Summer Internship
Human Development Report Project
Shinyanga, Tanzania

From July to September 1998, five members of MP20, Ursula Grant, Ada Kirunda, Nathalie Lebrun, Garett Pratt, and Iliana Yaschine-Arroyo, served as interns on the Human Development Report Project (HDRP) in Shinyanga, Tanzania. IDS was providing technical assistance to the Shinyanga Regional Government to prepare a human development report for the region, with financial support from the UNDP. The project had three aims: producing a human development report, capacity building for local government staff in participatory research, and catalyzing local efforts for development in the study communities.

The final report was synthesized from the findings of a participatory poverty assessment (PPA), sector studies prepared by national consultants, and the findings of an evaluation workshop in February.

The interns participated in a three week residential training in PRA and theatre for development held outside Shinyanga town. The interns joined 25 government researchers, as well as eight national consultants. Learning through group work and reflecting on field exercises, the team members

Alumni offer valuable experience

Sincere thanks to the Alumni who offered suggestions for internships / summer placements in 1998 for the students on the two-year MPhil programme. Unfortunately we could not take advantage of all the internship opportunities offered by Alumni this year due to language requirements, such as those from Mozambique, Costa Rica and Ecuador. Hopefully, the offers will still be available next year for MP22. From the success stories, we are attaching a short report from Romilly Greenhill on her experiences at UNCTAD this summer (many thanks Tes). As reported in AlumNews5, we include a report from the group of MPhil students who took part in the Participatory Poverty Assessment project as part of research for a Human Development Report for the Shinyanga region in Tanzania, in summer 1997. We are always looking to expand the programme and it would be helpful if suggestions/requests for internships could be made in the early part of the year as it usually takes several weeks/months to formalise. Please contact Sue Ong (s.w.ong@ids.ac.uk) at the Institute if you have any suggestions.

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Report on Internship at UNCTAD, July 1–September 4 1998
Internship undertaken in DITE, under the supervision of Taffere Tesfachew

During my summer vacation this year I did an internship at UNCTAD in Geneva. My supervisor was the much loved (or so I am learning!) ex-IDS DPhil, Taffere Tesfachew. I thoroughly enjoyed the experience and learned a huge amount there, not only about the subject area but also about UNCTAD and the UN more generally. The people I worked with were, by and large, extremely welcoming, friendly and encouraging (especially my supervisor!). For me, also, the very experience of being in the United Nations and observing its work was fascinating, and I hope to be able to go back at some point!

The majority of my time at UNCTAD was spent in researching and writing a paper to be used for the Investment and Innovation Policy (IIP) review of Ethiopia to be undertaken shortly by DITE. The Ethiopian review is the first to combine innovation and investment and thus, during my time at UNCTAD, the conceptual framework and background to the study were being developed. My role was to look at the interaction between innovation and investment into Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and to suggest policy recommendations based on case studies from different areas. Using the library, I reviewed the literature on the area and different case studies. With assistance from my supervisor, I produced a long paper which, as well as being used for the IIP review, we hope to be able to jointly publish.

I also undertook various other activities during my time at UNCTAD. I designed a questionnaire to be distributed to SMEs on their linkages with the national system of innovation and their investment strategies. This is to be used as part of the Ethiopian review. I was also involved in some work for the Expert Meeting on networking and clustering amongst SMEs that was held in Geneva from 2–4 September 98. I wrote the opening speech for the Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD, Rubens Ricupero, and produced some material for the Press Release about the meeting. During the Meeting itself, I was involved in taking notes from and summarizing the meeting, and doing summaries of the various speeches. Obviously, I also attended some of the sessions of the meeting and learned a lot from the experts and their experiences from around the world.

My only real problem (in fact, I think, my only problem) whilst at UNCTAD was my computer, which I regularly wanted to throw out of my (9th floor) window with frustration. It managed to crash about 5 times a day on average and had to think about even the simplest of actions for a while before doing it. The IDS network seems like a dream after UNCTAD!

However, beyond this problem, I thoroughly enjoyed the time I spent at UNCTAD and am grateful to Tes and everyone else that I worked with for providing me with such a valuable experience.

Romilly Greenhill
theory of the state, democratisation, civil society, poverty alleviation and currently the crucial issue of reforming the welfare system. He combined an unswerving commitment to progressive politics with uncompromising academic professionalism. His work was enthusiastically received across the spectrum from the critical left to mainstream economists with whom he regularly battled. His facility for clear expression and his elegant prose style, unusual in the social sciences, was evident in his widely appreciated overview of contemporary China. Riding the Tiger. Gordon White grew up in Newcastle-under-Lyme where his working class father and primary school teacher mother nurtured his intellectual development that led to his earning a full state scholarship. At Oxford he read Classical Mods and Greats and moved on to Cornell University, again on a scholarship, where he received an MA in Archaeology. In the 1960s, the Far East and South East Asia were high on academic and political agendas and Cornell’s programmes were particularly strong. Gordon, a lifelong Labour Party member, became involved in the political movements opposing the Vietnam War and switched to Political Science. At Cornell he met his first wife, Christine Pelzer, who was to become a specialist in Vietnamese studies. Inspired by Professor John Wilson Lewis, Gordon followed him to Stanford where he studied for his PhD, receiving Chinese language training in Taiwan and undertaking fieldwork in Hong Kong. His first fulltime teaching post was a lecturership in the Department of Political Science at the Australian National University from 1973 to 1977. The following year he joined the IDS. Disaster punctuated his long career, as recurring spinal tumours that first appeared in his Cornell days eventually left him permanently confined to a wheelchair. In spite of debilitating pain, severely reduced mobility and the difficulties of carrying out fieldwork, Gordon’s research, writing and trips to China not only continued undiminished but took on a new momentum. Even when he moved, for medical reasons, to a part-time appointment his output exceeded the requirements of a fulltime Fellow. Equally if not more important than his research productivity, were his commitments to collaborative work and collegial values and life. Gordon was not the hermit scholar preoccupied with his own ideas and schemes. Within the IDS he made a general intellectual contribution involving himself in defining research agendas and drawing up successful funding proposals for major projects on social policy, poverty alleviation and globalisation. His abundant energies were not confined to IDS, however, for he established close working relationships with colleagues at other universities in Britain, Canada, China and the US. He actively contributed to the Institute’s extensive graduate programme not just as a popular yet demanding tutor and supervisor but as Chair of the Development Studies Graduate Division for seven years and co-director of the taught MA programme on six different occasions. On a more personal level he attracted a following of devoted students, acted as a mentor to younger colleagues and was a confidant to a host of people. His collegiality also took lighter forms, including gags and gigs. Ever ahead of his time, in 1973 Gordon anticipated the 1990s revival of cultural revolution songs as disco favourites by performing the East is Red Boogie to a stunned audience of People’s Liberation Army soldiers. He was the impresario of the IDS annual pantomime which he largely wrote, directed and choreographed and for which he provided the keyboard accompaniment. Performed by students, faculty and staff, the pantomimes played to packed houses and raised substantial sums for charity. They were prized enough to have been published in-house and video-taped. An unpublished but privately circulated gem was his ‘Swiss Army Knife with Chinese Characteristics’ which was submitted to a number of academic journals much to the bemusement of their editors. Gordon, undaunted by academic pursuits, formed and re-formed a continuous parade of rock bands which performed to local acclaim under names such as Old Steine and the Levels, the Heuristics, EMU and Hippies with Haircuts. The last years of Gordon’s life were characterised by struggle but also by his great courage and the happiness he found in his second marriage to Barbara Harriss, a scholar of South Asia and the Levels, the Heuristics, EMU and Hippies with Haircuts. The last years of Gordon’s life were characterised by struggle but also by his great courage and the happiness he found in his second marriage to Barbara Harriss, a scholar of South Asia at Oxford. Their shared academic and political commitments as well as deep love for each other helped them to surmount the challenges of living in different places, made all the more difficult by Gordon’s disability. A visitor to China is always asked about one’s family and Gordon would take this opportunity to show his hosts, with glowing pride, photographs of Barbara and her daughters Kaveri and Elinor. They survive him, as do his mother and sister. Bob Benewick

Unabridged text of the obituary which appeared in the Guardian

The Director of IDS, Keith Bezanson, wrote “Gordon White was the embodiment of the best of IDS and we shall not see his likes again. ‘We extend our love, solidarity and support to his wife Barbara’.”
The East Asia Crisis

The Gordon White Memorial Workshop
IDS 13/14 July 1998

The Institute of Development Studies hosted an international workshop on July the 13 and 14 1998 on the crisis in East Asia. The workshop was chaired by Maurice Strong and Keith Bezanson. A list of the commissioned papers together with additional contributions to the two days are listed below. These will be available in published version in due course.

Commissioned Papers

- Stephany Griffith-Jones - How to Protect Developing Countries from Volatility of Capital Flows?

- Michael J. Howell - Asia's "Victorian" Financial Crisis

- Raphael Kaplinsky - "If you want to get somewhere else, you must run at least twice as fast as that!" The roots of the East Asian Crisis

- Yung Chul Park and Chi-Young Song - The East Asian Financial Crisis: A Year Later

- Helmut Reisen - Domestic Causes of Currency Crises: Policy Lessons for Crisis Avoidance

- Frances Stewart and Gustav Ranis - The Asian Crisis and Human Development

- Robert Wade - The Asian Crisis: Debt Deflation, Vulnerabilities, Moral Hazard, or Panic?

- Ashok Bhundia, L. Kasekende - The East Asian Financial Crisis: Some Lessons for Uganda

- Valpy FitzGerald - Global Capital Market Volatility and the Developing Countries: Lessons from the East Asian Crisis

- John Hawkins, Morris Goldstein - Genesis of East Asia's Financial Turmoil

- K.S. Iomo - Malaysian Debacle: Whose Fault?

- Christopher Huhne - After Asia: some lessons of the crisis

- Katherine Marshall - Social Dimensions of the East Asia Crisis - Some Reflections on Experience from the Adjustment Eras in Africa and Latin America

- Matthew Martin - Currency Crises: Lessons from Low-Income Africa?

- Manuel Montes - Three Complications in Asian Economic Recovery


- Adam Posen - Does American-Style Finance Compel American-Inclination Finance?

- Valpy FitzGerald - Global Capital Market Volatility and the Developing Countries: Lessons from the East Asian Crisis

In recognition of Gordon White's contribution over many years to the study of East Asian development, and as a memorial to his work and the inspiration he gave to many, this workshop has been termed the Gordon White Memorial Workshop.

Further details on the Workshop plus details of Discussion Paper No. 367 and Keith Bezanson's paper can be found at the IDS web site on www.ids.ac.uk

Gordon White Scholarship Fund

It has been decided that a fund be set up, in the memory of Gordon White, to provide a Scholarship for a student to attend IDS.

The precise funding of the Scholarship has not been finalised as yet, but there will be three or four possible sources.

- Fellows of IDS
- IDS Alumni
- Friends of Gordon White
- IDS

It is hoped that fellows at IDS will be able to donate work points (approx value Stg £200) in lieu of cash, and that these funds may be matched by the Institute.

Friends of Gordon, coordinated by his close friend Bob Benewick, will be asked to contribute cash.

So, we are asking you, the Alumni, to contribute cash to this fund. The Scholarship fund will be used to support a student attending a degree course at IDS. Depending on the funds collected, the money will be used either to support an existing student in financial difficulties, or to provide a full scholarship to a person who would otherwise be unable to attend.

There are other memorials, a piano is being bought with contributions from Fellows, and will be available for use in the IDS Bar, and by people involved in the IDS pantomime. And a conference and subsequent publication of papers is being organised for Spring 1999.

We hope that you will be able to contribute generously. Gordon was a friend to all students at IDS, and very many of us have fond memories of him. His contribution to IDS was unique, and despite the challenges of his illness, he contributed also to the life of students in IDS in a way that was second to none. His sense of humour, his music, the pantomimes, as well as his sharp wit and academic skills have enhanced all our lives, both personally and professionally. It is very important that he is remembered.

Cheques should be made out to The Gordon White Scholarship Fund and sent to:

John Sanders,
The Finance Officer,
Institute of Development Studies.

Thank you,
Mary McKeown
Look, It Moves!
The Changing Face of IDS Academic Staff

I wrote this piece before the loss of Gordon White. You will soon see why it was then tempting to scrap it entirely. I no longer feel able to celebrate the facts set out below with the same enthusiasm as in the original draft. So I have stuck to the facts - that are of great long term significance.

A big change is underway in the composition of the IDS academic staff. Some of you will scan the staff list and still see familiar names, or look at the figures below and ask 'What change?' Indeed, the figures on which that table is based are accompanied by a note from Francine Spencer lamenting that 'Despite so much effort we really haven't moved that much!' Not so, Francine. We are actually moving quite fast. But, because the movement only began about three years ago, it does not show strongly in the average figures. Three main changes are underway. Let us take them in order of magnitude.

First, the balance of staff is changing, away from Fellows toward Research Officers and Research Assistants. (We do not provide figures on Research Assistants here because the majority of contracts are of a short term nature, often with our own students. Even so, the number of Research Assistants on relatively long term contracts has increased.) Only three years ago, Fellows were like the academic staff. Now Research Officers and Research Assistants rival them in numbers. The main reason is the changing nature of our research funding as all long term 'core' financing has disappeared. We increasingly compete for research tenders and contracts. We need Research Officers and Research Assistants to provide us flexibility when we win contracts, and to win them we need to be competitive against other organisations that also employ relatively cheaper 'junior' academic labour. (Note that, while we do indeed have a financial crisis in relation to the Library, and a persistent structural problem with the short-termism of so much research funding, the research programme is expanding!)

Second, less strongly but still visible, the gender balance is changing. This is mostly because we are employing more (female) Research Officers, but is (just) evident within the Fellowship. The overall proportions of women are still low, but the marginal figures are more encouraging. Of the 15 new Fellow and Research Officer positions that were created (net) between 1995 and 1998, 60% went to women. Even more encouraging is the fact that this was achieved without any attempt to give preference to women in the processes of deciding on the character of new posts, searching for applicants or recruiting. The outcome reflects the changing character of the labour markets in which we recruit. The most that IDS could claim is that it attempted to provide a working environment that women would find attractive - some people dispute that even that is true! We commissioned an external Gender Audit in 1996, but that has had no direct influence on the recruitment situation.

The Gender Audit gave rise to a standing internal Social Audit Group, that looks at social relations in the organisation in general and the question of diversity in particular. The Group now directs much of its effort at the next frontier: the rather embarrassing (to some people at least) whiteness of the skins and Britishness of the passports of most IDS academic staff. This is a more difficult problem, because British work permit regulations are consciously rigged in favour of European nationals. But, once again, there is some improvement in the average and more substantial change at the margin. In terms of national origin, 60% of those 15 (net) new Fellowship and Research Officer positions created between 1995 and 1998 went to people of non-UK origin. The 24 current Fellows and Research Officers not of UK origin are: American (4); Australian (2); Bangladeshi (2); Cameroonian (1); Canadian (2); Chilean (1); Dominican (1); German (3); Indian (5); Italian (1); and South African (2).

Paul Bennell, Mick Howes, Simon Maxwell, Robin Mears, Sheila Smith, Robert Wade and Gordon White have all gone off the IDS Fellowship payroll over the past couple of years. Charlie Harvey is still on leave of absence in Botswana, and Mark Robinson is about to go on a three-year leave of absence to Delhi. We remaining white British males born in the 1940s still constitute the largest cohort among the IDS academic staff. On bad days we lament that we bear most of the burden of managing projects and writing tenders so that we can employ more younger, non-British, non-males who will in turn be able to point to figures like those in the table above to demonstrate just how savagely we are exploiting the labour of young, non-British, non-males who have insecure contracts... But there are not many bad days. Most times it feels like progress.

Mick Moore
May 1998
Report on Alumni Association Committee

Since our last AlumNews, number 5 published in December 1997, the Association's committee has met regularly. We have struggled with bureaucracy, setting up an account and designing our letterhead. All members should now have their membership cards. If you have not received yours, please let Ann Watson know, and if you have not joined, please do so!

The Alumni page on the website is being developed, and we hope to have summaries of the committee meetings there soon. The committee has been dealing with such fascinating issues as setting up an account and organising the membership cards. But we have also been involved in more serious issues, the memorial fund for Gordon White, and membership of the Governing Body.

A new e-mail address has been set up, it is ids.alumni@ids.ac.uk. This new address links your message directly with the IDS staff dealing with Alumni matters, as well as committee members. It is hoped that this new link will improve communications and generally let us get information out and in, more efficiently. Eventually, it is planned that many links will be made solely by electronic means, and this new address is the first step. More is written about this elsewhere in AlumNews.

The Alumni took responsibility for an edition of the IDS Bulletin, and this was edited by a coopted committee member Tom Lines, who also coordinates the transition economies specialist group which was set up at the last Reunion. The Bulletin, entitled 'Transition to What? Restarting Development after Communism' was published in July, vol. 29 no. 3. If you do not already have one, please look at the special rates given to Alumni, and organise a subscription for yourself. The Bulletin was a real development in the area of Alumni and post IDS involvement. It is hoped that the Alumni will edit and coordinate the provision of papers for many more bulletins over the coming years. We are still supporting the forming of specialist groups. These may be based on physical location of Alumni, or on shared interests. Several groups have already been set up, based on geography or common interests.

Mike Cockerell has been appointed as Special Assistant to the Director. His brief includes working with Ann Watson, Development Coordinator in the Directorate (many will remember Ann working with DPhil on matters related to the Alumni and the Alumni Association).

The Governing Body has invited a representative of the Alumni become part of its membership. The Governing Body meets twice yearly, and has over twenty members. These members represent IDS, the Fellows, donors, NGOs, the government and other interested and interesting groups. It is fitting that a member of the Alumni sit on this board, and the committee is delighted that this development has taken place. The Governing Body has asked the committee for a list of possible candidates, and we will hear shortly what their decision is. We will let you know as soon as possible after that who your representative is.

Please keep in touch with us, let us know what your expectations are. We have had a few very interesting communications. We would like to hear from people who are willing to share their views, ideas and experiences of any issues which would be of interest to Alumni, and we will share these through the pages of AlumNews. Please e-mail your words, long or short, to the Alumni address.

Mary McKeown
Chair
IDS Alumni Association Committee

Alumni Relations with IDS

For those who are unable to access the IDS website (on which there is an Alumni page), there have been some staff changes which affect Alumni and about which you may not know. Mike Cockerell has joined the IDS as Special Assistant to the Director and amongst other things will take overall responsibility for Alumni relations with IDS. He will be assisted by Ann Watson in her new role as Development Coordinator and she has taken over responsibility for support to the IDS Alumni Association from Sue Ong. Future contacts by e-mail and otherwise can therefore be through Ann Watson (a.e.watson@ids.ac.uk) or direct to the Alumni address – ids.alumni@ids.ac.uk although, of course, Sue will still be pleased to hear from her many friends on an informal basis.

Mike Cockerell attended a meeting of the IDS Alumni Association Committee in March 1998 and introduced himself and his role. He subsequently wrote a brief paper on how he sees the future relationship between IDS and the Alumni Association and detailing the services which IDS would be providing to the Association and its Committee. These included:

- Regular updating of the names and addresses database on Alumni, including plans to incorporate more detailed information on what people are doing and their areas of specialisation
- Plans to use the information about areas of specialisation to enable better integration with the IDS Information Services, ensuring that relevant new information is targeted optimally. It is also hoped to extend this service to facilitating the formation of networks by electronic communication.
- To increase the volume of communications with Alumni to better inform them and improve the use of the Alumni network as a force for development.
- To regularly review and update the Alumni page on the IDS website.
- To continue to produce AlumNews on a regular basis with the eventual intention of disseminating this electronically.
- To provide the IDS Alumni Association Committee with secretarial support services and facilities for holding meetings as necessary.
- To facilitate responses to questions and suggestions from Alumni to IDS.
IDS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP

I am pleased to say that over 100 people have now joined the IDS Alumni Association! In fact, 107 as I am writing this. The 100th member is Isabelle Van Notten (MA1I) who probably deserves some kind of medal!

We are all hoping that more and more of you will want to join the Association – an application form is incorporated in this AlumNews issue again which you can cut out and send in. We are also encouraging all those who are about to leave IDS to join and thus enable them to keep in touch over the coming years both with IDS and with their fellow Alumni.

Ann Watson  Development Coordinator, IDS

E-mail

Various changes are taking place at IDS on the electronic communications front. IDS now has its own server and will no longer need to rely on the University of Sussex server. However, for sometime in the future, old e-mail addresses (@sussex.ac.uk) will continue to function alongside the new ones (@ids.ac.uk). We are conscious that communication is to be one of the most important services we can offer you all and this updating should enhance our capacity to provide this.

However, as yet we have less than 200 of your e-mail addresses. Please, please let us know yours and keep us updated when it changes!

IDSALUMNIASSOCIATION

IDS Alumni Association
Institute of Development Studies
University of Sussex
Brighton BN1 9RE, UK

APPLICATION FORM

Membership Type  Life Membership  £20.00

Method of Payment

1. Cheque  Please send in sterling (or US dollars if sterling is impossible)
Other currencies cannot be accepted

2. Credit Card  Please charge my Visa   MasterCard/Access   (indicate as necessary)  Other cards cannot be accepted

Credit Card Number  Expiry Date

Card Holder's Name  Signature

Statement Address

Member Information

Name  Address

*E-mail  Fax  Telephone

Year of Graduation  Type of Degree  Year Attended

E-mail – Please note that we shall inevitably be relying increasingly upon electronic communications during the coming years and it is therefore most important that you let us have an e-mail address as soon as you have one, and keep us updated on this
1998 Retreat Discussions

Unusually this year, the IDS Retreat took place over 3 days (instead of 2, as normal). There were many important strategic and organisational issues to be discussed and decisions to be made, with potentially far-reaching consequences. There follows a brief resumé of the main conclusions, focusing on those aspects which might be of interest to Alumni.

1. Management and Organisation
Under the Director – who has responsibility for overall decision-making, strategy and development of the IDS – a middle management tier is to be established with most Fellows and other staff grouped into teams. Each team will have a leader (or representative) who will attend meetings of the new Executive Liaison Committee. The ELC will function as the main channel for two-way communication (and accountability) between the Director and the staff as well as the mechanism for identifying and reviewing policy issues. The composition of teams may vary, some having smaller groups within them based perhaps on particular projects, as well as individuals. Budgets may be under the responsibility of teams or groups which can operate as cost centres, subject to agreement with the Director and Finance Officer. Other sections of IDS such as the Teaching and Training Unit and the Information Department, will also be represented on the new ELC in the same way as the teams.

2. Finance and Incentives
The Director will in future be responsible for overseeing contracts underway and under development and also produce a monthly projection for the financial performance of IDS. Decisions were also made to review the overheads structure and level, build up the General Reserves of the IDS, provide rewards to those representing teams and set up an Institute Development Fund for the Director to use as he felt necessary in the development of new initiatives.

3. Values and Culture
In the interests of improved communications, it was agreed to institute monthly Staff Lunches, to involve all staff. The Social Audit Taskforce will continue to meet and address issues of diversity, hierarchy and gender and in addition it was agreed that Diversity Awareness training would be set up and all staff required to attend. It was agreed to continue a commitment to proactive recruitment from the South across the whole range of roles and areas of work. With regard to support staff at the IDS, it was agreed that a Skills Audit would be carried out with a view to achieving a better match between available skills and project needs. Proposals to set up a flexitime scheme would be investigated.

4. Teaching and Training
This continues to be a valued activity at IDS with many benefits and spin-offs – not least, the Alumni network. Discussion centred mainly on possible expansion of postgraduate teaching perhaps with new one-year specialised Masters courses, perhaps through distance learning, perhaps through collaboration with an overseas university. Possible new initiatives on training were also discussed.

5. Consultancy Company
It was agreed to undertake a feasibility study to look at the desirability of setting up such a company within IDS which would enhance the ability to respond to the many calls to tender for work which IDS receives, as well as open up scope for seeking new consultancy work. The feasibility study is to be discussed at the next meeting of Council of Fellows in Autumn 1998.

6. Corporate Funding
There was a lively discussion among staff about the conditions under which IDS would accept funding from private companies and it was agreed that the Director would now nominate a small working group to draft a statement of principle on this and recommend a process for reviewing proposals for corporate funding.

Mick Moore ran an International Conference at IDS from Monday 29 June to Wednesday 1 July 1998

What can be done about poverty?

Research can teach us a great deal about the complex nature of poverty in poor countries. But does research offer any clear messages to governments and other public agencies about what actions could reduce poverty significantly in the foreseeable future? This conference aimed to reduce the research-action gap by focusing on three key questions:

- Is the face of poverty changing?
- Are rich and poor locked into irreconcilable conflict?
- What works in anti-poverty programmes?
The Changing Face of Poverty?
Poverty is always with us. So too is the debate about the character of poverty. Is that character changing? Is poverty really becoming feminised? Do individuals and families increasingly experience poverty as a transitory phenomenon rather than as a permanent condition of existence? Should we then talk of livelihood insecurity rather than of poverty? What are the impacts of economic liberalisation and globalisation? Do the poor increasingly overlap with those people who are forced to live in degraded environments? Is the distribution of the poor changing, as between regions, rural-urban location, or age groups? We have frequently been told that the face of poverty is changing in these ways. What evidence do we have for these claims? What are the implications for anti-poverty programmes?

Rich Against Poor?
Radical public action to transfer assets from rich to poor is rarely feasible in the contemporary world. There is an irreducible core of truth in the view that the poor are poor because the rich are powerful. But this is far from the whole truth. The rich sometimes see it in their interest to do something about poverty. How far are national elites in poor countries actively in favour of anti-poverty programmes? How far are their concerns motivated by ethics or a sense of sharing a common fate with the poor? Does the spread of ideas of national economic competitiveness to poor countries augur well for the treatment of the poor? Historically, welfare bureaucracies themselves become significant actors in the politics of poverty policy. How far do NGO elites play a similar role? What are the implications of these questions for the design of anti-poverty programmes?

Which Anti-Poverty Programmes Work?
What do we know about the effectiveness of anti-poverty instruments: various types of safety nets, food-for-work programmes, micro-credit, nutrition programmes, etc. What factors appear to account for success? How important is it that the poor be mobilised politically? In what ways does programme design affect the likelihood that clients will mobilise to press for their entitlements? Are programmes that are insulated from political pressures more effective at reaching women or the poorest of the poor? How can one design anti-poverty programmes such that a range of stakeholders (policy-makers, staff, contractors etc.) become committed to their success? What scope is there for synergy between government agencies and other actors in anti-poverty programmes?

Mick Moore, Manager, IDS Poverty Research Programme. Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex.

The University of Sussex appoints new Vice-Chancellor

Alasdair Smith, 49, will be the University's sixth Vice-Chancellor and has been Professor of Economics at the University of Glasgow. He was educated at the University of Oxford and holds a PhD in Economics from the London School of Economics and Political Science. He is a well known international economist whose research has focused on the effects of international trade on national welfare and on the distribution of income. He succeeded Professor Gordon Smith, 74, who left the University at the end of March 1998 to take up the post of President of the Rockefeller Foundation in New York.
MA4
Joanna Kerr is working as a Senior Researcher with the North-South Institute in Ottawa, Canada.

Ramya Subrahmanian wrote in May this year: "I’m in the final 6 months of finishing my PhD at the Open University here in UK. I was in India for 15 months doing fieldwork and returned to the UK in January. I would welcome messages from MA4 friends: e-mail rsubrahmanian@open.ac.uk or @lgtag.uk."

MA5
Isabelle Storder e-mailed us in January 1998 to say that her second daughter, Camille, arrived on 6 January 1998, as a sister for Eloise. She and her husband, Philippe, are very much enjoying family life.

MA6
Silvia Capezzuoli is living in Brighton and recently had her first baby — a daughter called Celine.

Winnie Yee is in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia with her 2-year-old daughter.

Amparo Jones (nee Pinlac) had a baby girl in May this year - Annabelle.

Sheila Thomson - we understand recently visited Canada on a break from her work in Thailand where she has been working with the Mekong River Secretariat as their Gender specialist.

MA7
Sharron Mendel apart from sending a nice long letter about her current work environment (re-printed below with others sent to Julia Brown, MA Administrator at IDS this year), also sent a lot more news about other MA7 students with whom she has been in touch recently. She felt it would be nice to make a splash about MA7 since they seemed not to have figured much in previous AlumNews issues so here goes:

Kirsty Milward has just had a baby boy and has been living in India and the UK. Ezilyn Sibanda was working in a credit institution in Zimbabwe. Neddy Matshalaga is working as a Gender and Development Consultant, also in Zimbabwe and has started her own consulting business.

Sadia Ahmed was working with Save the Children in Pakistan.

Bose Balogun was a participant in Akina Mama wa Afrika’s African Women’s Leadership Institute (AWLI) and was working with UNDP in Malawi.

Magda Ahmed was working on a book on women in Sudan.

Nandinee Bandyopadhyay was a participant in a conference sponsored by Novib on Women’s Leadership in Cape Town, South Africa recently and presented work on women in prostitution in India. AWID and the African Gender Institute recently hosted a highly successful conference entitled “Transformation for Gender Justice and Social Change” in Cape Town, South Africa, which Sharron helped to organize.

Veronica Campanile is working in Nicaragua with Puntos de Encuentro.

Bridget Byrne has been working on a PhD here at Sussex University with Anne Whitehead as her supervisor.

Jo Raikes has been working in a lot of different places, including Tajikistan, doing training work.

Monica Trujillo was working with Oxfam in Mexico.

Ayesah Banu had a baby boy about two years ago in Bangladesh.

MA9
Golda El-Khoury is now working for Save the Children Fund in its work in Northern Iraq.

MA10
This course ended last Summer (1997). Ngoc Kim Pham and Thi Hue Nguyen returned to Vietnam. Hazel Wong to China (where she is a UN Volunteer at the China Women’s College in Beijing) and Jung-Sook Yoon to Korea.

Julia Brown who is currently IDS administrator for the MA in Gender and Development recently contacted ex-IDS MA students to ask if they would be able to share any news on their subsequent careers with current MA students. She had several really useful and interesting responses – as follows opposite:
From Isabelle Storder MA5

I am glad to write and share my experience as an ex-MA. I am Belgian and I attended the MA5 (which suddenly, seeing now that you are already with "2-figures" MA, makes me feel older than I really am and feel). When I finished the course at the IDS, I had never worked, except from student jobs, and I had thus no experience to value, nor any job to go back to. And this first step is probably a difficult one in a career. Trying to define what you are and what you want to do: applying for positions you are really interested in or just having a job? Well, I think that the most important is first of all to get a job: stay active (it is always negative at the eyes of a potential employer to have to justify to you have been unemployed for a certain period of time). And anyway, you always learn something wherever you work about human and work relations, culture, planning your work and respecting delays, language, and many other things. So, I started to work at the IDS for two months, performing various tasks related to the organisation of an International Conference. Up to now, this has been my greatest experience in terms of communication and team work! Then, I went back to Belgium for a bit more than a year, where I had been offered a post as an assistant in Economics in my previous university. Being there, not wanting to be there, I started to send application letters to NGOs in several countries and to apply to International Organisations programmes. And as you can notice it can take a real long time before you get a post.

I finally got a post as a United Nations Volunteer in Honduras, as gender specialist within a governmental project funded by UNDP and other UN agencies. This was a great opportunity which allowed me to practice gender and learn Spanish and allows me now to go on working in the field of "women", which is what I am really interested in (because I practiced gender and I also learnt Spanish).

Briefly, after this, I spent again a year and a half in Belgium, without contract (a decision shared with my family), but nevertheless quite active in different areas. We also needed sometime back in Belgium with the family to think about and decide whether to go on with a life abroad and an international career or not. And now (after waiting for 11 months since I knew I would get the post), I work as a Junior Professional Officer, Project Officer, at UNIFEM, Andean Region (United Nations Development Fund for Women, office in charge of projects for women promotion in Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia). I couldn't have dreamt to achieve better than that in 5 or 6 years! Just before flying to Honduras, I got married and I now have two daughters (yes, time goes by very fast). I have a great husband who gives me the opportunity to do what I want to and follows me and adapts wherever we go. Our decisions are totally shared, and I can say that in that way it makes it absolutely possible and very pleasant to have an international career and life abroad, with a family.

And what are my plans for the future? Well, I don't know. I must have a small idea but in fact, I don't think too much about now. Just enjoy what life gives me for the moment, which really occupies the 24 hours a day.

From Sharron Mendel, MA7

Hi from Sharron Mendel in Washington. I was thrilled to receive your request and pleased to let you have details about what I am now doing. I am working at AWID (The Association for Women in Development), and am currently involved in several things which will help MA students past and present, should they decide to become AWID members (we welcome members from around the world, working in all parts of the global women's movement or the development field; plus, student memberships are inexpensive):

1. An e-mail job list which will be distributed every other week (should be up and running by August 1).
2. A course called "A Foot in the Door: Jobs in the Global Women's Movement." My colleague Ginger Daniel and I are putting together materials for a course we will be teaching at the Social Action Leadership School for Activists (SALSA) here in DC, and I plan to send you the materials for the MA students. We did not have anything like this at IDS and I paid a high personal cost for it, so I am so excited to be able to share this info with people there now!
3. A "Young Women and Leadership Program" which will be an integral part of the next AWID Forum.
4. Please have everyone mark their calendars and begin securing money to attend the 8th International AWID Forum: Leading Solutions for Equality and Justice," which will take place near Washington, DC from November 11-14, 1999. This will be an outstanding international conference with excellent opportunities for networking with great people from around the world. Joanna Kerr (MA5) is the Forum Chair.
5. AWID's membership directory is an invaluable resource for people wanting to set up informational interviews with members around the world. Members are indexed by location and specialization. I would like to make a special request for all IDS MA Alumni to send me information about their work for inclusion in our course and booklet. For anyone who would like to get in touch or want more information about AWID, my work e-mail is below.

awid@awid.org

From Fenella Porter, MA6

I was in MA6 (1992-3). As a brief response to your request for info on what happened to us, I applied for and got a job in Uganda with Isis-WICCE (a women's organisation that had just moved there from Geneva). I was there for 3 years and it was my first 'real' job ... the circumstances were a bit unusual and I lucked out in a huge way to get it! It was quite a difficult 3 years, but I learned a huge amount.

I returned to the UK at the end of 1996 and since then I have been on short-term contracts at Oxfam, mainly in the Gender and Learning Team. Most recently I've been co-editing a book on Oxfam's experience of integrating gender analysis, with Ines Smyth and Caroline Sweetman - "Gender Works: Oxfam experience in policy and practice". I have found it very difficult to find more long-term work here as I look very "gender-specialised" on my CV, but not really experienced (or famous!) enough to be a gender specialist, and even with all the 'mainstreaming' going on at the moment! I think it tends to exclude me from a lot of more general development jobs.

In retrospect I certainly would not have done anything differently at first. Perhaps it would have been good if I had stayed in Uganda and tried to get more mainstream 'development' work (to 'balance' my CV!) after leaving Isis - but things are never that simple.
Christian Voigt writes to let us know that he and Anita Mortiz have now left Senegal (after 10 years there) and are living in Cairo.

Udo Janz was in touch recently from Geneva where a "get together" of various IDS Alumni took place on 21st September this year. Shin Yuan Lai (MP8 and DP93) was visiting Geneva and took the opportunity to meet up with Udo. Azfar Khan (MP7 and DPhil) and Taffere Tesfachew (MP7 and DPhil).

Stephen Nartey was in touch in January this year. He was then in Lagos, Nigeria, having previously been based in Accra, Ghana. He sent some useful comments on the formation of the IDS Alumni Association.

Miguel Santos Neves met up with Prof. Jim Manor at a conference in London and reported that he was the representative of his Institute which is the premier Portuguese development studies centre.

Belmiro Rodolfo was recently here at IDS working with Stephen Devereux although he has not returned to Mozambique. He is the Mozambican researcher for Stephen's ESCOR-funded project on Social Safety Nets in Southern Africa.

Lindsay Glassco e-mailed in November last year from Ottawa to say that life had been hectic for the previous few months. She is working for Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada on developing the Canadian Plan of Action on Food Security—a follow up to the World Food Summit.

Maria Teresa Zappia is working as a Young Professional at the Asian Development Bank in Manila.

Congratulations to all MP19, including those who were unable to attend in January, as well as to all the successful MA10 students!

Anoma Radkevitch (nee Jayawickrema) is now married and has a son, Michael Anand. The family are currently living in London.

David O'Brien has recently moved to New York where he is a Program Associate at the Center on International Cooperation at New York University, coordinating the "Young Experts" programme of the EC, and to Arianna Calza Bini who was also selected for this programme and is based in Costa Rica.

Mavis Owusu-Gyamfi is working for the Enterprise Development Group at the UK Department for International Development in London.

Rita Bhatia is also in London working for Save the Children. Congratulations to Eva Ramos who, we understand, is based in Manila at the moment, having been selected for the "Young Experts" programme of the EC and to Arianna Calza Bini who was also selected for this programme and is based in Costa Rica.

Mayumi Matsuda visited IDS this summer whilst she was in the UK. She continues to work at the Japanese Embassy in New Delhi, India and it was very good to see her. She passed on the news that Mai Fujita and Sherryl Burke are both expecting babies.

John Sami (MP2) became Permanent Secretary for Finance in Fiji for a number of years until 1987. He is now with the Asian Development Bank. Navitalai Naisoro (MP5) was Permanent Secretary for Finance from 1987 to 1992 before he became a private consultant. Jeseoni Vitisagavulu (MP9) is currently Director of the Fiji Trades and Investment Board, which looks after all local and foreign investment in the country and finally. Waden Narsey (DPhil) was an Associate Professor in Economics at the University of the South Pacific for a number of years before becoming a politician in 1997.

Steven Ratuva from Fiji who is currently at IDS studying for his doctorate has brought news of several ex-IDS students in Fiji, all of whom he knows.
Department, working mainly on outreach for the Marine Stewardship Council initiative certifying well-managed fisheries. She has recently been in the Galapagos Islands working with artisanal fishermen who are hoping to get their lobster and bottom fish for their passengers from the mainland rather than from local fishermen. The hope is that there will be direct sales by the fishermen to tourists. She has recently been working with artisanal fishermen, whilst ensuring that their fishing practices are sustainable. Julia is hoping to visit the UK in mid-September and will try to fit in a visit to IDS.

Safaa El-Kogali reports that she is settled in Cairo, working with the Population Council. John Koga e-mailed to let us know that he began a new job in March this year which will allow him to fund a research project on a study of a municipal area in Japan which has successfully developed a cooperative system with local manufacturing companies for environmental protection and has a record of innovative results in developing cleaner production technology. He sends good wishes to everyone.

James Keeley is currently at IDS working as a Research Assistant with Ian Scoones on policy processes and environmental issues in Africa. Rolando Quinonez has been in touch. He is working in Central America on the Human Development Programme implemented by UNDP and ILO. Paul Harvey was in touch to let us know that he is currently working for Children's Aid Direct in Freetown, Sierra Leone which he was finding very wet during the August rainy season. Congratulations to Gareth Williams who has been selected for the “Young Experts’ programme’ of the European Commission and will be in Thailand for two years from February 1999. He will be working on the EC’s aid programme and other aspects of the EU’s external relations in Thailand and neighbouring countries (Cambodia, Laos, Burma and possibly Malaysia). He will continue to be in Brussels until February, completing an internship at the World Bank office and doing some consultancy work for the EC.

Jo Wilkes e-mailed recently from Montserrat, which she says is a pretty amazing place, with the following news:

A month after handing in my dissertation I took up my ODI Fellowship as an Economist in the Development Unit of the Government of Montserrat, West Indies. The economics involved is project based, helping government departments justify funding requests to various donors. These projects have ranged from extension of the electricity supply to soft loans to small business support to school buses and so the broad training at IDS has helped (sometimes!). I have also been one of the co-ordinators for the Sustainable Development Plan for Montserrat that is currently being negotiated with DFID. The aim here is to provide some sort of coherent strategy to put the economy and community back on course for the future after the complete devastation that the volcano has brought here. This has been with ash and rocks falling from the sky in the early months of my stay! Now the volcano is more sleepy and the island has a real chance to get back on its feet. Let’s hope so!

Jason Ward has been in e-mail contact with Mick Moore recently and passed on news of his life, post IDS:

Having worked for The Synergos Institute for 10 months, he now has a new job as a research analyst with a US union, the Hotel Employees & Restaurant Employees International Union (HERE). HERE are a progressive union which organizes a lot of low-wage and recent immigrant workers in the food service, hotel, casino and parking garage industries. Jason will be researching for a long-term campaign (3-5 years) to unionize the 9,000+ workers at the Foxwoods Casino and Resort near New London in Connecticut. Foxwoods are the largest casino in the western hemisphere with annual profits of around $US1 billion and are owned by the Mashantucket Pequot Indian tribe (who were virtually wiped out in a massacre in the 1600s). Their business empire is enormous and Jason describes it as ‘reaching the far corners of the world’. The casino is having a major impact on the regional economy and is a huge source of tax revenue for the State. The tribe (now some 400 members of which the purest Pequot is only 4%) is buying real estate and getting involved in other major economic ventures. Jason feels there may be potential to negotiate a very good contract with the tribe which will benefit all parties. He will be employed by the International office but living and working in Providence RI on this particular campaign and is looking forward to the new challenge and home very much.

Tomoko Honda has joined the Alumni Association and enclosed a letter about what he is doing now:

“I am now based at a consulting firm in Japan (Global Link Management Inc.), assisting the Japanese government as well as international organisations. The company specializes in social development in terms of health, education, gender, environment and so on. I was sent to India in March to evaluate the women’s income generation project in sericulture industry, and to Cambodia in June to research the rehabilitation programme of the landmine victims and the assistance of the international NGOs working there. It is so significant for me to be involved in such challenging works, since I had been away from the field over 2 years during my academic period at IDS. The things I have learnt in IDS help me a lot to implement and manage the project, and get insights how we can interact with the disadvantaged and vulnerable people in the third world countries. The real world is more dramatic and drastic than the academic/theoretical one though I now can look at the people and the situations not only in emotional observation but also by the consideration of the facts that many problems lie in contextual hostility in the developing countries. Also IDS discipline brought my behavioural change besides the broader knowledge on development issues. Given the opportunities to travel all over the world, my life seems to be much closer to IDS than before even though I do not live in the UK. I really hope that someday we could have another Alumni gathering to exchange the information and share our experience.”
Priya Deshingkar (1987–92 at IDS) is now in India with her husband, Andrew Hall. He is working on an NRI-funded project at ICRISAT and she is working as a freelance consultant.

Moazam Mahmood and Noreen are keen to keep in touch with Alumni friends and in fact have just e-mailed to many of us the news that they are about to move from Islamabad to New Delhi. Noreen tells us that Moazam has just accepted a post with the ILO and his first assignment will be to New Delhi. They are likely to move around September 1998 and Noreen will finish her job at the Finnish Embassy at the end of August 1998. Their contact (until they have established their home) will be via Moazam’s work - do ILO – SAAT. Theatre Court. 3rd Floor. India Habitat Centre. Lodi Road. New Delhi 110 003 and they would love to hear from old friends - and any other Alumni who may be in or passing through New Delhi.

Lori Ann Thrupp is working for the World Resources Institute as Director of Sustainable Agriculture and is involved in establishing their West Coast office.

Ann Hudock is currently in Washington, working as a Democracy and Governance Fellow at USAID and is also chairing the Membership Committee of the AWID (Association for Women in Development) organisation, of which more under news on MAs below.

Nuhu Yaqub has been in touch recently and writes as follows:

"Since I returned from the IDS to my job in the autumn of 1989 I have done a lot of things both nationally and at my primary place of work. Nationally, I served the Secretary to the Social Democratic Party (SDP) - one of the two political parties decreed by the military into existence for the transition programme to the aborted Third Republic in 1993. My selection for the national assignment was purely on merit by my professional body - the Nigerian Political Science Association. Although this piece of information may not be as recent as the following assignment, the role I played then in national politics would need to be mentioned, even if fleetingly, especially against the backdrop of the annulment of the presidential elections that have continued to define the country's seemingly unending political crisis. With respect to my institution, I have served as a head of the Department of Political Science (1993–97); chaired and continue to chair a myriad of ad hoc and standing committees. Currently, and until next October, I am the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Administration. At the expiration of my tenure in October, I plan to go on a one-year sabbatical leave; and IDS is one place I would like and have applied to, so that, in the event of being granted a chance, I would like to undertake a reflection on the topic of a genuine and durable democratization of the country - Nigeria. This is ultimately intended to culminate in a book project."
Anne Posthuma writes with lots of news about her own life in Chile and that of others with whom she has been in touch:

Hello to IDS friends and colleagues from the Southern Cone. I’ve recently moved to Santiago from São Paulo, where I was researching, consulting and teaching for the past years at the University of São Paulo. I’ve taken up a post with the International Labour Organisation in Santiago to work as the specialist responsible for restructuring, employment and training issues for the Southern Cone countries, with a special focus upon Brazil. At present, most of my time is devoted to editing a review of employment policies for Brazil.

On the one hand, it’s quite a shift from university to contributing more directly toward policy and programmes, as well as moving to a country whose total population is smaller than the greater São Paulo Metropolitan area. On the other hand, there’s no lack of activities in Chile (and attention directed toward the Chilean liberal market model, a contrast from having been the home of ECLA and import substitution development thinking in the 1950s).

As one would expect, IDS has left its mark here, too. The former Director of the ILO’s Santiago office, who has recently returned to Geneva to head the training policies division, was Gerald Rodgers and his wife Janine Rodgers. Both had close links with IDS back in the early 1970s.

(Gerald subsequently wrote to let us know that he was supervised by Leonard Joy and latterly Des Cohen for the University of Sussex. IDS did not have its own postgraduate programme in those days so his DPhil degree was from UoS although all the fieldwork was done within the framework of a large IDS project in Bihar, called the Kosi Project, which Leonard Joy supervised. Janine also worked within the IDS project, after having finished her MA at the University of Sussex, with a study of the nutrition of pre-school children funded by the Freedom from Hunger Campaign. Both Gerald and Janine published papers in the symposium volume on the project which IDS later published.

Various other people working on the Kosi Project in those days included Martin Hoskins, Steve Biggs, Clive Bell and others doing their DPhils, such as Ed Clay. Since those days Gerald and Janine have kept in touch personally and professionally with various people at IDS. Although strictly not IDS Alumni, they are hoping to be able to join the IDS Alumni Association shortly.)

Another ILO colleague in Santiago is Emilio Klein, who received his DPhil from the Sociology Department at Sussex (but we’ll grant him honorary IDS status, for all the beers he drank at the IDS pub). Furthermore, Ricardo Lagos (MPhil 19??) also has worked frequently at the ILO as a consultant, and recently completed a book on Population, Poverty and Labour Market in Latin America and is currently quite busy, as his father is leading the polls as presidential candidate in elections to be held next year.

The Southern Cone has also been blessed with the visits of illustrious IDS Alumni from the past year. Both Zav Rustomjee (MPhil 13) and Faizel Ismael (MPhil 14) visited São Paulo during a trade mission at the end of last year. Forget the faded blue jeans and tousled long hair – these are two quite sophisticated and important ministerial employees. While catching up on news, we were also treated to a fabulous meal at the leading Indian food restaurant in São Paulo which we discovered had been founded by a South African exile, who knew Faizel many years ago in Durban!

Santiago visitors have included Ioanna Chataway (MPhil 11), who is a professor at the Technology Faculty at the Open University and who came to conduct preliminary research for a forthcoming project and to brush up on her Spanish. Also, Shin Yuan Lai (DPhil 1993, and MPB) who is heading a research division at a business and policy institute in Taipei, also came for a conference of the Pacific Economic Coordinating Committee. I hope others will also have a chance to come to Chile over the next few years while I’m here. Santiago is normally surrounded by the snow-capped Andes, but had scant snow this year, due to the “La Niña” weather effect which made this one of the driest years of the century (avid skiers are hoping for better conditions next year...)

I’ve finally settled in and the guest room is ready to receive all other IDS friends who plan on coming to Chile. Hope to see you soon!

Although his trip to Brazil was postponed, Richard Strickland (DPhil 1991), the Director of PROWID programme at the International Centre for Research on Women in Washington DC, promoted a project to encourage a gender perspective in training programmes in São Paulo state.

In this, the last issue of Alumnews that will be printed and distributed in hard copy to all Alumni for whom we have addresses, it is interesting to look at the extent to which Alumni have gone electronic. As far as we know, some 30% of Alumni have e-mail addresses but whereas we had thought the proportion would rise with more recent intakes, this is not the case. Alumni from the early years are moving to the internet just as fast as those from the 90s. The chart shows the picture for M.Phils. We hope very much to see this picture changing rapidly over the next year as more of you tell us of your new addresses.
Human Development

This is the closing section of the Dudley Seers Memorial Lecture, given by Richard Jolly (ex-IDS Director and currently Special Adviser to the Administrator, UNDP) at the 1997 Alumni Reunion.

The lecture began by quoting this assertion from Dudley Seers' now classic article 'The Meaning of Development': 'the fulfilment of human potential requires much that cannot be specified in purely economic terms', and went on to describe the intellectual and institutional history of the struggle to define and measure development in terms other than increasing GNP growth rates, concentrating especially on the conception of the Human Development Reports, produced annually by UNDP since 1990, based on the compilation of the 'Human Development Index'.

This section draws conclusions for development activists and practitioners, including IDS Alumni.

Strategy
What can we conclude from a human development perspective strategy and action? Let me draw on some of the Human Development Reports produced over the last eight years to note some of the most important themes.

• Reasonable levels and strong advances of human development are possible, even at fairly modest levels of income.
• The link between economic growth and human progress is not automatic. It depends on positive and specific actions, especially in time of economic setback.
• Basic education and health are absolutely essential and should in all countries be provided to all, even in the earliest phases of development.
• Growth is needed but must be employment and opportunity creating, not jobless, well-distributed, not ruthless, democratic and participatory, not voiceless, sensitive to culture, not rootless, and sustainable, not futureless.
• A participatory approach - including the involvement of NGOs - is crucial to any strategy for successful human development.
• Sustainable development strategy must be set in a long run perspective - meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet theirs.
• A favourable external environment is vital to support human development strategies.

In response, the Human Development Reports have increasingly called for an acceleration of per capita growth in the developing and CIS countries, especially beginning with the HDR-96. The growth called for is not just growth – but growth that supports human development.

Action
What are the practical conclusions which should follow? In presenting these, I am acutely conscious that many of you (as successful IDS graduates!) are now in a position of some authority, to act or even to command. What would I hope that you might do?

First, is to carry forward the message that accelerated human development is both possible and desirable. Rapid reductions of poverty over a wide front have been achieved in a fair number of countries over the last two decades. About a third of the population of developing countries now lives in such countries. But even in the other countries, including most of the world, elements of poverty have been reduced, albeit more slowly and over a decidedly narrower range. Human progress has been much more than we expected in IDS in the early 1970s. This should raise our sights and aspirations for future action.

Second, and as a basis for such action, all countries need to prepare some form of human development report. The purpose is to have an analysis of the situation and trends of human development in the country concerned, from the perspective of strengthening human capabilities and widening choices and opportunities for the mass of the population.

The type of such a report is of course to influence strategy and action. So it should lead on to an operational framework including priorities and challenges, as a perspective to help mobilise action. This perspective needs to indicate possibilities for both government and civil society, to show women and men can find opportunities to act and to empower themselves and their children with the capabilities they need for advance and achievement.

The very preparation of such a document provides material for advocacy. If experience elsewhere is any guide, the press and other media will lap it up. A human perspective, with data and good analysis to back it up, has an irresistible appeal.

All this underlines, thirdly, the need for improved data collection. Dudley would certainly have underlined this need, to which he devoted a chapter and an appendix of his final book. The Political Economy of Nationalism. This is an area where individual countries can take many initiatives. The need goes far beyond the better monitoring of short term advance in key areas of human development. The real challenge is to construct statistical systems which provide to the public and professionals alike, better information on the changing human situation of people in the country with some indication of the links to global changes in the world at large.

Hi! It's me again

Talking to you from a very green Sussex - YES, it is raining again. I'm not sure if you all liked hearing from me. How nice. I like hearing from you too! And lots of you do call during the year.

This year has been a very sad one for us here, with the deaths of Janet Hilsden, Richard Moorehead and Gordon White. Our thoughts are with their families. My memories of Gordon are full of fun, memories of him laughing gleefully at some evil line or other in the Pantomime script, May the Pantos live for ever!

Under the leadership of our new Director, Keith, we are going through great changes here - changes to match the changing world. We are moving into new areas of research with lots of new researchers joining us.

I am writing this at the end of June and in a week or so the Annual Retreat takes place. That is the break that the Fellowship take, to listen to one another talk. It is expected that even more organisational changes will be discussed.

Some of the recent changes in the Library, have meant that colleagues whom I have worked with for a very long time, have left. I would love to pay tribute to all their efforts. They helped build the great reputation that our famous Library enjoys.

Love Sheila