

# UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX FORMER STAFF ASSOCIATION

## Steering Group Meeting no 2

Minutes - Friday 30 June 2006 at 4.00pm

Development & Alumni Office, Bramber House

Sir Gordon Conway (Chairman)	<i>In attendance:</i>
Bob Benewick (BB)	
David Betts	Marina Pedreira-Vilarino
Mike English	Richard Price (RP)
Jackie Fuller (JF)	Roger Walkinton (DARO)
Charles Goldie (CMG)	
"Kenny" Kenefick (KK)	<i>Apologies:</i>
Mike Land (ML)	
Steve Pavey	Valerie Cromwell
Adrian Peasgood	Christine Glasson
Jennifer Platt (JP)	Willie Lamont
Ken Wheeler	Dominic Tickell

- 1. Feedback from 6 April reception: progress in listing potential members:**
  - Development & Alumni Relations Office (DARO) now have some 362 names and addresses on their database, compiled from lists from the reception, cross-checked against lists subsequently compiled and submitted by Valerie Cromwell, Adrian Peasgood and Maurice Hutt
  - Steering Group and indeed any former staff are positively encouraged to submit further names and addresses to DARO to augment this list on a rolling basis - **ALL**
  - Charles Goldie to pursue other US units for further names and addresses (including suggestions from subject chairs and US pensioners) – **CMG ML**
  - Members will be predominantly retired ones but a number may also be interested who have merely left and gone elsewhere; ensure inclusiveness, encompassing\academic, technical, clerical and manual staff.
  - DARO will continue to maintain this database and help arrange mailings as its ongoing contribution to the former staff association initiative - **DARO**
  - Great enthusiasm shown at 6 April reception and many ideas forthcoming
  - Facilities and discount offers for former staff to be inserted into next Newsletter – Richard Price urgently needs handout for his forthcoming pre-retirement mailing – **DARO**
- 2. Initial events and activities:**

Next Newsletter to go out within next few weeks and promote:

  - Oral history project (copy already received)
  - Brighton Theatre Royal trip wc 18 Sept – **JP**
  - Gym – exercise class/induction session - **JP**
  - Dinners – (a) House of Lords – **JF** to ask Baroness Sharp for a late 2007 date (b) other earlier dinner in somewhere like Stanmer House
  - Christmas Party - **KK** to lead research and organisation of a party in 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Conference Centre or Meeting House Quiet Room with costs covered in part by annual subs (BUT SEE BELOW) plus voluntary contributions (A volunteer needed to help her in this).
  - **GC** also offered to give talk in informal surroundings (IDS?) on "Life after Sussex – Philanthropy and the Civil Service" - possibly institute a termly series – **BB?**

Members to be encouraged to bring partners; provision also to be made for partners of those no longer with us.

In addition, reference will be made to the following ideas to gauge levels of likely interest before pursuing for the time being:

- Walks – **GC** to contact David Streeter, Geoff Mead etc
- Stately home visit e.g. NT Chartwell or Wakehurst Place – **KK** (consider car-sharing as an alternative to coach hire)
- Pub quiz
- Visit to races/greyhounds **ML**

3. **Next newsletter and its content:**

- To go out in next few weeks, emailed where possible and be termly – **RW, JP**
- Focus on (a) Theatre trip (b) Gym and (c) Christmas party – minimum of 2 activities per edition
- Allude to other ideas to gauge interest/take-up, and make clear that volunteers are needed to run these activities which will only happen if people help make them happen!
- Oral history
- Subscription request
- List of facilities and offers available
- Announce name and re-iterate steering group
- Reminder that they will automatically receive Falmer, professorial lecture leaflets etc

4. **Roles for next stage:**

- **GC** agreed to be Chairman for up to one year initially
- Steering Group to meet once a term and act as interim Committee - **ALL**
- **DARO** to act as membership office initially – database and subscriptions
- **CMG** to source more members
- **JP** to mastermind initial events/activities, in particular Theatre and Gym, for a year; volunteers to contact her
- **KK** to mastermind Christmas party

5. **Finances:**

- **GC** to consult Alasdair Smith over waiving cost of Finance Dept processing income
- **RP** to see if US will allocate and transfer its annual US pensioners event budget thus enabling them to attend the Christmas event for free
- Outings in general to be charged for additionally to subscription; additional voluntary contributions also always welcome
- Subscription to be set initially at £10 p.a. for a single membership; £15 for a pair, and this income to be used to defray admin expenses (postage where no email) and go towards costs of one annual event such as the Christmas party)
- ***However – subsequent discussion among those producing these notes agreed that it seemed premature to start the subscription immediately, when people had not yet seen the club in action – and when we had not actually worked out some of the practical details such as how to deal with the issue of members with limited resources in relation to activities other than the Christmas party.***

6. **Club name:**

To be called the **SUSS-EX CLUB**

7. **A O B:**

Steering Group to meet on **Friday 13 October 2006 at 4.00pm** in Bramber House