Media students showcase talent at degree show

A film premiere-style launch marked the opening of the Media Practice and Theory degree show yesterday (17 May).

More than 50 media students presented a spectacular portfolio of final-year work, featuring films, photographs and multimedia installations, at the Gardner Arts Centre on campus.

The showcase of talent is open to the public until 5pm on Tuesday (22 May). It is definitely not to be missed, says student organiser Clare Kiernan, who adds: "The "You Want Us" exhibition will be a pinnacle moment of our student lives at Sussex."

Co-organiser Katie Readings says: "We're all extremely proud of the work. It represents three years' hard work from all the students. There's definitely some real talent on display this year."

Photography projects explore on the rivalry between cats and dogs. There is also a clutch of original dramas, from film noir to explorations of even darker human emotions.

Course convener Lizzie Thynne, Senior Lecturer in Media and Film Studies and a documentary maker, says: "The range of work produced is very wide and shows that our students have used the opportunities to develop their skills and ideas across media to excellent effect."

Rain doesn't dampen spirits

The annual boundary fun run/walk took place on Wednesday 9 May and despite the damp weather some brave souls turned up to take part.

In total 16 students and staff ran around the University campus and a further 38 took part in two walks – one, a boundary walk around campus and the other, a slightly shorter walk.

Winners of the run were:

Men
1st: Ben Warren (Life Sciences)
2nd: Dan Parslow (Social Sciences)
3rd: Richard Carter (Sussex Institute)

Women
1st: Sue Jones (Biochemistry)
2nd: Sarah Hinchcliffe (Sussex Institute)
3rd: Linda Gee (Postgraduate Office)

Simon Tunley, Acting Head of Sport, said: "The second annual boundary run/walk – although hampered by the weather – was an enjoyable and sociable occasion with a number of regular runners/walkers taking part."

"Sussexsport is very keen to try and encourage a healthy campus and it is hoped year on year numbers will increase and the event will be in everyone's diaries."

He added: "The men's race was a close-run thing until the last 600 metres when Ben Warren (sports bursary student) showed his class by finishing first ahead of Dan Parslow. The ladies' race was also quite close, with Sue Jones just pipping Sara Hinchcliffe to the line."

Sussex Institute won the combined walk and run by having the most people taking part and won the team trophy.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alasdair Smith, presented trophies and medals to the winners and runners-up.

More sports events for staff and students are organised to take place over the coming months. Go to www.sussex.ac.uk/sport/ for further information.

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News in brief

Invitation to dine at the House of Lords

Baroness Margaret Sharp – formerly a Senior Fellow in SPRU – will be hosting a University of Sussex dinner at the House of Lords on 29 October. Former Vice-Chancellor Professor Sir Gordon Conway will welcome guests and Baroness Shirley Williams has agreed to speak after the dinner.

While this event is predominantly aimed at former staff, current staff are welcome if space is available. All-inclusive tickets for a three-course dinner, coffee and all drinks cost £65. Contact the Development and Alumni Relations Office in Brament House for a booking form; completed forms and cheques are needed by 25 May.

Party time

To celebrate the end of the academic year, on Saturday 23 June all staff and their families are warmly invited to join with Sussex alumni and friends for an afternoon of fun at the first Sussex Summer Barbeque.

As well as a delicious BBQ at Falmer Bar, there will be a live jazz band, bouncy castles, fun sports activities, craft activities with face painting, and a virtuoso performance and workshops from break dancing troupe Vicious Circle. The event will begin at 12 noon and finish at 5pm.

Organised by the Development and Alumni Relations Office, the barbeque is aimed to bring alumni back to Sussex and offer the opportunity for all members of the Sussex community to get together for a party.

Tickets cost £10 for adults and £5 for children aged 5 to 12 years; the under 5s are free. Tickets are available from the Development and Alumni Relations Office in Brament House. Call ext 7707 or visit www.sussex.ac.uk/Units/alumni/store/system/index.html to book online.

Biollogist’s monkey study saves rainforest from mining company

Sussex scientists involved in saving one of the world’s rarest species of monkey have successfully helped to prevent a copper-mining company from destroying its rainforest habitat.

Dr Mika Peck, an environmental biologist, is co-ordinating PRIMENET, a project in Ecuador set up two years ago to help save the Brown-headed Spider Monkey (Ateles fusciceps) (below right).

Working with the local community of Los Cedros Biological Reserve, Mika is collecting data on the endangered species, of which there are only 50 breeding pairs left in the wild.

The information gathered by the project helped to convince the Ecuadorian government to reject an assessment put forward by a trans-national mining company on the environmental impact of mining the region.

Mika, who talked about his work and the project earlier this week at Brighton’s Jubilee Library, says: “Undoubtedly one of the greatest challenges facing both conservation interests and local communities is the power, both political and economic, of large corporations with ambitious development plans.

“We have been able to show how a conservation project directly empowered a community and local government to successfully oppose a major threat. Opposition from the local community was partly attributable to PRIMENET being in a position to provide evidence on impacts of mining activity on the spider monkey.”

PRIMENET was set up with £230,000 from the government-sponsored Darwin Initiative to aid conservation in bio-diverse regions around the world. The area that Mika and his team of locally trained “parabiologists” have been working in has a rich diversity of plants and is also home to other endangered species, such as the Spectacled Bear and jaguars.

More than 80 per cent of the natural habitat has already been lost through deforestation. Further loss would lead to extinction of many species, as well as affecting water supplies to the local community.

Although the mining company, Ascendant Copper Corporation, has promised its development would create jobs, better health care and education for the area, the local community is keen to find alternative, sustainable livelihoods. Farmers are being helped to grow coffee plants that thrive in the shade, and to encourage eco-tourism.

Mika says: “I have the utmost respect for the community members and local government representatives who have endured real hardship in standing up for a sustainable future.”

Follow-up survey looks at student experience

Sussex students are again being offered the chance to help the University improve its services – and at the same time to benefit fellow students who are in financial difficulty.

In October 2006 more than 2,000 Sussex students participated in the first stage of the International Student Barometer (ISB) survey, which provided valuable information that the University is using to review and improve the quality of its academic and support services.

Despite its name, the survey covers UK and EU students, too. All students – with the exception of home undergraduate finalists, Medical School students and research students – are now being sent a follow-up questionnaire to assess how attitudes and opinions change throughout the study period. The survey tracks up to 60 elements of their student experience.

And for each response received, the University will again give £1 to student hardship funds.

The questionnaire forms part of a wider ongoing study and is independently administered for the University by the International Graduate Insight Group (www.i-graduate.org).

About 50 other leading UK universities are also participating, which means that it is possible to make comparisons across time and across the higher education sector, providing an independent benchmark.

All articles are also featured on the internet at www.sussex.ac.uk/press_office/bulletin
Kinnock comes to campus

Tony Blair will find it very easy to make money after he steps down as Prime Minister, predicted former Labour leader Neil Kinnock when he came to campus on 8 May.

Lord Kinnock was speaking from personal experience, having spent a few years on the public-speaking circuit after resigning as leader of the Labour Party in 1992. (He had children to put through university, he explained.)

Students and staff crowded into the Arts A1 lecture theatre to hear Lord Kinnock’s views on Blair’s future career prospects and other topical issues in a question-and-answer session organised by the University’s Politics Society.

Lord Kinnock, who spent nine years in Brussels at the European Commission before accepting a peerage and entering the House of Lords, answered questions on the recent local elections, the war in Iraq, the Falklands, Margaret Thatcher and ID cards.

Staff member becomes district councillor

A member of staff at Sussex became a district councillor in the local elections on 3 May.

Ian Eliott, Senior Postmaster in Information Technology Services, looks after the email system at the University.

He stood as a Liberal Democrat candidate in the Lewes Priory ward.

Ian said: “I joined the Liberal Democrats just before the 2005 general election. In 2006, I was asked to stand to replace a retiring Liberal Democrat councillor in my ward.

“The party is popular in Lewes, and we worked hard to get elected. The Green Party were the strongest opposition in Lewes and I think my green credentials are quite strong. I’ve been part of a new environment group called Transition Town Lewes.”

Although very new to the district council, Ian already has some ideas on what he wants to do.

He said: “I’m most interested in promoting an evidence-based environmental agenda, through offering positive choices. Lewes District Council already has a good environmental record, but is planning further improvements.

“Now that I’m elected, my first task is to learn more about the council’s activity, so it’s hard to say what I intend to do beyond that.”

If you would like to know more about Ian’s opinions on local issues, go to his blog, http://ianelioart.blogspot.com/

Party lines

The experience of standing in a local election has left two young Sussex students fired up to continue with local politics.

Politics undergraduates Ariane Poulain, aged 20, and Lisa Buckingham, 19, contested the elections that took place on 3 May.

Standing for the Conservatives in Brighton’s Queen’s Park ward, Ariane received 820 votes, while Lisa, who was standing as a Labour candidate in the Stanhope ward in Hove, gained 277 votes.

This was the first time people could stand for election aged 18 upwards. Previously it used to be people aged 21 and over who could stand.

Speaking about the results, Ariane said: “It has been an invaluable, wonderful experience. It is one thing studying politics and another living it. It complemented my degree very well but most importantly it showed me the reality of the political world.

“Sometimes when doing a degree it is easy amongst the deadlines and pressure of exams etc to lose sight of the reason why you are doing it, but being a candidate in the elections proved to me how much I want a career in politics.”

She added: “There is a place for young people in politics and the more we get involved the more our political opinions can become actions.”

Political ambition: Ariane Poulain and Lisa Buckingham.

Ariane intends to return to being active in the Conservatives after finishing her university work for this year. She will be working to help set up a branch of Conservative Future in Brighton, aimed to promote the party to younger people.

Lisa was also interested in the whole election process; she said: “I wasn’t surprised I wasn’t elected to council because I was in a strong Conservative ward.

“I’ve learnt more about running an election campaign and the hard work involved and I would recommend it to other young people if they are committed and passionate about politics.”

She added: “I intend to finish my essays and revise for exams now. During the summer, I’m going to focus on youth engagement in the political process.”
**LETTERS**

How to reduce spam email

Like everyone else I too get fed up with the large number of junk emails that manage to get past the ITS spambots — indeed, my initial reaction to Simona Connelly's letter [Bulletin 4 May] was, "Phew, you only get 10 a day?". I realise too that even greater numbers are being sucked up and spat out by the bots but their best efforts, however good, can't stop the lot.

Well, there is a way you can use your email software to delete automatically at least a fair few of the most obvious types as they appear in your inbox.

Using the "Rules" option in Mulberry (at the bottom of the Mailbox menu) allows you to input likely target names such as Antrim and Viagra if they appear in the subject line.

Once you've chosen the "delete" option for the rule, Mulberry detects them as they show up in your inbox and slaps a deletion line across them.

This gives you the chance to make sure they're not from your old pals Anna Trim or Obe Sity and then all you have to do is expunge them en bloc with one easy click and a confirmation.

It's a lot simpler than going through them one by one and, especially after a break away from work, substantially reduces the amount of time wasted on this trash.

Now, though, what can we do to get rid of the much cleverer spam that masquerades as mail from someone you might know? Any answers from the techies, please?

Richard Price, Staff Welfare Officer

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Farewell to the VC

The Chancellor, Lord Attenborough, is hosting a party for staff at Sussex to say thank you and farewell to the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alan Smith, as he steps down from the post this summer.

The event will take place from 6.15-9.30 pm at the Brighton Dome on Wednesday 18 July. There will be drinks and a buffet, and just a few speeches by way of thanks. The dress code is casual.

Tickets will be issued on a 'first come, first served' basis, one ticket per member of staff, and there is of course no charge for the tickets. The only restriction is the space available and therefore a limit on the total number of tickets.

To request a ticket, email vparty@sussex.ac.uk or call ext 8700, by Monday 18 June.

You are also invited to submit your recollections, memories, anecdotes and photos. You can do this online at www.sussex.ac.uk/vc/1-4-6.html, where a link will also take you to the best contributions.
A snapshot of culture

A photo of a woman who hadn't seen a camera before was the outright winner of a competition at Sussex.

'Window into another culture', was the theme of the photo competition organised by two fourth year students - Tal Miller, an American Studies undergraduate, and Jen Robinson, who is studying Anthropology and Spanish.

They wanted to encourage students to take part in exhibiting their photos after seeing many successful exhibitions from students at universities abroad, particularly in America.

Tal said: "Many students go abroad for a year to extend their studies and we wanted to give them a chance to show off any photos they've taken during their time away."

The competition attracted more than 40 entrants, many entering the maximum of three photos.

Photos had to have been taken abroad and to give an insight into different cultures.

Judging the competition alongside Tal and Jen were Dr Paul Basu, Lecturer in Anthropology, and Dr Doug Haynes, Lecturer in American Studies.

They decided to award Sophie Butel first prize for her photo taken in Western Madagascar, entitled 'Reninao' (mother).

Tal explained why the photo was chosen: "We decided this photo best captures the concept of the camera lens as a window into another culture.

"All the judges agreed that through her direct gaze into the lens, the subject's eyes also become windows into an interior culture. The intimate nature of the photograph demonstrates a personal level of interaction between the photographer and her subject."

Sophie, how a finalist in French and Spanish, was thrilled to have won the competition. She said: "I took the photo (below) whilst I was out in Madagascar for a year as part of my studies.

"This photo was taken when we went on a trip to Western Madagascar when this woman wanted me to take a picture with her baby. "It was the first time she'd seen a picture of the two of them and she was fascinated."

Sophie added: "I'm pleased to have won the competition, particularly as I'm not a photographer, I'll continue to take photos, as I enjoy having a record of my travels."

The runners-up were Philippe Bowles, who has studied in the Sussex Language Institute; Xavier Roessler, from Biochemistry; and Luke Upton, a finalist in American Studies and History.

Glamour and glitz at award ceremonies

The Students' Union has hosted two glamorous and glitzy awards shows to celebrate the achievements of Sussex students.

Last month Mandela Hall was transformed into a veritable ballroom for Cheers!, which is a night of performances and awards presented to the wide range of personalities involved with student media, volunteering and societies at Sussex.

The Sports Awards Ball took place at the Thistle Hotel in early May. The black-tie affair is an eagerly anticipated event on the social calendar for USSU Sport, as it is a recognition of all the successes both on and off the field over the past year.

The wide range of awards celebrate both individual achievements and club development.

"This year it was particularly difficult for us to select the recipients of these awards," said Michael Alexander, USSU Activities Officers, "as 2006-07 has been by far and above one of our best years for sport."

He added: "Special mention must go to Sara-Jane Little from RAG (Raising and Giving), Tom Burnell from Men's Rugby and Zoe Jeannies from Women's Rugby, who really have taken their commitment to USSU to the next level; we still don't quite know how they got their degrees done."

Winners: Nick Allen-Perry and Tom Burnell.

Dissertation dash

The sounds of cheers filled Sussex campus late on Monday (14 May) when the ever popular 'dissertation dash' took place.

The dash for final-year students to hand in their work on time has become a Sussex tradition and in past years some have arrived in costumes to make an impressive entrance.

True to form, there were some finalists who didn't want to let their fellow students down and, papers in hand, made a last-minute sprint as 5 o'clock approached.

The masses of onlookers, who were gathered around Falmer House, gave them a hero's welcome.
Framework Agreement to be implemented

A new pay and grading system for staff at Sussex will be put in place over the summer, if union members vote ‘yes’ to the proposals.

All three campus unions (Unison, Amicus and UCU) will be writing to members in the coming weeks.

The system has been negotiated locally by the University in partnership with the unions, as part of the implementation of the national Framework Agreement.

The new structures, with nine grades across the national 51-point scale, all with incremental points, will replace the 60 grades and 12 grading structures currently in place at Sussex.

Subject to formal approval, letters will go from Human Resources to all staff in July telling them which grade they will move to.

Jeremy Maris, chair of the Trades Union Liaison Committee, said: ‘There are many benefits, but above all we will have a fair, transparent and simple structure that will give equal pay for work of equal value and proper recognition of the varied roles of staff across the University.’

Jane Summerville, Director of Human Resources, paid tribute to the positive partnership work with the trades unions over the last 18 months and to the efforts of all colleagues involved in the process.

The new structures will mean an additional £2 million goes in to staff pay in 2007–08, as staff move over to the new grades in the coming months.

The Framework Agreement also harmonises the working week and overtime arrangements for staff currently on clerical, manual and technical grades, who have a fixed working week.

The new grading structure is based on extensive job evaluation of over 300 staff, using the national HERA systems successfully deployed by many other higher education institutions.

Over 90% of staff will transfer to the equivalent of their current grades in the new structure, and just under 200 will move on to higher grades. Almost all of these staff will have pay increases in moving to their new grades.

Around 30 staff are in posts that are graded lower, and fewer than 20 have salaries that are above the maximum of their new grade. All these staff will have pay protection over four years.

An appeals process is also in place for staff.

Because of the complexity and detail of updating the live payroll system, staff will be transferred in three phases to the new pay scales, over three months starting from July. All salary payments will be back-dated to October 2006, with flat-rate payments in respect of August and September 2006.

Joint presentations by Human Resources and trades unions started at the Vice-Chancellor’s open meetings with staff this week, with detailed presentations being made for units and departments in the following weeks, starting on Monday (21 May).

More information on the meetings and background on the proposals will be available at www.sussex.ac.uk/Units/staffing from Monday (21 May).

Benefits of the new framework

• Fair reward: equal pay for work of equal value
• £2 million added to staff salaries at Sussex
• Harmonisation of hours of work and overtime
• Salary progression for all grades
• Improved recruitment and retention of staff
• Grading structure reviewed by external expert on equal pay

Timetable

May:
• Detailed communications and briefing to all staff
• Ballots of union members start June;
• Ballots of union members continue July;
• Letters to all staff confirming grade plus terms and conditions
• Staff moving to a higher or lower grade get details
• Pay implementation starts, including back-dating

September:
• Appeal process begins
• Pay implementation concludes October;
• Increments payable

Obituaries

Lindsey Hughes, Professor of Russian History at University College London, died from cancer on 26 April, aged 57.

Professor Hughes graduated with first class honours in Russian Studies from the School of European Studies in 1971. She became an internationally recognised expert on 17th- and 18th-century Russian history, culminating in her magnum opus, Russia in the Age of Peter the Great (1998).

Her interest in Russian history and her love of the country, its language and culture, began at Sussex, and she retained close links with her friends here. Professor Hughes returned frequently to lecture to the Russian Society and to attend the reunions of former Russian students.

She was one of the most successful and distinguished of Russian graduates from this university.

Beryl Williams, Emeritus Reader in History

Sandra Koa Wing’s death from cancer on 13 May, aged 28, has shocked all her many friends and colleagues at the University.

Sandra came to Sussex as an undergraduate in 1997 and was awarded a first in English in 2000.

She went on to do an MA in Life History Research, winning the Asa Briggs History Award. Typically, her dissertation topic was ‘The social meanings of humour’; typically too, she was awarded a distinction for it.

After spells working in the main Library, first in Teaching Support and later as a research assistant in Special Collections, and in SPRU, she was appointed Mass Observation’s first Development Officer, which she described as her dream job.

And Sandra was the dream colleague - smart, creative, and totally committed to Mass Observation. Intellectually rigorous, she was at the same time a brilliant communicator, just as comfortable with groups of schoolchildren as with academic colleagues. (The Folio Society is about to publish her book Mass Observation Britain in the Second World War.)

But above all the Sandra we shall remember was a dear and much loved friend - gentle, thoughtful, and impressively cheerful. (She really was always smiling.) She had a tremendous future ahead of her, and her untimely death is almost unbearably cruel. We shall all miss her dreadfully.

Her husband Pete Simmons, who worked in the University’s Press Office from 2000 to 2003, was – in Sandra’s own words - “literally my rock” and was at her side throughout. We offer him, her parents and her brothers Mike and Adrian our heartfelt sympathy.

Debby Shorley, Librarian

Robin Street, who left Sussex in 2003 after working at the University for more than 30 years, died suddenly in France on 11 May. He was 64. A tribute to Robin will appear in a future issue of the Bulletin.
International students build links at BBQ

Student groups at Sussex and Brighton hosted the first joint international barbeque early this month on the grass outside the Gardener Arts Centre.

More than 350 students from both universities were treated to sausages from a local farm and were able to sample a variety of local brews.

Sponsored by the International and Study Abroad Office at Sussex and the Welfare service at Brighton, the event featured outstanding live bands from all over Brighton, including Bad Sandwich and Invisible Jim.

Most importantly, the event gave students a chance to meet one another across the universities, building a sense of a wider community. It is hoped that this will be the start of greater links between the international students of Brighton and Sussex.

It was also a chance to understand the way that large events are run. Tamas Jambor, an active member of the International Student Society at Sussex, said: "It was great fun, and we learned a lot too."

Sussex International Student Society meets every Monday at 5pm in the Falmer House Common Room. Contact welfare@ussu.sussex.ac.uk for information.

A walk on the wild side

Several readers have reported recent sightings of bats and owls.

Last autumn, we mentioned [Bulletin 6 October 2006] the bat survey Tom McQuade did for his undergraduate project. He walked set routes across campus after dark, digitally recording the bats' echolocation calls (despite these being too high-pitched for human ears).

With the help of Dr David Hill’s array of computer software, Tom has now identified 127 recordings, involving five different species. Bat activity occurred across the whole campus but was highest along woodland edges.

Nearly three-quarters of Tom’s recordings were of the Common Pipistrelle. Voted Britain’s favourite bat species by the Mammal Society in 2001, this is the commonest bat in the country, and roosts in several campus buildings.

We were more surprised by the fact that almost a tenth of Tom’s recordings seem to be of an extremely similar but much less common species: Nathusius Pipistrelle. This is usually a winder visitor to Britain from its main breeding range in eastern Europe, but since 1996 a handful of breeding colonies have been found in Britain, Ireland and the Netherlands.

Although they ideally need confirmation by recordings of other calls, Tom’s project shows just how little we really know about wildlife on campus.

Owls probably cause about a tenth of all bat mortality. Although the Tawny Owl is seen more often on campus, look out for ghostly pale Barn Owls flying low over rough grassland at dusk.

The most conspicuous plant on campus at the moment is undoubtedly Cow Parsley (right), the tall white umbellifer that edges the woodland of the Tenant Lain belt and dominates areas of uncult grass, such as where the campus merges imperceptibly into Stammer Park. "Umbellifer" because the inflorescence is umbrella-shaped or technically an "umbel".

Pollinators are attracted to the extravagant display of tightly massed small flowers, each of which produces nectar accessible to short-tongued insects such as flies and beetles. However, scent also plays an important role as the sweet-smelling flowers contain more than a hint of dung or stale urine.

The structure of the umbel is really very intriguing. If it is examined closely it is easy to see that the outer flowers are asymmetrical, with the outer petals much longer than the inner. Moreover these outer flowers are hermaphrodite, with both stamens and stigmas, while those in the middle are male, a condition known as andromonoecy. Furthermore, the stamens in the hermaphrodite flowers mature before the stigmas become receptive, no doubt reducing the likelihood of self-pollination.

The earliest umbellifer to come into flower is actually Alexanders; although now going over, its large leaves will remain along the edge of the woodland by the Falmer entrance for a while yet. It was originally introduced by the Romans and continued as a culinary herb until it was replaced by Celery in the 15th century.

FIRST CLASS

The British Psychological Society has given its Book Award 2007 to Dr Andy Field for the second edition of Discovering Statistics Using SPSS (And Sex and Drugs and Rock’n’Roll), "in the face of stiff competition from a number of other excellent publications".

The Royal Anthropological Institute’s 2006 Student Essay Prize has been jointly awarded to two Anthropology undergraduates: Kathleen Haywood for ‘Narrative, national identity and the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission’, and Cy Elliot Smith for ‘The mythos of geodemographics: Archetypal constructions of “of” and “for” a panoramic cultural landscape’.

Maurice Howard, Professor of Art History, has been elected to the directorship of the Society of Antiquaries of London. The Society, 300 years old this year, is interested in furthering the study of all aspects of archaeology, architectural and art history, as well as anthropological, ecclesiastical, musical and linguistic studies, all of which are informed by the material remains of the past.

Sussex graduate Professor Peter Stallybrass has been elected as a member of the American Philosophical Society. From 1968 Professor Stallybrass – now an academic at the University of Pennsylvania – studied English Literature at Sussex, first as an undergraduate and then as a postgraduate.
Academic events

SAT 19 MAY
4pm Sussex/Ashtam creative writing lecture: David Edgar, Shouting fire: The writer’s duty to offend? BMSMS Lecture Theatre.

MON 21 MAY

5pm Education seminar: Nicole Blum (London), Science vs values: The politics of environmental education in Costa Rica. Arts E419.

5:30pm Caroline Jones (MIT), "Sensorium: Embodied experience versus digital media", BMSMS Lecture Theatre.

6pm Visions of our Future seminar: Erik Militone (Sussex), Obesity in the UK: what can be done to reverse the trend? Freeman Centre.

TUE 22 MAY
1:20pm Biochemistry and Genetics Development seminar: Edgar Hartshiser (Sussex), The Msi1.1Rat50/Nbs1 complex removes covalently bound Spool1, Top1 and Top2 from DNA. JMS lecture theatre.

2.15pm SEI seminar: Zerihun Torun (Sussex), The EU as a security actor: Is it only what member states make of it? Arts C233.


5pm Seminar: Steven Aschheim (Hebrew University), Locating Nazi evil: The contrasting visions of Gershon Scholer, Hannan Ariendt and Victor Klemperer. Arts D110.

6:30pm Professorial lecture: Roren Polan (Sussex), The state in the era of globalisation. BMSMS Lecture Theatre.

WED 23 MAY
12noon Chemistry seminar: Manfred Scheer, main-group-element ligands in oligomeric and polymeric environments. Anurude 401.

1:20pm Seminar: John Peter (Sloan-Kettering), Genetic analysis of chromosome break metabolism in eukaryotic cells. QDSC Seminar Room.

1pm Controversies on Science & Technology seminar: Peter Kaufmann & Nick von Tunzelmann (Sussex), From utility to happiness: The relevance of welfare measurement for innovation studies. Freeman Centre.


THU 24 MAY
9.30am Religion and Reconciliation conference: Various speakers. Chichester 1 lecture theatre. E.L.agreenswood@sussex.ac.uk to register.

1:30pm Asian Directors seminar: Fezail Ismail (South African delegation to World Trade Organization), Developing countries reclaim the development control of the WTO; Doha development round: The role of India and China. IDS 120.

4pm Intellectual History seminar: Melissa Lane (Cambridge), Nietzsche on Redlichkeit and the contrast between stoic and epicurean strategies of the self. Arts A155.

5pm Sussex Development Lecture: Andy McKay (Sussex), pro-poor growth: Can economic growth be more effective in delivering poverty reduction? Chichester lecture theatre.

FRI 25 MAY
12noon Biochemistry & Genetics & Development seminar: Louise Serpell (Sussex), The molecular basis of Alzheimer’s and other protein misfolding diseases. JMS lecture theatre.


Small ads


To let: 3-bed Lexes house (Southover). Available Aug. Contact J.J. lylexseye@nusser.ac.uk or E. manta@ids.ac.uk. T 480248.

Flat share: PG or professional to share with teacher (M) in 2-bed central B’ton maisonette. GCH, W/M, roof terrace. £400 pcm incl. Available now. T Jim on 07709 385703.

To let: 2-bed furnished house off Queen’s Park Rd. Available 1 June-end Aug. Garden patio, weekly cleaner. Suit couple, single person or PG share. £700 pcm. T 07890 727663.

To let: New studio flat nr campus, Falmer station & racquet club. Suit visiting professor/mature PG student. Air con, TV, wireless broadband. £550 pcm + elec. E.s.crossland@bmsms.ac.uk.

Wanted: Accommodation in Sussex for couple + 2 children & cats, late May to 24 July, T Sara on 0771 9310517 or E s.e.dyer@sussex.ac.uk.


Arts events

FRIDAY 18 & SATURDAY 19 MAY
7.30pm Sussex University Drama Society (SUDS) Sweet Panic by Stephen Pollockoff. Brightcliff Centre, Brighton.

FRIDAY 24 MAY
10am-4pm Final year exam recitals: 10am Vicky Dron, piano; 10.45am Sarah Williams, flute; 11.30am Kieran Morris, voice; 1.45pm Rhiannon Fox, voice; 2.30pm Olly Selwood, sax; 3.15pm Rea Elshtain, piano. Meeting House.

THURSDAY 25 MAY
7pm Labeinto del Fauno (Pon’s Labyrinth) (15) Arts A103.

THURSDAY 31 MAY
7pm Babell (15) Arts A103.

2-for-1 entry to Charleston

This summer all University employees can get 2-for-1 entry to Charleston, the Bloombury house museum near Lewes. Just show your staff ID on arrival and bring a friend for free.

Charleston was the home and country meeting place for the writers, painters and intellectuals of the ‘Bloombury group’. The interior was painted by the artists Duncan Grant and Vanessa Bell, and together with their collection, forms a unique example of their decorative style.

The house is open from Wednesdays to Sundays; for more information visit www.charleston.org.uk or call 01323 811626.

Set up by the Development and Alumni Relations Office, this arrangement is for the 2007 summer opening season.

The partnership is particularly appropriate as Special Collections in the Library houses the Bloombury Archives, including the papers of Virginia Woolf (the Monk’s House Papers) and Leonard Woolf and the Charleston Papers.