Shaping the news: recently-appointed Director of BBC News, Helen Boaden talks to Falmer/A new age of empire? Professor Saul Dubow discusses the recent emergence of American imperialism/Policing the community with Michael Fuller, Chief Constable of Kent/Meet the president: Roger Hylton/Uganda 10 years on.
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It is a great pleasure to introduce the Winter issue of *Falmer*, the University’s magazine. As this new edition illustrates, the past six months have been an exciting time at Sussex. Those of you coming back to campus in the near future will notice the extensive physical changes that have been made since your last visit. This expansion, which began a few years ago with the construction of buildings like the Brighton and Sussex Medical School and the Genome Centre, is now entering a new phase. As part of this, plans are already under way to upgrade and improve services and facilities across campus.

I am pleased to report that the recent review of our curriculum offerings has resulted in a substantial increase in the number of student applications. As a result, more students than ever now want to study at Sussex. Making students’ time at university an enjoyable and fulfilling experience, both personally and intellectually, is one of our key priorities. The modifications to the curriculum, and the new developments outlined above, reflect our continuing efforts to enhance the learning environment of the current and future generation of Sussex students.

As you will read in these pages, a recent world ranking of universities, compiled by the Times Higher Education Supplement, placed Sussex in the top 10 in the UK, top 20 in Europe and top 60 in the world. This latest league table, based on criteria including citations, international recruitment, staff-to-student ratio and peer review, echoes recent findings of the Institute of Education at Shanghai Jiao Tong University, which also put Sussex among the world’s leading universities. We are, of course, delighted by these accolades as they confirm Sussex’s strong international profile and our commitment to academic excellence.

The emergence of worldwide surveys such as these is indicative of the growing internationalisation of higher education. The competition for the brightest students and the most capable academics is increasingly fierce and global. Sussex’s competitors are no longer regional or national, but international.

At Sussex, we boast a proud heritage of educating students from around the world. The University actively recruits students from over 100 countries. You can’t go anywhere on campus without being aware of the international make-up of our student body, something of which I am extremely proud. Continuing to deliver world-class research and high quality teaching is inextricably linked with our capacity to keep attracting outstanding students and the most talented academics working at the forefront of their fields.

Increasingly, students’ decisions on university choice are dependant not only on the quality of the educational experience provided, but also on the financial support available. This is why, over the next few years, we will continue to seek the support of alumni and friends of the University with the view to enhancing our scholarship provision so that no student will be deterred from applying to Sussex because of financial concerns. I hope that you will want to join us in our efforts to improve the experience of Sussex students.

With best wishes,

Alasdair Smith
Vice-Chancellor
Sussex ranked as one of world’s top universities

A recent world ranking of universities, compiled by the Times Higher Education Supplement (THES), put Sussex in the top 10 in the UK (9th), the top 20 in Europe (17th) and in the top 60 in the world (58th).

This international recognition, which confirms Sussex’s commitment to academic excellence, is a reflection of the hard work and effort that everyone at the University has put in during the recent school restructuring and curriculum review. This result, combined with a substantial increase in the number of applications to the University and the quality of entrants, demonstrates that Sussex is strengthening its position among the leading universities in the UK.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alasdair Smith, welcomed the news of Sussex’s standing in the latest league table. ‘I am delighted by this accolade for the excellent quality of teaching and research at the University of Sussex, and the international reputation we have earned,’ he said.

As many as 200 universities worldwide were featured in the THES’ recent study. Staff-to-student ratios, overseas recruitment and the intellectual clout wielded by research publications were measured to assess the quality of teaching, research and international reputation. The findings also relied on an unprecedented survey of 1,300 academics from across the world, who were asked to identify the top institutions in their respective fields. The emergence of world rankings reflects the growing need for universities to have a strong international profile, as students around the world look beyond their own countries for the best university places.

Harvard is ranked in the listings as the world’s top university. In Europe, Sussex is one of nine UK institutions in the top 20, where Oxford heads the list. In the UK, Sussex joins Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial College London, the London School of Economics (LSE), University College London (UCL), the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), Manchester, Edinburgh and St Andrews in the top 10 list.

This latest ranking echoes recent findings of the Institute of Education at Shanghai Jiao Tong University, which also placed Sussex among the world’s leading universities and among the top 12 in the UK.

Library celebrates 40th birthday

In November last year, the University celebrated the 40th anniversary of the library building at a reception attended by staff and friends of the University. Among the special guests was Anthony Blee, son-in-law of the campus architect Sir Basil Spence, who gave a stimulating account of Sir Basil and his work.

The history of the Library reflects the growth and expansion of the University. In the autumn of 1960, when Dennis Cox, the first librarian, arrived on campus, there were 5,000 books already waiting for him at Stanmer House. By the time the Library was officially opened by HM The Queen in November 1964, it had a stock of 80,000 volumes. The original library building was planned in three phases and was completed in 1970, by which time there was space for 250,000 volumes and 750 readers. By the 1990s, student numbers were approaching 10,000 and an extension to the Library was opened in 1997. The building now contains 1,100 spaces for readers and three-quarters of a million books.
Leading the fight against obesity

In response to the alarming rise in obesity across the developed world, a University of Sussex food policy researcher is leading a project to establish how European governments could address the problem.

In the autumn of 2004, Science and Technology Policy Research (SPRU) hosted a meeting between Sussex academic Dr Erik Millstone and senior public health representatives from nine European countries, to launch a cross-national comparative study. During the next two and a half years the project’s teams will look at issues such as food labelling, food advertising and food subsidies in the European Union (EU) and within their own countries. The results will be fed into the study.

Dr Millstone, whose work has previously influenced UK Government policies on food additives and Bovine Spongiform Encephalitis (BSE), says that the obesity epidemic and its health implications are of major concern to all European nations. ‘The UK has one of the highest rates, affecting nearly a quarter of the population. Some of the other countries have not yet reached that level, but they have faster growing rates of obesity. This is particularly true among the new members of the EU, especially those in eastern Europe.’

Different countries currently use a variety of systems to try to address the problem. In Finland some firms use a ‘traffic light’ system with food labelling to allow consumers to identify healthy ‘green’ foods and bad ‘red’ foods. The UK’s Food Standards Agency is also looking at trialling similar signposting methods, with the support of the food industry. Other nations are in favour of subsidising healthy food and increasing taxes on unhealthy food. ‘What we’re doing is trying to capture perspectives from divergent approaches to see which mixes of policies might be effective in which countries,’ explains Dr Millstone. ‘It would be unrealistic to think that we could produce one set of policies that would work in all countries, but I hope this study will help to halt this juggernaut of obesity that’s rolling over Europe.’

Professor Anthony Giddens comes to SPRU

Professor Anthony Giddens, world renowned sociologist and former Director of the London School of Economics, was this year’s keynote speaker at the distinguished Marie Jahoda Annual Lecture, organised by Science and Technology Policy Research (SPRU) at Sussex. Speaking on Globalisation: the State of the Debate, Professor Giddens had the full attention of a packed lecture theatre in the new Brighton and Sussex Medical School.

Prolific author of numerous books and articles, Professor Giddens is one of the most respected social theorists of his generation. He has been an advisor to Tony Blair on welfare and his ideas also influenced the Clinton administration.

Sussex student named UK winner

Enterprising Sussex student Martina Rieder has won the national final of a major business competition with her design for a medical product that is set to benefit thousands of patients. The 24-year-old Biochemistry and Management Studies undergraduate has been named the ‘UK’s Most Enterprising Student’ on the Shell Technology Enterprise Programme (STEP) 2004.

Her two projects were selected out of some 1,400 entries in the STEP programme, which offers summer work placements for students at small and medium-sized businesses. Martina’s eight-week placement was with Welland Medical, a Crawley-based company that makes products for people who have undergone bowel surgery. She interviewed hospital patients and carried out chemistry research to enable her to design a more durable and comfortable colostomy ‘flange’. Flanges are used to attach waste bags to the skin surrounding a stoma (a surgically created opening in the body). Welland plans to patent the product.

In another project, Martina was able to identify and resolve problems in the production process, saving Welland thousands of pounds. ‘Martina has been an outstanding contributor to not just one, but two significant projects. Success in one would have been a brilliant achievement, but to have achieved so much in both is a tribute to her dedication, energy and commitment,’ said Dr Rory Smith, Welland’s director of research and development.
A team of University of Sussex-led scientists has identified crucial elements necessary for repairing damaged DNA – the blueprint for all living cells. The breakthrough will further our understanding of how diseases that are associated with DNA instability, such as cancer, arise. The findings also point to how new drug therapies could be developed for treating cancer.

Dr Aidan Doherty, a reader in biochemistry at the University’s Genome Damage and Stability Centre, worked with scientists at Sussex and in the USA and found that the process of repairing DNA breaks was much simpler than previously thought. By manipulating synthetic DNA breaks, his team showed that two proteins, Ku and Ligase, commonly found in bacteria, acted together to identify and repair these breaks.

Close relatives of these proteins are found in the cells of other living organisms, including humans and yeast. When researchers experimented on yeast cells lacking these proteins, they found that the bacterial proteins alone could repair the yeast cells. These findings suggest that there is a common repair process that has been conserved throughout evolution from bacteria to humans.

‘These findings have important implications for our understanding of repair mechanisms in human cells,’ explains Dr Doherty. ‘Our DNA can be damaged by any number of things, from sunlight to oxygen. This happens continuously and most of the time our cells repair themselves correctly. But, occasionally, inaccurate repair of these breaks occurs and this has the potential to contribute to cell mutation, allowing genetic material to be lost, which can lead to DNA instability and ultimately cancer.

‘Now that we have identified the essential protein activities necessary for this repair process, we can begin to understand how cells repair DNA breaks. There is a great deal of interest in designing drugs that target related repair systems in human cells to inhibit the growth of cancerous cells and we are likely to see new cancer therapies, based on these inhibitors, appearing in the next five to ten years.’

The work has recently been patented and is currently being developed as a research tool for the research and biotechnology communities. Dr Doherty’s team carried out the research with financial support from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, the Medical Research Council and the Royal Society.

A paper entitled ‘Mycobacterial Ku and Ligase proteins constitute a two-component NHEJ repair machine’ was published in the journal Science, in October this year.

The Sussex MBA at SPRU

From January 2006, Science and Technology Policy Research (SPRU) will be offering a new MBA programme. The Sussex MBA at SPRU is specifically aimed at those in the private or public sectors with responsibility for innovation leadership – the management of, or policy for, innovation, technology or entrepreneurship. It offers a unique combination of a solid foundation in core business knowledge and skills, such as finance, strategy and organisational development, but with a strong specialisation in managing innovation, technology and entrepreneurship. Those interested in the new Sussex MBA at SPRU should contact Carmen Long at: c.long@sussex.ac.uk or check: www.sussex.ac.uk/spru/1-2-2.html

Correction

In the last issue of Falmer we referred to Sussex being awarded a ‘gold star’ for its PGCE programme. This was meant metaphorically and we apologise for any confusion caused. The programme was in fact awarded the highest possible grade in the Ofsted inspection.
Sussex graduate wins Turner Prize

Sussex graduate Jeremy Deller (CULCOM 1991) has been awarded this year’s prestigious Turner Prize. Jeremy won the judges’ vote with a film, *Texas Memory Bucket*, a journey through the American state that is home to George W Bush.

Speaking to the University of Sussex after receiving the £25,000 prize at a glittering ceremony at London’s Tate Britain in December 2004, Jeremy paid tribute to Sussex Professor David Mellor, who supervised his MA thesis on Teddy Boy culture. ‘David was the reason I came to Sussex. I heard a lecture he gave. I like the way he looks at culture and connects disparate subjects. We share a lot of interests, particularly sub-cultures.’

His work encompasses cultural history, art, politics, film, photography and music – an interdisciplinary, contemporary approach that Professor Mellor believes sums up the Sussex experience of study and research. ‘I was very moved and delighted to see Jeremy win,’ David Mellor said. ‘He has a natural modesty and a commitment to humane representations. The important thing about his work is the humanity in it. I like to think that at Sussex he developed his interest in community and in showing it in all its diversity.’

Jeremy is best known for his ‘living history’ project, *The Battle of Orgreave*, a collaborative re-enactment of the infamous 1984 miners’ strike clash, using 800 extras to play the parts of miners and police, filmed by Hollywood director Mike Figgis. Future work may even involve collaboration with Sussex, which is home to the Mass-Observation Archive, a rich source of social history, based on diaries and letters written by ordinary people that span the past 70 years. ‘The Mass-Obs archive certainly involves a lot of the things that interest me, so you never know,’ said Jeremy.

South African Minister returns to campus

In October 2004, Dr Essop Pahad (ARTS 1965), Minister for the Presidency of South Africa, returned to the University of Sussex, marking the 10th anniversary of the African National Congress (ANC) coming to power in South Africa.

Throughout his day at the University, Minister Pahad spoke fondly about his time as a postgraduate student at Sussex. During his speech, he praised and thanked Sussex, both the institution and its students, for being consistently active in the struggle against apartheid and for educating more South African than British Members of Parliament. Dr Pahad described his lecture as an opportunity to report back to the institution which had done so much to help him achieve his present role in government. He then recorded the achievements of that government in combating the legacies of apartheid andreviving the South African economy over the last ten years.

After the lecture, guests were taken to the Gardner Arts Centre to see a truly moving and wonderful performance of *Like Doves We Rise* by the award winning South African group Amajuba. With its stories of the pain and anguish suffered under apartheid, and its expression of hope for the future, it was a fitting way to round off an evening focusing on South Africa ten years on from the introduction of democracy.

Honours and appointments

The University would like to offer congratulations to the following people:

**Professor Julian Crampton** (BIOLS 1973), Special Advisor to the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Brighton, on his appointment as the first Chief Scientific Advisor to the Department for International Development.

**Professor Gordon Conway**, former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sussex, on his appointment as the first Chief Scientific Advisor to the Department for International Development.

**Professor Sir Hans Singer**, of the Institute of International Development (IDS), on a lifetime achievement award by the UK Development Studies Association, for his contributions over 70 years to the theory and practice of international development.

**Professor Peter Townsend** and colleagues in the Department of Engineering and Design, on receiving a diploma in the Descartes Prize competition for their work in developing sensors, which should considerably improve the ability to detect cancerous tissue, for instance, in the diagnosis of breast cancer.

**Professor Norman Vance**, Professor of English, on being appointed as Chair of the Higher Education Committee of the English Association.
As the recently-appointed Director of BBC News, Helen Boaden (CCS 1975) is responsible for the whole of the BBC’s news output worldwide. One of the most influential people in British news broadcasting, she was recently tipped by *The Guardian* as a future Director General of the BBC.

### Shaping the news

**What is the remit of the Director of BBC News?**

My remit is to ensure that we're doing what BBC News is here to do. This is to provide accurate, impartial, unbiased facts and information about significant stories of the day, locally, nationally and globally, and it’s my job to ensure all that happens. The scale of BBC News is enormous. For every hour of real time there are four and a half hours of broadcast output from BBC News: from BBC Parliament and BBC World to Five Live and all the radio sequences, World Service, News Online and so on. Also, because of the licence fee, we have an obligation to provide news for everyone and we have to be inventive and find formats and ways of delivering that. Radio 1 Newsbeat might be different in presentation from news on Radio 4 or the 10 o’clock news, but the core values are the same.

**What is the relationship between the Director of News and the individual news editors?**

I have been an editor myself and, for me, editors are the lynchpin in the organisation. The BBC gives editors an amazing amount of freedom because they put on air what they think is right for their programme. We trust them to do that. Obviously we give them direction, and they will have a remit for their own particular programmes, but these remits all flow into the same whole. When things don’t work, you have to have an honest and grown-up conversation with the editor, but, essentially, they are the gatekeepers of quality.

**You took over this position at quite a difficult time for BBC News. How has this affected your new post?**

The useful thing about the Gilligan/Hutton affair was that it allowed us to pause and think hard about what we were doing. BBC News had had a very rapid expansion over 10 years because technology allowed it and the audiences wanted it. What hadn’t really happened during this growth was the opportunity to stand back and see whether we still had the right checks and balances in place to make sure we were maintaining our core values. So the Neil Committee was set up and I was on that committee. We re-examined what we thought were the basics of BBC journalism and we found that mostly we had kept to those basics, despite the great expansion. One point on which I felt very strongly was the need to emphasise the role of editors. We also clarified the way we deal with anonymous sources and verified a number of the good working practices that have been followed for years, but which had never been set down explicitly. We also asserted the five values of BBC reporting, which are: accuracy and truth, commitment to reporting news in the public interest, impartiality and diversity of views, accountability and independence. None of these things are new; they have always guided our journalism.

Now we have a great training programme for all our journalists, in which they are faced with a lot of scenarios that present genuine journalistic dilemmas. I think in a world that is increasingly spun, where you have opinions masquerading as fact on so many news channels, it is really important that you can look at the BBC and think, ‘that is an accurate piece of information.’

**How do you see the future of news broadcasting?**

The reason we started News 24 was that we understood from the way people’s lives were changing that increasingly large numbers of people wouldn’t have the time or inclination to sit and wait for a news bulletin. Actually, I think what’s remarkable is that we still get such large audiences for what we call our ‘built bulletins’ which are the 6 o’clock news and the 10 o’clock news. Across a week, over 30 million people watch the television news bulletin from the BBC. So, one should always be slightly sceptical of these great predictions that everyone is changing.
their habits immediately. It doesn’t happen like that. With News 24 we came second to the market, which is always a disadvantage. Sky was already there and was doing a good job, so we’ve had to work very hard at creating a service that is distinctively BBC. The whole rationale for News 24 is that we don’t mind being second, as long as the information we offer is reliable and accurate – first and wrong is not an option for us. The trick for us is keeping up the high quality of our core services, whilst finding the money and the creativity to think about how people are going to want their news delivered in the future. BBC News Online is growing at 30 per cent each year and we have to think about headlines on mobile phones, downloading programmes and so on.

BBC News Online is one of the jewels in our crown. We had the advantage of being first in the market because of John Birt’s early (and unpopular) vision of the digital world. We have to make sure we continue with that vision as new technologies come through and not all of them will work. We’ve just launched an interactive service on the 10 o’clock news. We have no idea whether people will want that, but it’s worth the experiment because we’ll find out how audiences are changing.

How did Sussex prepare you for your present career?
It prepared me in two specific ways. First of all, I actually joined Campus Radio when I was at Sussex and made my first documentary, about a woman’s right to choose on abortion. So, in a specific way it touched a nerve in me. But it was more profound than that. Sussex was incredibly important in my life, partly because I enjoyed it hugely, but partly because it felt like a re-wiring exercise. Jane Root (former Controller of BBC 2 and now Executive Vice-President of Discovery Networks) and I were there at the same time. We agreed that the process of integrating different disciplines and making you think laterally was utterly formative for both of us, and incredibly exciting. For me, the key person was Stuart Laing, who was a tutor at CCS. He ran an excellent course called Text and Context, which I’ve never forgotten because it made me see the world quite differently.

The honorary degree ceremony was a hoot because someone streaked! It was a completely brilliant Sussex occasion – first of all, the eclecticism of the people who were getting their undergraduate degrees, but then the warmth, the exuberance and the humour. It was fantastic.

My strongest memory of Sussex is the summers, where we would sit in the fabulous campus with all that green. I know that now there are roads going through it, but it’s still beautiful. I have very happy memories of lazing and laughing in the sunshine.

The CV

Born
Colchester, Essex in 1956

Education
University of Sussex
London College of Printing (Radio Journalism)
The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania (Management Course)

Career
New York Radio Station WBAI, Radio Tees and Radio Aire, 1979-83
News Producer with BBC Radio Leeds, 1983
Reporter, Editor, Producer and Presenter at BBC Radio 4
Reporter on Brass Tacks, BBC2
Head of Business Programmes at the BBC, 1997
Head of Current Affairs at the BBC, 1998
Controller of BBC Radio 4, 2000
Controller of BBC7 (as well as Radio 4), 2002
Director of BBC News, 2004

Achievements
Sony Gold Award for File on 4 story on Aids in Africa (as reporter)
Sony Gold Award for File on 4 story on Bullying in Feltham Young Offenders Institute (as Editor)
First woman to be appointed Head of Current Affairs at the BBC
Sony Gold Award for Radio Station of the Year for Radio 4 two years running (2003 and 2004)
First female Director of News at the BBC
I wanted to do something that would involve serving the community in some way; something that would make a positive difference.

For as long as he can remember, Michael Fuller wanted to join the police force. ‘I’ve got pictures of me in police uniform at five or six years old, but I don’t think people thought I was very serious about it.’

The son of Jamaican parents who came to England in the 1950s, Michael was brought up in Sussex where his interest in the police force was encouraged by an officer attached to his school. ‘I always imagined being a policeman would be very exciting, but I also had this notion of service. I wanted to do something that would involve serving the community in some way; something that would make a positive difference.’

Serving the community has been the constant theme throughout Michael’s career. His ‘mission’ to engage local residents, especially in predominantly black neighbourhoods, and work closely with lay figures within those areas to help tackle violent and racial crime led to significant success in reducing these offences in London.

Leaving school at sixteen and a half with eight ‘O’ Levels, he joined the Metropolitan Police (Met) on a two-year cadet scheme, won a university scholarship and found himself at the University of Sussex reading social psychology. ‘I don’t think I’d given much thought to university and what university life would involve, or the value or need for it really. So, it was a fantastic opportunity and really broadened my horizons.’

But Michael’s horizons had already been broadened sharply by two years as a probationary officer in Fulham, London. ‘It was rather a shock to see a side of life I’d never seen before: people in quite hopeless social circumstances and conditions. So, when I went to Sussex I did get the impression that this was a privileged group of people. But the experience was invaluable, not least because I was exposed to very diverse views and opinions, which I could challenge – and have my own views challenged in the same way. It was no secret that I was in the police. I was on a scholarship, just as there were people on army and other scholarships.’

Although he rarely uses the words ‘black officer’, the two highlights of his career he mentions both concern specifically black issues.

The first came in 1994 when, as a uniformed officer, he set up the Black Police Association (BPA), ‘which managed to prevent the drift of (black) officers out of the Met. At the time there were more (black) officers leaving than joining so we set up what was really a support network.’ When he joined the Met there were only five other black officers in the force; there are now nearly 2,000 ethnic minority officers and the BPA has just celebrated its tenth anniversary.

That’s not to say that ethnic minority issues don’t continue to bubble up. Last year, when David Blunkett, the former Home Secretary, spoke to the National BPA conference, he emphasised the need for a more representative police force. Michael is not a supporter of positive action, which he feels can create resentment and possible backlash. He believes the best recruitment advert for anyone is that officers go about their daily work treating people fairly and decently. ‘You can do as much promotion and advertising as you want, but if people’s own direct experience of the police is a bad one, then, not surprisingly, they will not want to join.’

The second highlight of his career was being asked to lead Operation Trident, a special squad set up to target ‘black on black’ gun violence in London. He has long been an outspoken critic of the glamorisation of guns in music, film and television. At the time (late 1990s), black gun crime in London...
was threatening to escalate out of control: there were around 30 murders a year, the bulk of which were unsolved.

'The question was how we tackled the problem. My approach, and I was very keen on it despite considerable opposition, was that we should try and engage the communities themselves and ask their advice, not let the police become a paramilitary force with armed officers patrolling difficult areas of London.

'At the time there was a widespread feeling that no-one was interested; there were so many deaths of young black boys that even the media wasn't reporting them. I found that quite shocking. This was murder and no-one bothered to report it, particularly if it was drug related. So, part of the mission was creating awareness of the problems within both the black and white communities, then trying to understand what the incidents were all about. Once we had a good picture of the situation, we were able to tackle it. We got people coming forward as witnesses, we trebled our witness protection scheme and a lot of extremely dangerous people were locked up for life.

'The lasting legacy of this success was the greater confidence it gave the communities themselves and meant these people would help us calm things down when there was a tense or dangerous situation.'

The involvement with Trident came as a result of Michael's work with the Met following the McPherson Report into the Stephen Lawrence murder. He designed an action plan, part of which was setting up a task force to tackle racial and violent crime more effectively in the metropolitan area. He began to include lay people, influential in their communities, as advisors. 'I took people into my confidence, showed them some of the armed operations we organised and no-one betrayed the trust we placed in them. I'm proud to say that in the four years, I was arresting very dangerous, armed criminals; we didn't shoot any of them and none of my officers got hurt.'

Other initiatives came out of this work, all introduced to improve the response and approach to tackling racial and violent crime. 'One of the best was the development of family liaison. If we had a violent crime, there were police officers trained as liaison officers to work with the families of the victims. A major criticism in the Lawrence case was that there was very little police contact with the family. The family liaison system is now well established and has made a significant difference.

'Another policy we introduced, which was quite new to the Met at the time, was the reviewing of unsolved murder cases. Rather than accept that cases cannot be solved, we now review them at regular intervals to see whether there are new potential opportunities or leads.'

In all, Michael spent 27 years in the Met, where, as well as his success against racial and violent crime, he was credited with an innovative scheme to combat burglary. This was seen as a forerunner of the much-publicised Operation Bumblebee.

Now, as the recently appointed Chief Constable of Kent, Michael has responsibility for approximately 6,170 police officers and support staff in a front-line county for controlling immigration and terrorism.

'Immigration certainly put strains on local services and communities surrounding ports of entry, but greater dispersal of immigrants around the country has helped reduce this strain and resentment. Far more important now is the threat of terrorism. This is the highest priority challenge for all forces. Of course, the public focus is naturally on neighbourhood policing issues, to which I'm very committed, but I can never forget the terrorist threat.'

One issue currently exercising the Home Office is whether police services should be controlled locally or nationally. Michael believes that control should remain local. 'I'm very keen on the local force responding to local concerns. I think there is a danger, if you set up a national force, that local issues would be lost. The most satisfying part of my work is people saying to me – and I go out into the community one day each month – that we've made a difference to their neighbourhood, or sorted out a problem in their area. That is so pleasing.'

Policing today requires men and women with many specialist talents, but Michael's unshakable belief in community policing means he looks for qualities such as integrity in his officers. 'It may sound soft, but the need for caring and compassion is important because a lot of police work is dealing with people who are vulnerable, who are homeless or mentally ill. Police officers are often the first people who have to deal with those individuals.'

As a Chief Constable there is little free time, but the walls of his office are filled with diplomas. Alongside certificates from the University of Sussex, an MBA and a graduate Diploma in Law are two certificates from the Wine Society, so clearly there has been time for some outside activities. 'I don't have much spare time, but I do try and keep fit and make an effort to jog. I listen to all types of music and enjoy photography. I'm also interested in wine appreciation; I try to travel as much as I can and I continue to study.

'It's nice to look back and feel I don't regret any of the work I've done. I deliberately haven't got to the top as fast as I could have done and there are times when I've wondered whether I'd get any higher. But, for me, policing is about service, making a difference, improving people's quality of life, solving crimes, particularly when you catch those you know have made many people fearful. I've often thought what it might have been like if I'd been a lawyer or done something quite different. I look at friends and colleagues, some of whom have done very well materially, but I honestly don't think they could have had more job satisfaction than I've had.'
Meet the president

Roger Hylton

Roger Hylton (LAW 2001) is the current president of the University of Sussex Students’ Union (USSU). Originally from Jamaica, he is the first international student ever to make it to the presidency of the USSU.

What prompted your decision to run for president of the USSU?

My decision was wrapped up in the fact that my experiences at Sussex were of the highest order. I truly believe that university is much more than just going to lectures and seminars. Throughout my undergraduate years I was heavily involved in student representation and had an amazing time. The Students’ Union has a huge role to play in ensuring that students maximize their university experience. I felt that if I was elected president I would be well placed to contribute positively to this end.

As the mediator between the student body and the University’s management, what are the challenges you face?

I have always been of the view that there can never be too much communication. A healthy working relationship is essential and in maintaining this, communication between senior management and the Students’ Union has improved enormously. Perhaps even more difficult is for the Union to communicate with its members. Nonetheless, it is important to consult with the membership. I am a firm believer in consultative representation.

Sussex has a long history of student participation in political activism, but this doesn’t seem so evident today. Do you think students nowadays have less idealistic views?

The University opened in the early 1960s and to a great extent it was shaped and moulded by the political atmosphere that existed at the time. Demonstrations, the occupation of Sussex House and the huge role that students played in highlighting the injustices of the apartheid regime were all manifestations of the golden age of student participation in political activism.

I certainly do not think that students today have less idealistic views. What we are now seeing is attention focused on specific campaigns such as Deaths in Custody or Violence Against Women, as they feel that they are likely to be more effective. It is also important to note that student focus has now changed greatly from, say, a decade or two ago. At that time, student debt was virtually unheard of, thanks to grants. These days, more and more students are finding that they have to work, sometimes doing more hours than is recommended, to make ends meet. This automatically reduces the time that they have to dedicate to campaigning or activism. With the advent of top-up fees it is unlikely that this state of affairs will improve. If I were to point to one thing which shows that students are still very much idealistic and active, it would be the mass mobilisation of the student movement against top-up fees. The campaign was one of the most high profile of 2004 in both Parliament and the media.

After the presidency...what next?

When I finally leave Sussex I would like to continue my studies and become a lawyer. I would also like to go back to Jamaica to help out in whatever way I can. People in Jamaica are crying out for the opportunities that I have been blessed with.

For an unabridged version of the interview with Roger, please visit: www.sussex.ac.uk/alumni
Helping students emulate your successes

Every year, as their time at university draws to a close, finalists face the same dilemma, what next?

Now you can help Sussex students in their job search by joining the Sussex Contact Network (SCN), run by the Career Development and Employment Centre (CDEC) at the University. The SCN is an informal careers contact system that allows current students to benefit from the experience of Sussex alumni.

The SCN enables Sussex students to access the collective experience of Sussex graduates in the world of work and get an insider’s view of the realities of different careers. We have teachers, lawyers, television directors, journalists, social workers, clinical psychologists and many others ready to help. However, we are always looking for more members to join the SCN and help to improve the service that we can provide for our students.

There are a number of ways in which you can get involved. You can talk directly to individual students via email, offer work shadowing or speak to groups of students at events arranged by CDEC. If that’s not possible, there are many other ways in which you can share your experience and know-how with our students. For those of you who are already on the SCN database, please remember to keep us up to date with your activities.

If you are able to help, our SCN administrator, Pat Stanley, would love to hear from you. You can contact her on 01273 873379 or email: p.m.stanley@sussex.ac.uk

‘Let’s enrich each other with our mutual differences’ (Enrichissons-nous de nos différences mutuelles). These words by Paul Valéry perfectly express my approach to life.

If someone had told me during my time as a student at Sussex that I would work for the United Nations on the issue of protecting children’s rights, I would have smiled, thinking that it was just a dream.

In 2002, I joined the UN Office of the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, trying to make a difference to the lives of children in the most difficult situations.

Indeed, I believe that my days at Sussex were my trampolino di lancio. It was then that I started getting involved in human rights and international relations. I will always be grateful to Sussex for helping me build confidence in my dreams and to develop an extraordinary network of friends, who have remained close and have become good professional contacts worldwide.

Prior to joining the UN, I worked for the European Commission in Brussels, involved in the European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights, an experience that took me to Mongolia, Moldova, Belarus, Ukraine and Russia – as remote as Siberia – to supervise projects on the promotion of human rights, rule of law and democracy.

The first steps of my professional career were with various European NGOs, including the European Human Rights Foundation, working on issues such as the sexual exploitation and trafficking of children. The work I conducted in those years resulted in the publication of two books on children’s rights.

So what would I like to do next? My dreams are to write a book about different cultures and become a professor on human rights and international organisations (maybe even a professor at Sussex?), and, most of all, to continue my efforts to help build a better world for children.
A new age of empire?

Saul Dubow is Professor of History at the University of Sussex. An expert on the history of modern South Africa, he has published extensively on the development of racial segregation and apartheid in all its aspects: political, ideological, and intellectual. Currently the holder of a prestigious British Academy Research Readership, Professor Dubow has special interests in the history of race and national identity, as well as the nature of imperialism and colonial science. Using the British and North American examples as cases in point, in ‘A new age of empire?’ he explores the concept of ‘new’ imperialism, by drawing meaningful parallels between past and present forms of invasion.
After a period in abeyance, the invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq have forced the question of imperialism to the surface and the word now appears constantly in editorial columns, books and in public debate. There seems to be a growing consensus that the start of the 21st century marks the triumph of American imperialism. Those who denounce American imperialism as the embodiment of global oppression and injustice are angrier and more vocal than ever. But there are others who seek to defend American hegemony, arguing from a variety of positions that the spread of western institutions and cultural values is essential for the maintenance of international order and civilised values. Powerful neo-conservatives, like the signatories to the ‘Project for the New American Century’ are especially enamoured of this position.

In less hawkish tones, writers and historians like Michael Ignatieff and Niall Ferguson, argue in favour of a ‘liberal’ American-led empire which, they claim, will help to secure humanitarian objectives and provide the chaotic forces of globalisation with political ballast. According to this view, the problem with America is that it is not an imperial power; but that it is not imperial enough. In his book Empire (2003), Ferguson considers Britain’s imperial experience in this light. The British empire, he argues, was largely benevolent and it contains instructive lessons for the future. Is he right?

Our analysis of empire depends, to a large extent, upon what we mean by it. In Britain, the idea of empire used to apply to the United Kingdom. Imperialism was frowned upon on account of its association with strutting continental dictators, contempt for liberty, and lust for military glory. The regime of Louis Bonaparte was especially disparaged for these reasons. The word ‘imperialism’ came to be used more favourably from the 1870s when the term ‘jingo’ was coined. However, the view that Britain was not by nature or tradition an imperial power persisted.

In 1883, as the scramble for Africa gained momentum, the Oxford historian J R Seeley sought to remind the country of the extent of its colonial possessions. The British, he joked, seemed to have ‘conquered and peopled the world in a fit of absence of mind.’ It was surely time to wake up to the responsibilities and possibilities of a ‘Greater Britain’, embodying progress and moral purpose. A British empire would also help to secure the victory of civilisation, liberty and free institutions over despotism and backwardness.

By the 1890s, imperialism had been increasingly adopted by British politicians as a badge of honour and Liberals, like Rosebery, were proud to call themselves imperialists. Thus, in the space of 20 years the word had changed from a term of condemnation to one of approbation. It was at this time that the word ‘imperialism’ also began to acquire a new, economic meaning. During the 1898 Spanish-American War, the editor of a small newspaper, the United States Investor, announced his sudden conversion to the cause of ‘imperialism’, arguing that war served to stimulate business by opening up new fields for investment, trade and government contracts.

A year later, the Anglo-Boer (or South African War) broke out. Political radicals, like the journalist and economist J A Hobson, advanced the view that the conflict arose because of the machinations of a clique of financiers and politicians who sought to gain control of the fabulous gold riches of the Transvaal. Far from being fought in the interests of all Britons, Hobson maintained that the war benefited the class and institutional interests of only a tiny minority, who were able to disguise their self-interest by appeals to jingoism and patriotism. Hobson’s analysis of the economic dimensions of imperialism was taken up by Lenin who pronounced, in a famous tract published in 1916, that imperialism was the ‘highest stage of capitalism.’

These arguments about imperialism, developed a century ago and more, have compelling contemporary resonance. Aware of the long shadow of history, some writers look to the Suez crisis (1956) for analogies or further back in time to the occupation of Egypt and the Sudan. Somewhat overlooked is the South African War of 1899-1902, which presents some remarkable parallels with the present.

Historical explanations about the origins of the conflict in South Africa remain deeply contested. Although the majority of historians would now agree that the desire to control the Transvaal’s gold supplies may not provide sufficient explanation for the war’s outbreak, it is unlikely that the costly and protracted battle to overthrow Kruger would have occurred had Kruger’s republic not been rich in gold. Arguing by analogy, it is plausible to claim that, while the presence of vast quantities of oil is not the sole or the determining reason for the current conflict in Iraq, without it Saddam Hussein may not have been judged worth toppling.

Ignoring the manifold differences in these two cases, there are several ways in which the South African War reminds us of Iraq today. The long and bitter guerilla war that followed the capture of Pretoria is one similar feature. Also familiar from that conflict are: the international outcry that it sparked, the denouncements of ‘capitalist-imperialism’ it evoked, and the deep
divisions that emerged in British political opinion – as seen, for example, in the ‘Khaki election’ of 1900.

Those who agitated for the war, including Cecil Rhodes, Lord Milner and Joseph Chamberlain, were driven by a conviction that empire was necessary for the health and welfare of the nation. Far from being mere visceral reactionaries, as is sometimes argued, they were also calculating modernisers, often idealists, who relished the opportunity to reform the British nation. They believed that Britain was destined to bring good government, economic progress and sound institutions to the rest of the world. One might even call them the ‘Neo Cons’ of their day.

Many historians would agree that the South African War marked the apogee of Britain’s pretensions to global dominance. Almost half a century was to elapse before the independence of India, in 1947, set in train a broader process of decolonisation. Only time will tell whether the invasions of Iraq and Afghanistan mark the high point of American global influence, or the start of a new phase in America’s world-wide projection of power.

One important difference between Britain and America is that Britain’s empire was largely about the acquisition and control of colonies, whereas American imperialism is directed more towards extending its global reach in economic and military terms. Whereas some would argue that this distinction is merely one of degree, there is good reason to think it is more fundamental.

Writers like Niall Ferguson are inclined to argue that America should wake up to its imperial responsibilities by learning from the British example. The principle of indirect rule, which involved administration through local intermediaries (meaning that the Indian Civil Service consisted of a core of about 1,000 officers), is often mentioned. Robert Nye argues in similar fashion that America should practise ‘soft power’ based on gentle persuasion and influence, rather than outright force. Journalists thinking along these lines often compare the relatively low-key British occupation of southern Iraq with America’s bludgeoning approach in other parts of the country.

Such arguments, however, rely on a large dose of wishful thinking. For one thing, the British empire was not nearly as benign as Ferguson suggests. He ends his latest entreaty, Colossus (2004) with wistful quotes from Kipling’s idea of the ‘White Man’s Burden’. And, although he covers himself by saying that such archaic language may not be appropriate for the building of a 21st century liberal American empire, this appears as an afterthought.

The durability of British imperialism had much to do with its appreciation of the power of what were termed ‘traditional societies’ and, indeed, the capacity of the colonial state to manipulate such knowledge to its advantage. Yet, Ferguson ignores the fact that indirect rule dissolved as a direct consequence of the modernity that he so fulsomely welcomes. Industrialisation, urbanisation and market-based relations created the very conditions within which modern mass nationalism could flourish. Ferguson fails to appreciate this because his view of empire remains entirely metro-centric: it is a perspective that allows him to avoid any consideration of the internal dynamics of what he and others so glibly dismiss as the Third World’s ‘failed states’.

The structural differences in the dynamics of British and American imperialism are profound. And one of the key ingredients for colonial-style empires has gone forever: the existence of intricate social hierarchies, with their supporting cultural tissue of deference and paternalism. It was this that allowed the British to imagine their empire as a vast feudal estate, facilitating colonial officers’ interaction with, and understanding of, parallel elites in the societies they governed. Plainly, such relations no longer pertain in an age of democratic expectations, global consumerism and nationalist assertion. The social and ideological conditions of cocked hats and plumes are over; the mystique of power and position has forever been eroded. Empire, in any of the traditional senses in which it is understood, is unlikely to return.
The Sussex Fund
Investing in the future

The Sussex Fund is one of the key ways in which the University raises funds to support student scholarships, hardship bursaries, library acquisitions, improvements to campus and support for student activities. Your generosity can help us maintain excellence, attract the best students and enhance their teaching and learning environment.

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Development and Alumni Relations, University of Sussex,
Bramber House, Freepost (BR 380), Brighton BN1 1ZZ
Dangoor Scholarships

The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sussex, Professor Alasdair Smith, is the Chairman of the 1994 Group of universities, of which Sussex is a member. As a result, staff at the University took the lead in discussions with Naim Dangoor and his family to secure a £1 million donation aimed at helping 1,000 students from the 1994 Group through their first year at university.

Mr Dangoor has provided this generous donation to be given as £1,000 scholarships to the most talented students in the country. He sees the scholarships as offering the opportunity for some of the best students to realise their full potential, and feels that support of this kind can help to transform people’s lives and the life of the country. It is Mr Dangoor’s hope that his donation will encourage others who can provide similar support.

Naim Dangoor, a 90-year-old multimillionaire Iraqi Jew, came to the UK as a student from Iraq 70 years ago to study engineering. Although he returned to Iraq after his studies, Mr Dangoor and his family were forced to return to the UK after the Ba’ath party took control of Iraq in the 1960s. The warm welcome he received as a student and later on when he and his family settled in the UK are the main motivating factors behind his generous gift.

The Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Alasdair Smith, welcomed the new scheme. ‘This truly generous donation from Naim Dangoor will be of enormous help to talented students contemplating a university education. The 1994 Group is well placed to ensure that this money reaches those students who would most benefit, enabling them to take up places at institutions with proven excellence in both research and teaching across the UK.’

Teacher training at Sussex

Teacher training at Sussex has received a boost thanks to a generous grant from the Gatsby Charitable Foundation, which was awarded to the School of Education. The initiative, which will be known as the InSTEP project, will bring excellent teaching practice to a wide audience of trainees, experienced teachers and other professionals.
Running the world

Kate Charles (AFRAS 1993) is about to become the first British woman to have run a marathon (26.2 miles) on all seven continents.

When Kate started running in 2002 as a way of keeping fit, she didn’t imagine that it would lead her around the world, boost her confidence and open her mind to endless possibilities. Leaving her job and home to complete the challenge, she has travelled around the world, training in extreme conditions and running in widely varying terrain. Diving in at the deep end, Kate’s first marathon – the Kenya Safaricom – has a reputation for being one of the 10 toughest marathons in the world. It is run over the dirt tracks of a game reserve and is held at 5,500 feet, often in temperatures reaching 30°C.

Five months later, Kate ran the Costa Pacifico marathon in Chile. Running a dismal route past chemical factories and heavy traffic, she suffered from severe dehydration, muscle fatigue and a dented confidence. However, determined to continue, she headed off to Tromsø, Norway, the most northerly city in the world. Despite cold winds and rain, the support from the crowds helped her finish the Midnight Sun marathon in a personal best time.

From the Arctic Circle, to one of the hottest places on earth: Death Valley, California, then onto Sydney, to run in marathon number five. She managed to beat her best time once again and then spent some time training in the sweltering heat of Cairns for the Bangkok International marathon.

Having survived the heat of Asia, Kate is off to tackle her final challenge, the Antarctica marathon, and aims to be back in the UK in March 2005.

Without any backup, advice or access to the latest technologies, Kate has been relying on sheer determination, positive mental attitude and support from family and friends to achieve her goals and also to raise money for a children’s hospice, Demelza House.

Sussex merchandise online

Ever felt nostalgic for campus days, or felt the urge to have a little reminder of Sussex? For most people, dropping in at the Students’ Union shop to pick up a Sussex t-shirt isn’t exactly an option. So, in the spring of 2005 the University is launching an online merchandise store, where you will find a wide range of memorabilia, from pens and umbrellas to executive gifts and Edinburgh crystal. For further details, keep an eye on Sussex’s website at: www.sussex.ac.uk

Alumni Host programme launched

This year the Development and Alumni Relations Office have launched the Alumni Host programme. The new initiative is aimed at bringing together international students and local alumni and friends of the University who welcome students to their homes for a short visit.

Sussex is truly an international community, with over 25 per cent of our students coming from different corners of the world. For international students it can sometimes take a lot of courage to make the effort to become immersed in a new culture in a new country, but those who do invariably gain a new international perspective and a better understanding of the people and country in which they have chosen to study. They develop a greater feeling of belonging and have memorable experiences to take away with them.

We felt that many international students would welcome the opportunity to engage with local residents, to experience the British way of life, practise their English and make friends outside of the University environment. Who better to ask, than local Sussex graduates and friends of Sussex?

The response from both alumni and students has been extremely high. Thanks to the enthusiasm and support of many local alumni and friends of Sussex, we were quickly able to create a network of volunteers willing to share some time with students, by showing them the ropes in Brighton and Hove, providing a home cooked meal in a family environment, or simply meeting for a coffee and a chat.

Hosts and students were able to meet each other at an informal reception held in November to celebrate the launch of the programme. The event, hosted by the Vice-Chancellor, was also a way of showing the University’s appreciation for the warmth alumni have shown towards the idea and their willingness to make a difference.

We hope the programme will become a permanent opportunity for both international students, alumni and friends of the University. If you would like any further information on the programme, or would like to be involved, please contact Mikaela Fenton-Jones at: m.fenton-jones@sussex.ac.uk
A decade of development in Uganda

The Rwenzori Development Foundation started life as a Students’ Union society. Ten years on, Dylan Mathews (CCS 1993) reflects on the legacy of a few Sussex students’ dedication and commitment to Uganda.

As 2004 drew to a close, a small group of Sussex graduates had cause to celebrate an anniversary of a different kind. A decade ago a handful of students set about establishing a Students’ Union society with a barely pronounceable name in order to assist disadvantaged communities in a seldom-visited area of western Uganda. Ten years on and the organisation is now a dynamic and growing charity raising thousands of pounds for various projects in Uganda, ranging from building school libraries to supporting environmental conservation projects.

The circumstances that brought these students, myself included, to work in this fantastically beautiful country date back to 1992. I was part of an expedition to climb the highest peak in Uganda’s Rwenzori Mountains, the fabled Mountains of the Moon, close to where the famous mountain gorillas seek refuge. The country, with its lush tropical vegetation and stunning landscapes, was captivating, exotic, and its people open hearted and welcoming. It was also desperately poor, languishing very close to the bottom in the United Nations Human Development Index, which ranks countries according to variables such as literacy, child mortality, poverty and access to health care. Despite these huge problems, and having recently emerged from the horrors of Idi Amin’s rule, Uganda was brimming with potential. I vowed to return at the earliest possible opportunity and Sussex provided me with just that chance.

With a start-up grant of £200 from the University of Sussex Students’ Union (USSU), the Rwenzori Project was born. After a few badly designed posters featuring rather dubious claims (raising money for charity does wonders for your sex life), over 40 enthusiastic students had signed up to dedicate a year of their time to help raise money for educational and environmental projects in Uganda, and for the chance to visit the country. After a year of relentless fundraising, involving parachute jumps, club nights, street collections, cultural evenings and a selection of sponsored events including a pub crawl (not particularly challenging), a survival weekend (extremely challenging), and solitary confinement (a little odd), over £20,000 had been raised and a core team of 12 people were packing their bags and on their way to Uganda.

Whilst in Uganda, we spent time in local schools, helping renovate classrooms that had been badly neglected over the years, and delivering books and science equipment that had been bought using money raised during the year. In the Rwenzori Mountains, we spent almost a month working at 13,000 feet with local rangers and National Park staff to re-route a tourist trail that was destroying a very ecologically sensitive part of the National Park. In the south west of the country we spent time with a local couple, John and Alice Tumusiime, who have been working tirelessly to provide food, education, shelter and training to many of the children orphaned by the AIDS epidemic that spread throughout the country in the 1980s. Their vibrant and unique primary school has places for 750 children, 350 of which are offered free to orphans from the town and surrounding rural area. The income from the fee-paying children subsidises the free places for the orphans. Not only does this ensure that a good education is accessible to all, but it also allows the orphans to feel part of the community again, by enabling them to mix with children from the town, thus breaking down the taboos associated with AIDS.

These experiences had a great impact on members of the group. Returning back home we decided to establish the Rwenzori Development Foundation as a registered charity and we have not looked back since. Nearly all of the original members of the University of
Sussex group are still involved in one way or another, and many of them are now trustees of the charity. Entirely run by volunteers, and with most of the administrative costs covered by trustees, almost every penny donated to the charity goes straight to our work in Uganda – something of which we are justifiably proud. Of course, all of this would not have been possible without the support of countless people at Sussex, including the hundreds of students who were roped into supporting the charity in some way, many of whom are now regular donors.

Too often, Africa’s horror stories fill the front pages of the world’s newspapers. One could be forgiven for thinking that nothing positive ever happens on the continent; that it is truly wretched, or as The Economist famously noted on a front cover recently, that it is ‘the hopeless continent’. As students visiting Uganda 10 years ago we discovered the flipside to that story: a country desperately poor, but nevertheless extremely positive. Ten years later, and there is still much to be done, in just one small part of the country. But thanks to the University of Sussex, there is a group of dedicated people willing to do what they can to help.

For more information about the Rwenzori Development Foundation, please visit: www.rwenzori.org

In Memoriam

The University regrets to report the death of the following people and extends its sympathy to their family and friends

**Staff**

Joan Astill (CCS 1985)
Operations and Resources Officer HUMS

Professor Colin Eaborn
Emeritus Professor of Chemistry

Drew Garland-Jones
Lecturer in Computer Music

Dr Geoffrey Hemstedt
Senior Lecturer in English

**Alumni**

Peter Bull
(USIE 1994)

Steven Connor
(CPES 1997)

Gregory Davies
(SOC 1965)

David Huddie
(COGS 1999)

Peter J Johnson
(BIOLS 1974)

Penelope Pardoe
(EURO 1980)

Sarah Jane Parkinson
(EURO 1980)

Jorge del Rio Fernández
(EURO 1992)

Philip Robinson
(SOC 1967)

Peter le Saux
(SOC 1991)

Christopher Silvanus-Davis
(COGS 1996)

Colin Taylor
(SCIENCE 1979)

Dominic Weaver
(ENGAM 1975)

Correction: We would like to apologise for the misspelling of Bob Copper’s name in the last issue of Falmer

In response to suggestions from readers, we have now included submitted obituaries online at: www.sussex.ac.uk/alumni

A fresh new look for the ‘Alumni and Friends’ website

Have you visited the University of Sussex website lately? Last summer, Sussex’s website was given a new look to reflect the University’s new visual identity and to improve ease of usage and accessibility. As part of these changes, the old Alumni website has been restructured and redesigned as the Alumni and Friends section of the main University site.

In the Alumni Questionnaire 2004, one of the most requested uses of the website was to provide the ability to trace lost friends from Sussex. In our ‘Keep in touch’ section you can search for your contemporaries and find out what they are doing now. Don’t forget to add your details to the directory too. There is also a new interactive world map to keep you up to date with international alumni network groups and activities.

News and events relevant to Sussex alumni and friends are kept up to date, and contributions are always welcome. We are also working on expanding our current list of prominent Sussex graduates in the ‘Notable alumni’ section, and hope to include more of those who have achieved particular success in fields such as science, business and academia. If you know of any alumni who you feel deserve to be included in this section, please let us know.

The new ‘Supporting Sussex’ section enables you to find out more about the work of the Development and Alumni Relations Office and ways in which you can help future Sussex students.

We hope you will take the time to browse the site. www.sussex.ac.uk/alumni
Events and reunions

A trip down memory lane
In September 2004, close to 100 former students from as far afield as the USA, Nigeria and Turkey returned to Sussex for a weekend of fun and nostalgia to celebrate their 25th Anniversary Reunion.

As graduates arrived at the Meeting House, a display of old photographs and memorabilia brought back many memories of life at Sussex and reminded everyone of occupations, anti-Thatcher marches and a protest involving tomatoes, eggs and Dr David Owen MP. After the traditional reunion photograph, a tour of the campus led by current undergraduates enabled alumni to see the many changes to the landscape of the campus since their student years.

This was followed by a plenary discussion about the student experience then and now. Members of the panel included academics, the president of the Students’ Union, and the Vice-Chancellor, who chaired the discussion.

Conversation and reminiscences continued to flow as alumni retired to the Grapevine Bar. Prior to dinner, the Vice-Chancellor welcomed everyone back to Sussex and updated them on the latest developments at the University.

The rest of the evening was spent dancing the night away to a string of 70s and 80s hits. On Sunday morning some people took advantage of the autumn sunshine to enjoy a gentle stroll, or a more energetic jog, round the campus. Later, everyone gradually drifted off home, with memories refreshed and new experiences to add to their storehouse of Sussex reminiscences.

The Japanese Alumni Society has, as usual, been extremely supportive of Sussex’s recruitment efforts, organising orientation sessions, as well as working closely with colleagues in the International and Study Abroad Office. Alumni in Malaysia, China, Thailand, Mexico, Brazil and India have also been very active.

The Swiss Alumni Group held its annual dinner in Basel in November, which was attended by alumni from across the borders in France and Germany, as well as those in Switzerland. Representing the University was guest of honour Neil Gershon, then Registrar and Secretary, who briefed them about the latest developments at Sussex. Plans are already afoot for next year’s dinner and other events throughout the year.

If you haven’t received an invitation to the events taking place in your area, and would like to be involved, please contact the Development and Alumni Relations team at alumni@sussex.ac.uk or check the “Networks and contact groups” section of our website for information on your country: www.sussex.ac.uk/alumnidirectory

If there isn’t yet an alumni group in your country and you would like to set one up, please email us at the above address.

In the UK, there are also plenty of opportunities for alumni to remain in touch with the University and each other. The Careers Development and Employment Centre (CDEC) at the University welcomes the participation of alumni to give workshadowing opportunities and careers advice to current students and recent graduates. Many alumni from various professions have already been supporting CDEC by giving inspiring career talks to students. Local alumni have also been giving up their time to give international students an insight to the British way of life through the new Alumni Host programme.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers in the alumni community for providing unflagging enthusiasm and support, and for keeping the Sussex spirit alive around the world.

Sussex Events
A varied programme of Professorial Lectures is held throughout the academic year on the Sussex campus. Demonstrating the high quality and innovation of research being conducted at the University, these lectures are free and open to all.

The latest initiative to showcase Sussex expertise is an annual lecture to be held in London. The inaugural University of Sussex Lecture, to be held on 17 March 2005, will be given by Professor Jonathan Cohen, the Dean of the Brighton and Sussex Medical School. The lecture, entitled ‘The leopard changes its spots: from childbed fever to flesh eating bacteria’, will take place the Royal Society. Further information about lectures and events can be found on the Alumni and Friends website at: www.sussex.ac.uk/alumninews

25th Anniversary Reunion
17 and 18 September 2005
1980 Freshers
Were you a fresher in 1980? If so, this is your chance to get together with old friends and reminisce about your student days at Sussex.

We are planning a packed programme for the reunion weekend and we hope you will join us for an entertaining trip down memory lane. Alumni from the same era, but from other intakes, are also very welcome to attend.

If you are interested in coming, please email: s.j.hepburn@sussex.ac.uk with your current contact details so we can ensure you are on the list to receive information about the reunion.

Alumni Events
Alumni activity overseas continues to go from strength to strength. The last few months have seen a number of gatherings taking place around the world and excellent support has been given to University staff working at the overseas education fairs.

The Cypriot Alumni Group organised an informal orientation session for students about to embark on their studies at Sussex. The event proved a fantastic opportunity for them not only to meet and exchange ideas with alumni and current students, but also to form an immediate network of Sussex friends.

Alumni Relations
Sussex People

Your favourite pages: who is doing what and where?

60s

Angus Calder (ARTS 1963) has had three books published in the last year. Gods, Mongrels and Demons: 101 Brief but Essential Lives came out from Bloomsbury in November 2003. This celebrates strange and deviant personalities; various gods and saints, poets, musicians, sportsmen, etc. Dipa’s Bowl, published by Aark Arts, is his fourth collection of poetry. Disasters and Heroes: On War, Memory and Representation is a collection of essays concerned with commemoration and the arts.

Congratulations to Sir Robert Wilson KCMG (SOC 1963) who received an honorary degree from the University of Sussex in July 2004. Sir Robert has enjoyed considerable success as one of the UK’s top businessmen and is particularly recognised for the pioneering work he has championed in the field of corporate social responsibility.

John Barclay (CCS 1965) is trying to add environmentally friendly building skills to his repertoire and is preparing to travel in search of old friends in Europe and Asia. He is interested in finding a community to live and work in, which is developing a sustainable way of life and is involved in developing non-violent means of resolving conflicts.

Ian Birksted (SOC 1966), who writes under his Danish name Jan, is a Visiting Fellow at Cambridge University and teaches at The Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL. His last publication is a study of the art and architecture of the museum La Fondation Maeght in Saint-Paul de Vence (Modernism and the Mediterranean, Ashgate Publishing, 2004).

Pramesh Kapoor (SCIENCE 1966) has been given the SS Sandhu award of the Indian Chemical Society. He is currently a visiting professor in the Chemistry Department of the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

John Alan Lee (SOC 1967) has completed his final publication, his autobiography. Instead of print, it can be found on the internet at: www.johnalanlee.ca

Love’s Gay Fool is the story of a Canadian orphan who became a trades union officer, a journalist, an activist for gay liberation, then went back to school at 37, finally becoming a professor.

John Altman (ENGAM 1968) is living and working mainly in Los Angeles. He has recently completed composing work on the Richard Gere/Jennifer Lopez film Shall We Dance, and has just released a jazz quartet album.

Gary Kramer (MOLS 1968, CPES 1973) has recently been elected to the International Radiation Protection Association Executive Council for an eight-year term. He is still doing underlying research in ‘In Vivo’ monitoring (measuring radiation in people) and also expanding his responsibilities in counter-terrorism.

After several years running her own independent production company in Luxembourg and producing mainly documentaries, Lynne Polack (CCS 1969) is now living in Geneva, working full-time in the European Broadcasting Union. She is co-ordinating co-productions between public service broadcasters and organising the activities of the EBU Documentary Group, which groups over 50 commissioning editors from member broadcasters in the documentary field.

70s

Philip Gross (CCS 1970) has left Bath Spa University College, where he worked for the past twelve years, to become Professor in Creative Writing at the University of Glamorgan. Last year saw the publication of two more books, Margin Aliens, a children’s novel from Oxford University Press, and the poetry collection Mappa Mundi (Bloodaxe Books).


Dana Birksted-Breen (ARTS 1972) is now a Fellow of the London Institute of Psychoanalysis and the Editor of The New Library of Psychoanalysis.

Arturo Hoyos Phillips (ARTS 1973) served as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in Panama for six years, the longest tenure in the country’s history. He has also taught at the University of Panama and other Latin American institutions, as well as publishing extensively in the field of law in the region.
70s  Maria Jastrzebska (CCS 1973) is currently living in Hove and has recently had her new collection of poetry published by Redbeck Press. Syrena explores themes of family, sexuality, displacement and belonging. According to legend, Syrena is a fighting mermaid with a shield and sword who guards the city of Warsaw, where Maria was born.

70s  Chris Hale (ENGAM 1975) has had a successful career in television production and recently published his first non-fiction book, *Himmler’s Crusade*, which is, in broad terms, about the science of the Third Reich. He is now considering doing more academic work.

70s  Jane Root (ENGAM 1976) recently became Executive Vice-President of Discovery Networks. Prior to this she was Controller of BBC2.

70s  Marek Kohn (BIOLS 1976) has recently had his fifth book published; *A Reason for Everything: Natural Selection and the English Imagination*. He came to think of it as his ‘Sussex book’, largely due to one of the biographical subjects, John Maynard Smith, ‘whose approach to nature – with delight, curiosity, due modesty and a sense of humour – was the spirit of BIOLS.’

70s  Congratulations to Alexandra Shulman (AFRAS 1977), editor of British Vogue since 1992, whose work was recognised in the New Year Honours List with the award of an OBE.

70s  Catherine Mayer (EURO 1978) is currently the UK and Ireland correspondent for FOCUS, president of the Foreign Press Association and co-ordinator of the German section of the Commission for Africa launched by Blair, Brown, Geldof, et al. She also appears regularly on the BBC and other media and is a series consultant to the BBC.

70s  Congratulations to Michael Fuller (AFRAS 1978) who was awarded an Honorary degree at the University of Sussex at the July 2004 graduation ceremony. Michael took up his most recent appointment as Chief Constable of the Kent Constabulary in January 2004. Please see pages 08 and 09 for a full interview.

70s  Emma Shitakha (SOC 1979) joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kenya in 1984 and was posted to New York in 1988. She was then offered a job with a UN peacekeeping operation and worked for 3 years in the former Yugoslavia. Her major achievement has been creating the Kosovo mission (UNMIK), but this took a toll on her health, from which she is still recovering.

70s  Victoria Field (BIOLS 1981) has almost completed training as a Poetry Therapist and her first full-length poetry collection, *Olga’s Dreams*, has been published by the Cornish-based publisher, fal: www.falpublications.co.uk


80s  After completing her DPhil at Sussex in 1995, Catherine Moriarty (ARTS 1988, CCS 1990) became the Curator of Brighton University’s Design History Research Centre Archives. Her most recent publication is *The Sculpture of Gilbert Ledward*, for the Henry Moore Foundation in association with Lund Humphries, a research monograph in the Foundation’s British Sculptors and Sculpture series.

80s  Since leaving Sussex, Martha Roberts (EAM 1989) has worked for national newspapers, magazines and websites as a health writer and editor. She won the Medical Journalists’ Association health writer of the year award in 2003 and has co-written, with Nicki Waterman, *Sugar Addicts’ Diet*, published by HarperCollins in December 2004. For more information, visit: www.martharoberts.co.uk

80s  Singer songwriter Léanie Kaleido (ENGAM 1989) is releasing an album in the early part of 2005. Her debut, *Karamélien*, is currently being remixed and will be released on the DJC label. Further information is available at: www.leanie.com

80s  After completing his MA at Sussex, Carlos A Rossi (ARTS 1989) went back to his home country Venezuela to work in international finance and diplomacy. He occupied the post of Commercial Attachée in Washington and for the past seven years has been an economic consultant. He recently published a book entitled *The Fall and Rise of Latin America*. 
90s

2004 has seen the publication of two new books by author Jim Drury (SOC SCI 1990), Ian Dury and the Blockheads: Song by Song and Squeeze: Song by Song. In his latest book, Jim uncovers the stories behind the band’s 12 albums, with singer/songwriters Glenn Tilbrook and Chris Difford.

After graduating, Christian Doyle (EURO 1992) did a postgraduate course at Central St. Martin’s in Professional Photography. Her work is displayed at a number of public institutions and she has a permanent exhibition at The Royal Shakespeare Company’s Swan Theatre. Christian was listed amongst the ‘Best Wedding Photographers’ by the magazine Country Living in June 2004.

Since graduation, Gabriel Simons (CLS/EURO 1994) has attended law school, spent three years working for J P Morgan and studied at the People’s University of China. He is currently running a business consultancy between the UK and China. Gabriel is interested in setting up an online forum for Chinese Sussex alumni.

The PhD that Cornel Sandvoss (CULCOM 1995) started at Sussex has recently been published by Routledge with the title A Game of Two Halves - Football, Television and Globalisation. He currently teaches Television Studies at De Montfort University and is working on a book.

Robert Odhams (BIOLS 1996) is currently the Marketing Manager of CV Trumpet, a company with a CV distribution system that matches job hunters to recruiters on a range of criteria, thus getting the job seeker’s CV known to the right people with minimal effort. For more information visit: www.cvtrumpet.co.uk

Congratulations to Emilio Medina-Smith (ECONOMICS 1997) who has been awarded the prestigious 2004 Ernesto Peltzer Prize for his article entitled ‘Capital flight in Venezuela 1950-99.’ This award is given in Venezuela for outstanding research in the field of economics. He would like to credit his DPhil supervisor, Professor Michael Sumner, and the University of Sussex, for giving him the motivation and providing the environment to develop fully the research he envisaged.

After graduating, Robert Nemeth (EIT 1998) did a postgraduate course at Central St. Martin’s in Professional Photography. Her work is displayed at a number of public institutions and she has a permanent exhibition at The Royal Shakespeare Company’s Swan Theatre. Christian was listed amongst the ‘Best Wedding Photographers’ by the magazine Country Living in June 2004.

Having returned from a year working with autistic children in Kenya, Jonathan Gilmurray (English 2000) has begun a second degree at Anglia Polytechnic University, this time in Creative Music Sound Technology.

Mads Aarøe Mathiesen (SOCCUL 2001) has been awarded a fellowship in the US Congress. He will be working for Congressman Tom Lantos, who is the ranking Democratic member of the House International Relations Committee and co-chair of the Human Rights Caucus. Mads will be working on human rights and foreign policy issues whilst based on Capitol Hill.

Having completed her postgraduate studies in Human Rights at Sussex, Emmi Hypponen (SOCCUL 2001), from Finland, is currently working with a rural women’s NGO in Chipata, Zambia, as an advisor to the legal education programme.

After completing her LLM, Mercedes Martin Sepúlveda (SLS 2002) went back to her native Spain with John Kernis (HUMS 2002) from the US. They met at Sussex whilst studying, got married last summer in Spain, and moved to Taiwan in October 2004. The dissertation Mercedes wrote while at Sussex has been published in the Spanish leading law journal Aranzadi.

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After graduating, Robert Nemeth (EIT 1998) started his own property company and became involved in the local business community. Out of the blue, he was offered the job as assistant to the Hove and Portslade Conservative Parliamentary Candidate, Nicholas Boles, and is now thoroughly enjoying the varied work.

Sophie Reilly (EURO 1998) has co-directed, produced and edited a short film, Sex, Lives, and Aptitude, which challenges society’s negative assumptions about disabled people achieving their aspirations. The concept of the film was created and developed by Sophie and Hayriye Mehmet, two young disabled women working in a team with Sussex service providers.

Zein Williams (AFRAS 1998) manages a charity that raises funds to help disavantaged children and teenagers in Nepal through healthcare and education.

Emilio Medina-Smith (ECONOMICS 1997) has been awarded the prestigious 2004 Ernesto Peltzer Prize for his article entitled ‘Capital flight in Venezuela 1950-99.’ This award is given in Venezuela for outstanding research in the field of economics. He would like to credit his DPhil supervisor, Professor Michael Sumner, and the University of Sussex, for giving him the motivation and providing the environment to develop fully the research he envisaged.

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Memories of Sussex

In the Alumni Questionnaire 2004, we asked to hear about your strongest memories of your time at Sussex. They have been interesting to read, so we thought we would share just a few of the thousands we received.

‘Cider at one shilling (and its consequences!).’
Peter Rusling (MAPS 1964)

‘For once in my life I was exactly where I wanted to be, doing exactly what I wanted to be doing.’
Linda Hamilton née Place (ENGAM 1967)

‘Rather than a single memory, I look upon my five years at Sussex as my launch pad.’
Richard Maynard (ARTS 1974)

‘The feature of university life which most inspired me at the outset of my undergraduate career was the realisation that the people who were teaching me were real scientists who had, themselves, contributed directly through their research activities to the subject they were teaching.’
Philip Rea (BIOLS 1978)

‘A curious mixture of feeling very free and very safe.’
Stéphane Goldstein (EURO 1978)

‘The Crypt’
Jennifer Spencer (MOLS 1980)

‘The view of the University from the window above the library entrance and the sound of “silence” or sound of “knowledge” from behind.’
Sinan Yerli (Physics and Astronomy 1994)

‘Library square: always very lively, especially with the dissertation run.’
Kim Sanders (AFRAS 1999)

Message Board

Alumni listed below can be contacted via the Development and Alumni Relations Office at: alumni@sussex.ac.uk

Thomas Kennedy (SCIENCE 1965) is still trying to locate John Duncan, graduate of 1968.

Mark Turner (CCS 1979) is now living in Devon and would love to hear from any old friends from the University of Sussex.

David Young (ARTS 1982) would be very interested to find out what his former student colleagues are up to today.

Jenny McGinley (ENGAM 1987) of the United States fondly recalls her year abroad at Sussex thanks to her flatmates at East Slope and all the Brits at the student-run pubs. She would love to hear from anyone who remembers her.

Patrick Madaya (SPRU 1989) would like to get in touch with former course mates from the MSc in Science, Industrialisation and Technology: academic year 1989-1990. He is particularly interested in hearing from Chen from the Malaysian Ministry of Science and Technology and from a lady from Peru whose name he’s forgotten!

Karen Rodhes (COGS 1998) is currently teaching at a college in Montreal. She would love to hear from her former classmates from the UK and around the world.

Carolyn Thomas (CCE 2001) is currently writing her first novel. She would like to thank Richard Crane, Convenor of Creative and Dramatic Writing.

Bookmark

Dirk Bogarde
The Authorised Biography
By John Coldstream (EURO 1968)
Published in hardback by Weidenfeld and Nicolson on 30 September 2004

Dirk Bogarde holds a unique place in the world of the arts and has often been described as an enigma. With unlimited access to what remains of Bogarde’s private papers and to a wealth of correspondence, John Coldstream shows how this giant of the intellectual cinema and prolific author perfected the art of being at once famously private and yet extraordinarily available. He ensures that the detail never overwhelms the man and the result is a remarkable biography, which will fascinate and delight Bogarde’s many fans. As Coldstream writes in his introduction, ‘What follows is a sincere effort to net this fleeting figure, but only to hold and examine him, and then to let him fly. To subject him to any kind of sustained academic or psychological analysis would be suffocating.’

Before Bogarde died he said, ‘Just forget me.’ Coldstream’s outstanding biography shows why we cannot and should not.
Alumni Network

Benefits and services

The responses to the Alumni Questionnaire 2004 have shown that a surprising number of alumni and staff are unaware of the benefits and services available to them as members of the Alumni Network. So, here you will be able to find out some of the ways in which you can make the most of being a member of the fast-growing Alumni Network.

Keeping up with happenings on campus and helping you to keep in touch with your contemporaries are obvious ones. This is done through Falmer, SussexNews (the electronic newsletter), the Alumni and Friends website and, of course, by the team being on the end of a phone. There are also numerous opportunities for continued involvement with Sussex: by volunteering to give informal advice to potential students, offering careers advice or work shadowing opportunities, or running an alumni group in your area.

But did you know that you can also take advantage of discounts that have been especially negotiated for alumni? There are good reasons to continue using the campus facilities, or many benefits that are more widely accessible. The following details give you a taster of what’s on offer. For further information, check the Alumni and Friends website at: www.sussex.ac.uk/alumni

On campus…

Your days on campus don’t have to be just a memory. Alumni can take advantage of discounted membership at the Library and the Sports Service, take an Open Language Course at student prices, or even bring your business colleagues onto campus to our brand new conference facilities, making use of the discounted delegate rates. The Sussex Bookshop also offers 10 per cent off orders placed online: www.sussexunibooks.co.uk

Further afield…

If you are thinking of coming back to visit the Brighton and Hove area, check the Alumni and Friends website before booking your accommodation. The University of Sussex now provides a list of approved hotels and guest houses in the Brighton and Hove area, with something to suit everyone’s budget.

Green Flag Motoring Assistance and Avis Rent-a-Car cover some of your motoring needs and offer special rates to alumni and staff; Cox and Kings give a 10 per cent discount on their brochure tours all over the world; Vision Express can provide you and your family with substantial savings on eye care; and the Tussauds Group offer discounted rates to their major attractions around the country.

The Development and Alumni Relations team are constantly negotiating new benefits and services for the Alumni Network. If you can offer a new benefit, or have suggestions for new services, please contact us at: alumni@sussex.ac.uk – we would be delighted to hear from you.

University of Sussex now provides a list of approved hotels and guest houses in the Brighton and Hove area, with something to suit everyone’s budget.

Feedback

Thanks to all those who took the time to let us know what you thought of the new look Falmer. Here are a few of your comments.

My congratulations on the new look of Falmer. I am a 1985 graduate (MA International Relations) and have been receiving Falmer for all those years since then. This is the very first time I found the magazine to be so inviting that I sat down and started reading it at once! I had never done that before. The new layout, design, content and quality of its paper has made a tremendous change.

Although I only studied at Sussex for a year, it was very decisive for my development as a thinking person. As a result, Sussex has always remained in my heart. Falmer’s new look comes to match and further build upon my ‘hearty’ feelings towards the University.

Ioanna Lemonis (ARTS 1984)

Many congratulations on the new look Falmer magazine, which was a terrific read and beautifully designed.

Tom Flynn (ENGAM 1984)

Thank you for my recent copy of the revamped and much improved Falmer magazine. Clearly a great deal of hard work and thought has gone into it. I would just like to say ‘well done’ and ‘thank you’. It is an impressive publication.

Marco A. Frieslaar (EAPS 1990)

I am writing to comment (favourably) on the summer issue of Falmer that arrived at my address overseas yesterday. I find the new publication to be very satisfying. The look, the feel, the articles and layout and even the quality of the paper are far superior to other alumni publications I receive. I am sure the new publication will help keep graduates ‘in the loop’.

David Neice (SPRU 1997)

I just wanted to congratulate you on the new look of Falmer magazine. It’s sharp, just has the right amount of detail, and also a groovy format. Thumbs up from me!

Maria Cachia (SEI 2000)
‘Sussex was incredibly important in my life, partly because I enjoyed it hugely, but partly because it felt like a re-wiring exercise. Sussex took me, as a rather unformed young person, and gave me a new way of looking at the world. That was incredibly exciting.’

Helen Boaden (CCS 1975), Director of BBC News

www.sussex.ac.uk/alumni