STATEMENT CIRCULATED IN BRITISH UNIVERSITIES (COPIES SENT TO THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER) AND REPORTED IN THE PRESS ON 30 MARCH 1981

We, who are all present or retired members of the economic staffs of British universities, are convinced that:

There is no basis in economic theory or supporting evidence for the Government's belief that by deflating demand they will bring inflation permanently under control and thereby induce an automatic recovery in output and employment;

Present policies will deepen the depression, erode the industrial base of our economy and threaten its social and political stability;

There are alternative policies; and

The time has come to reject monetarist policies and consider urgently which alternative offers the best hope of sustained economic recovery.