degree, helping to set up new projects and empowering people to make a difference in their lives.”

Deborah Tyndall, MA in Arts & Cultural Management

“I emerged from school with the idea that I was not academic or bright. I was “arty”. However, in 2000 I did an Access course, Language in Society when my twin daughters were four and to my surprise I enjoyed it. This was a turning point in my academic career.

“Four years later I wanted to continue studying and did three courses with the CCE Career Action for Women. These helped dispel a lot of misconceptions I had about my abilities to learn and acquire academic status (because I am dyslexic), and set me on a path I would never have thought possible before, and with encouragement from my tutor I found the confidence to apply to do an MA.

“I left school in 1984 and began a YTS (Youth Training Scheme) with a machinary company. At the end of the year, I secured a position in the Customer Services Department, which I left when expecting my first child. I did a few courses in massage therapy, gaining NVQ level 2 qualifications, and some other courses that I never completed.

“When my second child began school, I completed a very basic family literacy course. A careers advisor visited with information on adult learning courses looking at career pathways. Career Action for Women programme was amongst them.

“During September 2005, up to July 2006, I completed several short courses and earned 60 Higher Education credits. I applied for a place on the Community Development Foundation Degree, and I am currently in the first year.

“I think the most significant thing about the last 18 months has to be finding the courage to try new things. Though not outwardly shy, I lacked confidence to say

News in brief

Staff awards

Dr Paul Basu (Anthropology), Dr Darrell Evans (BSMS) and Cath Holmstrom (Social Work and Social Care) will receive University of Sussex Teaching Awards this summer in recognition of their excellent teaching. Four other staff will receive Chancellor’s Awards, which recognise exceptional contribution to the work and life of the University. They are John Goldsmith (Estates), Graham Pentecost (Estates), Clare Rogers (SocCul) and Carol Shepherd (IT Services). The awards will be presented at the graduation ceremonies on 19 and 20 July and a full profile of each winner will appear in the Bulletin later this month.

Notes on VC’s open meetings

If you missed the Vice-Chancellor's open meetings with staff on 16 and 17 May (or even if you didn’t), you can read detailed notes on the items discussed at www.sussex.ac.uk/uc/1-4-2.html.

Results of Council elections

In a ballot of eligible staff, Jeremy Maris has been re-elected to serve as the non-academic member of Council, the University’s governing body. His new term of office runs from 1 August 2007 until 31 July 2010. Also elected are two new academic members of Council: Dr Gerry Lawless (until 31 July 2009) and Dr Helen France (from 1 August 2007 to 31 July 2010).

Fruit and veg market on campus

A weekly fresh fruit and veg market has started up in Falmer House quad. The service, developed by the Students’ Union with a Surrey-based company that also operates at a number of other universities across the south-east, is available every Tuesday during term time from 9am to 5pm. John Houllihan, Commercial Services Manager in the Students’ Union, said: “Feedback so far has been extremely positive from everyone, with really good quality produce and great-value prices.”

All articles are also featured on the internet at www.sussex.ac.uk/press_office/bulletin
Amateur Radio Society relaunched

The University of Sussex, via the callsign G4AQG, can once again be heard around the world on amateur radio frequencies in the short wave bands.

Staff members Dave Barrett (MOIVM) from Estates, Jeremy Mars (G3XDK) and Peter Reed (G4BVH) from Life Sciences, with help from two local "hams", have rebuilt an amateur radio station housed near the Falmer Sports Complex.

The station was first heard on the airwaves in 1971 when Peter Simmons (G3XUS) from Science and Technology worked with the Students' Union to provide radios and aerials for licensed staff and students to use.

Unfortunately the facilities were vandalised in the mid 1980s and the club ceased to operate but it now has a new, more secure home, thanks to the help and encouragement of Andy Jupp of Estates.

The station has a number of wire aerials supported between trees and there are plans to re-erect the original tower to support beam antennas. The club also hopes to provide radio facilities via the internet, so that club members can listen (and if licensed, transmit) from the comfort of their homes.

Now they have a new home, the club is looking for members. Anyone interested in any aspect of amateur radio, from contests and the ancient art of Morse code to bouncing signals via the Moon is very welcome. You don't need a licence, just an interest, as the existing 'hams' are always prepared to help others get involved.

There will be a launch BBQ at 4.30pm on Friday 22 June at the club station near the Falmer Sports Complex. For details or if you want to go to the BBQ, contact the club by email to G4AQG@sussex.ac.uk. The club website is www.G4AQG.sussex.ac.uk

FIRST CLASS

Chemist Dr Hazel Cox has received £300 from the Universities and Colleges Union (UCU) as part of its 'Life changers' campaign and intends to spend the award on five £60 book tokens for the student from each year who can best demonstrate that their entry to university to do chemistry was against the odds. Hazel says: "This might be because of background, learning difficulties (e.g. dyslexia), family circumstances or even that their parents were trying to force them to do something else."

Dr Richard Cox, Reader in Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence, has been awarded a Visiting Fellowship under a collaborative scheme of the US Social Science Research Council and the UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC). In the USA he will network with colleagues in the emerging field of educational "data mining", the process of converting raw data from educational systems into useful information that can be used to inform design decisions and answer research questions. Richard plans to visit colleagues at Carnegie Mellon University, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, the University of Southern California and Stanford to learn more about current methods and to collaborate in developing new methods.

The Open University has awarded a first class honours degree in History to University of Sussex photographer Stuart Robinson.

Bookselling chain Waterstone's has named a former Sussex student of creative writing as one of its '25 authors for the future'. Publishers, editors and agents nominated British writers who they believed would go on to produce the most impressive body of work over the next quarter century. Robyn Young began writing the Brethren trilogy, which is set in the time of the Crusades, while studying for the Certificate in Creative Writing. She followed this with a creative writing MA, again at Sussex. The second novel in the trilogy is due out later this year.

Obituary

Robin Street, who died on 11 May aged only 64, was a lovely man. Warm, modest and unassuming, he was always neatly dressed, cheerful and friendly.

I first got to know Robin in the early 1980s when, as a young accountant, I worked with the staff of the Gardner Arts Centre, where Robin had been employed since 1963. His work as the Front of House Manager meant that he dealt with the 'meeting and greeting' side of the Centre - an area in which he always excelled.

After a change of direction, he joined my team in the former Business Division in Brabourne House in 1990. One project was to buy and renovate 60 private houses in Brighton for renting to students and Robin was a key member of our team of buyers, drawing on an earlier period of his life in the property business.

He then set up, from scratch, the new Alumni and Development Office. This started in one room in Sussex House with...
LETTERS

Spam and wildlife

Firstly, Richard Price’s useful advice [Bulletin 18 May] on using Mulberry’s ‘Rules’ facility for dealing with personal spam was particularly timely, because a guide to using Rules can now be found on the IT Services website, at www.sussex.ac.uk/its/email/filtering.shtml

Lastly, may I thank David Harper and David Streeter for their excellent ‘Walk on the wild side’ articles in the Bulletin. These never fail to be fascinating, and they go a long way to promoting interest in and respect for the fauna and flora to be found on and around the University campus.

Andy Clewes, Email Services Support Manager, IT Services

What time should staff do sport?

At the recent open meetings the Vice-Chancellor responded to my question about the change of time of the staff sports day (on Friday 18 May) by saying that moving the start from 2pm to 4pm had been designed to improve access to staff who wouldn’t otherwise be able to attend.

I do wonder whether any staff were asked for their views by those making the decision. The answer is almost certainly ‘no’.

Indeed I understand that rather than increasing staff engagement (as we were told was the aim), and providing a much-needed boost in morale for colleagues of all grades across the University, attendance fell to less than 25% of last year’s figure.

The poor weather may have affected final attendance slightly, but most people sign up for events well in advance so the fall is far more likely to be the result of moving the time.

Can the sports day please move back to its regular time next year?

Paul Cecil, Academic Office

Charles Dudley, whose division includes the Sportservice, replies:

The sports day was one of two recent initiatives. We repeated the boundary walk/run and despite rather disappointing weather this event was well supported and seemed to be enjoyed by those who participated.

The sports day was moved back in the hope of accommodating staff who, for a variety of reasons, could not make the earlier start time.

As Paul states, the weather was against us and this had an effect on turn-out, which was down on last year.

However, clearly the later start time was also a reason for the significant fall in participation. This is something we will consider when we think about next year’s programme.

Not a rubbish idea

A group of ‘gentle dragons’ crowned a team from Portsdele the winners of an Entrepreneurs for Tomorrow competition held recently at Sussex.

Jointly run for the fourth year by the Regional Development Team (RDO) and the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust, Entrepreneurs for Tomorrow brought more than 200 pupils from schools in East and West Sussex to the University campus for the launch event in January.

Supported by the RDO Enterprise team and business advisors from the community, during the spring term pupils were challenged to develop a business plan for a social enterprise to ‘create a positive impact’.

The three Year 10 pupils from Portsdele Community College wowed the judges, Professor Bob Allison, Pro-Vice-Chancellor; Sharon Phillips, Regional Development Manager at Sussex; Justin Philcox from the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust; and Dr Pat Drake from the Education department at Sussex.

Out of six finalists, the Portsdele team won with their proposal called ‘Recycle for Education’ at the final held in the Medical School building at Sussex on 16 May.

The judges chose Ahmad Noor Moradi, Daniel Kidby and Christopher Sisley’s team because they had an impressive presentation and film demonstrating how they intended to recycle electrical goods from their area to generate income for education projects to help communities in Sierra Leone.

Each member of the winning team was given an iPod as their prize.

Good spirits prevail at staff sports afternoon

The fourth annual staff sports afternoon on Friday 18 May included rounders, pool and netball tournaments.

Sporting: Two of the netball teams that took part in the staff sports day.

IT Services (captained by Ian Scrivens) beat Human Resources 13-8 in a keenly contested rounders final.

Six entrants had a very close pool tournament and Simon Dixon from IDS won in the final frame.

Defending champions IDS (captained by Freida McCormack) beat ITS 20-2 in the netball final.

The event was organised and run by SussexSport. Luke Terrill, Sports Development Officer, said: “Those who entered the competition had a great time and all of the games were played in a fun, competitive and good spirited manner.

“Entries across the board were down this year and it would be good to have more people signing up next year.”
Academic events

MON 4 JUNE
1pm ID21 Insights seminar: Frances Clewer & Tom Francis (Bradford) & Bruce Lankford (East Anglia), New directions for water governance. IDS 120.
4.30pm Hannah Arendt, Jewish Identity and the Discourse on Evil: Liliane Weissberg (Pennsylvania), Hannah Arendt at the movies: Charlie Chaplin and the hidden tradition of Jewish culture. Arts A155.
5pm Education seminar: Jo Soaler (Sussex), Promoting "relational equity": The case of Rainside School. Arts E419.
5pm Migration seminar: Binod Khadka, Addressing the binaries of skilled and unskilled migration from India. Arts C233.
TUE 5 JUNE
12.30pm Centre for Life History seminar: Jenna Bailey (freelance author, formerly Sussex), Turning a Life History Master’s thesis into a Faber publication. Arts A71.
12.30pm Seminar: Fisher Scientific Live Cell Array, GDSC Seminar Room.
1pm Centre for Physical Electronics and Quantum Technology seminar: Christopher Harland (Sussex), Bio-electromagnetsim. Revenssey 1, D402.
2.15pm SEI seminar: Dimitris Christopoulos (West of England), Interest intermediation within a policy community in the EU. Arts C233.
12.30pm Seminar: Bryn Bridges (Sussex), The radon problem: Nature’s way of irradiating us all with Polonium 210. GDSC Seminar Room.
WED 6 JUNE
1pm Controversies on Science & Technology seminar: Catherine Jefferson, An historical lens on the "non-lethal" weapons controversy. Social Space, Freeman Centre.
FRI 8 JUNE
2.15pm Freeman Centre seminar: Lars Frederiksen, User-driven firm innovation: Personal attributes of users and communication patterns in a firm-hosted online user community. Freeman Centre, G24/25.
MON 11 JUNE
4pm Economics seminar: Max Mendez Parra, Uncertainty, price volatility and the economic cycle: The role of market institutions and the government in Argentina. Russell 28.
5pm Education seminar: Bryan Maddox (East Anglia), Literacy/Literacy: A capabilities perspective on minimum thresholds and wellbeing. Arts E419.
TUE 12 JUNE
2.15pm SEI seminar: Dan Hough, Lucia Quaglia, Alan Mayhew & Jim Roio (Sussex), Roundtable on the German presidency of the EU. Arts C233.
6.30pm Professorial lecture: Alan Lester (Sussex), Protecting indigenous peoples in the British Empire. Michael Chowen lecture theatre, BSMS.
WED 13 JUNE
12.30pm Seminar: Caroline Ann Austin, 20 years of toposomeres analysis: Update. GDSC Seminar Room.
1pm Controversies on Science & Technology seminar: Gordon MacKenzie (Sussex), Policy process in science.
FRI 15 JUNE
Small ads

To let: 2.5-bed house & garden in Lewes. Suit visiting scholar or couple + 1 child. 1 July (or later) to 31 Dec. £1300 pcm. E sfl2@sussex.ac.uk, T 476565 (envs).
To let: House in B’ton 22 June -13 Sep (could negotiate). Suit visiting researcher. £600 pcm. Includes cats to feed! E pjk2@sussex.ac.uk.
To let: 3-bed Woodingdean house. Suit family or 3 sharing. T 07904 497907.
Wanted: Tandem cycle roof rack, to buy or to hire. E ecwardy@sussex.ac.uk, T Claire on 01444 440382.
To let: 1-bed house, central B’ton, Sep 07-Aug 08. Study, small front & back garden. Suit visiting staff member. T 681439.
Wanted: US or PG to share 5-bed house in central B’ton with mature students (mid 20s). £300 pcm. T David on 07899 988554.

For sale: Floating home, B’ton Marina. £13,500 ono. T James on 07852 991747 or E j.gordon@sussex.ac.uk.

UNIVERSITY

The Bulletin is produced and compiled by Alison Field and Lisa Merty, with contributions from Jacqui Bealing, Maggie Clune and Rob Read. We welcome any news, story ideas, letters or small ads from the staff and students of the University. The next issue will be out on 15 June, with a copy deadline of 1pm on 8 June. Please contact the Press & Communications Office in Sussex House, ext. 8888 or email bulletin@sussex.ac.uk.

News in brief

Fairtrade fashion show
An evening of catwalking, commentary, lights, DJs, speakers, refreshments and ethical fashion will take place on Tuesday 12 June at 7pm in Falmer House common room. Here's your chance to see and buy Fairtrade, recycled and organic clothing from TRAID, Lotus Leaf, Designs, Bazaar, Love That Stuff and more. Tickets are available from the USU Activities Centre.

Open Day 16 June
Campus will be very busy on Saturday 16 June, when the undergraduate Open Day is expected to attract 2,000 prospective students and their families. Visitors arrive from 9am and the event ends at 3pm. Science, Biology and Mantell car parks will be open only for visitor parking.

Blood donor sessions
You are invited to give blood on Monday 18 June between 10am-12noon and 2-4pm. The blood donor vehicles will be in the Sport Centre car park. To make an appointment, contact the Sports Centre on ext 8228.

Summer sports activities for children
Sussexsport will be hosting and organising a series of sports camps for children aged 5-16 across the school summer holiday period. Activities will include cricket, football, basketball, badminton, squash, trampolining, tennis and multisports. For further details or an application form, email Luke Terrill on l.o.terrell@sussex.ac.uk or see www.sussexsport.com.