Sussex ranked again as the “Place to be” for international students

Sussex has expert lecturers, great research, good social facilities, strong multicultural environment and is once again the “Place to be”, according to the latest official survey of international student opinion.

The International Student Barometer (ISB) is the largest annual study of international students in the world, covering nine different countries and four continents. The autumn 2007 survey ran in more than 90 institutions, taking feedback from over 67,000 students.

The ISB is run by i-Graduate and was adopted last year as the official measure of international student opinion by the UK government and the British Council.

Sussex achieved the highest rating as the “Place to be” out of all 91 institutions in the survey, repeating the distinction it achieved in autumn 2006: over 93% of Sussex students rated the University as a good place to be in terms of location, environment and host population.

Sara Dyer, Head of International Students’ Support, said: “The survey shows in detail how well Sussex is welcoming and supporting international students in their studies and in living here. I am delighted they continue to give us great ratings and value what Sussex offers.”

At Sussex, 98% rated teaching staff as expert lecturers, 96% rated the environment as safe, 93% praised the research and 91% praised the multicultural environment. The University also got top-10 ratings in many other areas including learning support, social facilities, making friends and good transport links.

Overall, 88% of international students would encourage other students to apply to Sussex, a better rating than most other institutions in the survey.

The University uses the findings to strengthen services to students. After putting specific effort, for example, in to airport welcome and induction events for international students, the 2007 results suggest improvements are being noticed.

As one Polish student said: “Everything was superb. There was no way someone could possibly get lost. Lots of students in their ‘Can I help?’ t-shirts were walking around ... They were always very nice and keen to help.”

The overall ISB scores for Sussex in 2007 improved on 2006, and improved on almost all categories. They also showed greater improvement than the average for other universities taking part.

Teething problems with new accommodation may have affected some scores on internet access, as the survey took place in the first few weeks of the autumn term. The results for Sussex also reflected general concerns that international students can experience – including the cost of living and access to part-time work.

Undergraduates keen to do original research

There has been a tremendous response to the University’s new Junior Research Associate bursary scheme.

The deadline for applications was 14 March and more than 100 applications have now been received from a broad spectrum of subjects.

The purpose of these bursaries is to provide an opportunity for Sussex undergraduates to participate in original research with staff and other members of the University community during the summer vacation and it is hoped that Junior Research Associates will consider a career in research after graduation.

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Bob Allison, said: “I am delighted with the response. The quality of the majority of the applications is outstanding and reflects well on the scholarship this illustrates among our undergraduates.”

He also thanked the alumni who have generously donated money so that the University can set up the scheme.

There are 30 University of Sussex bursaries and four further joint University of Sussex/Welcome Trust bursaries on offer. The awarding panel is due to convene at the start of the summer term.
BOOKMARK

Andrea Cornwall (Professorial Fellow, IDS), Elizabeth Harrison (Senior Lecturer in Social Anthropology) and Ann Whitehead (Professor of Social Anthropology) (eds) Gender Myths and Feminist Fables: The struggle for interpretive power in gender and development Blackwell, £19.99 (paperback) ISBN: 9781405169370

The publisher says: "This collection brings together leading feminist thinkers who examine the struggles for interpretive power which underlies international development."


The publisher says: "Beyond the Workfare State explores equality, discrimination and human rights in relation to employability and 'welfare-to-work' policies bringing together a wide and distinctive range of illustrative studies that gives voice to a variety of potentially marginalised groups."

Mary Gribbin (Visiting Research Fellow) and John Gribbin (Visiting Research Fellow) Flower Hunters Oxford University Press, £16.99 (hardback) ISBN: 9780192807182

The publisher says: "Alongside adventurous tales, the book draws out the scientific and cultural value of the work of the early flower hunters and collectors."

"Read of the daring and dedication of men and women like Joseph Banks, who sailed with Captain Cook around the world; Robert Fortune, who battled pirates to smuggle tea plants out of China; and the extraordinary Marianne North, who visited almost every continent to paint a beautiful, and scientifically valuable, record of the plants she saw."

Margaretta Jolly (Senior Lecturer in Continuing Education) In Love and Struggle: Letters in contemporary feminism University of Colombia Press, £23.50 ISBN: 9780231137928

The publisher says: "Jolly recovers the unsung literature of lesbianism and feminist romance ... this fascinating glimpse into women's intimate archives illuminates one of feminism's central concerns - that all relationships are political - and uniquely recasts a social movement in very emotional terms."

Sussex astronomers secure record research funding

Sussex astronomers are celebrating the award of their largest ever research grant.

The Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC, formerly PPARC) have announced an award whose full economic cost (FEC) exceeds £3 million over a five-year period, with the research council contributing £2.44 million.

The principal investigator is Professor Andrew Liddle, who said: "With the creation of the new STFC, we decided for the first time to combine all our activities, theoretical and observational, into one single coherent research programme."

"The move to full economic costing has led to an award which is much bigger than the combination of previous awards we held. It also gives us much more flexibility in managing our own research programme."

The grant supports all of the astronomy group - including five postdoctoral researchers - on a wide-ranging programme covering cosmology, clusters of galaxies, and the formation and evolution of galaxies.

Andrew commented: "It is a particularly strong result given the well-publicised financial problems at STFC, which have led to painful funding cuts across the astronomy programme nationally."

A particular highlight of this new award is Sussex's involvement in the European Space Agency's Herschel infra-red satellite, due to launch later this year. Dr Heb Oliver co-leads the largest observational project on this satellite and obtained the highest level of personal research support awarded among the 24 grants considered in this funding round.

The Astronomy Centre has also emerged relatively unscathed from a programme of cuts in project funding initiated by STFC in response to an £80 million funding shortfall. The group's main projects have been rated well above the likely funding cut-off and STFC have also indicated they will give new support to the Dark Energy Survey, an international collaboration that will be a key new venture for the Sussex group.

Waking a sleeping virus

Sussex biochemists have made progress in understanding the molecular interactions that allow a human virus to awaken and cause illness or disease.

Epstein-Barr virus, which is linked to glandular fever and certain types of cancer, remains dormant in our bodies for years after we are infected. It survives within cells because most of its genes are switched off by a process called 'epigenetic silencing'.

The virus can be activated in response to certain physiological stimuli: one viral gene is expressed and is key to awakening the virus and causing its replication.

Now an interdisciplinary Sussex team led by Dr Alison Sinclair, in collaboration with a colleague in Grenoble, have discovered the precise molecular interactions that allow this to happen.

Alison says: "With this research we are one step closer to understanding the mystery of how the sleeping virus awakens."

The team's findings were published last month in the journal PLoS Pathogen.
Sussex experiment ranked in UK’s top three

A small experiment led by a team of Sussex scientists has been ranked among the UK’s most important particle-physics projects.

Following a recent government reorganisation of the funding of basic science in the UK, the Sussex-led neutron electric dipole moment (nEDM) experiment, which looks to explain why the Big Bang created more matter than anti-matter in the Universe, is one of only three experiments to have been rated “high priority”.

Professor Philip Harris, who heads the Sussex group, says: “The review found that every single one of the UK’s particle-physics projects was carrying out first-rate science, and all were worthy of funding.

“To fall into the top category in this way is therefore a real coup, and an honour – as well as an acknowledgement of the important contribution that these small but beautifully precise experiments can make to our understanding.”

The project’s top rating puts it alongside Atlas and CMS, the two large UK-led experiments at CERN (the world’s largest particle physics laboratory) and guarantees funding by the Science and Technology Facilities Council, which carried out the review.

The team at Sussex, together with scientists from the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Oxford University, Kure University (Japan) and the Institut Laue-Langevin in Grenoble, have been investigating the asymmetry between matter and anti-matter – in other words, how all the material in the Universe emerged from the Big Bang – by studying a corresponding asymmetry in sub-atomic particles.

“To fall into the top category in this way is a real honour”

“It has taken five decades of research to reach the stage where measurements of these particles, called neutrons, have become sensitive enough to test the very best candidate theories,” says Philip.

“Neutrons are electrically neutral, but they have positive and negative charges moving around inside them. If the centres of gravity of these charges aren’t in the same place, it would result in one end of the neutron being slightly positive and the other slightly negative, giving rise to a pear-shaped particle. This is called an electric dipole moment, and it’s intimately related to the cosmic asymmetry that gave us our matter-dominated Universe.”

The team built a special type of atomic clock that uses spinning neutrons instead of atoms to make these measurements. The last EDM result showed that the distortion in the subatomic particles is far smaller than many of the origin of matter theories had previously predicted.

“Surprisingly, if the neutron were enlarged to the size of the Earth, the distortion would still be less than the size of a bacterium,” says Philip.

The way ahead on the strategic plan

I was pleased with the positive and forward-looking discussion at Senate on 14 March on the development of a new strategic plan for Sussex.

The contributions from staff and from the student representatives were full of enthusiasm and insight. I was particularly struck by the contributions of our student representatives; I will be meeting with them for further discussions, as will my colleagues in the executive group.

The time that was spent at the meeting with Professors Bob Allison on research, Joanne Wright on teaching and learning, and Paul Layzell on business and community – adding to the numerous discussions in other meetings that VCEG members have held – was worthwhile.

I would want to reiterate here what I said to Senate: we are developing these plans in a challenging financial and competitive international context for higher education. It is heartening therefore that Senate strongly welcomed the direction of travel set out by the green paper and white paper, oriented towards ambitious growth and development of the University.

Feedback from Senators suggested that the meeting had provided the opportunity to explain and clarify concerns, which had been raised in some wider discussion of the plans elsewhere. Building trust and belief in the development of the strategic plan is a key part of their success.

As the Bulletin is published (Friday 4 April), Council (the University’s governing body) will be meeting and I expect it will have a similarly positive and forward-looking discussion.

The proposals in the green paper and white paper will now undergo further development as the draft strategic plan is drawn up, reflecting comments and views from Senate and Council and wider ongoing consultation.

I hope that all staff and students will continue to respond to the consultation documents, which have been published and are available on the web from www.sussex.ac.uk/ve/ambition

And as we develop our plans in more detail over the coming months – for example on business and community engagement and deploying the fourth round of the Higher Education Innovation Fund (HEIF 4) to support this – are opening up.

We will also continue to take forward this term the work on developing our academic structures. An update paper on this went to Senate, where I made clear that I wanted to give deans and heads of department a little more time to develop their positions and we held off from detailed discussion.

In the coming weeks, the executive team and I will meet with deans and heads of department to give further consideration to the options for creating new schools with devolved budgets.

We will also want to discuss the detailed mechanisms by which heads of the new schools will interact with the executive group. Those discussions will need to take account of the fact that academic units are currently in different positions and states of readiness to move forward.

I do hope that we will be able to resolve the outstanding issues sufficiently that we can provide a report to Senate that maps out the way ahead, and enables us to agree a blueprint for the new structures by the end of the summer term.
Students fight to victory in national sports contest

Sussex students took top spot in fencing and boxing in a national sports competition last month.

The men’s fencing team – including Miles Gandolfi, who receives a bursary from Sussexsport – clinched the British Universities Championships Shield by beating Edinburgh in the final.

Meanwhile, boxer Gareth Bowkett, a Business and Management Studies student, won gold medal in the 75kg novice category.

The two-day annual championships is organised by the British Universities Sports Association (BUSA).

Also taking part in the Sheffield event was the women’s basketball team, who competed against some of the best teams in the country.

Two other beneficiaries of the University’s bursary programme have just been competing in the final of another BUSA event, the Equestrian National Championships. Holly Wick and Emily Llewellyn qualified in first and second place from the regional heats and were hoping to win the national prize in Grantham on 1-3 April.

Finally, Politics student Anne Siniikka Timola has just been selected for the BUSA England basketball team.

More than 230 school pupils have been given the chance to ‘Taste Sociology at Sussex’.

Students from all over London and the south-east attended the campus conference on 19 March. Most of them are taking AS/A2 levels or Access courses, but a small group of year 10s from local schools also attended.

Dr Catherine Will, Lecturer in Sociology, organised the event. She said: “This conference aims to give the students an insight into current developments in sociology and a taste of studying the subject at university.”

The students heard a lecture on the impact of globalisation from Dr Luke Martell, and another on gender and education from Dr Ruth Woodfield.

They were also able to choose a seminar topic from a selection including shyness, health inequalities and social exclusion. Each seminar was given by a Sussex research student or academic from the Sociology department.

Of course, there’s more to student life than studying, so current Sussex students talked about their experience of university and led campus tours.

And for the teachers who accompanied the pupils, the event offered the opportunity to chat informally with Sussex academics about sociology teaching, university applications and work on widening participation.
Final test for students’ community involvement ideas

Sussex students are through to a national final after developing innovative projects to engage youngsters in business.

The team impressed in the regional heat of the SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) competition, which aims to help university students around the world become socially responsible business leaders, and will now compete in the ‘Spirit of SIFE’ competition in London on 18 April.

The Sussex team have 23 members from a wide variety of disciplines and impressed the judges with their two projects. Inspiri8 was designed to motivate 14- and 15-year-olds to develop their personal ambitions and help them succeed, while Project Malawi focuses on engaging Malawian girls in entrepreneurship and sustainable enterprise.

Luke Fletcher, president of Sussex SIFE, said: “We are so proud of what we have achieved this year.

“Although we are a newly established team we have set in place two remarkable and extraordinary projects – one local, one in Africa.

“Next year we hope to further develop our projects and compete with the likes of Nottingham, who have been national champions for the last three years. It shows how much Sussex students are willing to put into voluntary community development.”

Sally Wright of the Research and Regional Development Division supported the team members through the heat and was impressed with their performance.

She said: “They presented their idea in a clear and professional manner and demonstrated perfectly the hard work they have all put into SIFE at Sussex over the last few months.

“They truly deserve their place in the national competition.”

Students impress business experts

Five Sussex students from Medicine, Economics and Business Studies have spent a grueling two days in Plymouth taking part in the national final of a business strategy competition.

Their success in winning the south-east regional heat of FLUX500 at Oxford University guaranteed them a place competing against nine other universities from across the country on 17 and 18 March.

For the national final, the Sussex team, consisting of Rakshita Roplekar, Lisa Moss, Carmen Gheorius, Diane Mescom and Tom Kingston, were given a real business for which they had to research and develop a three-year growth plan before presenting their recommendations to a panel of business experts.

Over the two days, members of the team attended five workshops and five meetings with experts in the fields of HR, marketing, finance, legal and strategy, in order to gain advice and develop their plans accordingly.

At the end of the second day, each team presented their plans to a panel of experts and then answered questions.

The Plymouth University team scooped the winning trophy, along with £500 for each of the team members.

Despite not winning, feedback for Sussex was particularly positive from the business experts, who rated their stage presence as much as the content of the presentation. One said: “You handled our questions brilliantly and down to an impressive level of detail, especially in the area of finance.”

The team was supported by Sally Atkinson and Sally Wright from the Regional Development Office, who were impressed by the enthusiasm, energy and professionalism of the Sussex team.

Sally Atkinson said: “They put so much in to the competition – which is typical of enterprising students, who are inquisitive, creative, fun and often willing to volunteer for projects without thinking of personal gain.”

One of the students said: “We found it fun, an eye-opening and awesome experience.

“While some of us found it a fantastic opportunity to apply what we learn at university to a real scenario, others developed several skills and together this allowed us to work really enthusiastically as a well-rounded team.

“Despite not winning we’ve taken loads away from the last two days and got to meet an incredible number of students from across the country.”
Obituary

Recognise an exceptional contribution

You are invited to nominate a member of staff for this year's Chancellor's Awards.

The awards, now in their sixth year, recognise exceptional contribution to the work and life of the University by members of staff, aside from direct teaching and research.

Full details of criteria and previous winners, plus 2008 nomination forms, are available at www.sussex.ac.uk/vc/award. The deadline for submission of nominations is Monday 21 April.

Each recipient receives an award of £500 and a presentation from the Chancellor as part of the summer or winter graduation ceremonies.

Taxi to Brighton for £12

The University and the Students' Union have updated their Fare Deal scheme with Streamline Taxis.

Taxi 'freephones' linked to Streamline Taxis are located around campus in Bramber House, East Slope, Sussex House, The Cube in Falmer House and York House. Alternatively you can ring 747474 from any campus phone.

You will be charged a flat fare of £12 for travel to anywhere in central Brighton (the area from the pier to Preston Street, including Western Road, the station and North Street).

The scheme also applies from central Brighton to campus. Call 747474, hail a cab or pick one up from a rank (provided it's a 747474 one). Again a flat fare of £12 will apply.

This price is for visitors, students and staff and will remain in force until at least 31 January 2009.

Finalists leave their marks

Over 1,300 Sussex students have completed the National Student Survey (NSS) this year - and there's still nearly a month to go.

So far, 63% of final year undergraduates have given their views on student life at Sussex, 6% above the University's final figure (57%) for last year. This compares to 46% at the equivalent point in 2007.

Departmental response rates range from just over 40% to nearly 90%. Two departments are still below the 50% needed to be included in the results, but should achieve this in the coming weeks.

Ipsos MORI are currently conducting surveys by phone, but eligible students can still fill it in online at www.sussex.ac.uk/nss

The University is keen that every student has their say and hopes that response rates will hit 75% by the time the survey closes on 30 April.

FIRST CLASS

Work by Professor Phil Parsons and Dr Lewis Pennicott has been highlighted in SYNFACTS (Highlights in Current Synthetic Organic Chemistry) for its important insights and has been featured on the American Chemical Society website as a most accessed article for the last quarter of 2007.

The German Chemical Society is to award Emeritus Professor Mike Lappert its Alfred Stock Memorial Prize.
International student shines in writing competition

A Ghanaian's inspirational story of student life at Sussex has earned her a runner-up slot in the regional finals of the UK's biggest international student competition.

Angela Adjei was one of more than 1,500 students, representing 127 nationalities, to enter the sixth annual International Student Awards – an initiative from the British Council that aims to shine the spotlight on international students and their contributions to life in the UK.

To enter the competition, international students were encouraged to write a personal 'letter home', illustrating how they are making the most of their time in the UK by taking part in extra-curricular activities.

Angela, who is in the third year of a Law degree, wrote to her grandmother back in Ghana. In her touching letter she describes her initial loneliness "in a strange country and a different culture", and acknowledges the support she received from her student advisor.

Angela became involved with the Catholic Church on campus and is now part of its singing group. With some friends she set up a student society called Africa Develop, "to share with others the pain and beauty of Africa", and organised fundraising events. She was also a committee member of Project V, which encourages Sussex students to take up volunteering opportunities.

In her letter, Angela tells her grandmother that these non-academic experiences at Sussex have served as a stepping stone to achieving her dream: "to help Ghana, and Africa at large in the future".

A competition panel judged Angela's letter to be one of the best from the south-east and this month she will receive a £100 prize from the British Council.

A delighted Angela said: "I am very happy I was able to achieve this, it feels great."

Attitude problem at heart of low conviction rates for rape

III-informed attitudes and myths surrounding sexual offences still permeate society and are a major stumbling block to improving on low rape conviction rates, says a new book.

The call comes in Sexual Assault and the Justice Gap: A Question of Attitude, which looks at why most rapes reported to the police do not result in conviction. In England and Wales, the proportion declined from 32 per cent in 1979 to 5.3 per cent in 2004-05.

The book's authors - law professor Jennifer Temkin from Sussex and psychology professor Barbara Krahe - identify society's continuing acceptance of myths and false beliefs about rape as an important problem in securing convictions.

"There is a clear tendency among people in general to blame women who allege rape"

Typical rape "myths" include:

• True rapes are only ever carried out by strangers;
• Rape accusations against men known to the victim are usually the result of "misunderstandings", embarrassment or revenge;
• A complainant's sexual history, drunkenness or revealing clothes invalidate a complaint.

Such biased views can be held by the key players in the criminal justice system, such as police officers, prosecutors, judges and juries.

The book presents a series of new studies with more than 2,000 members of the public eligible for jury service, law students and prospective lawyers in vocational training, who were asked to assess a range of written rape scenarios.

Jennifer says: "We found that the more people believe in rape myths, the more they are inclined to blame the victim and exonerate the perpetrator, even though in all the scenarios the woman made it clear that she did not consent to sex."

"We also found that, where there was a previous relationship, there is a clear tendency among people in general to blame women who allege rape and downplay the responsibility of the perpetrator."

In addition, the book includes the results of an in-depth interview study with judges and barristers, which suggest that old attitudes persist, so that the law now surrounding rape does not work in the way that it is supposed to do.

The authors present strategies that could help to reduce the adverse impact of rape myths. These include:

• Enforcing laws that provide legal protection for those alleging rape and changing the law to permit evidence of their good character;
• Screening jurors to decide whether those who are likely to be biased against the complainant or the defendant should serve;
• Introducing expert evidence in the courtroom to educate jurors and the public about rape;
• Improving the training of judges and barristers;
• Educating the public (in schools and using media campaigns) to dispel misconceptions about rape and emphasising the importance of consent in sexual encounters.

Sexual Assault and the Justice Gap: A Question of Attitude
Jennifer Temkin and Barbara Krahe
Academic events↓

**WED 9 APRIL**
12.30pm Genome seminar: Jurgen Bailer (Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute), title TBC. GDSC seminar room.

**2pm SPRU seminar:** Richard Nelson (Columbia). The uneven evolution of human know-how. Freeman Centre. Room G24/25.

**TUE 15 APRIL**
2pm SEI seminar: Lor Thoirliason (Nottingham), Paths to Power: Career Movements in Multinational Firms. Arts C233.

5pm QUEORY lecture: Jacqui Alexander (Toronto), Transnationalism, sexuality and the State. Chichester LT.

**WED 16 APRIL**
7pm Archaeology talk: Liz Somerville (Sussex), Palaeolithic cave painting, Arts A1.

**THU 17 APRIL**
4pm Maths seminar: Isabun Kis (Sussex), Modelling infectious disease spread. Mantell 2A01.

4pm History seminar: Sonya Rose (Michigan), The demise of empire and the rise of multiracial/ethnic Britain. Arts A155.

**FRI 18 APRIL**
2.15pm Freeman Centre seminar: Ray Oakley (Manchester), The funding of high technology small firms. Freeman Centre, G24/25.

News in brief↓

**Win a stay at the Ramada Brighton**
How much is the University of Sussex rate to stay in the Ramada Brighton Hotel? The answer's online at [www.sussex.ac.uk/about/hotels](http://www.sussex.ac.uk/about/hotels), and the prize for finding out is two nights bed & breakfast (single or double occupancy of one room), subject to availability, to be taken by 31 August. Email [hotelcompetition@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:hotelcompetition@sussex.ac.uk) with your answer, as well as your name, status (student/staff/alumnus) and contact details. The closing date is 21 April.

**Get fit for summer**
From the start of the summer term, Sussexsport will be selling an all-new combined 3-month fitness and group exercise card at £60 for students and £70 for staff. The card entitles you to attendance at all group exercise classes and unlimited usage of the two fitness rooms. For further information see [www.sussexsport.com](http://www.sussexsport.com) or call ext 8228 or 7125.

**Second years can win £100**
The Sussex Student Experience Survey (SSES) can be completed online in under 10 minutes at [www.sussex.ac.uk/tdu/ssees](http://www.sussex.ac.uk/tdu/ssees) All participants will be entered into a draw to win £100 in Amazon vouchers. The SSES, which now finishes on Friday 9 May, provides second year undergraduates with an opportunity to express their opinions about the quality of their experiences at Sussex. The results will inform action plans to make improvements in future.

**Mothers and children wanted**
A Psychology DPhil student is looking for families (mother + two children aged between 11 and 20, living in one household) to complete a 20-minute postal questionnaire. Each family that takes part receives £10. For further information, email Tina at J.kretschmer@sussex.ac.uk

Arts events↓

**Fri 11 Apr**
6.15pm Piano concert: Roman Rudnytsky plays Chopin, Beethoven, Mussorgsky, Greg, Rachmaninoff, Debussy and Liszt. Meeting House. All proceeds to Sussex Multiple Sclerosis Treatment Centre.

**Tue 15 Apr**
5.30pm-12 midnight Music fundraiser: Music students raise money for new equipment with a night featuring campus and local bands. East Slope Bar.

Small ads↓

**To let:** Newly built studio flat at Falmer station. Available 22 June–3 Oct. TV, wireless broadband, air con. £500 pcm inc. E a.crostand@bsms.ac.uk or T 691453.

**Holiday let:** 3-bed mobile home in north Cornwall, nr Rock. Sips 6-8. Beaches 5 mins. Eden Project 30 mins. T Julie on 011208 75395, E jmc20@sussex.ac.uk

**To let:** 1-bed flat in Lewes. Top floor of quiet family house, 1 person £520 pcm incl, 2 people £600. T Anna on 480689.

The Bulletin is written and produced by Alison Field and James Heiner, with contributions from Jacqui Beating, 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 18 April, with a copy deadline of 12pm on 11 April. Please contact the Press & Communications Office in Sussex House, ext. 8888 or email bulletin@sussex.ac.uk.