

Business and the community



Enterprise development fund hits its stride

The Enterprise Development Fund enables the development of commercially attractive applied research and attract external interest and income. The Fund is the responsibility of the Enterprise Panel, supported by staff from Planning, Research and Enterprise, and the Sussex Innovation Centre. All members of staff with a responsibility for undertaking research are eligible to apply to the Panel for funding, and there have already been a number of significant awards. Businesses funded so far include:

TradeSift – software for analysing international trade policy choices to assist in the formulation of policy.

Electric Potential Sensing (EPS) – a revolutionary new tool capable of measuring potential (voltage) remotely, with a multitude of applications in areas like healthcare and materials testing.

Vertical Slice – understanding the usability and user experience of computer games, working with the computer games industry.

School pupils get a lesson in university life

School pupils from around Sussex had a chance to sample university life this summer, and even 'graduate'. The 40 Year 11 pupils who took part in the Sussex Aimhigher Summer School had no family experience of higher education, so their week here gave them a chance to see what it's like being on campus, attending lectures, making new friends and trying different activities. The students were then asked to give a presentation on an aspect of the week that interested them, at a special 'graduation ceremony'.

Researchers at 'Vertical Slice', which has been funded by the Enterprise Development Panel to investigate how users experience computer games



Schoolchildren from St Joseph's Catholic Primary School visited Sussex's Laboratory for Apiculture and Social Insects in April to learn more about honey bees

Internship programme to help recession-hit businesses

The University is set to support businesses in Sussex with a grant of £280,000 won from HEFCE to help place 175 of 2009's graduates into firms across the region working in partnership with Wired Sussex.

In a previous round of the recession-busting scheme, the University initially focused on placing graduates into Sussex's digital-media sector. Now the Sussex Internship Programme is extending its reach beyond the digital sector to the life sciences and pharmaceutical, advanced manufacturing, professional and financial services, and engineering construction. Professor Bob Allison, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research), said: 'We are delighted to be able to increase the business community's access to higher-education skills and funding with this project. It will bring high-quality, results-driven support to these vital areas of our local economy and not just in the short term but for a long time to come.'

Student entrepreneurs Team Enterprize are UK champions

Congratulations to Team Enterprize – students Claire Harrison, Thomas Kingston, Prateek Sureka and Michal Tomaszewski – who represented the UK in the final of the CIMA (Chartered Institute of Management Accountants) Global Business Challenge in Singapore, after winning the UK leg of the competition in June 2009.



Team Enterprize