Working at Sussex is good for your health

Sussex has been short-listed for the Healthiest Workplace Award for the second year running at the Brighton and Hove Business Awards (BAHBAs).

Lunchtime campus walks, a weekly fruit and vegetables market, improved workplace risk assessment and free sports passes for new staff members are among new initiatives that have been introduced since the University lost out on last year's award to Kemp Town estate agent Bonnett's.

This summer, new staff and those who have not used the sports facilities on campus for over six months were each offered 10 free passes. This and other new schemes, such as a free email-based fitness adviser, build on more established methods of promoting healthier lifestyles to staff.

The main single event is healthy campus week each February, during which staff and students can enjoy a plethora of free exercise classes, guided woodland walks, body MoTs and healthy food and recipe ideas.

Staff will soon be able to view 'lunchtime-sized' campus walks online and in a new activities leaflet being produced by Sussexsport, the University's sports service. This is in addition to the already popular boundary walk, which takes on a competitive edge once a year in the form of the boundary fun run.

Health and Fitness Development Officer, Terry Cooper, who nominated the University again, hopes that these positive additions will be recognised at the awards ceremony on 26 September. He said:

"Health and wellbeing is a priority agenda at Sussex.

"The continued forward steps that we are making – and will continue to make – in promoting physical activity and healthy eating, alongside wider health issues such as sustainability, workplace stress, and sexual and mental health, make us a strong candidate for the award."

Healthier eating is another key focus for the future and a review of all the catering provision across campus is currently being undertaken. In the meantime, a weekly fruit and vegetables market has been set up outside Falmer House and a new contract has led to healthier options in the University's vending machines.

The University promotes active transport and offers free bike loans, cycle storage and shower facilities.

It also aims to promote a positive work/life balance by accommodating flexible working arrangements and offering a childcare voucher scheme for parents, as well as providing an on-site créche and nursery.

The other two workplaces up for the award are Lime Marketing Ltd and Nido Marketing Ltd. The winner will be announced at the awards dinner, which takes place at the Hilton Brighton Metropole.

Conservation conference on campus and at Kew

A conference looking at trees and climate change marks the latest development in an exciting research collaboration between the University and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

In January, the partnership was formalised at a special event at Kew where the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Michael Farthing, and the Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Professor Steve Hopper, signed a special Memorandum of Agreement.

As a result, new areas of scientific research are being explored by both institutions and the Tree Seeds 2008 conference will focus on conservation issues surrounding trees, seeds and climate change. In particular, delegates will discuss impacts of forest fragmentation and restoration, predicted and observed impacts of climate change, and tree seed science.

Jointly held on campus at the Conference Centre and at Kew’s Millennium Seed Bank in Wakehurst Place, near Haywards Heath, the five-day conference will take place from 22–26 September. Sussex postgraduates studying Plant Conservation are already familiar with the Millennium Seed Bank, where they are taught by staff from the Royal Botanic Gardens.

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Two scientists win million-pound research grants on same day

Academics from the School of Science and Technology are celebrating after being awarded two research grants on the same day, totalling nearly £2.7 million.

Dr Anil Seth (top), Senior Lecturer in Informatics, has been awarded nearly £1.3m to develop a new generation of computational models exploring how brains, bodies, and environments interact. This research will drive the development of new artificially intelligent devices and will illuminate one of the central mysteries of life; the biological basis of conscious experience.

Anil and his team will use a combination of computational modeling, mathematics and neuroimaging, to develop and test new theories about brain function. The five-year programme, which is being funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), will establish Sussex at the forefront of the new science of consciousness and could lead to new treatments for brain-related illnesses such as schizophrenia and depression.

For more information, see www.anilseth.com

Dr Winfried Hensinger (bottom), a Senior Lecturer in Atomic Molecular and Optical Physics, has won a £1.4m grant to create innovative microchips that will help build the most powerful computers in the world.

These ‘quantum computers’ are based on quantum mechanics, a theory that leads to spooky predictions such as an object can be in two places at the same time.

Using a new technology called ‘ion traps’ - devices that can trap single charged atoms (ions) that can transport vast amounts of information - Winfried will develop groundbreaking technology that will create computing power “far greater than anything imaginable today”, set to revolutionise our lives.

The EPSRC-funded research, which will take five years, will single out Winfried as a world-leader in his field and builds upon years of work at Sussex, where he is head of the Ion Quantum Technology (IQT) group.

Sussex computer game experts share in massive grant

Sussex academics and a leading local animation company have won a large grant to develop a virtual reality suit that could revolutionise the computer gaming industry.

The University will share in £1.35m of funding with Brighton-based Animazoo to develop an affordable motion capture suit that will allow home users to play computer games using body movements – in a similar but more advanced way to the Nintendo Wii.

The Sussex team, led by Dr Martin White in Informatics, will develop the software that will make the technology work while Animazoo will create the equipment itself.

Ali Kord, chief executive at Animazoo, said: “The suits will be more precise than the Wii and each one is personal, making them far more accurate. If you dance then the figure on the screen will dance with you.

“It will be like the virtual reality which was promised 20 years ago but never delivered.”

The two-year project (called eMove - Personal Motion Sensing System) follows a successful bid to the Technology Strategy Board (TSB) and will form part of a £1.0m programme to support research and development within the creative industries.

The partnership will utilise Animazoo’s market-leading motion capture design expertise and the University’s advanced academic knowledge to develop software for the final product and identify potential future uses.

Business Development Manager at Sussex, Michael Wylde, said: “The University of Sussex attaches great importance to its links with business, and we are delighted to be working with such a pioneering company as Animazoo on this exciting project.”

Wellcome funding to aid research into genetic diseases

A £650,000 grant from the Wellcome Trust will help fund genetic research at Sussex that could lead to improved treatment for diseases that affect motor co-ordination in humans (e.g. hereditary ataxia) and perhaps normal human ageing.

The research, conducted by Dr Sherif El-Khamisy in the Centre for Genome Damage and Stability, will focus on proteins involved in the repair of faults in DNA – the genetic material in our cells and all other living organisms.

The most common fault to occur spontaneously in DNA is called Single Strand Breaks (DNA being composed of two twisted strands).

Failure to correct these breaks has been shown to lead to neurodegenerative disorders (those that attack the nervous system). This has been demonstrated in the case of two rare hereditary conditions of the nervous system, where a deficiency of certain proteins causes the repair mechanism to fail.

Sherif says: “By understanding DNA repair mechanisms, not only can we employ more effective treatments against disease but also improve the assessment of the risk factors that might lead to disease.”

Recent work has led to the idea that the repair of SSBs is particularly important for neurons (nerve cells).

The proposed research will look at the cellular mechanisms that control SSB repairs in neurons and will determine the impact of the loss of these mechanisms on specific aspects of neurological function.

Sherif says: “Addressing these questions will not only determine the importance of SSB repair for preventing neurodegenerative disease but might also identify new markers for improved assessment and treatment of such diseases, and perhaps even normal human ageing.”
Project management in place for creation of new schools

A lot of work has been going on behind the scenes over the summer to set up the systems for managing the project to create 12 new academic schools at Sussex.

Iain Forster, Operations Manager in SPRU - Science and Technology Policy Research, has been seconded to be the full-time Programme Manager, and a Programme Management Board and a series of work strands have been set up.

The Programme Management Board will be chaired by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Paul Lazell; it includes representatives of students, academics and staff from Professional Services. The first meeting of the Board takes place on Wednesday (10 September).

Iain officially took up the post on Monday (1 September) but had already spent part of his time in August working on the set-up of the project.

Reporting to the Registrar & Secretary, Iain is responsible for the day-to-day leadership and management of the Programme Management Office (PMO), which will provide support for the identification, development, planning, co-ordination, risk management, monitoring and reporting of the various work strands.

Iain will manage all aspects of the project from initiation and development to implementation. He will attend all meetings of the Programme Management Board and Project Leads.

As a result of Iain’s secondment, Sara Hinchcliffe will be covering his management responsibilities in SPRU in addition to her work as School Administrative Manager in the Sussex Institute (SI). Sara aims to spend 60 per cent of her time in SI and 40 per cent in SPRU.

The development of the University’s organisational structures and the creation of 12 new schools for 2009 is intended to devolve financial and management responsibility closer to academic units, bringing them closer together with the Vice-Chancellor’s executive and involving more people in setting the strategic future for Sussex.

Information on the project will be kept up to date at www.sussex.ac.uk/vc/newschools

The year ahead

I am looking forward to the academic year ahead, my second year at Sussex. I believe that we have much to be excited about, after a year in which we have made major strides forward, most notably with the development of the new strategic plan.

The strategic plan will be important for setting out, inside and outside the University, our vision for the years through to 2015; how we will grow the University; how we will develop our research agenda; how we will improve the student experience; how we will continue to strengthen our teaching portfolio; and how we will improve our engagement with business and the community.

Turning that vision into reality will be through the annual plans developed by each of the new schools. I look forward to continuing the visits with my executive team to all parts of the University. This direct engagement is an important part of keeping the executive team connected to the life of the University.

A major amount of my time this term, and that of my executive, working with academic colleagues from across the University, will be spent on the process of appointing heads to the 12 new schools that are being created for 2009. Recruitment advertisements will appear next week in the THE and the Guardian.

These new heads of school will be vital, since they lead the academic heart of the University which delivers our research and teaching and engagement with business and the community. They will be closely connected to the work underway being led by Paul Lazell and Philip Harvey to create the right Professional Services support for the new schools.

I am pleased that we will also be welcoming this year a number of new senior Professional Services colleagues – Dr Ian Carter as Director of Research and Enterprise, Iain Stinson as Director of IT Services, and, working to Owen Richards, Jenni Grundy as Head of Student Support and Experience, strengthening the professional support we can offer to our academic and student communities.

I am confident that the University is making progress, and that through collective effort, working together we can tackle the issues that face us and make a difference in a short period of time, as we have seen with the National Student Survey (NSS), for which the 2008 results will be published shortly.

On my arrival in post, I signalled the importance of tackling our poor NSS scores and the messages about the quality of student experience that those conveyed about the University.

We had already taken a positive first step by achieving a response rate of 75% in 2008 – compared to well under 60% in 2007 – so that we had a strong and properly representative view of student opinion.

I am now expecting a significant improvement in the results for Sussex, which could be among the largest in the sector as a whole, as well as for the Russell and 1994 Group universities. This would create a strong platform to build towards the target we have set in the strategic plan of achieving NSS scores in the top 25% of the country.

If we do start to show this turn-around, this will be thanks to the efforts of the whole community of academic and Professional Services staff, learning the lessons of unsatisfactory results in previous years and taking concerted and diligent action together.

Finally, I am pleased that corporate events such as our professional lectures continue to showcase the academic work of the University. This term, these events include an exhibition featuring the photography of Lord Healey, with a multi-media exhibition in the iQubate centre on campus that has been planned and curated by Sussex students working with Lord Healey. As a new neighbour of his in Alfriston, I am delighted to see him involved in the life of the University.
Innovative show for remarkable photography

It's been a good summer for the bees on campus and for our Professor of Apiculture Francis Ratnieks. After the initial fanfare of publicity in July about his new lab (including the media wrongly announcing that we were running a bee-keeping BSc), Francis has subsequently been interviewed for BBC Radio 4's 'PM' (9 July), BBC Two's 'Newsnight' (19 August), and then appeared live by his hives on Sky News (28 August) for a whole day of bee stories and experiments.

He is also among several of our academics to have been interviewed on BBC Southern Counties Radio last month. Others include Dr Cherith Moses (4 August) talking about her research on coastal erosion; Professor Paul Taggart (29 August) discussing Barrack Obama's speech; and Allister Furey (28 August) explaining the science behind harnessing the energy of kites. The interview mentioned my work in the Observer (3 August).

Dr Stefan Koelsch's research into how and why we respond to music was featured in a weekly science package Guardian podcast (18 August). Stefan's work on how music can boost the immune system was covered by the Daily Telegraph (18 August).

During August we received a huge number of press cuttings from local newspapers about students who, having passed their A levels, will be heading for Sussex.

And, with what is becoming an annual event as much as the announcement of GCSE and A level results, James Williams wrote an opinion piece for the Argus (22 August) about why constantly testing school children does not improve our standards. "As the old saying goes," he points out, "you don't fatten a pig by weighing it all the time."

On the book front, Dr Lucy Robinson is delighted that her latest publication, Gay Men and the Left in Post-War Britain: How the personal got political, has been shortlisted for the Erotic Awards. She told the Times Higher Education (21 August) that she was "blown over".

Clockwise from top left: A young Condoleezza Rice, photographed by Denis Healey; Lord Healey captures his love of the countryside; Professor Michael Farthing, Vice-Chancellor, meets Lord Healey in his Sussex home while the students curating the exhibition make a film about the ex-politician.

Photographs by Lord Healey, former Labour Chancellor of the Exchequer and an accomplished photographer, will form part of an interactive multimedia exhibition at Sussex this autumn.

Curated by students, 'Denis Healey: Furniture of the Mind' features more than 30 original and digitised portraits of well-known political figures of his era, such as a young Condoleezza Rice and the former Prime Minister of Israel, Golda Meir, as well as interviews with Lord Healey and his wife, Edna.

The exhibition will be held in the University's state-of-the-art teaching and learning space, InQbate, and open to the public from 11 - 17 October.

Denis Healey has taken photographs since he received a Brownie 2A box camera at the age of 11. Many of his most vibrant photographs are from his travels and show his interest in capturing images of people in their own environments and landscapes. His love for his family and of the countryside around his Sussex home is also in evidence.

Art historian Professor David Meller, who has coordinated the exhibition, says it presents a unique record of political life from 1957 through to recent times, but it also demonstrates the University's strength in studying photography in its cultural and historical context.

"Here is a terrific example of innovative interdisciplinary using new technologies - one of the key things Sussex does best of all - with students from different disciplines joining together and developing a show using new techniques in display: really running with a brilliant idea."

The students involved in curating the exhibition are Art History undergraduates Charline Sluter, Luska Mengham and Carol Dows:; Media Practice and Theory undergraduates Cherry Amos, Lucy Lyon, Charlotte Charlton and Peter Hart: and History undergraduate Eleanor Probyn Gibbs.

Luska, about to enter her final year, says: "This has been a brilliant experience. Lord Healey is so enthusiastic - not just about photography, but also about poetry, music and art. We chose the title of the exhibition, 'Furniture of the Mind', quoted from one of his books, to embody the 'compartments' and the extent of his eclectic interests and passions."

As well as Lord Healey's personal works, the students will be using some of the well-known public images of him, including footage of his appearance on 'This is Your Life', and the bushy-eyebrowed puppet version of him that appeared in the television satirical comedy 'Spitting Image'.

The exhibition will be used by a variety of students and tutors from different disciplines and departments. Some will encounter it as a part of their formal teaching, while others will take part in interdisciplinary seminars arranged during the week. The majority of these events will be open to the public.

For further details and opening hours, visit www.sussex.ac.uk/furnitureofthemind
Students’ documentary show looks at the lives of others

Student filmmakers saw their work premiered at the University’s first postgraduate documentary degree show, held in Brighton on Thursday (4 September).

Entitled ‘Back to Reality’, the film premiere featured seven documentaries capturing the real lives of communities in Brighton and in locations around the world.

‘No Place Like Home’ by Josh Bloom looks at the plight of the city’s “hidden homeless” – people who often work, but have no place to call their own – through the eyes of three men.

Josh says: ‘I found out that 30 per cent of these people had jobs, working in low-paid sectors but still homeless. People can’t afford the high rents of places like Brighton, even though they are in work. They sleep on friends’ floors, in cars or even at their place of work. These are the hidden homeless.

“I hope to challenge the public perception that the only homeless people are the ones you see sleeping on park benches.”

Another film, ‘Take Over’, by Jordie Montevecchi, charts the actions of a group of squatters who recently took over a church building in Brighton.

Two other local films include one that features the efforts of a mothers’ group to pass on Korean culture and language to their children and ‘No Prospect’, a film about the music industry, filmmaking and friendship featuring indie singer Carina Round and bands including The Cardigans and the Cocteau Twins.

Stories with an international flavour are told in films about the exploitation of indigenous porters of the Inca Trail; the lives of Hindu holy men and the kilim rug makers of Anatolia in Turkey.

Lizzie Thynne, a professional documentary maker who is also convenor of the MA in Digital Documentary, said: “This is the first year the course has run and the topics the students are tackling are very impressive.

“The course has attracted new film-makers from several countries who draw on a wide range of international experience as well as looking at some pressing local issues.”

Sussex campus stars in graduates’ first single

A band featuring three Sussex graduates are releasing their debut single this month, accompanied by a video filmed on campus.

Les Valentine will release ‘Nervous’ on 29 September. The video shows the band busking around campus and in Brighton city centre before performing on stage to a crowd of Sussex students.

John Fitzpatrick (Psychology) and Steve Boniface (Media Practice and Theory), who both graduated in 2006, formed the backbone of the band in 2003 at the campus Open Mic night where they regularly performed. Jo Wattens, who completed her Media Studies degree in 2005, and BIMM student Pete McFarlane completed the line-up in January 2008.

Jo, now working for the Students’ Union, said: “I’m going to be busy as I’ll be releasing and promoting the single at the same time as co-ordinating the Freshers’ Fair and getting ready for autumn term.”

Describing their sound as a “mix of upbeat acoustic music and unusual takes on well known artists”, Les Valentine are regulars on the Brighton music scene and were voted number one earlier this year in an online competition called Beat the Mix (www.beatthemix.co.uk).

‘Nervous’ will be available to download at all good online stores, including iTunes, from 29 September and you can see the video on YouTube or www.lesvalentine.com
Sussex appoints Head of Student Support and Experience

Jenni Grundy, currently Director of Business Operations and Associate Director of Student Affairs at Anglia Ruskin University, is to be Head of Student Support and Experience at Sussex. Jenni will take up the new post in November.

Before joining Anglia Ruskin in 2005, she had spent 15 years in senior roles in the NHS and social care services.

Owen Richards, Academic Registrar, who is in charge of student and academic services, is looking forward to having Jenni on board. He said: “Everyone involved in the selection process has been very impressed with Jenni’s depth of knowledge of issues affecting students and her enthusiasm and vision for helping Sussex move forward in all areas relating to the overall student experience.”

In this new senior role within the Student and Academic Services division, Jenni will lead, coordinate and help to develop the University’s student support functions. These include:

- Student advising
- International student welfare
- Disability support
- Study skills support
- Student financial advice
- Counselling
- USSU liaison
- Chaplaincy liaison

First Class

The Leverhulme Trust has awarded a Research Fellowship to Dr Michelle O’Malley, Reader in Art History, for a study of Florentine painting around 1500.

Catherine Smith (left), who teaches creative writing at Sussex, has been shortlisted for Britain’s most valuable poetry prize. She will find out on 8 October if she is the winner of the £10,000 Forward prize. Catherine’s poetry collection Lip, published in 2007, is one of six on the shortlist.

Befriend an international student

Sussex staff and local alumni can again take part in an annual scheme to become a ‘friend’ to a new international student.

The Alumni and Development Office and the International and Study Abroad Office are currently recruiting for the Alumni Friendship programme, pairing up visiting students with friendly staff and alumni.

Staff who volunteer to be a ‘friend’ are expected to get to know the student and share their culture with them, starting with a welcome reception on 22 October, but any extra hospitality offered is entirely up to the individual.

The scheme (previously known as the Host programme) has been running since 2004 and many previous participants still enjoy long-lasting friendships with the students they were paired with.

Nicola Jones, Alumni Officer, said: “The programme helps the students to feel more at home, make a friend outside university, learn more about British culture, practise conversational English and find out about former Sussex students’ experiences.

“It helps international students to feel at home during those difficult first few months away.”

If you are interested in taking part in the scheme, email n.r.jones@sussex.ac.uk

For more information, go to www.sussex.ac.uk/units/alumni/pages/host_scheme_info.html

Obituary

A former member of staff who worked at the University in the late 1970s and early 1980s has died, aged 88. Elizabeth Whitcombe – known as Betty Catling – was Administrative Officer for the Centre of Continuing Education (CCE) from 1975 until her retirement in 1982.

She died of a heart attack while on a Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes on 27 July. Friend and ex-colleague Rosemary Harris, who was secretary to the then Director of CCE, Professor Manny Eppel, said: “Her funeral was held on 22 August and the full church reflected her many friendships.

“After her retirement, several staff members kept in touch with her and she will be greatly missed.”
Lecture focuses on film and Francis Bacon

One of the 20th century’s greatest artists, Francis Bacon, is the subject of a special lecture to be given by Sussex art historian Professor David Alan Mellor – one of the few Bacon scholars alive today who actually knew the painter.

David, who has curated exhibitions of Bacon’s paintings and is an academic authority on his work, met the artist a few years before his death in 1992.

David says: “Bacon was taken by an exhibition I curated at the Barbican Art Gallery, in 1987, called ‘A Paradise Lost’. He was surprised that I’d used photographs of birds by Eric Hoskins, a photographer he admired: but I had no prior knowledge that he liked his work and it was only a bunch of mine that made me put them in the show.”

David’s lecture on 18 November is a timely one. Next year is the 100th anniversary of Bacon’s birth, while this month an exhibition devoted to his work opens at London’s Tate Britain. David has written one of the essays – on Bacon’s relationship with film – for the catalogue accompanying the exhibition.

The lecture will also focus specifically on the influence of cinema and photography. David says: “From the Hollywood film Lust for Life to the classics of German expressionist cinema and Soviet film, the shocks and impacts of cinematic and photographic experience shaped Bacon’s art.”

David says Bacon disliked talking about art. “But we had a common interest because of an aspect of our rather poor health: medication, specifically inhalers, for the treatment of asthma.”

Although Bacon is celebrated alongside the likes of Picasso for his portrayals of humans and animals, his personal life earned him a certain notoriety. David, however, remembers him as “a very sympathetic man whose humour could be sardonic, but who was attentive and kind to my son Leo, who was then not ten years old and was a fellow asthma sufferer”.

The University of Sussex connection with Francis Bacon does not end there: one of the curators of the Tate Britain exhibition is Dr Chris Stephens, whose doctoral thesis was supervised by David in the 1990s.

Sussex Lectures this autumn

Staff, students and visitors can enjoy a series of wide-ranging free lectures on campus this autumn.

The Sussex Lectures, which are put on throughout the year to highlight the University’s research expertise, will start again on 1 October with a Library Special Collections lecture on ‘The genius of Rudyard Kipling’. Presented by Michael Smith, Vice President of the Kipling Society, this lecture will celebrate the recent purchase of the Baldwin/Kipling papers by the Library, which already hosts one of the biggest Kipling collections in the world.

There will be four professorial lectures – from Adam Eyre-Walker, Professor of Biology (21 October); Peter Thomas, Professor of Astronomy (4 November); David Alan Mellor, Professor of Art History (30 November); and Brian Cummings, Professor of English (25 November).

Global sustainability challenges will be tackled by Professor John Beddington, Chief Scientific Adviser to the Government, in the Marie Jahoda memorial lecture on 8 October.

‘Spirituality and theory in the modern humanities’ is the subject of Professor Ian Hunter’s (Queensland) lecture on 22 October.

The third Joan Cooper memorial lecture (12 November) will see Professor Sonia Jackson (London) discuss whether education can change the trajectory of children in care.

The series concludes with the fourth professorial lecture on 25 November and the Martin Wight memorial lecture on ‘The culture of summits’ (20 November), when Professor David Reynolds (Cambridge) will explore the cultural significance of summit diplomacy.

The lectures are free of charge and everyone is welcome to attend, but you are asked to RSVP as indicated for each lecture. For details of each lecture, see www.sussex.ac.uk/events

Selected lectures will be available online a couple of weeks after the event and can be found at www.sussex.ac.uk/sussexlecturesarchive

The Sussex Lectures are co-ordinated by the Development and Alumni Relations Office as part of a programme of activities aimed to promote Sussex’s excellent research and teaching, and to provide opportunities for alumni and friends to celebrate and support this work.
Capture us

The team from Student Recruitment Services (SRS) who organise induction activities are running a photographic competition for new first years, asking them to share the image that best represents their first few days at Sussex.

But the induction team would also like Sussex staff to share their impressions: capture, in one image, what the busy period of social and academic orientation means to you and explain why in no more than 30 words.

The closing date is 4pm on Wednesday 8 October and all entries should be emailed to induction@sussex.ac.uk

Entries will be judged on Friday 10 October by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Michael Farthing (himself a keen photographer), and University photographer Stuart Robinson.

The judges will select two photographs, one by a new first year and one by a member of staff, which, in their opinion, are original and best illustrate the theme of the competition.

This is open to individual interpretation – but entries must have at their heart the activities during Welcome Weekend (27–28 September) or Freshers’ Week (29 September–5 October).

The winning entries will appear online at www.sussex.ac.uk/induction on Tuesday 14 October.

The winner of the student competition will receive a £50 cash prize and the winner of the staff category will enjoy a meal for two in a local Brighton restaurant.

Competition: Send your photographs of induction activities to induction@sussex.ac.uk