

**SUSS-EX CLUB STEERING GROUP**  
**Minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> meeting,**  
**in the DARO meeting room**  
**at 4.30 p.m. on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2011**

*Note: business was not taken in Agenda order, but for convenience of reference is recorded as if it had been.*

**Minute taking:** Adrian Peasgood.

**Present:**

Bob Benewick, Gordon Conway (chairman), Jackie Fuller, Charles Goldie, Arnold Goldman, Steve Pavey, Adrian Peasgood, Jennifer Platt, David Smith, Ken Wheeler.

**1. Apologies for absence** were received from Sue Bullock.

**2. Minutes** of the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting: approved.

**3. Matters arising:** none not elsewhere mentioned.

**4. Future programme:** (a) already agreed:

January 28: John Barrow talk.

February 7: *Yes, Prime Minister* at the Theatre Royal.

June 17: Harry Kroto talk.

(b) discussed

April 19: St Paul's Cathedral (date preferred to September 28, also possible).

September 9-11: UOS 50<sup>th</sup> birthday events – see (9) below.

November xx: possible Kay Andrews talk (administration, Jackie Fuller; publicising to include Jennifer Platt (Brighton Society) and Arnold Goldman (Lewes).

2012: possible speakers, with contact responsibility in parentheses: Paul Nurse (Gordon Conway), Nigel Llewellyn (Steve Pavey), Helen Wallace (Bob Benewick).

(Minutes of July 2 omitted the mention, by Ken Wheeler, of Tom Blundell.)

**5. Interaction with University Administration:**

(a) Received paper on meeting with Registrar by David Smith and Charles Goldie.

(b) Car parking. Learned that earlier in the week proposals to implement charges at evenings and weekends had been suspended until a review in August. Noted the importance of the football stadium programme for UOS out of hours parking policy.

(c) Senate decision on titles. There was general concern at the intention to alter UOS policy, and restricting use of the 'emeritus' title to qualifying Professors only. The decision was part of a broader programme, and it was not clear how far those involved were aware of this element, nor what the arguments in favour of the change were. It was agreed that reducing eligibility for the title (which did carry practical benefits) was likely to lose some goodwill towards the University, and that representations should be made to restore the status quo. Charles Goldie and David Smith would begin by ascertaining the position of DARO on the issue, probably following that with contact with HR.

## 6. Reports:

November 12: Mary Kaldor talk. A good attendance in the end, although unprompted advance bookings had been insufficient. A surplus was made on the event. Jackie Fuller emphasised the importance of personal contacts in getting people to come, and it was agreed that arrangements for future such events should include commitments by appropriate steering group members actively to promote them. (David Smith would cover the Harry Kroto evening.)

December 15: Christmas party, with USPAS. Excellent numbers and atmosphere, and excellent organisation. Charles Goldie tabled a detailed short report from Sue Bullock. Warmest thanks and congratulations to Sue Bullock who had been responsible for the Suss-Ex element of the arrangements.

Financial: Jackie Fuller tabled a financial statement, explaining that the tiny negative balance reflected the timing of cash flow, not the underlying position.

**7. Membership list:** Charles Goldie reported continuing dismay at the quality of the list. There had been no implementation by the University of the agreement to make adding the names of retiring staff to the list a default procedure; several 'emeritus' academics were missing from the list; some names added previously at his request were now missing. Steve Pavey agreed to join him in contacting the HR office to persuade them of the importance of maintaining a comprehensive list. Welcomed Jackie Fuller's offer to provide contact details of people who had attended events she had organised but who were not on the list.

**8. Newsletter:** Jennifer Platt and Charles Goldie would produce the next issue.

**9. AOB:** UOS 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary:

Fellowships. Noted the proposed 50 fellowships to be created as part of the celebrations, and that these should be awarded to 'people associated with Sussex who have made distinguished contributions in any field or activity since its foundation'. It was agreed that Suss-Ex as a group should not make nominations, but several names were discussed as examples of people whom individuals might nominate.

Panel discussion. Welcomed the suggestion of a panel discussion contained in a report from Arnold Goldman and Jennifer Platt, preferring the option which paired academic faculty with appropriate former students. Agreed that achieving perfect 'balance' of periods and disciplines would overload the concept, and that ensuring a lively conversation was the priority. Various possible participants were considered, and Bob Benewick, Jennifer Platt, and David Smith agreed to approach likely 'candidates'; once identified the candidates would be expected to find the necessary ex-students. Identifying a suitable chairman would be important.

**10. Date of next meeting:** Friday May 6, at 5 pm.

*Recent minutes (and succeeding agendas)*

Jan 2010: Mike Tribe

April 2010: Arnold Goldman

Nov 2010: Charles Goldie

Jan 2011: Adrian Peasgood

*Recent newsletter editors*

Feb 2010: Jennifer Platt

May 2010: Jennifer Platt

Nov 2010: Adrian Peasgood

Feb 2011: Jennifer P / Charles G