



The Friends of the  
University of Sussex  
Impact Report  
2022

Dear Friends,

We are very grateful to our supportive and engaged alumni and friends in the United States. The University of Sussex's long history of success has been enabled by decades of philanthropic support, and the Friends of the University of Sussex have played a leading role. There are over 10,000 former Sussex students in the United States and, as Sussex continues to be a popular destination for talented students from our country, this community continues to grow year on year.

I hope you enjoy reading about the impact of the inspiring programs supported by the Friends during the past calendar year (2022). They would not have been possible without your generosity. We have also included a few updates relating to previous donations to the Friends from which students and researchers at Sussex continue to benefit to this day.

I want to thank all of the Sussex alumni and friends in the United States who play such an important role in our University community.

*Adrienne Drell*

Adrienne Drell (Year Abroad at Sussex, 1964)  
Chair and President  
Friends of the University of Sussex



## About the Friends of the University of Sussex

In 1996, the Friends of the University of Sussex was established as a registered charity. Run by a board of volunteers, the organisation supports the University in its development aims of raising funds for institutional priorities, in particular scholarships for students from the US and research with societal impact.

Thank you to all the Sussex alumni and friends in the United States who regularly support the Friends of the University of Sussex. To make a gift, please see the links on [page 35](#)

If you would like additional information about the Friends or any of these programmes or activities, please contact us at [americanfriends@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:americanfriends@sussex.ac.uk) or visit [www.sussex.ac.uk/alumni/support/americanfriends](http://www.sussex.ac.uk/alumni/support/americanfriends)

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## Friends scholar's aspiration to make a difference

Every year, thanks to alumni donations to the Friends of the University of Sussex, Sussex welcomes a new student from the USA to pursue a Masters degree. This year's winner of the Friends' highly competitive scholarship is Brittany Diane Schultz (International Education and Development, MA). Asked what the award means to her, Brittany says, "This Masters has been a far-off dream for some time and I could not do it without the Friends Scholarship."

Before moving to England, Brittany spent four years living in Singapore, teaching English to students between 3- and 12-years old. "As rewarding as it was, I wanted to transition to refugee education because I previously worked with refugee mothers and their toddlers at a non-profit in Arizona. When I decided to pursue a Masters, I chose Sussex as it has the best development programme in the world and the International Education and Development MA perfectly aligns with my goals and interests.

"I'm blown away by the knowledge and expertise of my professors who seem to have worked in every major international organisation in this field. The course is better than I could have

imagined and is challenging my beliefs and changing my perspective constantly. I'm delighted by the resources available and spend a lot of time in the library, reading about theories in the field.

"Most people on my course are also international students so we're in the same boat, building a life in a new country. My fellow students have all been warm and welcoming and I've found it easy to make friends. I enjoy learning from their experiences teaching around the world and about their different cultures.

“

None of this would be possible if I had to work during my studies. I am very grateful for the Friends' support.

”

"I love to explore Brighton and the surrounding areas. One thing I love most is the South Downs National Park. I enjoy finding new hiking trails through the woods, the hills and the seaside.

"After years living in a big city at the equator, it's refreshing to experience the nature and seasonal changes that Sussex offers. The trees' yellows and oranges in the Autumn brought me so much joy.

"Recently my British partner and I went to Cardiff and explored some castles. I hope to visit more of the UK over the summer, especially the Lake District."



### FRIENDS MASTERS SCHOLARSHIP

The Friends Masters Scholarship is available to students in any discipline. It aims to ensure that talented students from the USA are given the opportunity to fulfil their potential, regardless of their background and resources.

### THE VISITING AND EXCHANGE SCHOLARSHIP

We hope to be able to award the Visiting and Exchange Scholarship again next year.

## Emergency Ukranian Students Sussex Fund Appeal

Violetta Korbina (Physics with Astrophysics BSc) is one of many Ukrainian Sussex students who found themselves suddenly and profoundly affected by the conflict in Ukraine. The Friends' support of the Emergency Ukranian Students Sussex Fund Appeal has made a huge impact on their lives.

Asked how she came to study at Sussex, Violetta says, "I've been fascinated by physics since a young age. I clearly remember asking my Mum to explain how an internal combustion engine works at the age of about five-years old, because I knew she did an engineering degree herself. In fact, both my parents have engineering degrees, and most of my family did a degree or worked in STEM.

"In school, physics was taught by an amazing teacher, Sima Polyak. It is mostly due to her that I now can only see myself continuing to research and work in academia. She could explain complicated things in the simplest ways, and knew how to make it memorable. I do not remember a single class ever



being boring, even if it was the worst topic, like interference and diffraction.

"I was born in one of Ukraine's regional centres, Khmelnytskyi. It is not a huge city – the population and area are roughly the same as Brighton. It's quite green and has a lot of open space. However, the academic side of life there wasn't the strongest possible. Most of the science tuition was concentrated in Kyiv, Lviv, Odesa and Kharkiv.

"Despite this, I managed to participate in different olympiads that were organised by the Government. I always tried my luck in two subjects – mathematics and physics – and once made it to the national level in physics!

"My success in mathematical and physical sciences consolidated my wish to become an academic. However, I had to choose between obtaining a degree in mathematics or physics. I chose the latter, as it requires studying the former

anyway. Of course, the whole field of physics is huge, and I eventually chose astrophysics, because – let's be honest – who's not fascinated by the night sky?

"Since I was 15- or 16-years old, I knew I wanted to study abroad, as academic prospects in Ukraine weren't appealing and diplomas are not really recognised worldwide. I started searching for universities abroad that offered astrophysics degrees in English.

"I ended up with a choice between the University of Leicester and the University of Sussex, because I needed an International Foundation Year. To be honest, I chose Sussex because it was close to the airport... And it turned out to be an amazing choice!

"During my time at Sussex, despite the disruption of the pandemic, I had the opportunity to meet so many amazing people amongst the faculty and the Astronomy department that

### UKRAINE APPEAL

The Emergency Ukranian Students Sussex Fund Appeal was launched to provide urgent hardship bursaries and scholarships to students affected by the war in Ukraine.

Whilst they may be physically safe from the horrors of the war back home, distance has not insulated our Ukranian students from the tragic events still unfolding.

Trauma, anxiety and deep concern for their loved ones, as well as added uncertainty about their future and growing financial worries about their ability to make ends meet without family support are just some of the unforeseen pressures suddenly faced by these students.

I've chosen to stay here for my Masters degree. People in the School of Mathematical and Physical Sciences (MPS) are so welcoming and eager to help that it's beyond my ability to write it down.

"I couldn't write about my time here without mentioning my final year research project. I managed to work with Kathy Romer as a part of the XMM Cluster Survey (XCS), despite the fact I actually didn't study clusters. My project focussed on studying X-ray Isolated Neutron Stars (XINS), which are peculiar objects that are much closer to the Earth than all those

distant clusters. They are known for the almost perfect thermal radiation that they emit from their surfaces, which can give insights into how Neutron Stars work and all the processes that are happening both on the outside and on the inside of them.

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In the weeks after the invasion, one of my supervisors brought blue and yellow ribbons into the Physics Department. Sometimes the smallest actions mean so much.

”

"With the recent eROSITA data, it was shown that they might have some emission or absorption features, but further study is required. Although my study has no practical application to the modern-day world, I found myself really passionate about it.

"With the start of the full-scale russian [sic] invasion in Ukraine, studying my degree became a real struggle. I had trouble sleeping and it became difficult to drag myself out of bed. To prevent myself plunging into destructive thoughts, I learned to juggle monitoring the latest news, my volunteer job, studying, researching and making sure I was constantly around other people.

"However, I am beyond happy that I managed to graduate with a First, despite all the complications that arose. My time at Sussex and MPS made me want to stay here and that brings me a huge sense of motivation."



## New microscope to advance glioblastoma research

Thanks to the generous support of the Friends, Prof Georgios Giamas has been able to purchase an ExoView R100 for his laboratory. The generous gift to the Friends was made by alum Dr Stuart Bailey (DPhil 2007) and matched by his employer.

The ExoView R100 is an advanced microscope which includes a high specification camera and associated data acquisition and analysis software. It will contribute significantly to the Giamas Lab's development of a pioneering new 'liquid biopsy' technique.

Prof Giamas and his team have identified novel biomarkers within bodily fluids, which could signal the presence of a tumour and avoid the need for invasive biopsy procedures for patients with Glioblastoma multiforme (GBM), a devastating form of brain cancer.

“  
**The ExoView R100 is an advanced microscope to aid in the Giamas lab's development of a new liquid biopsy to enable early detection of tumours.**  
 ”

### GLIOBLASTOMA LAB AND RESEARCH

Supported by the Friends, Prof Georgios Giamas's cancer research projects are at an exciting point in their development, including work to pioneer a new 'liquid biopsy' technique that could have huge benefits for patients with Glioblastoma multiforme (GBM), a form of brain cancer.

Developing a liquid biopsy to spot deep tissue cancers may enable earlier diagnosis, which is invaluable with aggressive tumours that can severely cut life expectancy.



## PhD scholarships in the Centre for German-Jewish Studies

### BADER PhD SCHOLARSHIP

The Friends of the University of Sussex currently supports the Bader Philanthropies PhD Scholarship as part of the Centre for German-Jewish Studies, as well as the Morris and Bessie Emanuel PhD Scholarships in Modern Jewish History and Culture.

### THE CENTRE FOR GERMAN-JEWISH STUDIES

The Centre for German-Jewish Studies was established in 1994 as the only British academic institution investigating, researching and teaching the cultural legacy of, and the unique historic links between, German-speaking countries and their former Jewish citizens.

For many years, the Centre's work has included study into the experiences of the Jewish diaspora around the world with topics including antisemitism, discrimination and segregation. However, there was recognition of the need to extend this focus.

With this goal in mind, the Sussex Weidenfeld Institute of Jewish Studies has been established as a leading intellectual hub for the interdisciplinary study and public discussion of the Jewish experience and how it relates to the key challenges of our time.

Distinguished by an inclusive global focus, it looks especially to Israel, Germany, US and UK for insights and lessons that can help shape 21st century society.

### Liza Weber

Liza Weber has now successfully defended her doctoral thesis at the Sussex Weidenfeld Institute of Jewish Studies – Centre for German-Jewish Studies. The title of her thesis is *documenta and its Double: Germany's Myth of Modernism in Memory and Provenance, from 'Degenerate' to documenta (1939-55)*.



Her project was generously funded by the Alfred Bader PhD Scholarship in Modern Jewish History and Culture. Combining the methodologies of provenance research and oral history, Liza's thesis traces the trajectory and memory of modernism in Germany from the National Socialist's *Degenerate Art* campaign to the founding *documenta* exhibition in 1955. The thesis questions: is the first *documenta* to be "understood as an answer to the trauma that resulted from the Nazi's original antimodernist smear campaign" (Grasskamp, 1984), or rather a perpetuation of the trauma, which the periodic exhibition is still dealing with today?

“This is a highly ambitious, creative and intellectually stimulating dissertation. The contemporary relevance of this topic is explored in a page-turner of an introduction, which sets out the controversies surrounding the most recent *documenta* exhibition with great skill.

“Indeed, the distinguishing quality of this dissertation is the enormous creative flair with which it is written – the author steps entirely outside the academic register to produce a piece of writing that is up there with the best creative non-fiction: engaging, pacy and entertaining.”

– from examiner's feedback

Liza is currently employed as a part-time research assistant to the Provenance Lab, Leuphana University, working on a project that analyses thousands of provenance records of Impressionist, Post-Impressionist and Modern paintings using AI technologies: *Modern Migrants: Paintings from Europe in US Museums*. She is also employed as a freelance provenance researcher for the auction house Ketterer Kunst in Munich, for whom she performs daily archival and database checks.

While she makes minor corrections to her thesis, Liza is applying for post-doc opportunities and early career researcher fellowships, with a view to deepening her research and practice. She will officially graduate in July 2023.

continued ▶

**MORRIS AND BESSIE EMANUEL PhD SCHOLARSHIP**

Sally Cherara and Samuel Ogden are the recipients of the Morris and Bessie Emanuel PhD Scholarship in Modern Jewish History and Culture.



**Sally Cherara**

Sally’s research explores Mashreqism/Levantinism as an identity expanding in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Israel and the Palestinian territories and in areas that constitute the Mashreq.

Despite inhabiting a region fragmented along ethnic, sectarian and tribal lines, her research will demonstrate that various Arab and Jewish intellectuals have attempted to find a common thread that weaves the diverse people of the Mashreq together.

The impetus for this research is the popularity and revival of the term Mashreqism among public intellectuals, government officials and activists in the region. This is the case on both an international level, where agreements have been signed between various Mashreqi governments, and on an

internal level, where Mashreqism and Levantinism have aroused interest in the aforementioned countries and territories.

Sally’s background is in political science, international affairs and security studies with a regional focus on the Middle East. Since graduating, she has been getting to know the people she will be researching: respected professors in academic institutions, heads of their respective political parties, television broadcasters, journalists, ex-detainees and former militants. Sally has built up a robust database of the scholars in the field as well as those who propagate Mashreqism. From priests to politicians, from political parties to professors, her curiosity concerning Mashreqism has led her to Sussex.

Sally says, “I have been combing through the literature produced by both Arab Mashreqists and Israeli Levantinists and, as a result, reformulated my thesis title to: *A tale of two Levantinisms/ Mashreqisms*. Those readings will go into framing and formulating the questions I’m going to be asking in interviews. I realised constricting Levantinism within a specific theoretical framework would detract from its historical richness and the diversity of opinions found in this ideology.

She will spend the summer interviewing intellectuals who are renowned Mashreqists as part of an oral history. “The contribution made by my research stems from its dialogic approach, which places two similar yet distinct clusters of ideas, whose members are unaware of, and unsatisfied with, the existence of each other, face to face. Arab Mashreqism, with its polished anti-Zionist credentials, will go opposite Israeli Levantinism to flesh out the debate between the constituents of both camps that encompass within

**THE MORRIS AND BESSIE EMANUEL PhD SCHOLARSHIP**

The Morris and Bessie Emanuel PhD Programme builds on Bader Philanthropies’ previous support of doctoral scholarships, examining the German-Jewish experience, its achievements, its tragedy and its new post-war resilience, as well as the promotion of interfaith dialogue and international understanding.

The Morris and Bessie Emanuel PhD Programme is part of the Sussex Weidenfeld Institute for Jewish Studies. Training a new generation of scholars, who will in turn disseminate this knowledge to future students, to ensure the lessons of the past won’t be forgotten in the future.

themselves an array of ideological currents, in the hope of turning this dialogue of the deaf into a fruitful encounter and exchange of ideas.”

Sally plans to use the Morris and Bessie Emanuel PhD Scholarship to pay for travel expenses and memberships with other libraries for archival research. Many resources she needs cannot be handled via interlibrary requests as they are not lendable, so she will travel to Lebanon, where most of the literature is located. She has also registered for Hebrew classes with the Rosen School of Hebrew, which will help her sift through the sources on Israeli Levantinism.

**Samuel Ogden**

Samuel’s research centres on the questions of Holocaust complicity in modern Austrian public memory: *Austria and the Holocaust: Coming to terms with an unwanted past*.

His study aims to better understand the ways in which contemporary Austrian society is confronting its Holocaust past and identify some of the forces which are shaping the memorial space. His interest in this field began while living in Germany and observing how German society has interacted with its past. Samuel’s work is thus designed to contribute to the body of work which is examining similar phenomena in Austria – a nation with an analogous, but distinct, memorial past.

Asked about the impact of the Morris and Bessie Emanuel PhD Scholarship, Samuel says, “Receiving this scholarship has allowed me to pursue an academic career and continue to develop my knowledge and understanding, which I am incredibly grateful for. Without such support, I am not sure whether I would be able to continue my studies at all.”

His journey began while living and studying in Germany, as part of a Masters of Languages degree. “While researching the case of two German Jews who returned to their hometowns only to be murdered by locals, I developed an interest in the legacies of trauma and guilt, particularly post-Holocaust.

“I explored this further through my MA studies in German Jewish History and Culture at the Parkes Institute at the University of Southampton and, having embarked on this PhD at the Weidenfeld Institute, I am excited to continue exploring the legacies of guilt in modern Austria.

“My research has already entailed considerable amounts of reading. I have been focussing primarily on the history of Holocaust memory and memorialisation in Austria; the history of emotions; and the legacies of guilt and trauma in the German and post-colonial contexts.

“I am currently preparing a research paper focussed on one such case study for presentation later in the year, in which I will examine the processes of creation behind the Gedenkdienst in Austria, and critically discuss the extent

to which guilt and its legacies may have formed a part of the creative – and ongoing discursive – process.

“In December, I took part in the Weidenfeld Institute’s Digital Holocaust Education Workshop, which was an excellent opportunity to engage with academics and professionals in the wider field of Holocaust history and to learn about how digital technologies offer new opportunities (and challenges) for Holocaust memory and education.

“I also undertook a day of training in the theory, practicalities, and legalities of oral history research at the British Library. I intend that a portion of my primary research will be interviews conducted with important figures in the contemporary Austrian memorial landscape, so this training has been incredibly useful.”

Outside his research, Samuel has embarked on his first season of refereeing at international fencing competitions, which has taken him across Europe. “This affords me further opportunities to improve my communicative skills, both linguistic and in a broader social sense.”



## New awards for early career researchers

### SCHOOL OF MEDIA, ARTS AND HUMANITIES

#### Dr Ludmila Lupinacci

Association of Internet Researchers

Paper: *Reclaiming the experience: social media and extractive imaginaries of experiential enhancement*

Dr Lupinacci presented her first attempt to move beyond her doctoral research. Her paper dialogues with the conference's theme of *Decolonising the Internet* and proposes a critical framework for understanding and theorising how pervasive digital technologies frame and appropriate human experience.

### SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WORK

#### Dr Jeri Damman

Haruv Conference

Paper: *Parent Advocacy and Peer Support in Child Protection: Exploring the conceptualisation of current practice approaches redefining outcome achievement*

Seminar to the Israeli Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs and Social Services: *Parent Peer Advocacy in the US and UK Child Protection Systems: The evidence-base for outcomes achievement through enhanced birth parent participation*

Parent peer advocacy and support programmes, delivered by parents with lived child protection (CP) experience to parents receiving CP intervention, are examples of more inclusive practices gaining attention and promising positive outcomes. However, little is known about how individual programmes are conceptualised and delivered or how variations across programme typologies may influence outcomes.

This review of empirical literature on parent peer advocacy and support

#### ROD AND CAROL KEDWARD AWARD

The Rod and Carol Kedward Award supports the costs associated with presenting papers or taking part in panels that are on the official programme of conferences.

The Award is aimed at permanent faculty that are early career researchers in the School of Media, Arts and Humanities or the School of Education and Social Work, where Profs Rod and Carol Kedward worked, respectively.

programmes begins to address this gap by examining 25 years of research that explores the design and delivery of these programmes as context for their benefits and outcome achievement.

#### Dr Paul Shuttleworth

British Sociological Association Annual Conference: *Sociological Voices in Public Discourse* (Manchester, UK)

Paper: *Reigniting sociology for social work through child participation*

The global definition of social work states social justice lies at its core. However, social work, especially in High Income Countries, is increasingly influenced by modernity, managerialism, neoliberalism and technical-rational solutions. This encourages an individualised focus for social work intervention and lays responsibility on the families, social workers or local authorities to instigate positive change. Sociological and political accounts are typically subjugated for human development, psychological and psychosocial explanations.

#### Dr Keith Perera

Global Media Education Summit (Vancouver, Canada)

Paper: *Teaching Teachers: Exploring attitudes to immigration*

This presentation shares a piece of empirical media literacy research that explores how to approach the teaching of a potentially contentious social topic – in this case, immigration – with a group of trainee teachers of media. The research was motivated by a genuine commitment to understand how and why there are some very entrenched and often polarised attitudes towards immigration in the 'host' community. Much social and educational policy does not respectfully explore the reasons and factors that are sometimes expressed as hostility towards immigration (and by extension migrants) and therefore does not adequately try to understand the complex psychosocial forces at work.

#### Dr Roni Eyal-Lubling

International Adolescence and Life Course Workshop (Tel-Aviv, Israel)

Paper: *Dimensions of Interdependency: Understanding mother-young adult daughter relations in the context of poverty and social marginality*

The bi-directionality of support between mothers and their young adult daughters was a striking finding in Dr Eyal-Lubling's PhD research unique to families living in poverty and marginalization. She suggests that, alongside burdensome aspects, it may offer hidden benefits for personal, educational and occupational development of young adults. She presents preliminary findings from a follow-up post-doctoral study on the dimensions of inter-dependency in mother-young adult daughter relations in the context of poverty and marginalisation in Israel.

## “This is absolutely life-changing”



### MACQUITTY PRIZE FOR THE SCIENCES

Alfahad Bushawarib (Electrical and Electronic Engineering BEng) is the 2022 winner of the MacQuitty Prize for the Sciences.

On finding that he had won, Alfahad says, “It is an honour as well as a privilege to be the winner of the MacQuitty Prize for the Sciences. After being informed that I had won, I was shocked and had to read the email several times to confirm what I had read.

“Part of my academic success is definitely due to my tutors because, without them giving us the extra time and support to understand some of the challenging topics, during such a difficult time in the world, I would never have been able to recognize and reach my full potential or win this award.

“Being awarded the MacQuitty Prize is by far my greatest accomplishment at the University of Sussex.”

### THE MACQUITTY PRIZES

Since 2008, the MacQuitty Prize has been awarded to Sussex’s highest-ranking student across all the Sciences. In 2018, the MacQuitty Prize for the Humanities and Social Sciences was awarded for the first time. Both prizes are based on merit alone and each is worth £10,000.

Sussex alumnus Dr Jonathan MacQuitty (CHEM 1974) traces the effect of a single act of philanthropy through three generations of his family. In 1884, his great-uncle won a sizeable prize at university, which allowed him to continue his studies and become a successful doctor.

When he died, the legacy of that one gift passed to Dr MacQuitty’s grandfather and eventually, via his father, to him. He used it to support himself as he studied for a DPhil at Sussex in the 70s. Now, in turn, the MacQuitty Prizes will allow scholars to carry on that legacy for years to come.

Dr MacQuitty said, “It’s great to see students benefiting from a substantial academic prize, early in their lives, in the same way that my great-uncle did in Belfast almost 150 years ago.”

### MACQUITTY PRIZE FOR THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

The MacQuitty Prize for the Humanities and Social Sciences went this year to Andrea Jackson (Primary and Early Years Education BA).

Asked what winning the MacQuitty Prize means to her, Andrea says, “Words can be extremely powerful; however, their capacity to capture a true reflection of one’s feelings is limited in certain situations. This is one of those moments in which words cannot express the immense and deep sense of gratitude I feel at being awarded the MacQuitty Prize for the Humanities and Social Sciences.

“I was getting ready for the School of Education and Social Work’s end-of-year party to celebrate completing my degree in Primary and Early Years Education with Qualified Teacher Status, when I found out that I had won the prize for the best-performing



undergraduate across all the Humanities and Social Sciences. I was stunned and in utter disbelief.

“  
I came to  
Sussex as a  
mature student  
to prove to  
myself and to  
my daughter that  
it’s never too  
late to make  
your dreams  
come true.

“At Sussex, I came to believe that, by self-motivation, resilience and an expansive mindset, we can achieve our goals. Although the pandemic and my recent surgery from recurring ill-health added extra pressure to my personal and academic life, I feel very proud to have completed my degree with no delay, achieving a First in classification and, of course, gaining the recognition of the MacQuitty Prize. This is truly surreal and absolutely life-changing.

“Throughout my undergraduate course, I not only gained academic skills but I developed a real passion for educational research studies. Facilitating research that investigated the effects of mindfulness on children’s

wellbeing, I came to the conclusion that early interventions from a young age are not only crucial during the sensitive developmental period but also for developing the cognitive processes necessary for self-regulation and executive function.

“Therefore, I plan to explore this area further while pursuing a Masters degree in Early Years Education with Early Years Teacher Status here at Sussex. I hope to use the prize money towards my further education – both

the Masters and a potential PhD degree – and, of course, for making memories with my daughter.

“Once again, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for winning the MacQuitty Prize for the Humanities and Social Sciences. I am grateful from the bottom of my heart for the biggest surprise of my life, for the recognition of my efforts and ability, and for the opportunity for me to go on to make an impact on children’s education and wellbeing in the future.”







## Prof Sir Harry Kroto honoured in expanded JRA support

### JUNIOR RESEARCH ASSOCIATE SCHEME

The Friends support provides bursaries to two students so they can take part in the competitive Junior Research Associate (JRA) scheme.

The JRA aims to inspire undergraduate students to consider research and post-graduate study, through this unique opportunity to participate in real-life research.

JRAs receive a bursary to undertake an eight-week intensive project over the summer. They work with an academic supervisor and a PhD mentor to gain experience in conducting and presenting PhD-level research.

The Friends continues to support two scholars taking part in the Junior Research Associate (JRA) scheme, in addition to the four new Kroto JRAs. In 2022, they were Dana Aljarrah (Medical Neuroscience BSc) and Sam Husk (Philosophy, Politics and Economics BA).

Due to the pandemic, the University moved the scheme online in 2020 – including a virtual poster exhibition – and since 2021, students have been able to choose whether to conduct their JRA project in person or remotely.

2022 was a bumper year for JRAs, with 96 bursaries awarded to Sussex students. Of these, 52 were from under-represented groups, including first generation scholars, care-leavers, students with a disability and other minorities.

Despite the travel complications, overseas students also returned to Sussex last summer, and the University hosted 11 international JRAs from institutions in China, Nigeria, India, Thailand, Mexico and the United States.

### KROTO JUNIOR RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

Dr Graham Davis (Business School 1979), a former student of Prof Sir Harry Kroto, has made a generous gift to the Friends to support four Kroto Junior Research Associates, in honour of his former professor.

Prof Sir Harry Kroto was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry while at Sussex

Students will be supervised by some of Sussex's top researchers in their subjects and produce a summary of their findings in poster form.

In June 2022, the University of Sussex unveiled its first blue plaque (outside the Chichester building) honouring Prof Sir Harry Kroto.



### THE COOPER-CARLSON PHD SCHOLARSHIP

The Cooper-Carlson PhD Scholarship in Engineering is aimed at women, who are under-represented in the School of Engineering and Informatics.

The Scholarship is named after two of the donor's most influential academic mentors.

We hope to welcome a new scholar in the coming academic year.

## The Andrew Rudd Scholarships: A passion for education

At Sussex, we believe passionately that background should not be a barrier to university and the pursuit of a rewarding and successful future. Research shows that young people who have lived in the care system have significantly poorer educational and life outcomes than the general population on average.

The number of young people in care in the UK has risen significantly in the last decade, with this figure likely to reach 100,000 in the next few years. In a recent survey, the Office for Students estimated that only 13% of pupils who have been in care for 12 months or more enter higher education, compared to a national average of 43% across all student groups.

### THE ANDREW RUDD SCHOLARSHIP

When Sussex opened its doors in the 1960s, only 4% of school leavers went to university, but Sussex actively encouraged non-traditional groups of students to apply, welcoming mature students, refugees and those from working-class backgrounds.

Now, the largest single donation towards supporting undergraduate students at Sussex will benefit students who have been in care through a generous new programme: the Andrew Rudd Scholarship.



The generous donation from the Rudd Family Foundation, via the Friends of the University of Sussex, is intended to support care-experienced students' living costs whilst at Sussex, to enable them to make the most of their student experience and fulfil their potential.

The Andrew Rudd Scholarship launched in September 2022. Nine students from across all disciplines have been awarded £5,000 for the duration of their degree. The annual scholarship is named after alumnus Andrew Rudd (Mathematics 1968), a long-term supporter of the University and former chair and president of the Friends of the University of Sussex.

"Education has always been important to Andrew and our family as a way to expand opportunities and choices in life," says Jinny Rudd, co-founder of the philanthropic Rudd Family Foundation.

"Andrew began his university career as an undergraduate at Sussex and, with his degree and preparation from there, he went on to earn two Masters and a PhD from the University of California, Berkeley, which opened a career in academia as a Professor at Cornell University and then in the business world.

▲ Jinny and Andrew Rudd

“  
Receiving the  
Rudd Scholarship  
will help me with  
extra equipment  
to enable me to fly  
at university and  
ultimately achieve  
my dreams.  
”

"Andrew now suffers from Alzheimer's, but we know he would feel privileged that this scholarship will be made available to help support students who have challenges in their lives, on their educational journeys," she adds. "In this way, his belief and passion for education can be passed on to students who are just beginning their university careers."

Speaking about the significance of this new scholarship programme, Prof Sasha Roseneil, Vice-Chancellor, commented: "Young people who have experienced the care system are hugely under-represented in higher education and, when they do make it to university, often struggle due to the lack of family support that other students take for granted. We want to encourage care-experienced applicants to come to Sussex, and then to enable them to make the most of their time as students, succeeding academically and graduating with the skills and knowledge to thrive in their lives after university.

"We are therefore extremely grateful to the Rudd Family Foundation for supporting our ambitions through the Andrew Rudd Scholarship Programme. It will make an enormous difference to our students, providing them with options and opportunities that would otherwise be out of reach.

"Our intention is to build on our long-standing tradition of widening participation in higher education, so that more young people who have experienced care can realise their potential through a Sussex education. The Rudd family's immense generosity is making this possible."

### WHAT THE RECIPIENTS SAY

"I very much appreciate the positive impact that the Rudd Scholarship's support will make on many care-leavers like me, particularly because it recognises the need to support care-leavers, which is something I care deeply about since leaving care myself, becoming more aware and articulate about the issues children and young adults face."

"I was worried that I might struggle financially at university because I am a care-leaver and not in contact with my family but, with the money from the Andrew Rudd Scholarship, I've been able to have that weight lifted off my shoulders. I plan to use some of the money to get involved in some Societies this year, join the gym, buy essentials for my course and also treat myself occasionally."

"The Rudd Scholarship has given me the chance to enjoy my time at Sussex without having to worry too much about my finances. This support makes all the difference to me, as it has already helped me with my independence and much more."

"There is an opportunity for me to go on tour with the Sussex netball team to Croatia and, thanks to the Rudd Scholarship, I'm able to go. I'm very excited!"

"When I got the news that I'd received this award, I felt like all my pressure was thrown away. I will spend my scholarship budget to pay my utility bills and buy textbooks for my future career."

"Economics has always been important to me – as a care-leaver who doesn't have economically supportive parents, my brother and I went through many money-related problems. When I get older, I want to be successful so I too can help or support those who had similar problems in their childhoods."

"This scholarship will help me a lot by paying off the debt that I needed to take on, in order to get here. I'll also be able to eat better food, as I'm studying so much that I can't find time to cook. I can afford to buy some clothes and educational supplies – and maybe even go to the gym and be healthier too!"

## Synaesthesia as a window into the musical mind



People with synaesthesia have a remarkable way of experiencing the world: words may have tastes, numbers may be coloured and music might be a visual kaleidoscope. But are they remarkable in other ways? That is, beyond their private, inner worlds.

Superficially, people with synaesthesia look and behave much like anyone else – everyone will know someone with synaesthesia, even if you don't know who. But scientific research, led by Prof Jamie Ward and his team, reveals a different picture.

Thanks to the generous support of the Friends, Prof Ward's research is revealing that synaesthetes have a unique and distinctive profile, ranging from the way their brains are wired through to the major life choices they make.

This programme of research is timely, given a wider interest in understanding individual differences in the mind and brain.

In the last academic year, research funded by the Friends has been conducted with professional musicians via collaborations with organizations in the Austin, Texas, music scene. This has led to new findings that synaesthesia is many times more common in musicians than non-musicians. Moreover, this applies to all types of synaesthesia (and not just the music-based varieties).

"Given that synaesthesia emerges early in development, we assume that synaesthetes gravitate towards musical hobbies and professions (as opposed to the rival claim that musical engagement causing synaesthesia)," says Prof Ward.

"Our future research will aim to understand what specific roles synaesthetes have within music, such as music-writing versus music-playing. Gravitating towards more creative roles would be consistent with our lab-based research suggesting that synaesthetes score higher on objective tests of creativity.

"In terms of societal impact, our research will promote greater awareness of synaesthesia and help people with synaesthesia to understand – and nurture – their differences and talents.

"Perhaps our research will even discover the next Billie Eilish, a highly successful musician who has spoken extensively about her own synaesthesia."

▲ Prof Ward giving a presentation to musicians on a recent visit to Austin, Texas

## Honouring the work of an inspiring young woman

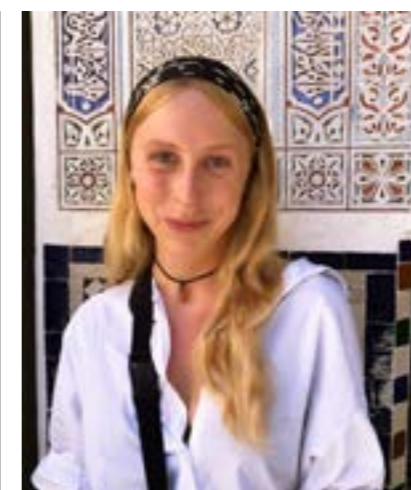
Lotte Jager (International Relations and Development BA) is the latest winner of the Gita Beker Busjeet Memorial Prize.

"It is a great honour to be awarded the Gita Beker Busjeet Memorial Prize. Reading about Gita's life, which was marked by dedicated hard work promoting social justice and the empowerment of women and children in particular, is deeply inspirational to me. I am both very humbled and proud to receive an award in her name.

"I was excited to learn that my personal interests are very similar to Gita's. Growing up in a small German town, I became passionate about social and economic justice. After secondary school, I interned with the charitable trust Asante e.V. in Tiwi, Kenya, which supports poor and vulnerable children and their families throughout the course of their education.

"My time in Kenya strongly influenced my decision to dedicate years of my life to gaining a deeper understanding of the causes and structures of global poverty and inequality. Therefore, I chose to study International Relations and Development at Sussex.

"I've had the opportunity to learn from highly distinguished critical academics



and researchers, which has allowed me to grow both academically and personally. I have thoroughly enjoyed every single lecture and seminar of my journey as an undergraduate student.

"Like Gita, I developed a particular interest in issues around global supply chains and global labour justice. For my final year dissertation, I examined the role of race and racism as a social power structure in the global garment industry during the Covid-19 crisis. Researching and writing my first piece of academic work reinforced my aspirations to pursue a career in academia.

"Before starting my Masters in either Global Political Economy or Economic Anthropology, I hope to gain practical experience working with international organisations fighting labour exploitation and corporate violence. In doing so, I hope to gain a more realistic and nuanced understanding of how we can build stronger and more sustainable bridges of solidarity between academia in the Global North and the most exploited and marginalised people in the Global South, and how we can form more powerful

unions in our struggles for international social, economic and epistemic justice.

"Winning this prize encourages me to be a worthy recipient of this prestigious award, and honour the work of an inspiring young woman. It also reminds me to never stop believing in myself."

### GITA BEKER BUSJEET

Gita Beker Busjeet was a Sussex alumna who passed away in 2012. Her father, Dr Vinod Busjeet, established the Gita Beker Busjeet Memorial Prize in her memory.

"Gita taught us the meaning of courage, working until the very end, leading a productive life of service to others. The prize honours her memory by rewarding the efforts of a distinguished student and helping to perpetuate Sussex's values of social engagement exemplified by Gita's life."

– Dr Vinod Busjeet





## Studying the impact of AI on our lives and the future

David Batchelder (Artificial Intelligence and Adaptive Systems MSc) holds the Jan Metzger Scholarship this year. He says that his experience at Sussex has exceeded his expectations in many ways.

"I love the great diversity of people at Sussex. I've already made friends with people from Korea, India, Malaysia and Egypt, to name just a few. It's been a wonderful experience and it's energising to be surrounded by like-minded people from a range of different cultures.

“  
 With the field of AI already having such an impact on our lives and the potential to massively shape our future, it was an exciting area to study.  
 ”

"After finishing my undergraduate degree in 2021, I took a year to work and think about what path in life to take. I worked on some individual software projects to improve my skills and investigated some topics of interest around AI, and came to realise the value of collaborative work and discussion and how these can positively contribute to one's wellbeing.

"I find myself now in the privileged position of being able to enjoy debates with fellow students and staff. Recently,

for example, I had a conversation with another student and our lecturer, which started on the concept of proof by contradiction and ended with discussing the Riemann Hypothesis and its potentially massive consequences for our world. Being able to interact with such bright and inquisitive minds brings me great joy.

"The second area which has exceeded my expectations relates more to the course and its content/methods. I come from a highly mathematical and statistical background, so much of my academic experience involved analysing well-established mathematical proofs – leaving relatively little room for interpretation. Taking part in seminars, discussing open-ended questions such as 'What is life?', as well as reading and debating scientific papers, has been an incredible learning experience.

"The practical nature of the course has also shone through. In the advanced software engineering module, we are working on a group project to produce a web application, with a focus on sound software engineering principles and efficient teamwork. The experience I've gained from this has already been substantial. I have been elected project manager for our group and so have been improving my communication and leadership skills on top of gaining software engineering knowledge.

"My choice in taking this course comes from both personal and professional interests. Since I was young, the concept of life and consciousness intrigued me, as well as what it means to live a good life. I grew up near the University of Sussex with parents who constantly dragged me on walks as a child (often persuaded by the promise of cake), which also led to an interest in and respect for nature.

"On the professional side, I enjoyed statistics and programming, and knew that I wanted to develop these skills further. Plus, with the field of AI already having such an impact on our lives and the potential to massively shape our future, it was an exciting area to study. The course encompasses an ideal combination of my interests: mathematics, biology, computer science, philosophy and ethics.



"Away from academia and work, I spend as much time as I can playing sports and getting outdoors. I regularly play football, badminton, basketball and bouldering. I love the challenge and competition, and intend to continue playing as long as my body will allow it. I also enjoy hiking and I'm spoilt with the South Downs being so close. I plan on doing some hiking trips around the UK and, if I have the chance, I would love to take on some trails abroad."

## Social Impact Prize goes to innovation in personal security

The 2022 Social Impact Prize winner is Year 2 Psychology BSc student Jazmine Tiley, whose business Protective Bubbles will develop an innovative personal security product to prevent people from having their drinks spiked, as well as helping individuals protect themselves, their loved ones and their belongings.

“There were so many great start-ups that will have a positive social impact that, when they announced the winner, I just couldn’t believe it,” said Jazmine.

“The programme has helped shape my business, from the incredible help and mentoring I’ve had from the Sussex Innovation team to the thinking and planning I had to do for the business plan around my product launch.

“Winning the Social Impact Prize will really help me get started with developing a website design and packaging, as well as legal costs.”

This year’s competition began with more than 80 budding entrepreneurs attending a series of Start-Up Lab training and workshop events, hosted by members of the Sussex Innovation consultancy team and the University of Sussex Careers and Entrepreneurship department.



After 12 young entrepreneurs were selected to spend the spring term working intensively with their mentors at Sussex Innovation to develop a pitch and a business plan, the final presentation to a panel of expert judges was opened up to submissions from any Sussex student or recent graduate.

“Congratulations to the winners and all of the finalists, who’ve had to work incredibly hard to prepare detailed business plans in just a few short months,” said Simon Chuter, Student Enterprise Manager at Sussex Innovation.

“  
This year’s Social Impact Prize winner is developing an innovative personal security product to protect people from having their drinks spiked.  
”

“It’s always an absolute honour and a pleasure to run this programme and watch these young entrepreneurs grow from their experience and develop confidence in their ideas. As anyone who’s been part of the programme over the past seven years would tell them, this is where the hard work really starts.”

“The programme of support we offer gets bigger and better each year, with our flagship competition providing the inspiration, encouragement and practical help that makes a difference,” said Luke Mitchell, Entrepreneurship Manager at the University of Sussex Careers and Entrepreneurship department.

### SOCIAL IMPACT PRIZE

Supported by the Friends, the Social Impact Prize is awarded to the enterprise with the most potential to bring about positive social change.

As well as earning the title of Sussex Student Entrepreneur of the Year, the winner receives a £10,000 prize consisting of a cash award and ongoing membership, consultancy and marketing from Sussex Innovation.

## Cyborgs and transhumanism in popular music

Daryl Pruess (Music Technology BA) won the David Osmond-Smith Music Prize. He says, “I’m grateful to have won such a prestigious prize. I am interested in the intersection between technology and creativity, as well as different cultural perspectives and attitudes towards emergent forms of technology. Studying transhumanism emerged from an interest in debates around AI and how it might change the creation of music.

“Writing an in-depth thesis on this, I found that many different ideologies and perspectives express themselves through the debate on what it ultimately means to be human in a world where we out-source many of our activities to technology.

“The figure of the cyborg became central to my dissertation, as it is both a figurative and performative symbol of the augmented human, changing with

### DAVID OSMOND-SMITH MUSIC PRIZE

The David Osmond-Smith Music Prize is awarded to the graduating student with the most academically rigorous music dissertation.

It celebrates the life and teaching of David Osmond-Smith, who taught Music at Sussex from 1973 to 2007. He inspired students with his astounding and original intellect; the energy and intensity he brought to teaching; and the warmth and kindness he shared with students, colleagues and friends alike.



the cultural zeitgeist. By studying the cyborg within popular music, we may be able to watch cultural attitudes and fears around technology shift over time.

“I will stay at Sussex for a Masters in Music and Sonic Media, continuing my research into transhumanism. Winning this prize has encouraged me to carry on with this line of pursuit.”

### ELEVATE AND ACCELERATOR GRANTS

Elevate and Accelerator grants are available to Sussex students and recent graduates who have made significant progress with their startups.

The funding can be used to pay for prototypes, intellectual property protection, software, marketing materials, specialist equipment, tools or anything that will accelerate their business’ success.

### ACCELERATOR GRANTS

During June, the University of Sussex’s Accelerator programme offers up to 30 new entrepreneurial ventures the chance to access specialist workshops, expert advice and intern support, in order to grow.

Participants have normally engaged in other initiatives, such as StartUp Sussex, prior to selection. As well as the opportunity to work with a student intern, the Accelerator grant provides a small stipend and can lead to an offer

## Help for entrepreneurs

of a further 12-month Incubator package. The Friends supported the Accelerator Grants that were awarded to Theodore Maloney and Jessie McGregor this year.

### ELEVATE GRANTS

The Elevate grant exists to support trading entrepreneurs at Sussex or those who can demonstrate they have made significant progress developing their business. This year, the Friends supported Elevate grants that were awarded to Verne (Mark) King and Sara Barth.

## Celebrating outstanding performance in Physics

Brody Cunliffe and Violetta Korbina (both Physics with Astrophysics BSc) are joint winners of the 2022 Andrew J Symonds Memorial Prize.

### Brody Cunliffe

Brody says his journey through university has been challenging and fun. "I'm originally from Brighton, so adjusting to the city life was straightforward. However, the real challenge was moving away from home and being completely independent. When Sussex accepted my application,

I jumped at the opportunity to study a four-year Physics course which included a foundation year.

"The foundation year allowed me to focus more time on developing my social skills and making lots of amazing friends. Over the duration of my degree, I juggled three jobs to pay my bills, one of which was at the Amex stadium, so I got to watch the football for free on game days, which was a lovely bonus.

"When Covid-19 first hit, I suddenly had to do lab experiments from home and

spent countless hours trying to get my circuit boards working. My university experience has been a wild ride, with lots of ups and downs but, in the end, Sussex has allowed me to improve myself and realise my passions in life.

"My plan for the next year is to take a gap year and earn some money so that I can travel around the world. In September 2023, I will be going into a teacher-training course – hopefully with the support of the Institute of Physics, if they accept my application. Once I become a qualified teacher, I hope to travel around the world and teach physics in different countries.

"I'm very grateful to receive the Andrew J Symonds Memorial Prize – winning it has further motivated me to follow my goal to become a teacher."

### Violetta Korbina

Please see the Emergency Ukrainian Students Sussex Fund Appeal article on [page 6](#) for Violetta's story.

### ANDREW J SYMONDS MEMORIAL PRIZE

The Andrew J Symonds Memorial Prize is awarded for outstanding performance in BSc Physics. It is named after Andrew John Symonds, who was one of Sussex's first Physics DPhil students.

He was also the first-ever graduate student in Experimental Physics and went on to contribute to building a world-class lab from scratch at Sussex.



## Leadership and the future of humanity

In December 2022, the University of Sussex Business School hosted the 20th International Studying Leadership Conference. In association with the journal *Leadership*, this annual event brings together leadership researchers from across the globe for critical, constructive and supportive discussions.

The Friends generously supported the costs for PhD students to attend the conference.

The conference welcomed around 100 participants from numerous countries to the Hilton Brighton Metropole Hotel, on the seafront. Many contributed papers on the conference's ambitious theme, *Leadership and the future of humanity*.



This theme reflects the conviction that, whilst the serious challenges we face won't be solved by leadership alone, leadership matters in the search for solutions and the future of humanity.

Submissions responded to the call by raising many issues of global significance, including the nature of populist leadership and leadership during the Covid-19 pandemic.

A diverse range of contributions resulted in an exciting programme, with sessions

exploring leadership in relation to a wide variety of areas like sustainability, ethics, and gender and sexuality.

Four engaging keynote speeches were presented over two days by the following:

- Mats Alvesson, Professor of Organisational Studies at Lund University, explored *Leader- and follower-ship: Harmony, fiction or disconnect?*



- Thomas Fischer, Asst Professor of Responsible Leadership at Geneva School of Economics and Management, presented an in-depth analysis on *Problematizing the societal impact of ethical leadership research as a force for system justification*
- Donna Ladkin, Professor of Inclusive Leadership at the University of Birmingham, discussed *Beyond a lovesong to whiteness: Imagining race-aware leadership theorizing*
- Suze Wilson, Senior Lecturer in Management at the University of New Zealand spoke on *Grasping at the zeitgeist: What can an historical sensibility offer to our understanding of the present and future of leadership?*

▲ Dr Suze Wilson delivers the keynote (above)

◀ Dr Zahira Jaser welcomes attendees (left)



## Conducting game-changing research

This year's Adam Weiler Doctoral Impact Awards, announced during the Festival of Doctoral Research in June 2022, went to Effie Makepeace, Abigail Dunn and Shalini Nair, all outstanding Sussex researchers who are conducting game-changing research in very different fields.

### ADAM WEILER DOCTORAL IMPACT AWARD

Set up in memory of Adam Weiler, who studied International Relations at Sussex, this award is given annually to exceptional PhD scholars who have demonstrated the potential to achieve outstanding academic impact in their field.

#### Abigail Dunn

Abigail (Psychology) is working in a new area of mental illness prevention, focusing on what can be done to reduce the risk of mental health problems being passed from generation to generation in families, and spanning both intervention and implementation.

Though still a PhD student, she has attracted a £30,000 ARC grant to run a feasibility study of parenting intervention in an NHS inpatient setting, and will act as principal investigator on the project. Abby helped establish the first NHS parent mental health clinic in the UK, and has set up a network for research in this growing field. Her cutting-edge work has the potential to make a major impact for many children and families, on society, and within the field of research itself.

#### Effie Makepeace

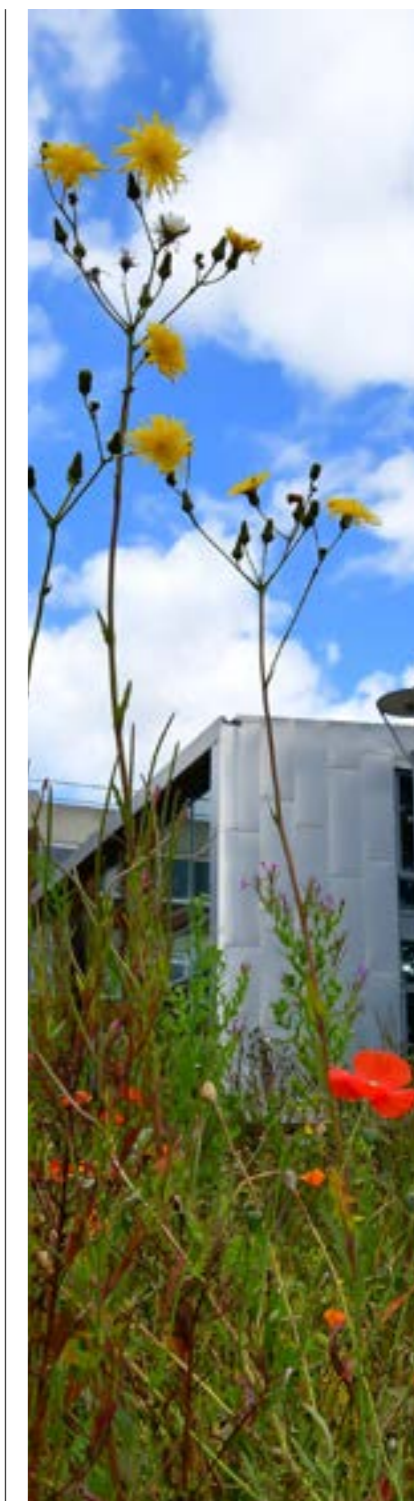
Effie (Drama, Theatre and Performance) is developing innovative methodologies for co-creation through community theatre, democratising and decolonising research practices, and reframing participants as co-researchers to allow them real interpretive freedom.

Since 2008 she has worked with a group of ten female co-researchers in Malawi to develop theatre workshops for women to understand and transform the power relations in their lives. For her fieldwork, Effie ran online creative workshops on power with homeless/at-risk women in the UK, and her approach has been applied to projects discussing caste, gender and sexuality with young people in India, and clinical research into TB diagnosis and treatment in Malawi.

#### Shalini Nair

Shalini (Gender Studies, Social Sciences) is conducting ground-breaking intersectional research examining the #MeToo movement in India, and details how unequal social structures and colonial legacies in law and practice enable sexual violence. Her fieldwork included in-depth interviews with over 60 marginalised survivors across India whose speak-outs had been excluded from the mainstream #MeToo discourse.

Her unique theory, grounded in these grassroots movements, could radically change our understanding of sexual oppression and resistance. A trustee for Survivors' Network in Sussex, Shalini's research identifies specific areas for intervention in policy and media reporting, and her journalism is shaping public debate and community practice.



## Addressing global challenges

Niklas Mariotte (International Political Economy MA) is this year's Jesse White Masters Scholarship recipient. Coming from a German-French background, he grew up in Dresden, Germany. He moved to Nancy, France, to study political and social sciences in a double Bachelor's programme between Sciences Po Paris and Freie Universität Berlin.



Niklas says, "as much as I learned from a broad education on the European campus of Sciences Po, I was soon convinced that Europe is wider and more diverse than its Western core. I had the chance to discover and appreciate different perspectives during volunteer work in Ukraine and an internship in Moldova. Today, Russia's ongoing war against Ukraine and its dramatic repercussions around the world emphasise the urgent need for European and global solidarity beyond national or EU borders.

"In this time of multiple crises, I want my studies and my work to have a positive impact. I chose to specialise in International Political Economy because I believe that global social inequities,

climate change and international security challenges are deeply inter-related and need to be addressed together.

"I have been particularly interested in the global political economy of agricultural production, land ownership and natural resource extraction. This area seems singularly important to me, as it directly impacts the daily lives of millions of people as well as the sustainability of our environment.

"Studying IPE at Sussex presents a unique opportunity for me: the chance to pursue my academic passion in a renowned graduate course – one of the longest-established in the world – and connect to some of the most exciting, cutting-edge research in the field. I particularly enjoy engaging in the critical theoretical reflections that form the core of my curriculum.

"I'm confident that my studies at Sussex will help me to start a meaningful and

### JESSE WHITE MASTERS SCHOLARSHIP

The Friends offers the Jesse White Masters Scholarship thanks to the generosity of Dr Jesse White, who graduated from Sussex in 1968 with a Masters in International Relations, and was the first Marshall scholar from the University of Mississippi.

Jesse also has a doctoral degree in Political Science from MIT, and is the retired Director of the Office of Economic and Business Development at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

“  
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”

productive academic career. Importantly, this implies acknowledging the social responsibilities of knowledge production and the need to orient ongoing change in a positive direction. In the longer term, I can also imagine contributing my knowledge to the work of NGOs or international institutions.

"With these goals in mind, I believe that the turn of fortune that, after my studies in Nancy and Berlin, brought me to post-Brexit Britain will prove highly beneficial. This is only possible because of the financial support I receive from the Friends, in the form of the Jesse White Masters Scholarship, and from a German public foundation – otherwise, I could not have afforded the very high overseas tuition fees that impede the entry of so many people into higher education abroad."

## A historic archive of research on chemical and biological weapons

### JULIAN PERRY ROBINSON FUND

The Sussex Harvard Information Bank is the world's largest working archive of research on chemical and biological weapons, relevant documents and data.

It is open to academics, researchers, government officials and the media.

Located at the University of Sussex with a satellite collection at Harvard University, Cambridge, USA, the Information Bank includes historical documents, state papers, news reports, technical papers and correspondence between individuals.

The material is mostly in print or written form, but also includes audio and video.

It covers the period from before the First World War to the present day and is systematically updated by information monitors at Sussex who can draw on new material provided by a dedicated group of international correspondents.

The Julian Perry Robinson Fund contributes to an ambitious wider programme of work to preserve, digitise and update the Information Bank.

The Julian Perry Robinson Fund supports the work of Geoff Browell and other expert consultants Richard Guthrie and Henrietta Wilson to create a research framework which will underpin the epistemic community.

The research framework will involve a consortium of universities (Harvard, Sussex, Kings College London, the American University of Beirut and Johns Hopkins), as well as a wider network of individuals, companies and institutions involved in the community such as Pugwash (Study Group on Implementation of the Chemical and

Biological Weapons Conventions), the World Health Organisation, SIPRI (Stockholm International Peace Research Institute) and others.

The inaugural meeting of the epistemic community was hosted by the University of Sussex on Armistice Day, 11 November, and organised together with SIPRI.

Geoff Browell, the chief archivist of Kings College London, has completed consultancy works on a report recommending a strategy for preserving, upgrading and digitising the archive.





## Andrew Francis Pickup Global Citizens Award

The following students received a 2022 Andrew Francis Pickup Global Citizens Award:

### Helen Brown

Climate Change, Development & Policy MSc  
Helen undertook fieldwork in Bangkok with the NGO Thailand Environment Institute, who work on an EU-funded project called SUCCESS (Strengthening urban climate governance for inclusive, resilient and sustainable societies in Thailand). Among other things, she was tasked with writing a literature review around gender impacts of climate change in urban landscapes.

### Emily Bruce

Gender, Violence and Conflict MA  
Emily travelled to South Africa to gather primary data such as interviews and focus groups at Sonke Gender Justice, a feminist NGO working to increase gender equality and prevent sexual and gender-

based violence (SGBV) through a gender-transformative approach. This addresses the root causes of SGBV by transforming rigid constructions of gender and masculinity and dismantling gendered power imbalances to create more egalitarian and non-violent ways of being.

### Mahmoud Elhadary

Social Development MA

For his dissertation, *A landscape of necro-politics and slow violence: Syrian refugees in Tripoli, Lebanon*, Mahmood undertook a placement with Utopia, a Tripoli-based organisation that aims to eliminate all social injustices through specialised projects in the pursuit of social justice among members of society, regardless of political or religious beliefs.

### Leah Hawes

Food and Development MA

Leah travelled to Peru for a placement with Asociación ANDES, based in Cusco. Her dissertation looks at how Quechua communities are preserving crop biodiversity through non-competitive markets and the resulting impacts on food systems. She saw first-hand how these communities value the potato and how these relationships shape cultural ideas and practices around food, something that was crucial to Leah's research.

### Nia Ivanova

Migration and Global Development MA

Nia had a placement with Work Rights Centre (WoRC), which helps migrants to access employment justice and improves their social mobility. Her research looks at the lived experiences of post-Brexit Bulgarian migrants in the UK who face interrelated forms of precarity and how the decision to stay is shaped by structural constraints and individual aspirations, highlighting the blurred lines between forced/free and mobility/immobility by focusing on migrants' own narratives.

### Eleanor Lea

Environment, Development & Policy MA

Eleanor undertook fieldwork with the conservation NGO A Rocha Ghana, which runs initiatives promoting sustainable livelihoods, landscape restoration, biodiversity protection, climate change resilience, and forest protection and management. She researched the negative impacts of mining for renewable energy materials in Africa and collected data on the numbers of deaths related to galamsey (illegal mining) in Ghana.

### Phoebe Marsh

Gender, Violence and Conflict MA

Phoebe went to Amsterdam to work with Prostitution Information Centre, which aims to address and challenge the stigma against sex workers in the Netherlands. Her dissertation was a sex-worker-led analysis of the impact that the proposed closure and relocation of De Wallen's Red-Light District would have on sex workers in Amsterdam.

### Jose Medina

Anthropology of Development and Social Transformation MA

Jose's placement in Bangladesh was with the NGO BRAC, which works on diverse initiatives aiming to alleviate extreme poverty and empower women. His dissertation topic was a feminist analysis of women's empowerment and used her first-hand insight into how NGOs fail to utilise such feminist frameworks in their policy design.

### Ryann Stutz

International Relations MA

During her internship at Rotaro in the sustainable luxury industry in London, Ryann was able to conduct research on the sustainability efforts in UK fashion rental. She assisted photoshoots, tracked products, interviewed new designer partners and wrote for the business' blog.

### ANDREW FRANCIS PICKUP GLOBAL CITIZENS AWARD

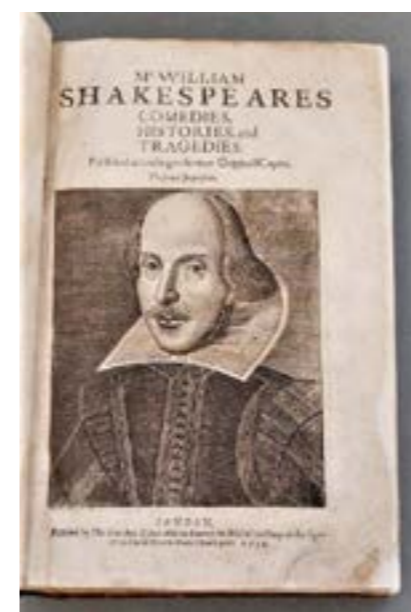
This award enables students to fulfil their potential as global citizens by helping to overcome financial barriers to activities such as voluntary placements and work experience opportunities.

The award is named after Andrew Francis Pickup who tragically passed away while undertaking doctoral fieldwork in South Africa. Andrew was an extremely popular member of the Sussex community, loved by his peers and a highly regarded doctoral researcher.

## John Windle Conservation Fund: from Shakespeare to Turkish costumes

Thanks in part to the John Windle Conservation Fund, work is now complete on the restoration of the *Shakespeare Second Folio*, held at the University of Sussex Special Collections.

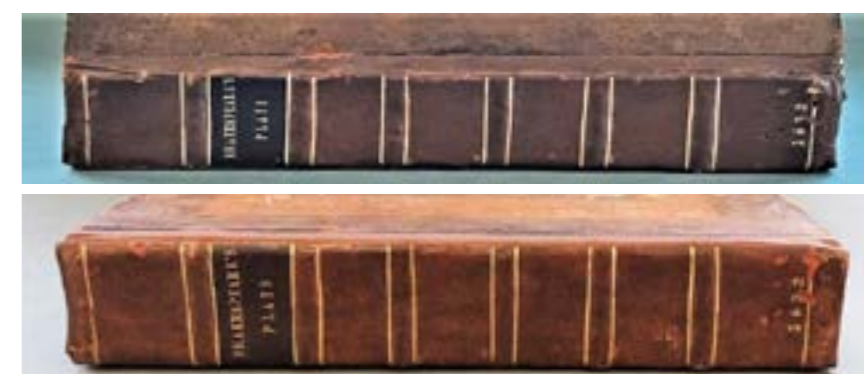
It has been cleaned and repaired, with new silk end bands recreated in the original colours and a new leather support for the spine, dyed to match the original.



Our next project for the Windle Fund is one of the highly illustrated volumes from the Baker Collection of Rare Books.

*Costumes of Turkey* was one of a series of books printed for William Miller by William Bulmer and Co in the early 19th century. Its 60 beautiful plates are engraved and hand-coloured, showing elaborate costumes from not just Turkey, but Greece, Albania, Syria and Armenia.

Other volumes we hold from this series include *Costumes of Great Britain*, *China* and *the Russian Empire*.



### THE KEEP

The Keep is a world-class centre that houses the University's Special Collections alongside the East Sussex Records Office Archive and the Royal Pavilion and Museum Local History Collection, among other collections.



The illustrations were created from original drawings made by Octavien Dalvimart on a visit to Turkey, with engraving by William Poole and John Dadley. They are used regularly in teaching sessions, but that does mean that they get more handling than most.



The volume is in need of restoration, as the spine and cover are coming loose, and there is some transference of ink to the pages facing the illustrations.

Thanks to the Windle Fund and the expertise of Charlie Grimsdell, the conservator at The Keep, it will soon be safe to use to teach our students again.

## How to give

The Friends of the University of Sussex was established as a 501(c)(3) organization in November 1996. Donations to it are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by US law. (EIN 31-1506862)

Through the generosity of Sussex alumni based in the United States, support from the Friends has gone from strength to strength over the years. From scholarships and prizes to a wide range of research programmes, the transformational impact of the Friends can be felt far and wide.

We are very grateful for the generous support and commitment that makes these activities possible. If you would like to tax-efficiently make a gift to the Friends, the various ways to do so follow.

On behalf of the Friends of the University of Sussex, we thank you for your support.

### CHECK

To give by check (payable to Friends of the University of Sussex), please send your donation to:

**Friends of the University of Sussex**  
**1350 Avenue of the Americas**  
**Floor 2, Suite 266**  
**New York, NY 10019, USA**

An acknowledgement and tax receipt will be issued by the Friends' UK office.

### ONLINE

Alternatively, you may find it more convenient to donate online via our Network for Good page by going to: [www.bit.ly/FriendsDonation](http://www.bit.ly/FriendsDonation)

### BANK TRANSFER

To donate using electronic bank transfer, please enquire at [americanfriends@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:americanfriends@sussex.ac.uk) for details of our account.

### STOCK

It is also possible to make gifts of stock to the Friends through our broker, Stifel Nicolaus Inc ([www.stifel.com](http://www.stifel.com)). This can be a tax-efficient method of supporting the Friends because appreciated stock which has been donated is not subject to Capital Gains Tax. It will be treated as tax-deductible, in the same way as a cash gift, and the transfer process is very straight-forward. To find out more, please contact us by emailing: [americanfriends@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:americanfriends@sussex.ac.uk)

### PLANNED GIVING

For US tax-payers, planned giving – through a bequest or a charitable remainder trust – can offer significant tax benefits, and can even provide immediate income to you or a loved one. For more information, please email: [americanfriends@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:americanfriends@sussex.ac.uk)



# The Friends of the University of Sussex

[americanfriends@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:americanfriends@sussex.ac.uk)

[www.sussex.ac.uk/alumni/support/americanfriends](http://www.sussex.ac.uk/alumni/support/americanfriends)

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