



28 October 1992

Close Encounters

Deputy Registrar, George Kiloh, tells us what to expect from the Academic Audit – as he sees it.

The end of October sees the University's long-threatened first encounter with external academic audit. Three auditors from the new Higher Education Quality Council will be with us from 28 to 30 October.

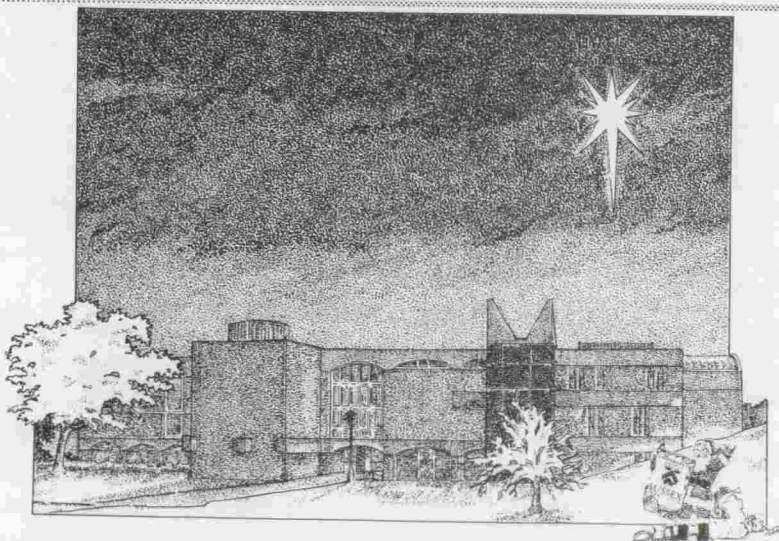
Academic auditors are experienced academics from other universities who look at a university's processes for assuring academic standards and are expected to make suggestions for improvement. The intention is to visit every university within a three year period and Sussex lies about half-way down the visit list.

Here they will spend each day in brisk discussions with faculty, concentrating on the major committees and on certain subject groups they have chosen (largely, one gathers, because of their own subject familiarity). They will also have three meetings with students.

The small mountain of documentation sent to the auditors over the Summer includes almost everything about the University that we photocopy, print or publish, including videos and a considerable number of minutes. We are still speculating why they want some of the items, including the University's telephone directory, but all may be made clear within a few days.

Some colleagues refer to the encounter as a *visitation*, as if it carried ecclesiastical, inquisitorial or even occult connotations. HEQC assure us of the collegial spirit pervading these events. However, at the end of the process the auditors will report to the HEQC, having checked their draft for accuracy with the University; and the report will be made public.

The HEQC promises to make this a three-yearly event. In addition, the University faces quality *assessment* from the Higher Education *Funding* Council, possibly beginning next term. But that is a different matter.



Pictured above is a Christmas card designed by Keith Allfrey in the Printing Unit, which we have produced this year for general use. Falmer House is depicted mainly because this year is its 30th anniversary and it was the first building on campus designed by Sir Basil Spence. Individual cards will be on sale on campus but 'bulk' orders may be made through the Information Office, 230 Sussex House, ext. 3766.

Opening of Session Service

The new University year was marked in traditional fashion with the Opening of Session Service in the Meeting House on 6 October. The theme of this year's Service was very much one of reverence for the earth and for life, and the address was given, appropriately, by the well-known broadcaster and environmentalist Jonathan Porritt. He spoke at length about the profound interdependence of life on earth, arguing that ending the ecological crisis requires not just political or economical change, but changes of



Jonathan Porritt

mind that are at root spiritual. Pointing out that the roots of both Judaism and Christianity have a close relationship with the environment and all life on earth that has often been lost in recent times, he concluded, "Unless we find purpose at the heart of our individual and collective lives there is not much chance of rescuing the planet from our irresponsible ways." Readings were also given by Professor Gordon Conway, Vice-Chancellor and Danny Rye, President of the Students' Union.

Neural Networks in Space



Over the summer Paul Gough of the ENGG space group was in Houston remotely controlling an experiment flying on the Shuttle *Atlantis*. The ENGG group contributed to the design of the US Philips Laboratory SPREE instrument, as well as implementing on-board the first space instrument neural network. Located in the shuttle cargo bay during the operation of the Italian Tethered Satellite System TSS-1, the SPREE instrument monitored the electrodynamic interaction of TSS-1 with the space environment.

The neural network, effectively acting as an on-board real-time 'Intelligent Data Analyst', telemetered to ground, interpreted science so that the instrument could be kept in the optimum mode of operation at all times. This approach was necessary because the quantities of raw data generated were far too large for the telemetry. Five gigabytes of data were stored on board for post-flight analysis at Sussex alone.

Despite the short length of tether achieved on this, the first tethered satellite mission, much useful data was accumulated with all instruments operating flawlessly. Unfortunately, electrodynamic disturbances associated with the tethered system were approximately one per cent of that expected for the mission, so the length of tether achieved was only a mere 250 metres, compared with the planned 20 kilometres.

However the neural network had sufficient sensitivity to identify directly many phenomena. This data is now being prepared for presentation at the American Geophysical Union in December this year.

There is a slim chance that the Italian Space agency will manage to convince NASA to re-fly the mission in the next few years as the problem lay in the US deployment system.

Congratulations to

SANDRA CHAPMAN, Space Plasma Physicist and Lecturer in MAPS who is to be one of the honoured guests at the 1992 Women of the Year Luncheon. Her contribution to both research and teaching at Sussex has gained her a place with 500 other distinguished women at London's Savoy Hotel on 26 October. Sandra Chapman most recently hit the headlines with her work on Chaos and Magnetic Substorms – reported in *New Scientist* (16 March issue) and the *Daily Telegraph*.

"An invitation to the luncheon is not just a recognition of my own achievements as the first female faculty member in MAPS, but a chance to celebrate women's many triumphs in British public life", said Dr. Chapman.

and to:

SANJOY KUMAR NAYAK, at Sussex on a three-year Academic Staff Scholarship has just heard that an essay he entered in a Fabian Society Competition "Is Equality Dead?" is one of five chosen to be published in the Society's journal. Dr. Nayak is based in the School of Social Sciences, working with William Outhwaite (EURO) and with Professor Emmanuel de Kadt (IDS).

Georgian Connection



Sussex has forged links with the former Soviet Republic of Georgia with an agreement to collaborate on research in Physics and Astronomy. Pictured above, Professor David Bailin (right) jointly signs the agreement with Professor Khadze from the Institute of Physics at the Georgian Academy of Science in Tbilisi, Georgia. Later this month Dr. Nigel Hussey will be the first Sussex researcher to go to Georgia in connection with his work on high temperature super conductors.

Patten's proposals find no support at Sussex

Reaction at Sussex to the announcement by Education Secretary John Patten that he intends to establish the principle of voluntary membership of Students' Unions, has, as nationally, been very unfavourable. His statement that, "the NUS closed shop must go soon, and it will", which delighted delegates to the Conservative Party Conference earlier this month, has been criticised as being both ill-informed and unworkable. In a letter to the *Guardian*, the President of the Students' Union, Danny Rye, wrote, "Unlike the trade union closed shop, Students' Unions have no control over what their students do. We are primarily providers of service and of representation. To refer to it as being like a trade union is to misunderstand our purpose and role."

The University Registrar, Dr Geoff Lockwood, was equally critical, commenting, "the Students' Union is an organisational unit of the university in the same way that the Schools, the Library, and other areas are. It provides a wide variety of services, and it is a matter of individual choice whether or not students wish to make use of those services. Proposals for change are unnecessary and misguided."

No timetable has been set for the plans, and the Department of Education is apparently still working on details. There is already considerable confusion over how such a system could be introduced as it involves complex difficulties. Predecessors of John Patten have given up attempts to reform because of the problems involved. Any change is unlikely to save any money either - a spokesman for the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals said that, "if universities were to take on the services provided by student unions, the cost would double."

Seeboard Technology Fair

Mid-September saw the University taking part in the Seeboard Technology Fair at the Brighton Centre as part of the Sussex Technology Consortium. The Consortium brought together the Universities of Sussex and Brighton with Brighton College of Technology and Sussex Technology Transfer Centre. Exhibited were examples of the research being undertaken at each Institution together with details of the services each could offer to business and industry.

Amongst the University exhibitors were Lionel Ripley, Paul Gough, Dennis Edwards, Graham Williams, John Dennis, Amit Sarkar and representatives of CASA and the Contract Education Unit.

The MOLE

There is a village in Italy, called something-or-other (something to do with fields of apples, possibly), which has the oldest living inhabitants in said country. Further thought on the subject of statistics and the calculation of averages leads to the realization that there must also exist a village in Italy which has, on average, the longest noses (and who knows what else...). The reason that such places exist is simple: If you plot the distribution of the villages' average nose lengths, only a few villages will have exactly the same average, and the chances of there being only one village with the highest ranked average are high. But what is one to make of such findings? Is there any causal link between locality and nose length? Is there a causal link between Radio 1's Record of the Week and the number of road accidents that occurred in that week? There must exist a record whose repeated playing has coincided with the most accidents per week over the last year (or five, come to that). The Mole invites any enterprising statisticians out there to calculate the statistics. This is another topic, perhaps, for a quick research grant...and rapid revision of the National Curriculum. Think how much more interesting Geography could become....

Still on the subject of research grants and statistics, *The Times* has been doing its bit to prejudice the public into accepting the facts and figures regarding its "Good University Guide" (published October 12th). Sussex polled 16th in the league table of 96 old and new universities. The table contained 14 variables on which each university was scored (for instance, we polled 12th in terms of research income per member of staff). Each score was given a weighting, and the weighted scores were added up to give the total on which basis the final ranking was achieved. There was no mention of how the weightings were arrived at (in principle, you could simply rank the universities in some desired order, and then fiddle the weightings till it all added up). The CVCP and CDP released a joint press release stating, amongst other things, that they "believe the tables to be wrong in principle, flawed in execution, and constructed upon data which are not uniform, are ill-defined, and in places demonstrably false". The full text of the letter suggests that serious errors and unwarranted assumptions underlie the table. All the more surprising, then, that Tom Cannon, the author of the table, and currently resident at Manchester University, is (visiting) Professor of Corporate Responsibility. But perhaps that was a typo.

The following rumour may well be as unrepresentative of fact as was *The Times'* Good University Guide: that the much talked-about 2% wage cap to be imposed next year will be applied retrospectively to outstanding wage claims. And in a similar vein of surely-not-to-be-believed rumours is the report that the CVCP were presented with a suggestion that universities abandon moves towards semesterisation, and adopt instead a 4-term year. No doubt a suggestion made by a (visiting) Professor of Corporate Chaos.

And on the subject of chaos, the academic year is now well under way. Readers will remember that the last issue's competition involved finding out how many students (of all types, full and part-time) had registered at Sussex this year. Unfortunately, the true figure will not be known until October 31st, so apologies to anyone who turned immediately to this column in order to find out just how many more cars we could expect to overflow onto our grass verges....This issue's competition will therefore be delayed. Late entries to the previous one will still be accepted. Complaints to The Mole, please.

Interview with the Vice-Chancellor



Professor Gordon Conway took up office as Vice-Chancellor at the end of September, only two days after he and wife, Susan, arrived back in England. As Professor Conway was in India at the time his appointment was announced, the information we carried about him last term was a little sparse. So we thought that, in this first interview with the *Bulletin*, readers would like to learn more about his work prior to arrival at Sussex. Information Officer, Sue Yates, started by asking him about his academic background . . .

Your Chair at Imperial College was in Environmental Technology. I suspect that I ought to know what environmental technology is but I don't. Could you explain?

Well, the Chair was called Environmental Technology because it was created as I set up the Centre for Environmental Technology at Imperial College. This was a cross-departmental centre with eleven departments in the college, from biology and engineering to management science. Environmental Technology was meant to indicate this cross-disciplinary view and the fact that we were 'hard' environmentalists, concerned with the science and technology of environment and rather less with philosophical, ethical or other issues. We were looking for ways in which scientific analysis could help us understand environmental problems, and for technologies to solve them.

So you're no stranger to interdisciplinarity?

No, not at all. It started even earlier in 1970 when I set up an interdisciplinary group to work on pest control. The first thing I did when I joined the Department of Zoology at Imperial College, was to hire an economist because I realised from my own experience that you couldn't talk about pest control except in an economic sense. A pest is an economic concept, it has no biological meaning. But even before then in the 1960s, at the Univer-

sity of California I was working as part of an interdisciplinary team trying to model the future of California.

And the Centre for Environmental Technology continues and thrives?

Oh yes, its extremely successful; it has about 40 PhDs, a very large research contract income and one of the biggest masters' courses in the country with 70 students a year. Subsequent employment has been very good and I was delighted to see that Dr. Elizabeth John, a graduate of the course has just joined Sussex as a lecturer in BIOLS.

And you've had a continuing involvement with the Centre?

Yes, I resigned as chairman in 1986, but I've continued as visiting professor and I shall be lecturing there this week.

You'll also be lecturing here next month, on agriculture and pollution, which is the subject of your latest book.

The book looks at the effects of agriculture as a polluter, affecting ourselves and our environment, also the effect of air pollution and other kinds of pollution on agriculture. In the 1960s Rachel Carson's book *Silent Spring*, painted a very gloomy picture of a future destroyed by pesticides and fertilisers. The problem is not as bad as she portrayed but nevertheless very serious. What the book does is to look at each issue, say DDT or the effect of nitrates, and examine precisely what the evidence is. Some things are not as disastrous for the world as they appeared to be, and others are actually more serious and not yet recognised, so the book is really a sober assessment of the situation.

But with some surprising conclusions?

Yes, one is that, although DDT is of great harm to wildlife it has no record of harm to human beings. Another is that though nitrates from fertilisers can give rise to a risk from blue baby syndrome, there is no evidence of them being implicated other than in a minor fashion in gastric cancer.

In your previous book, *After the Green Revolution*, you argue for a new approach to food production in the third world and for a system of sustainable agriculture. What does sustainable mean in this context?

Let us go back a bit. The Green Revolution was based on a range of new varieties of wheat and rice which would produce very high yields when they were given very high fertiliser applications and very good water control and it worked spectacularly in ideal situations. But it ignored the vast areas of the third world which have poor water supply, suffering from drought, or from floods

— *Recollections of India*

where the soils are poor, and farms are very small. It is a very risky and heterogeneous environment and sustainability in this sense is finding farming systems that will withstand all these different threats and that are economically viable for people with very few resources. The book laid out what that approach would be, a framework for thinking about sustainable agriculture.

Can we go on to the Ford Foundation where you've been up until this month, with responsibility for allocating grants to various agencies in India, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

The Ford Foundation is the largest charitable foundation in the world and in India we worked in a number of different fields, in women's reproductive health, AIDS education and prevention, small scale farming, forestry and water resources. We also worked at a policy level, on economic policy, on peace and security and we also had a big cultural programme: experimental theatre, research on folklore and the transmission of music and dance from the old exponents through a new generation of young students.

Many people perceive the problems of India to be insoluble. I imagine that a feeling of despair must assail you from time to time in a job of that sort?

Yes, that's true. You oscillate between pessimism and optimism; the pessimism comes first from the crude statistics. We're talking about a population that's going to stabilise eventually at between 1.6 and 2 billion people, a population where over three hundred million are now below the poverty line and poverty is defined in basic calorie terms, a very low rate of literacy, very poor primary education, a stifling bureaucracy, and a caste system which is very oppressive. When you are in Delhi all of that depresses you, but when you go out in the country and spend time with the organisations we are supporting, when you go and see these people working, its very inspiring. You see enormous progress at least in relative terms. You can see, for example, what very, very poor women at the bottom of the pile can do. There was a group of women we were working with in North Bihar who belonged to a caste whose sole right in life is to catch rats in the rice fields and to eat the grain that they find in the rat holes, that is the only rights they have in life at all. They have no land, they squat beside the roads, but we were funding through a non-government organisation called Adithi very small loans, no more than say £10, and the women were using these loans, buying small piglets, raising them and selling them, or buying little cosmetic items and selling them, and they were paying back the loans quickly and getting bigger loans, proving that they could be enterprising; that they could break out of this appalling situation they lived in.

Would you say that these kinds of small self-help organisations are a fairly recent phenomena in Indian society?

No, they go back to Gandhian times, but the numbers of them have mushroomed in recent years. The problem is big aid organisations can't cope with giving away small sums of money or working directly with poor villagers. But you can fund non-government organisations to do that

kind of work; you can act outside government flexibly and fast and get money to where its really very well spent.

You worked in India for nearly four years. I wonder whether coming back after that period from such a place you are struck by changes here?

My reaction to being back is a physical one, of course. You come from the heat and dust of the Northern plains of India to the rolling downs of Sussex, the different skies, a landscape that has very few people in it by contrast to India where you are always surrounded by people, so the physical difference is really quite dramatic. And I'm struck of course by the recession. I hadn't realised even reading the newspapers and watching the television just how bad it has become and that hits one very, very forcibly.

You've spent the first week of term, your second week as Vice-Chancellor, welcoming new students to the University. You also have two children of your own at University at the moment?

That's right. I've got one daughter at Edinburgh who is reading German and one at Manchester who is reading Economics and Sociology. They've got plenty of comments about how universities can be improved; they're full of advice every time they ring me up.

I'm sure you won't be short of advice generally. And your wife is also involved in education?

Yes. Susan was a mature student reading Fine Art at the West Surrey College of Art and Design and then undertook a graduate diploma in textiles at Goldsmiths. She is an artist and has had several major exhibitions in Britain and the USA. She has also recently published a book on Thai textiles and is now working on a book on Indian textiles. Since she has been back in Britain she's been teaching an HND course on textiles and fashion at Northbrook College.

Just one last question — it's only been a couple of weeks and it's really rather unfair to ask, but what are your immediate impressions of Sussex?

Well, it strikes one as a friendly place. It's very different, culturally from Imperial College, there's a much greater sense of community, of warmth, than I experienced there. And I'm struck by the degree to which people at the University are coming up with new ideas and planning for an exciting future despite the economic gloom around, and I think that is a very positive feature. And I'm struck, as always, by the vitality and enthusiasm of the students and I hope that we can match that enthusiasm and vitality by providing them with the skills and experience that will enable them to capitalise on their liveliness and give them a good future.

Professor Conway will give the first lecture in this year's Issues in Environmental Sciences series. Entitled *Agriculture and Pollution — Fact or Myth?* it will be held on Tuesday 6 November at 6.30 pm in the Molecular Sciences Lecture Theatre. All are welcome.

Media Studies Students Pass the MBM Screen Test

A leading Sussex precision engineering company is forging close links with the Media Services Unit at Sussex in a bid to improve its in-house training facilities. MBM Technology of Portslade was searching for a local company to produce a training video for one of the company's specialist divisions. As well as approaching commercial production companies, MBM thought they would ask the University to bid for the contract.

First year Media Studies students were invited to tender for the contract. A group of four students was chosen and spent a couple of days at the Company's headquarters. "The quality of their work was excellent" said Managing Director Rob McIlwraith. "As a company we are keen to nurture ties with local higher education institutions and this seemed the perfect opportunity. The University has produced a ten minute video which is proving to be a valuable induction tool for staff."



Pictured from left: MBM Managing Director Rob McIlwraith and Media Studies Students, Francesca Baglione, Vicky Wright and Nick Dimpleby, checking the monitor which shows MBM's Project Manager Richard Barnes.

Due to the success of this pilot project, MBM are now looking into the possibility of Media Studies students producing further training videos for other areas of the Company.

Video Service Officer, Ken Whittington said, "It was a great experience for the students. There is nothing so valuable as getting the chance of working in a real life environment".

Letter

Dear Editor

I have felt for some time that a financial reorganisation of the University could assist our development over the next few years, and the arrival of our new Vice-Chancellor leads me to put down these ideas on paper as an opening contribution to a possible debate.

First, I think that budgetary units should receive a larger proportion of UFC and other funds, with the general top-slice going down from 35-40 per cent to 20-25 per cent. Some central services would then have to be charged for on a costed basis, but budgetary units would, I think 'shop around' and would, in particular, choose to take over some administrative functions. If less was happening in Sussex House, rooms there could become available for teaching and faculty offices, thus ending an undesirable division of building functions.

Second, I do think that we are funded to spend, and failure to spend is as much a sign of poor management as overspending. It is not for devolved budgetary units to frustrate Government and UFC desires to spend money on education by operating 'drier' economic policies than any dreamt of by the Treasury.

So I do think that devolved budgetary units should only be able to carry forward about 10 per cent of their annual budget from one year to the next. Surpluses in excess of ten per cent should revert to central funds and be spent on University priority activities.

Yours sincerely,
Dr. Trevor Pateman
Reader in Education

Dr. Rosemarie Jones

Colleagues and friends were shocked and saddened to hear that Dr. Rosemarie Jones died on the night of October 9 after a short stay in the Victoria Hospital, Lewes. She was diagnosed as seriously ill during the summer vacation and did not wish the news to be broadcast widely.

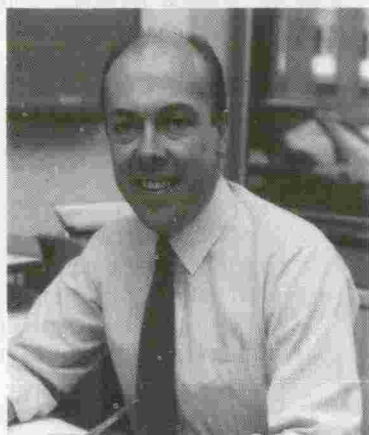
Dr Jones was a versatile scholar, whose publications ranged from work on medieval French poetry to contemporary Algeria. She wrote most extensively about Albert Camus but was preparing a book on other lesser known North African writers. Appointed to the School of European Studies in 1974, she taught widely across school and major courses including French language, philosophy, literary criticism and politics. She was heavily involved with Graduate Studies and a most conscientious DPhil supervisor, spending many hours with research students. All those taught by her appreciated Dr. Jones' quiet patience, her gift for inspiring confidence in the timid, her generosity in encouraging others to speak first and hearing them out. However, beneath her quiet, almost deferential manner was an intellectual rigour, a concern for precision and detail, which characterise the true scholar. Rosemarie Jones will be missed by both students and colleagues, to whom she still had much more to offer.

Sandra Freeman
School of European Studies

First Impressions

The start of each academic year sees a new influx of people at Sussex – students, faculty, and other non-academic members of staff. The *Bulletin* picked three of this year's intake at random in order to have a more personal view of the first few days.

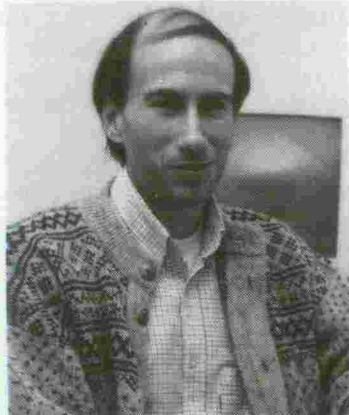
ANDY JUPP is the new Arts Buildings Superintendent. Although born and bred locally, "I had only ever visited the university



twice before, and it was a shock to see how big the University really is: there's so many buildings and so many people." What did he think are the main differences with previous jobs? "Obviously the presence of the students, who have such a different lifestyle. But this gives the atmosphere a nice buzz which I like. The facilities are also very good, and the staff have made

me very welcome." How did he see his future? "I'd like to have a good long-term career here".

Now lecturing in COGS, LUCA ACETO was previously at Pisa University, before completing a PhD here in 1990. He knew and



liked Sussex from his time as a student, but is being a member of staff much different? "I'm slightly nervous about the teaching and administration involved, but I liked the working environment in COGS as a researcher, and first impressions are that it will be as good being a lecturer." And the facilities? "I like the amount of space - in Italy there is a lot of overcrowding, and even professors have to share offices. Supervision for students here is much better than abroad, with tutors having more time for students. The library could be improved - for example by allowing the borrowing of journals." What are his aspirations? "I want to become more experienced in teaching and also take advantage

of the environment to produce high-quality research."

MARIE-CLAIRE ROQUET is an overseas student in EAM studying International Relations. She opted for a year in England in order to practise her English, and chose Sussex as it was small yet near to London. How has settling in been? "Registration was very good - everything was together and the



staff were pleasant and helpful, although sorting out details of the course and finding tutors was more difficult. With work, I have only three hours a week compared to twenty in France, but the amount of written work is much greater." What are her hopes for the year? "To become fluent in English, and to change my mind about the unfriendliness of some English people. But overall it is very nice, and making friends has been very easy."

Later on in the year, the *Bulletin* will return to them all and see how their first year has gone.

Staff Development

Assertiveness Training

Two-day course Thursdays 19 and 26 November 1992. Apply by 5 November.

Two day course Tuesdays 16 and 23 March 1993. Apply by end of January 1993.

Stress Management

One-day course Tuesday 15 December 1992. Apply by 13 November.

Places are available on the above courses. Nominations (via Section Heads please) to Alison Lyner, ext 3806.

Other events are planned — more details in next issue. Please phone if you would like further information: Andrew Hood (Staff Development Officer) 3849 or Alison Lyner (Secretary) 3806.

Public Lectures

Wednesday 4 November COLD FUSION: TOO HOT TO HANDLE, TOO COLD TO HOLD. An open lecture by Professor F. Close of the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory at 7.30 pm in Lecture Theatre PB1A7 MAPS 1. Presented by The Brighton Astronomical & Scientific Society with The Institute of Physics (South Central Branch). Free admission to members of BASS and IOP. £1.50 to non-members, payable at the door.

Thursday 5 November Professor Stephen Fender of the School of English and American Studies, is to deliver the British Academy Sarah Tryphena Phillips Lecture. Entitled REVOLUTION, SUCCESSION AND NATIONAL IDENTITY IN AMERICAN LITERATURE. the lecture will be held at 5.00 pm at the British Academy, 20-21 Cornwall Terrace, London NW1 4QP, Tel: 071 487 5966.

Tuesday 10 November Issues in Environmental Science Lecture: AGRICULTURE AND POLLUTION — FACT OR MYTH by Professor Gordon Conway, Vice-Chancellor, at 6.30 pm in Molecular Sciences Lecture Theatre. Admission free.

Thursday 12 November The Adam Weiler Memorial Lecture. The eighth lecture in the biennial series, established by his family in memory of Adam Weiler, a student of this University who died in the Middle East in 1970. ISRAEL AND THE PALESTINIANS by Dr. Avi Shlaim (Reader in International Relations, St. Antony's College, Oxford), at 6.30 pm in Molecular Sciences Lecture Theatre. Public Lecture. Admission free.

News from the Gardner Centre

Good strong drama is always popular at the Gardner Centre. The Royal National Theatre's visit sold out earlier this season. Now in November it is the turn of *Not the National Theatre*. As the name suggests this exceptional company is made up of ex-members of the National and they will be performing Jim Cartwright's *Two* on 13 and 14 November.

The play is a fabulous cocktail of comedy and tragedy, set in a busy Northern pub run by a landlord and landlady straight out of the Den and Angie school of unhappy marriages. While they fight like cat and dog, stories of loneliness, love, old age and lost youth are played out in front of the bar. Tricia Thorns and Martyn Whitby (from Emerdale Farm) create a multitude of characters in a dazzling display of acting.

Cartwright's language is rich, rough and poetic and he has been dubbed the most exciting new voice to have made itself heard in the English Theatre for years. His previous outstanding successes have included *Road* and *Bed* and he has given this production his full backing, and having seen it is now trying to take it into the West End.

Performances 7.45 pm. Tickets £8.50/£6.50 (Conc. £1 off). Gardner Centre Box Office 685861

Purchases of Computing Facilities

The University is committed to making effective use of information technology, and a major program of investment in networking infrastructure is in progress. Administrative systems will be put in place which make full use of this technology and infrastructure. However, resources for support are not unlimited and the University has determined, through Computing Committee, that all purchases over £250 made with any funds administered by the University, including research grants, must be either from the Approved List or with the written approval of the Computing Committee. It is important to recognize that the likely annual cost of support and ownership over the life of a purchase must be considered by the University, rather than solely the initial purchase price. With this in mind, the Computing Committee determines from time to time what computing equipment should be on the Approved List.

Seeking Approval for Purchases

If you wish to make a purchase which is not on the Approved List or costs more than £2000 pounds, whether on UFC funds or any grant administered by the University, you must apply to Computing Committee before making the purchase. Write to the Secretary to Computing Committee at Sussex House, giving brief details of the equipment for which approval is

requested, together with the purpose, quoted prices and reasons for requesting non-standard equipment.

Advice on Purchases or Applications for Approval

Advice can be obtained from the Computing Service's Technical Manager (Ken Blanshard, telephone 8095). To avoid delay during necessary administration, it is advisable to seek such advice at the earliest opportunity.

Approval List Update

It is now two years since there was a major change in the Approved List, following the initial purchase of 200 Research Machine PCs.

The Technical Manager is preparing a report for Computing Committee which will lead to a major review of the Approved List and would be grateful for suggestions regarding features and specifications required for including equipment and criteria to be used in the evaluation.

The PC or PCs chosen must strike a balance between affordability, performance and compatibility, in order that they form an acceptable standard for a reasonable period of time.

Guide 1992-93

The 1992-93 issue of the Guide to the Computing Service has been published. Please contact the Computing Centre Reception (telephone 8090) if you wish to receive a copy.

THE CENTRE FOR LEGAL STUDIES

The University's new Centre for Legal Studies opened at the beginning of this term, located at present in Arts E. All Law faculty are now members of the Centre whilst retaining a secondary allegiance to a School of Study. LLB, CPE and graduate students are now registered in the Centre, although students reading for the BA in Law remain registered in either EAM, EURO, or SOC.

The Centre is responsible for all undergraduate teaching in law, postgraduate taught courses, research in law, and continuing and professional legal education. Members of the Centre are also responsible for law teaching and law-based contextual courses for the Schools.

The Director of the Centre, Professor Chris Gane, comments, "we now have a greater focus on teaching, research, and expertise in law at Sussex that allows us to become more distinctive as a law centre nationally, without turning our back on the School system."

CAREERS INFORMATION FAIR 1992

The afternoon of Wednesday 18 November sees the Careers Advisory Service play host to its annual Careers Information Fair. In Mandela Hall from 1.00 pm until 4.00 pm the Fair will attract delegates from a wide range of employers and professional bodies. Given the Fair's ethos of *information-giving* as opposed to *recruitment* a number of Sussex graduates will attend to represent the careers that they themselves have followed.

To work, the Fair needs to attract visitors. Any help you can offer in publicising the event to students would be greatly welcome! It should be a valuable afternoon for everyone — first years to finalists, undergraduates or postgraduates, those with clear career ideas and those with none. Further details from John Ross in CAS, Falmer House.

NOTICEBOARD

Vacancies

The following posts within the University are vacant. Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from Personnel Office, Room 227, Sussex House. The list was compiled on 16 October 1992

Teaching Faculty

Chair in International Relations
Lectureship in Law, Grade A or B

Other Related Faculty

Director of the Language Centre,
Grade 5

Secretarial, Clerical & Related

Secretary in Estates, Grade 3

Clerk/Typist in Estates, Grade 2

Nursery Nurse in the Creche.

Student Loans

The maximum Student Loan available this year is £525 for final year students, and £715 for others. Any student wishing to apply for a loan should make an appointment with Shirley Sheppard in the Student Loans Office in Sussex House.

Library News

Work began on Monday 19 October on the project to convert the Education Library's catalogue records to a form suitable for inclusion in the computer catalogue of the main Library. The first converted records will have appeared there by the time you read this; the complete conversion is expected to take about a year.

Ruddygore

The Wandering Minstrels present *Ruddygore*. An entirely original and (almost) new supernatural opera combining evil, innocence, debauchery, madness, malediction, love and ghosts to produce a comic opera, described by the *Sunday Times* (in 1987) as "another brilliant success". 4-7 November, 7.45 pm at the Gardner Centre.

Help Animals

Believe it or not, Christmas is drawing ever closer and once again the Porters in the Refectory will be collecting non-perishable pet food (tins, boxes etc.) for the R.S.P.C.A.

All contributions (no money please) can be left at the Porters' Office in the Refectory where they will be gratefully received.

Publications by Sussex Authors

Pi in the Sky. Counting, Thinking, and Being by John D Barrow, Oxford University Press £14.95.

Virginia Woolf. Edited and introduced by Rachel Bowlby. Includes a contribution by Tony Inglis. In the Critical Reader series. Longman. Paperback £9.99.

Colonialism and Underdevelopment in East Africa. The Politics of Economic Change by E.A. Brett. Gregg Revivals £35.00.

Changing Families, Changing Welfare. Family Centres and the Welfare State by Crescy Cannon. Harvester Wheatsheaf Paper £8.95.

The European Economy. Edited by David Dyker. Longman Paperback £16.99

The National Economies of Europe. Edited by David Dyker. Longman Paperback £16.99.

Social Theory and Social Criticism. Essays for Tom Bottomore. Edited by William Outhwaite and Michael Mulkay. Gregg Revivals £32.50.

Consuming Technologies. Media and Information in Domestic Spaces. Edited by Roger Silverstone and Eric Hirsch. Routledge £40.00.

A Distinct Industrialization. Cotton in Barcelona 1728-1832 by J.K.J. Thomson. Cambridge University Press £45.00.

Techniques in Computational Learning. An introduction by C.J. Thornton. Chapman and Hall £19.95.

Classroom Observation in the Context of Appraisal by N.F. West. Longman £27.50.

All obtainable from Sussex University Bookshop.

Between the Seas

This week sees the publication of Christopher Thome's book *Between the Seas: A Quiet Walk through Crete*, which he completed just before he died in April this year. It describes his journey in 1990 across Crete, the spectacular scenery through which he travelled, and the many friends he met along the way. *Between the Seas* is the account of a remarkable physical achievement. Published by Sinclair-Stevenson it is available from the University Bookshop, hardback £14.99.

Problems with RSI?

If you've had problems with RSI (repetitive strain injury) or want to find out more about prevention, come along to an informal lunch-time meeting for coffee and a discussion. If enough people are interested, we'd like to set up a support group to meet regularly in the future. The meeting will be held between 1.00 and 2.00 pm on Wednesday 25 November, in the Inner Committee Room/Inner Lounge, first floor Refectory. For further information, contact Al Thomson (ext 3585) or Richard Price, Staff Welfare Officer, (ext 3598).

Internal Telephone Directory

All telephone users should by now have received an updated edition of the Alphabetical Section of the University's Telephone Directory. If you have not done so, or require any further copies, please contact the Porters' Desk in your building or, if necessary, the University Switchboard.

An outdated version of the 'short codes' section of the directory was printed and circulated in error at the end of the Alphabetical Section. Please discard the incorrect pages (35-37) and, if possible, retain the list from the November 1991 edition. An up-to-date edition will be circulated in due course.

Morag Stalker
Assistant Secretary (Estates)

BULLETIN

Copy for the next issue of the *Bulletin*, to be published on 18 November, should be received by Pauline O'Reilly, Room 230, Sussex House, by 1 pm on Friday 6 November. If you have any news items or ideas for feature articles, she would be pleased to hear from you (ext. 8209).

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SPECIAL AUTUMN DRAW

£30 towards a meal for two at a restaurant of your choice

Prize donated jointly by Halifax Independent Financial Advisers Limited and Bluett Financial Planning Services Limited – financial advisers to the University of Sussex employees. To enter simply complete this form and return by Wednesday 11 November to the Personnel Office, Sussex House.

NAME

ADDRESS.....

.....TELEPHONE

I would be interested in receiving details of (tick box):

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|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Pension provision | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mortgages | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Life assurance | <input type="checkbox"/> | Redundancy cover | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Investment | <input type="checkbox"/> | Disability pension | <input type="checkbox"/> |

I have no requirements at present, but would still like to have my name entered in the draw

Remember – a proportion of commission earned on policies undertaken is repaid to the University to improve facilities.

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