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Welcome

As the Vice-Chancellor at Sussex while we celebrate our 50th anniversary I am in a truly privileged position. It is therefore a great honour to be able to introduce this guide to the year-long events that lie ahead, starting with our celebration weekend in September 2011.

We stand as the first of the universities created in the 1960s from the vision of the socially responsive leaders of the day, who believed that expanding opportunity in higher education, creating and sharing knowledge at the cutting edge of disciplines, breaking down social and academic barriers and applying knowledge to real world issues, was the way in which our country and wider society would grow. That is a vision that holds just as true today.

To celebrate 50 years of this vision we have drawn on ideas and suggestions from across the University community – from our alumni, our students, our current and former staff, friends and supporters alike. The range of events and activities includes documentary films, publications, academic discussions, artistic endeavours, architectural exhibitions, music and much more. This guide provides just a summary of the events – the full detail is online, being updated as new events and activities take shape.

The 50th anniversary is rightly a time to look back and reflect on the tremendous contribution that Sussex has made to higher education since our foundation in 1961. The book we have created for the 50th provides a fitting encapsulation of this, telling the story of how Sussex has evolved.

But it is rightly an occasion to look forward. Lord Fulton, our first Vice-Chancellor, described education at Sussex as ‘making the future’, a phrase we proudly adopted for our current strategic plan for the future growth and development of Sussex.

I am therefore particularly pleased that we are able to place our future-facing academic research at the heart of the 50th programme. Distinguished scholarship truly makes Sussex what it is, scholarship engaged with the world, not isolated from it.

The six Sussex Conversations exemplify this – taking each of our six research themes and bringing some of our leading academics together with leading figures from outside the University to address key questions that face society as we look to the next 50 years. Those events will be very special ones indeed.

We kick off with a major celebratory weekend in September 2011. I look forward to welcoming hundreds of our former students back to the campus. You will be pleasantly surprised by how much we have developed and grown, while the heart of the University remains very much as it was when those remarkable Spence buildings were first constructed.

We have decided to hold activities throughout the year, since the 50th will not stand apart as separate, but be woven into the fabric of the University year. I should, of course, thank all of those who have already played their part in planning and organising these events and activities – and all of those who will play their part in celebrating with us.

I want all of these events and activities to be inclusive so that all are welcome. I hope that everyone involved with Sussex in whatever way will play their part in celebrating the 50th. I also hope these events can create a legacy – artistic, cultural, scientific – which is part of the basis for the next 50 years of our success and our continued contribution to making the future.

Professor Michael Farthing
Vice-Chancellor
50th anniversary celebration weekend

9-11 September 2011
Come back to campus for a weekend of fun with old friends to celebrate the 50th anniversary. From stimulating talks to live bands, there’s something for everyone, so put the date in your diary and get ready for the biggest party Sussex has ever seen! Registration for the weekend is free of charge and booking is open now at www.sussex.ac.uk/fiftyyears

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**Friday 9 September**

**Schools of Life Sciences and Psychology 50th Anniversary Research Symposium**
Join other alumni from the Schools of Life Sciences, Psychology, BIOLS, COGS and MOLS for an academic symposium and a gala dinner with a special guest speaker (please note: there is a charge for this event)

**International alumni event**
Meet with other alumni arriving from overseas for a special reception with the Vice-Chancellor

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**Saturday 10 September**

**Sport Centre activities**
Get your kit on for cricket, football and ultimate frisbee matches

**Bars and cafés**
Grab a coffee with friends from one of the bars or cafés on campus, open all day (please note: these refreshments will be charged for)

**Screening of the 50th anniversary documentary film**
Take some time out from all the activity to get a sneak peek at the University’s official 50th anniversary documentary film, produced by alumna Mary McMurray (ENGAM 1967)

**School lunches and events**
Join your departmental friends and faculty for lunch in one of the 12 new schools to find out how your subject has changed, and what the school’s plans are for the future

**Presentation on the Attenborough Centre for the Creative Arts**
Find out how the Gardner Arts Centre is being relaunched as the new Attenborough Centre for the Creative Arts, scheduled to open in 2012

**Organ recital**
Enjoy a quiet moment in the Meeting House with a traditional organ recital

**‘A taste of the Charleston Festival’ tea and talk**
Sit back and relax with a literary discussion from the team at Charleston Farmhouse, the home of the Bloomsbury Group

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**Library tours**
Revisit your favourite corner and discover new ones with a tour of the newly refurbished Library

**Orchestra**
Enjoy the sounds of the University of Sussex Orchestra in the beautiful surroundings of the Meeting House

**Adult summer school taster sessions**
Take part in a talk from one of our most popular summer school courses

**Campus boundary walk**
Put on your walking shoes and head off for a guided stroll around the campus

**Evening reception**
Join together to toast the University’s 50th birthday at a special reception hosted by the Vice-Chancellor

**The Copper Family**
Experience the unique sound of local folk group, The Copper Family of Rottingdean

**Big Band**
Warm up your dancing feet with music from the Sussex Universities Big Band

**John Altman All Stars**
Welcome back alumnus, composer and musician John Altman (ENGAM 1968), who brought The Who and Pink Floyd to Sussex. He is joined by a host of musical friends
Saturday 10 September

**DJ sets**
Relive your nights in the Crypt/Hothouse/Cube (depending on your era!) with DJ sets from the 1960s to the 2000s

**The Baskervilles**
Reformed for a special anniversary gig, rock out to the sixties Sussex legends

**Fireworks**
Come together to mark the celebration in style

**East Slope jazz café**
Continue into the small hours with a laid-back session in this favourite campus bar

Sunday 11 September

**Ecumenical service**
A multi-faith service of thanksgiving at the Meeting House, with special acknowledgement of the victims of 9/11

**Tours of the American Express Community Stadium**
Get a guided tour of Falmer’s newest resident, the home of Brighton and Hove Albion football club

**Football match**
Watch the Sussex 11 battle it out with the Brighton and Hove Albion 11 at the new stadium

This programme is correct at the time of going to press but please note all timings and events are subject to change. Stay up to date at www.sussex.ac.uk/fiftyyears

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**Ocon**
The celebration weekend is sponsored by Ocon Construction. Ocon are the Contractors for the new Northfield Residences.

**Emprise**
The evening reception is sponsored by Emprise. Emprise is a leading UK provider of cleaning, security and related support services.
In 1961 the first 52 students and nine members of faculty started at the brand new University of Sussex. From the beginning, the University set out to break the mould of traditional higher education and to redraw the map of learning. As John Fulton, the first Vice-Chancellor, remarked, Sussex was about ‘making the future’.

Over the subsequent five decades, the University has made a remarkable contribution to research and higher education teaching and learning in the UK and internationally.

Making the Future: a history of the University of Sussex, published to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the University of Sussex, includes specially commissioned essays exploring the core business of the University – making knowledge and disseminating understanding – as well as varied pieces on the glorious architecture and landscape of the campus, the long history of Sussex student protest, the Meeting House, the Library, the Gardner Arts Centre, and the contribution of the University to the city of Brighton and Hove and to Sussex. The book is richly illustrated with photographs, most never published before.

To find out more about the book visit www.sussex.ac.uk/fiftyyears

Special pre-publication offer
To secure your copy of this special book at the early-bird discounted price of £15.00 (RRP £25.00) please contact Carla Gilfoyle at John Smith’s Bookshop on campus on +44 (0)1273 678333 or carla.gilfoyle@johnsmith.co.uk. The expected publication date for the book is September 2011 and copies can be collected directly from the shop or sent out worldwide for an extra charge.

‘My conception of a university was it should give something special to people and that they would feel like, when they were there, that they were getting something out of it that they couldn’t have got anywhere else.’

Extract from the interview with Lord Asa Briggs, Vice-Chancellor (1967-1975)
50 years of Sussex

1960s

1961
Royal Charter granted to the University of Sussex. First students start under Vice-Chancellor Professor John Fulton and Chancellor The Right Honourable Viscount Monckton of Brenchley

1964
Library opened by the Queen

1964
First Park Houses opened – Norwich House for men and York House for women

1966
The Right Honourable Baron Shawcross of Friston installed as Chancellor

1967
Asa Briggs becomes Vice-Chancellor

1969
Sussex wins University Challenge – the first University to win two series outright

1969
Arts Centre (later Gardner Arts Centre) opens

1970s

1971
Education Development Building opened, featuring a state-of-the-art television studio

1972
Teaching hampered by power cuts due to the miners’ strike – courses extended into the summer, transferred to private houses and taught by candlelight

1975
Professor John Cornforth awarded the Nobel Prize for Chemistry

1975
Sir Denys Wilkinson appointed Vice-Chancellor

1976
Two Sussex students take part in the Montreal Olympics – Adrian Parker (Pentathlon) and Brendan Foster (Bronze, 10,000 metres)

1977
Students occupy Sussex House over tuition fee increases

1980s

1980
Sussex edges Oxford out of the top spot as the university that has gained the most income from research grants and contracts

1981
Alumni Association established to mark the 20th anniversary of Sussex

1981
Students stage a ‘work-in’ to protest against higher education cuts – Library open overnight for the first time in its history

1986
Sussex celebrates its Silver Jubilee

1986
The Right Honourable Earl of March installed as Chancellor

1987
Sir Leslie Fielding becomes Vice-Chancellor

1988
Paul McCartney and Anita Roddick are the first people to be awarded the new honorary degree ‘Doctor of the University’
1990s

1991  
*Mastermind* filmed at the Meeting House

1992  
Professor Gordon Conway appointed Vice-Chancellor

1993  
Falmer House designated a Grade 1 listed building and the Meeting House and Gardner Arts Centre given Grade 2 status

1996  
Professor Harry Kroto awarded the Nobel Prize for Chemistry

1996  
Students’ Union magazine the Pulse wins the Guardian/NUS Student Magazine of the Year Award

1998  
Professor Alasdair Smith becomes Vice-Chancellor and Richard Attenborough is installed as Chancellor after 30 years as Pro-Chancellor

2000s

2003  
Schools and departments restructured in the most radical set of changes since the University opened

2003  
Brighton and Sussex Medical School opened

2003  
Professor Anthony Leggett awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics

2007  
Professor Michael Farthing appointed Vice-Chancellor

2008  
New strategic plan *Making the Future* published with plans for 12 new schools

2009  
Sanjeev Bhaskar installed as Chancellor

2009  
Three Sussex alumni made Cabinet Ministers following Prime Minister Gordon Brown’s reshuffle

2010s

2010  
The largest-ever number of alumni and friends support Sussex philanthropically, raising almost £1.4 million for projects from research to student hardship

2010  
Sussex is ranked 8th in the UK, 16th in Europe and 79th in the world, in the *Times Higher Education World University Rankings*

2010  
Sussex claims 7th place for student satisfaction in the National Student Survey, a jump of 28 places

2011  
Sussex celebrates its 50th anniversary
Union Presidents: now and then

The Students’ Union has played a key role in the development of the University over the past 50 years, and remains an essential part of the student experience, bringing together societies, sports teams, campaigning and democracy. Here, a President from each decade looks back on their time both as a Union elected officer and as a Sussex student.

1960s

Adrian Mugridge
Years at Sussex: 1961-1965
Years as President: 1961-1963

Why did you choose Sussex?
The possibility of being in at the start of a new kind of university, creating a ‘new map of learning’. I had avoided university due to traditional institutions allowing practically no contact between disciplines and the distance between teacher and student. This would clearly be avoided at Sussex.

What was your favourite hangout?
The common room in the Preston Road houses. Visiting dignitaries liked coming to talk to us in this new, supposedly slightly anarchic place; the just-retired Archbishop (Fisher) of Canterbury seemed amused to find himself sitting in the fireplace, hoping we would not find it necessary to light it under him!

What was the biggest issue for students while you were President?
Trying to ensure the promise that students would be consulted and involved in (almost) all University matters; gripes about petty rules imported by habit from other places, most of which we were able to resolve easily; and the lack of a proper library.
‘It is never too late. It wasn’t too late for me to gain a university degree, or to be President of the Student Union, or to open myself to a world of new friends and new experiences.’

Valerie Mainstone

What is your strongest memory of your time at Sussex?
Stimulating discussions with David Daiches, Pat Corbett, Asa Briggs, Maurice Hutt and Angus Ross. I was not their most academic student, but I gained a great deal from them all; it was a privilege to have such a group of teachers. Also hours of talking through, drafting and redrafting the Union Constitution!

What did your time at Sussex teach you that you will always remember?
Independence of mind and spirit; to question everything, to be willing to form and defend personal opinions, but to be open to others, and to be able to temper one’s own views in a spirit of compromise!

Thomas from school for £3.18s.6d per week bed and breakfast. I met people there I’m still pals with, but there was an 11 o’clock curfew and bed bugs!

Where did you live in later years?
In lots of places including a shared house in Clarendon Road, Hove, rented from Mrs Camping of ‘Campings Coaches’; on the late Brian Leahy’s (President 1969-70) and Marilyn Cole’s floor; and in a shared house on Warleigh Road, owned by philosophy lecturer Theo Mars.

What was your favourite hangout?
On campus, the Library basement – I enjoyed a fag and piling the coffee cups up to the ceiling – and the snack bar in Falmer House, where I’d have lunch of two crusts of bread (cheaper than slices), a hardboiled egg and a pint of milk. In town, the locals of the ‘City of Hereford’ pub, on the corner of Upper Bedford Street, adopted us as their own.

What was the Union’s greatest success while you were President?
Mobilising and raising awareness against Mrs Thatcher, ‘In Place of Strife’ (Labour Government’s anti-union laws), and proposed anti-Student Union legislation.

What is your fondest memory of your time at Sussex?
I met and married dear Linda Jane Seymour, typist at UoSSU the year after I’d been President.

What did your time at Sussex teach you that you will always remember?
How lucky were we to be able to receive and live on a full grant of £360 per year, and that being taught in tutorials of a few students in an intimate university of 3,000 students works well.

Valerie Mainstone

1980s

Why did you choose Sussex?
Sussex had so much going on socially and politically, in addition to the academic life. I could see immediately that Sussex had a marvellous library and language lab, and there were posters everywhere advertising meetings and parties.

Where did you live?
For the first year I lived in Park Village. It was the first time in my life I had ever had a room of my own, with a key! In the second year I bought the flat where I still live, in Brunswick New Town, Hove.

What was your favourite hangout on campus?
The EURO tearoom. The staff were great, and I could spend hours there and see all my friends. Later on, Falmer House became my second home because I was involved in so many Union activities.

Valerie Mainstone

1970s

Dave Feintuck
Years at Sussex: 1969-74
Years as President: 1971-72

Why did you choose Sussex?
It was as far as I could get away from my parents on the British mainland!

Where did you live in the first year?
In the Rodney House Guest House Annexe, 25 St Georges Terrace, Brighton. I shared a room with my mate Graham Thomas from school for £3.18s.6d per week bed and breakfast. I met people there I’m still pals with, but there was an 11 o’clock curfew and bed bugs!

Where did you live in later years?
In lots of places including a shared house in Clarendon Road, Hove, rented from Mrs Camping of ‘Campings Coaches’; on the late Brian Leahy’s (President 1969-70) and Marilyn Cole’s floor; and in a shared house on Warleigh Road, owned by philosophy lecturer Theo Mars.

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Dave Feintuck
Years at Sussex: 1969-74
Years as President: 1971-72

Why did you choose Sussex?
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Where did you live in the first year?
In the Rodney House Guest House Annexe, 25 St Georges Terrace, Brighton. I shared a room with my mate Graham
Union presidents: now and then

What was the biggest issue for students while you were President?
With the Thatcher Government in power, it felt like a constant war of attrition, having to confront attacks on students and on workers all the time. The Anti-Apartheid movement was also very active.

What did your time at Sussex teach you that you will always remember?
That it is never too late. It wasn’t too late for me to gain a university degree, or to be President of the Students’ Union, or to open myself to a world of new friends and new experiences.

1990s

Sam Gurney
Years at Sussex: 1992-95
Years as President: 1995-96

Why did you choose Sussex?
AFRAS looked good and it was far enough from London to live away from home, but close enough to get back whenever I wanted to see mates.

What was your favourite hangout on campus, and why?
East Slope Bar – grungy but comfortable, great staff and all the money going back into the Students’ Union, plus good bands in my first year.

What was your favourite hangout in the local area, and why?
Hard to name a favourite pub, but The Bugle, The Geese, The Rose and Crown all rate highly; plus films at the Duke of York’s; and the Event, the Zap and the Basement.

What was the Union’s greatest success while you were President?
The revamping of the Students’ Union media under our Communications Sabbatical Dave Newton who, with others, set up the Pulse and the Badger, which are still going today.

What is your fondest memory of your time at Sussex?
Starting every history seminar on the English Revolution with the brilliant Professor Willy Lamont with a 10-minute chat about state of the Labour Party and Arsenal’s most recent performances; lying on the beach in the rain the day we finished our last exam; Sabbatical election night when I and two of my best mates got elected, almost hitting the ceiling in Falmer Bar when thrown up in the air by our campaign team; and breakfast at dawn in the Market Diner after a night out.

What did your time at Sussex teach you that you will always remember?
That campaigning and fun can go hand in hand (oh, and lots of stuff about history of course, which is what, on paper, I was there to learn about!)

2000s

Laura Tazzioli
Years at Sussex: 2005-2008
Years as President: 2008-2009

Why did you choose Sussex?
The great atmosphere – BBQs outside Falmer Bar, students studying for their exams in the sunshine outside the Library, and inspiring and welcoming lecturers.

Where did you live in the first year, and what was it like?
East Slope: 12 students and nine different nationalities under the same roof! I was moving to the UK from abroad and immediately felt at ease. We became like a little family and when Christmas came we had a mock-celebration with a deluxe takeaway pizza meal!

What was your favourite hangout on campus, and why?
Falmer Bar, where I used to meet up with friends after classes and relax between library sessions. In my final year, I probably spent more time in Falmer Bar than at home!
What was the Union’s greatest success while you were President?
Increasing student participation. We held frequent referenda to raise student input in union politics, and advertised and simplified decision-making procedures. Most importantly we spoke up for our fellow students who were concerned by the cuts that were happening and stood up for their rights both during official meetings and during protests and demonstrations.

What is your fondest memory of your time at Sussex?
Graduation day – my friends and I were all so pleased with our achievements and had a wonderful time during the ceremony. Even though you can’t really put your finger on it, there is something special about Sussex that makes everyone feel proud.

What did your time at Sussex teach you that you will always remember?
It’s impossible to sum up on a piece of paper what the time at Sussex taught me. I will always think back to Sussex and remember some of the best years of my life.

What is the biggest issue for students currently?
The Conservative-Liberal Democrat Coalition have seemingly waged war on the higher education system, cutting most of the public funding from universities and making students pay up to £9,000 a year for tuition. I’ve been at the forefront of a national campaign against the cuts, and getting hundreds of students up to London to demonstrate on an almost weekly basis.

What is your strongest memory of your time at Sussex?
Walking out of a seminar discussing the literature of Mai ’68 into an occupied Arts A2 lecture theatre. The blurring of learning and acting is certainly the spirit of Sussex.

What is your fondest memory of your time at Sussex?
There are so many, but maybe one that is also the saddest: having dinner with some close friends after my final exam, knowing that we had just enjoyed the best years of our lives so far, yet also facing up to our futures ahead with a mixture of fear and excitement.

What did your time at Sussex teach you that you will always remember?
Always question everything and never settle for the status quo.

‘It’s impossible to sum up on a piece of paper what the time at Sussex taught me. I will always think back to Sussex and remember some of the best years of my life.’

Laura Tazzioli
Research at Sussex: a tradition of innovation

The founding scholars of the University of Sussex wanted to ‘redraw the map of learning’ and in order to do this they broke the mould of discipline-based departments, organising instead on the basis of ‘Schools of Study’ that encouraged an interdisciplinary and collaborative approach to both research and teaching. Sussex quickly developed a reputation for academic innovation, and today the University enjoys a worldwide reputation for excellence that owes much to its founding traditions. In this anniversary year, Tony Moore, former Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Professor of Biochemistry, looks back over a proud history of research spanning the last 50 years.

Central to the early success of Sussex was the appointment of high-calibre founding scholars by the first Vice-Chancellor, Lord Fulton. In 1961 Asa Briggs was appointed as Pro-Vice-Chancellor with particular responsibility for academic affairs; historian and international relations scholar Martin Wight was appointed from LSE as Dean of the School of European Studies; David Daiches was appointed as Dean of the School of English and American Studies; and theoretical physicist Roger Blin-Stoyle was recruited from Oxford to lead the development of science, becoming the first Dean of the School of Mathematics and Physical Sciences. In 1965 the theoretical evolutionary biologist and geneticist John Maynard Smith was recruited to become the founding Dean of the School of Biological Sciences, and Colin Eaborn established the School of Chemistry and Molecular Science.

These founding scholars were central in developing a long-term vision for Sussex and in attracting some of the leading lights in their respective fields. Among many others, these included Professor of American Studies Marcus Cunliffe; novelist, critic, playwright and literary theorist Gabriel Josipovici; art historian and author Quentin Bell; political scientist Dame Helen Wallace, who became the Director of the Sussex European Institute; and Marie Jahoda, who was recruited in 1965 and became a Professor of Social Psychology and later a Visiting Professor at SPRU – Science and Technology Policy Research.

The growing reputation of the University attracted eminent researchers, grants and awards. The School of Chemistry and Molecular Science included seven Fellows of the Royal Society by the mid-1970s, a number that increased within the University to 19 by the 1990s, and
currently stands at 14. Among these were two Nobel Laureates: Sir John
Comforth AC CBE FRS who won the Nobel Prize in chemistry in 1975
for his work on the stereochemistry of enzyme-catalysed reactions; and
Sir Harry Kroto FRS, one of three recipients to share the 1996 Nobel
Prize in chemistry. A share in a third Nobel prize was won in 2003 by
Sir Anthony Leggett KBE FRS for his work at Sussex on the theory of
superfluids. Sussex academics have also been awarded the Crafoord Prize
(John Maynard Smith); the Royal Society Literature Prize (Norman and
Jeanne MacKenzie for their work on the Fabians); the Bancroft Prize
(Christopher Thorne, the first non-American to receive it); and six British
Academy Fellowships.

A major influence on research innovation at Sussex has been the
ability of the University to attract significant stand-alone research
institutes. Exceptional examples include SPRU – Science and Technology Policy
Research, established by the world-renowned economist Chris Freeman and
now the largest institution for science, technology and innovation studies in
the world; the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), founded by Dudley Seers
in the 1960s and now a world-leader for research on international development
policy and practice; the Astronomy Centre, founded in 1965 as a formal
collaboration with the Royal Greenwich Observatory by Astronomer Royal,
Sir Richard Woolley, and Roger Blin-Stoyle; and the Cell Mutation Unit
led by Bryn Bridges.

Recent years have seen the long-term fulfilment of many of the University’s
early research endeavours: the Sussex Centre for Medical Research, founded
in the early 1960s, held out the prospect of a medical school that
was realised with the opening of the Brighton and Sussex Medical School
in 2003; and in 1970, anthropologist Tom Harrisson gave over his Mass
Observation Archive to the care of Sussex. Under the guidance of director
Dorothy Sheridan, this has become an invaluable public resource for historical
research on everyday British life.

Since even before the University’s founding, Sussex research has been
supported by philanthropy. As early as 1956, donations were made to a fund
to create a new university in Sussex, including a bequest from Mrs Helena
Normanton QC, the first woman to practise at the English Bar, made ‘in
grateful for all that Brighton did to educate me’. Through the decades,
there have been many individual gifts and endowments made to support
the world-class work at Sussex, and some donations, including that from
the Reginald Moses Phillips Charitable Foundation in 1962, continue to fund
projects to this day and beyond. Most recently, a gift from the Dr Mortimer
and Theresa Sackler Foundation enabled the founding of the Sackler
Centre for Consciousness Science in 2010.

The University will soon be launching its first philanthropic campaign to build
on this history and ensure that Sussex retains its margin of excellence
in both research and teaching. The ‘Making the Future’ fundraising
campaign will seek to raise funds for a number of exciting and innovative
research projects: the Sussex Centre for the Study of Corruption will lead
the way in understanding all forms of corruption and their consequences;
a Chair in Neuronal Dysfunction will spearhead our efforts to discover the
underlying mechanisms of age- and disease-related neuronal malfunction;
and the African Climate Initiative will lead research that develops our
understanding of the causes and effects of climate change, and the
devastating effects it has on some of the world’s poorest people.

As we move into the next 50 years, the University of Sussex will continue
to build on its strong tradition of promoting world-class interdisciplinary
research. Our newest research strategy, comprising six themes spanning the interests of our 12
schools will combine with the best people, programmes and places
supported by the ‘Making the Future’
campaign to ensure that Sussex
continues to help shape the future
of research and education, and to
contribute to the world in which we
all live.
'Sussex above all was a marvellous experience. I can’t look back on it without smiling and remembering how much fun it was … Sussex built my self-confidence and self-sufficiency, and launched friendships that continue to this day. With that legacy, you will understand the affection and gratitude I have for this fantastic university.'

Robin Paxton (EURO 1970)
US50

dates for your diary

We’ve got an exciting programme of events planned to celebrate Sussex’s 50th anniversary and we’d love you to join us.

For up-to-date information on 50th anniversary events visit www.sussex.ac.uk/fiftyyears
## Autumn/winter 2011-2012

### September 2011

**50th anniversary celebration weekend**  
*See page 2 for more details*

**Date** 9-11 September  
**Location** Campus

### October 2011

**Launch of the book, Making the Future: a history of the University of Sussex**  
*See page 5 for more details*

**Date** 13 October  
**Location** Library, University of Sussex

**Sussex Conversations: Citizenship and Democratisation**  
*See page 23 for more details*

**Date** 20 October  
**Location** The Royal Institution of Great Britain, London

### November 2011

**Sussex Conversations: Environment and Health**  
*See page 23 for more details*

**Date** 3 November  
**Location** The Royal Institution of Great Britain, London

### December 2011

**50th anniversary lecture and reception**  
Join other alumni in the area to celebrate  

**Date** 1 December  
**Location** British Consulate General, New York

### January 2012

**Sussex Conversations: Culture and Heritage**  
*See page 24 for more details*

**Date** 19 January  
**Location** The Royal Institution of Great Britain, London
Spring/summer 2012

March 2012

Sussex Conversations: Global Transformations
Date 8 March
Location The Royal Institution of Great Britain, London

April 2012

Sussex Conversations: Mind and Brain
Date 26 April
Location The Royal Institution of Great Britain, London

May 2012

Public Art Launch
Date 8 May
Location University of Sussex

Opening of Sir Basil Spence exhibition
Date 10 May
Location University of Sussex

50th anniversary lecture and reception
Join other alumni in the area to celebrate
Date 17 May
Location San Francisco

Sussex Conversations: Digital and Social Media
Date 24 May
Location The Royal Institution of Great Britain, London

For up-to-date information on 50th Anniversary events visit www.sussex.ac.uk/fiftyyears
‘During my time at Sussex I met many wonderful, weird, unconventional people that challenged my views and helped shape me. I laughed out loud, loved, learned about topics I never planned to study (and am so grateful for it), had passionate discussions ranging from world politics to which crisp flavour is best, made great friends and never felt so alive in my life.’

Camillo Beretta (EUR 1995)
Sussex, Spence and the sixties

One of Sussex’s most enduring legacies from its founding is its architecture, designed by Sir Basil Spence. To celebrate, we are holding an exhibition of Spence’s vision for the University, including self-guided walking, and virtual, tours. Sussex alumna Louise Campbell (EURO 1973) is co-author of the book Sir Basil Spence: buildings and projects, to be published in autumn 2011 by RIBA Publications. Here she explains what makes the Sussex architecture so special and unique.

The University of Sussex’s early fame is inseparable from its architecture. A model of Falmer House was revealed in the press in the spring of 1960; photographs of concrete skeletons of buildings under construction followed the next year. These images of the first of the new universities helped to fix in the public imagination an institution that had yet to come into being.

Basil Spence was appointed University Architect in 1959. Spence visualised the elements of the new campus as water, buildings and trees, like a modern-day Cambridge. But with the help of his young assistants, this romantic concept fused with something tougher. Using a lightweight concrete framework, an imposing vaulted structural system was devised that served to unify a range of buildings of different shapes and sizes. Falmer House, forming the gateway to the campus, was the social hub for a university that initially built no residences. Peter Winchester’s beautiful drawings (now in the Library Special Collections) underline its character as a sort of space-frame, a structure suggestive of future growth, the courtyard and the spaces between it and the Library alive with gowned students and academics.

Spence paid tribute to the vision of Sussex’s first Vice-Chancellor, John Fulton, but he did not always see eye-to-eye with the University, whose determination to build quickly and economically sometimes grated with Spence’s own aspirations. However, he had great sympathy for Sussex’s ambition to look as distinctive as its syllabus, and aimed to provide it with an architecture of real presence. Instead of dominating the site with what he termed ‘glass palaces’, Spence devised a sequence of buildings which combined sculptural character with sensitivity to scale and space, shaping an environment at once robust and humane.

Spence wanted to allow the landscape with its great trees and rolling hills to be a constant presence. The Sussex landscape is part of the University’s identity, and the materials used to build it – soft red brick, flint and copper – were chosen by Spence with this in mind.
Spence devised a sequence of buildings which combined sculptural character with sensitivity to scale and space, shaping an environment at once robust and humane.
Sussex Conversations

As part of the celebrations for the University of Sussex’s 50th anniversary, we will be holding a series of debates, or ‘conversations’ throughout 2011-2012.

The Sussex Conversations will be high-level discussions on the key issues of our age, which resonate with the University’s six research themes: Citizenship and Democratisation, Environment and Health; Culture and Heritage; Global Transformations; Mind and Brain; and Digital and Social Media.

These six special events will be held at the Royal Institution in London and will feature a range of prominent speakers who are leading thinkers and commentators in their field.
Citizenship and Democratisation

20 October 2011
The Royal Institution of Great Britain, London

Citizenship in the 21st Century

We live in an insecure world where our idea of citizenship is contested daily. This conversation will ask how a citizen’s rights and responsibilities are evolving and how we can develop an idea of citizenship that is adaptive, resilient and responsive to threats to our security while protecting our liberties. It will explore what we mean by citizenship today, what the implications of technological advances are for individual rights, and what we mean by security in an era of globalisation.

Speakers
Lord Malloch Brown KCMG, PC (Chair) is former Minister of State in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. He was previously Deputy Secretary-General at the United Nations as well as a journalist, development specialist and communications consultant.
Shami Chakrabarti CBE is Director of Liberty (The National Council for Civil Liberties) and has been heavily involved in its engagement with the ‘war on terror’, and with the defence and promotion of human rights values in society.
Professor David Clary FRS is a distinguished theoretical chemist. President of Magdalen College, Oxford and Chief Scientific Adviser to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. He has degrees from the Universities of Sussex and Cambridge and is a Fellow of the Royal Society.
Dr Jamie Shea is Deputy Assistant Secretary General, Emerging Security Challenges, NATO. He is responsible for providing NATO with a strategic analysis capability to monitor and anticipate international developments that could affect allied security.

Environment and Health

3 November 2011
The Royal Institution of Great Britain, London

Making healthy environments

Health is influenced by the physical, social and cultural environments, and it is increasingly recognised by policymakers that the distribution of wellbeing and risk across a population has an important impact on society as a whole. This conversation will try to define ‘health’, as our ideas of it change, and consider what makes a ‘healthy’ environment.

Speakers
Lord Robert May of Oxford OM AC Kt FRS holds a Professorship in Zoology at the University of Oxford and Imperial College, London and is a Fellow of Merton College, Oxford. Previously, he was President of The Royal Society and Chief Scientific Adviser to the Government.
Sir Jonathon Porritt CBE, Co-Founder of Forum for the Future, and former Chairman of the UK Sustainable Development Commission, is an eminent writer, broadcaster and commentator on sustainable development. He is also Co-Director of The Prince of Wales’s Business and Environment Programme and is involved in the work of many NGOs and charities.
Professor Richard Wilkinson is a British researcher specialising in the social determinants of health and the societal effects of income inequality. He is a Co-Founder of The Equality Trust and an Professor Emeritus of Social Epidemiology at the University of Nottingham.
Chair to be confirmed
Culture and Heritage

19 January 2012
The Royal Institution of Great Britain, London

Preserving our material and cultural legacy

This conversation will explore how we define the material heritage of the past 200 years and how we decide what to value and preserve. It will examine what the government’s role is in supporting and subsidising this responsibility, and how the creative arts of drama, poetry and music can help us to think about ways of valuing and memorialising post-industrial Britain.

Speakers

Sir Vernon Ellis (Chair) is Chair of the British Council. He previously held a number of senior operational roles at Accenture, focused on global activities. Since the end of 2005 he has been Chairman of English National Opera, and he is involved in several other musical organisations.

Sir Neil Cossons OBE FSA FMA is Pro-Provost and Chairman of the Council of the Royal College of Art. Previously, he was Director of the Science Museum, Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust and The National Maritime Museum, and Chairman of English Heritage.

Mark Lawson is an arts journalist, broadcaster and author. He presents The Late Review, has twice been voted TV Critic of the Year and has won many awards for arts journalism.

Dame Fiona Reynolds OBE is Director-General of the National Trust. She was previously Director of the Women’s Unit in the Cabinet Office, Director of the Council for the Protection of Rural England and Secretary to the Council for National Parks.

Global Transformations

8 March 2012
The Royal Institution of Great Britain, London

Transformations reshaping global politics, economics and environment

This conversation will look to the next 50 years of global change shaping social, economic, political, cultural and environmental relations on a global scale. It will identify the main drivers of this change and consider its implications, especially for the world’s poorest people, exploring the shift in the balance of world economic power towards China and South Asia, and ideas and practices of development, climate change and human mobility.

Speakers

Roger Harrabin (Chair) is the BBC’s Environment Analyst, and one of the world’s most senior journalists on the environment and energy. He has broadcast on environmental issues since the 1980s and has won many awards in print, TV and radio.

Dr Alison Evans is Director of the Overseas Development Institute. She is an economist working on poverty, public policy, institutional change and the role of international development assistance.

Sir Harry Kroto FRS is an eminent chemist and one of three recipients to share the 1996 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for the discovery of C60 Buckminsterfullerene, a new form of carbon. He is currently Professor of Chemistry at Florida State University.

Clare Short is former MP for Birmingham Ladywood and Secretary of State for International Development, a new Ministry created after the 1997 general election to promote policies for sustainable development and eliminating poverty.
Human creativity and culture

This conversation will explore creativity and human identity, asking whether machines can be creative; examining the creativity of people affected by mental illness, neurological disease and mental disabilities; and asking what we know — or can know — of the brain mechanisms that produce creative behaviour.

Speakers

Dr Mark Lythgoe (Chair) is Director of the Centre for Advanced Biomedical Imaging at University College London, where he develops novel imaging techniques for investigating brain and cardiac function.

Professor Ernest Edmonds is Professor of Computation and Creative Media at the University of Technology, Sydney. He is an international expert on human-computer interaction and creativity, and a practising artist.

Professor Chris Frith FRS FBA is Emeritus Professor in Neuropsychology at University College London and Niels Bohr Visiting Professor at the University of Aarhus. He helped found the Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging at University College London.

Carol Steen is a world-renowned artist who lives in New York City. She is a synaesthete who sees letters and numbers as colours and sublimely captures her combined senses in her paintings.

Digital media technologies and their cultural, social and political impacts

This conversation will address developments in digital technologies that are shaping the public and private life of societies and citizens, and re-organising cultural and political relations. It will bring together computer scientists, communications, media and cultural theorists, sociologists and artists to explore whether the old divide between the ‘two cultures’ of art and science is now re-inscribed in digital terms.

Speakers

Matthew Taylor (Chair) is Chief Executive of the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce. He is a frequent media commentator on policy and political issues, has written for publications including The Guardian and New Statesman, and is a well-known blogger.

Professor Jodi Dean teaches political theory at Hobart and William Smith Colleges, New York. Her research and writing focuses on the contemporary space or possibility of politics.

Professor Helga Nowotny is President of the European Research Council and Professor Emeritus of Social Studies of Science, ETH Zurich. Her research interests have ranged from macrosociology and its methodology to social studies of science and technology.

Professor Tom Rodden is Professor of Interactive Systems at the Mixed Reality Laboratory at the University of Nottingham. His research focuses on the development of technologies emerging from physical and digital interaction.
The Centre is named in honour of our former Chancellor, Lord Attenborough, and also as a tribute to his daughter and Sussex alumna, Jane (SOC 1974), a leading arts professional in her own right who was tragically killed in the devastating Boxing Day tsunami of 2004.

The Attenborough Centre is set to make a valuable contribution to the debate on the role of art in society and, inspired by Lord Attenborough’s passion for broad access to culture, will act as a catalyst for interdisciplinary creative practices at Sussex. Attenborough Centre Director, Professor Sally Jane Norman said: ‘When the Centre opens in 2012, it will be a symbol of creativity and intellectual agility, and a beacon for the development of creative research, teaching and community engagement.’

The Centre aims to build on and enhance research and teaching that are core to the University’s mission, and bring together researchers and students from disciplines such as drama, music, creative writing, media, cultural studies, art history, business studies, philosophy, cognitive science, design and engineering, engaging with a wide range of artistic methods, mentors and projects.

The Attenborough Centre for the Creative Arts promises to be a dynamic and exhilarating cultural focus both for our campus and the wider community.

‘I am both delighted and honoured that the University wishes to put my name to the Centre for the Creative Arts. Its ethos and aims strongly reflect my own family’s values regarding the interaction between culture and education. I have no doubt that the Centre will contribute hugely to the University’s future success and make a significant contribution to performing arts education and practice for generations to come.’

Lord Attenborough
Jeremy Deller: public art

From now until summer 2012, Turner Prize winner and Sussex alumnus Jeremy Deller (CULCOM 1991) will be Artist-in-Residence at the University of Sussex.

Jeremy sprang into the public eye when he won the Turner Prize in 2004 and has subsequently won international acclaim for his films such as Battle of Orgreave (2001), his recreation of the Miners’ strike at Orgreave in 1985.

As part of Sussex’s 50th anniversary, Jeremy will be a presence on campus, collaborating in seminars and lectures with his former supervisor, Professor David Alan Mellor of Art History. He is currently preparing two exhibitions for the University and will be producing one of his characteristic Public Art installations for display on campus during the Brighton Festival in May 2012. Jeremy feels his art was moulded by the interdisciplinary outlook of Sussex and has been returning on a regular basis to sift through the Library’s treasure trove of documentation of student activities, fashions, pop concerts and dances from the 1960s to the present to form the basis of his installation.

We are very proud to be collaborating with Jeremy on these projects, and they will form an extremely important part of our 50th anniversary celebrations. Together, they will also help to build on the University’s ongoing involvement with the contemporary visual arts and provide a platform for creative and visual arts at the University.

The University is thankful to Brighton and Hove City Council for its support of this project through the Percent for Art Policy.

We are very proud to be collaborating with Jeremy on these projects, and they will form an extremely important part of our 50th anniversary celebrations.

Left:
Turner Prize winner and Sussex alumnus Jeremy Deller, and friend
Researchers in oral history at the University have interviewed 50 people from the last five decades of Sussex, recording personal memories of their time here: the individual stories behind the institution’s history.

To accompany this, University photographer Stuart Robinson has captured each participant through a portrait photograph – snapshots of Sussex people on the University’s 50th anniversary.

Together they create a special online exhibition – see the celebration webpages for more details.

Sybil Oldfield
Sussex staff 1962-present

‘The very first graduation was great. Because these first students were a brave lot. They were self-selected, interesting people because who else would go to a university that never existed before? They were really willing to put their lives on the line and experiment at a very important period because they were attracted by the things we offered, the connecting of literature, history, philosophy, and the attempt to do new things.’

Sybil Oldfield joined Sussex in 1962 and is currently Research Reader in English.

Gavin Ashenden
Sussex staff 1989-present

‘One of the more subtle but very important elements that was borne into the Sussex creation of chaplaincy was the insistence that interdisciplinarity should apply spiritually as well. Sussex did things differently.

It didn’t accept the status quo. It was willing to explore. It was willing to stretch the boundaries and sometimes this led to a certain amount of anarchy and excitement.

But it is the kind of anarchy and excitement that belongs to the creative process of discovery and exploration.’

Gavin Ashenden has been Chaplain at the University of Sussex since 1989.
Lucy Parker  
Sussex student 1976-1979

'I think I was one of the few people to go to my graduation ceremony because I was younger than most of my friends and they all thought, "Oh that's too bourgeois, we can't possibly do that!"... which I thought was silly of them, but you know, they were all radical Marxists.

And so that was 1979; Richard Attenborough was the Chancellor. David Attenborough got a honorary degree in Biology, and my mother nearly fainted in the aisle because she adored Life on Earth.'

Jacqui Harper  
Sussex student 1981-1985

'Sussex is... you know, a very kind of liberal environment. It certainly was when I was there, I'm sure it still is... People sort of mixed up and mixed in.

I just mixed with lots of different people. I was quite surprised when I went to California. The races didn’t really mix in a way that I thought they might... Sussex wasn’t really like that... So that was quite surprising to me.'

Sir Leslie Fielding  
Vice-Chancellor of Sussex 1987-1992

'The thing I’d known about Sussex... was that it was a university with some kind of moral conscience. It stood for something: it had ideals...

The ambiance was good. It was a place that had a heart. And as beneath my controlled, foreign office exterior I am a warm and emotional man, that rang a bell with me. It really did.'

Sir Leslie Fielding was Vice-Chancellor of Sussex from 1987 to 1992. He previously worked in the diplomatic service and was made a KCMG in 1988.

Jacqui Harper started at Sussex in 1981, studying American Studies. She spent a year abroad at UC Davis, California as part of her degree and is currently writing a novel set at Sussex in the early 1980s.
‘I simply had to go to Sussex. How optimistic and naïve we all were – looking back – but we did learn a thing or two, and managed to have a self-important, sybaritic hoot. I absolutely loved it.’

Peter Foges (SOC 1965)

‘I didn’t think I could push my thinking that far but the University of Sussex allowed me to do so. I had the best teaching of my life.’

Melanie Rieder (EDUCATION 2007)

‘I remember my first day at Sussex, sunshine on the Downs, all these new faces, all of us eager to make new friends, excited to be away from home and settling into our first taste of independence. I knew instantly when I saw the campus that I had made the right choice in coming to study here.’

Alice Moukori (AFRAS 1995)

‘At Sussex I grew in confidence, felt a part of the University, started to believe that I might actually possess reasoning skills, and thrived. If I live to be 100 years old, not a day will go by that I am not profoundly grateful to the University.’

Jonathan Catherwood (ENGAM 1984)
‘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 (EURO 1975)

‘Sussex for me was brightly coloured, full of energy. Everything had the potential to be interesting, possibly exciting – the lectures and seminars, even the tutorial booklists.’

Monica Ralph née Partoon (ENGAM 1964)

‘One of my favourite memories is sitting in Falmer Bar watching the dissertation dash. As the deadline approached, the running got more and more manic – some with deadly serious expressions, some milking the moment à la Chariots of Fire. Occasionally someone would drop their essay, and the papers would scatter to a great gasp from the crowd. As each runner hit the University offices, a roaring cheer went up.’

Rachael Stevens (CCS 1999)
‘Sussex was always my first choice. It stood then, as it does now, for the two things that mattered most to me as an undergraduate: an international outlook and an integrated, broad-ranging approach to education … Choosing Sussex was one of the better decisions I have made in my life.’

Jamie Shea (EURO 1973)

‘I was initially attracted to the University because of the multi-disciplinary approach to study. When I got there I was not disappointed, and the thing that I remember vividly and treasure highly was the sense of sheer intellectual curiosity and enthusiasm of all around.’

Nick Bugler (ARTS 1982)

‘I lived in Norwich House from 2002 to 2003 and it was my best year of my life. I learned about Economics and met a lot of friends – people from all over the world with a wonderful mix of cultures.’

Miguel Fernandez-Ranada Ruiz-Jarabo (V&E 2002)

‘I remain amazed at how much fun the whole experience was, both educationally and socially. The University’s ethos rewarded initiative, accepted diversity and actively encouraged risk taking, and I will always be grateful for the confidence this gave me.’

Luke McKeever (SOC 1988)
Help us make the future

Through the generosity of Sussex alumni, the Sussex Fund supports students who find themselves in unexpected financial difficulties, offers scholarships to attract the brightest minds worldwide, and supports activities that enhance the campus experience and the employability skills of our students.

Support the Sussex Fund 50th anniversary appeal and play your part in making the future.

Ways to give

Online at www.sussex.ac.uk/alumni/supportingsussex/donate

By post, making cheques payable to ‘The University of Sussex’ (or ‘Friends of the University of Sussex’ to give tax efficiently in the US). Post to Development and Alumni Relations Office, Bramber House, University of Sussex, Falmer, BN1 9QU, UK.

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