News from Head of School

Yes, the intention really is for the newsletter to be weekly! I’d very much appreciate comments and suggestions as to how it might be improved, since the aim is to meet a need that was identified by members of the School. You will notice that items which are still in date have been retained, but that those added this week have a ‘ sticky’ sticker. The aim is to provide a persistent reminder of funding opportunities, major events etc, whilst minimising information overload.

Possible Star Appointment

Over the past few months we have had some very positive discussions with Professor Leonid Libkin of the University of Toronto, a “rising research star” who may be interested in joining us. According to CiteSeer, Leonid is one of the top 3000 most cited computer scientists in the world, a distinction held by only two existing School staff, so he would make a very positive contribution to our research profile. His interests complement our existing strengths in information management, e-science, automated reasoning and computational logic, creating the potential for substantial and productive collaboration. We are seeking support from the President’s fund and the Dean’s fund to attract him to Manchester. Leonid will be visiting on 26th and 27th September to meet the President, the Vice President for Research, the Dean of EPS, and members of CS who have expressed an interest in meeting with him. As part of his visit Leonid will present a seminar on Data Exchange and Other Nice Database Problems at 1000 on Monday, 26th September, in Atlas 1. His aim is to survey the current state of his field, and discuss his research plans. I hope as many staff as possible will attend.

Chair in Computational Systems Biology

As many of you know, EPSRC has funded a chair in Computational Systems Biology, in conjunction with the BBSRC-funded Centre for Integrative Systems Biology (CISB), based in the MIB. The chair will be held in CS, and is intended to exploit the synergy between world-class CS and world-class research in the life sciences, making a significant contribution to both disciplines. A search committee has been set up and we have identified ‘stars’ who we would like to attract to Manchester. The chair will be advertised soon, but we have already received very positive responses from some of the leading individuals in the field.

EPSRC Postdoctoral Fellowships

I think it is worth drawing everyone’s attention to the EPSRC Postdoctoral Fellowships scheme (see below). The ICT programme is investing £1.0m in these fellowships this year, so it is a good opportunity to retain excellent PhD students, or attract them from elsewhere. We are trying to obtain more information on the scheme.

Seminars and Internal Meetings

School seminars are held on Wednesday afternoons. The 2005/6 series will commence on 28th September.

Cell Processors 🍃

Cell Processors: Motivation, Architecture, Design, Programming and Applications
Dr. H. Peter Hofstee, Chief architect of the Cell Synergistic Processor and Cell
Chief Scientist. IBM Systems and Technology Group
1400 – 1500, ESNW AG Room 1.10
http://www.esnw.ac.uk/n-events.shtml

Data Exchange and Other Nice Database Problems
Leonid Libkin, Department of Computer Science, University of Toronto
1000 – 1100, Atlas 1
Mon 26 Sep

Capacity Planning for Enterprise Applications
Ian Gorton, Senior Researcher at National ICT Australia
ESNW & MRCSS Seminar
1200 – 1300, ESNW AG Room 1.10
Mon 26 Sep

Events Calendar

CS-Informatics Review
Panel visit and interviews with staff and students
27-28 Oct 05

40th Anniversary of first UG intake
Web link to follow
4 Nov 05

Manchester Turing Lecture
Web link to follow
25 Jan 06

Funding Opportunities

SEAS DTC Call for Research Proposals
The SEAS DTC would like to encourage a strong, high quality technology push from the UK science base to advance technologies in the areas of Systems Engineering and Autonomous/Semi-Autonomous Systems. Consequently, the SEAS DTC announces that it welcomes proposals for new research projects intended to start during the course of the DTC's second year of operation (from February 2006).
23 Sep 05

RAEng/EPSRC Research Fellowships
Research Fellowships are aimed at outstanding researchers from all branches of engineering who are about to finish their PhD or have up to 3 years Post-Doctoral experience. The scheme provides funding for five years to encourage the best researchers to remain in the university engineering sector.
7 Oct 05

EPSRC Postdocoral Fellowships
The EPSRC offers Postdoctoral fellowships in several targeted areas of relevance to CS. There are fellowships of up to 3 years (we believe) in Theoretical Computer Science, Mathematical Sciences, and Theoretical Physics, awarded to talented young researchers to enable them to establish an independent research career, directly or shortly after completing their PhD. Also, the Life Sciences Interface Programme offers Postdoctoral Fellowships to enable the most talented young researchers from physical sciences or engineering disciplines to establish an independent research career working across the interface into the life sciences, again shortly or immediately after completing a PhD. These awards, which are for a period of up to three years, will be held at a UK academic institution but include provision for the fellow to spend between 12 to 18 months working at a leading overseas laboratory.
18 Oct 05

More information
EPSRC Senior Research Fellowships

Applications are invited for the 2006 Senior Research Fellowships exercise. Senior Research Fellowships are awarded to outstanding academic scientists and engineers of international repute, to enable them to devote themselves full-time to personal research. Up to 6 of these most prestigious EPSRC awards are made each year. The proposed research must be important and timely and should offer opportunities for major scientific advances. Fellowships are full-time for up to 5 years and are tenable in the UK.

More information

Prize and Award Opportunities

ACM Eugene Lawler Award for Humanitarian Contributions

ACM are calling for nominations for the ACM Eugene Lawler Award for Humanitarian Contributions, within Computer Science and Informatics. This award is to recognize an individual or a group who have made a significant contribution through the use of computing technology.

More information

ACM Karl V. Karlstrom Outstanding Educator Award

Presented annually to an outstanding educator who is: appointed to a recognized educational baccalaureate institution; recognized for advancing new teaching methodologies, or effecting new curriculum development or expansion in Computer Science and Engineering; or making a significant contribution to the educational mission of the ACM. Those who have been teaching for ten years or less will be given special consideration. A prize of $5,000 is supplied by the Prentice-Hall Publishing Company.

More information

ACM Grace Murray Hopper Award

Awarded to the outstanding young computer professional of the year...selected on the basis of a single recent major technical or service contribution. This award is accompanied by a prize of $15,000. The candidate must have been 35 years of age or less at the time the qualifying contribution was made. Financial support of the Grace Murray Hopper Award is provided by Google.

More information

ACM Paris Kanellakis Theory and Practice Award

The Paris Kanellakis Theory and Practice Award honors specific theoretical accomplishments that have had a significant and demonstrable effect on the practice of computing. This award is accompanied by a prize of $5,000 and is endowed by contributions from the Kanellakis family, with additional financial support provided by Brooks/Cole and Thomson Learning, ACM's Special Interest Group on Algorithms and Computational Theory (SIGACT), ACM's Special Interest Group on Design Automaton (SIGDA), ACM's Special Interest Group on Management of Data (SIGMOD), ACM's Special Interest Group on Programming Languages (SIGPLAN), the ACM SIG Discretionary Fund, and individual contributions.

More information

ACM Eckert-Mauchly Award

Administered jointly by ACM and IEEE Computer Society. The award of $5000 is given for contributions to computer and digital systems architecture where the field of computer architecture is considered at present to encompass the combined hardware-software design and analysis of computing and digital
The ACM/AAAI Allen Newell Award is presented to an individual selected for career contributions that have breadth within computer science, or that bridge computer science and other disciplines. This endowed award is accompanied by a prize of $10,000, and is supported by the American Association for Artificial Intelligence, and by individual contributions.

IEEE Harlan D. Mills Award

Established to recognize researchers and practitioners who have demonstrated long-standing, sustained, and meaningful contributions to the theory and practice of the information sciences, focusing on contributions to the practice of software engineering through the application of sound theory. The award consists of a $3000 honorarium, museum-quality memento.

IEEE W. Wallace-McDowell Award

A bronze medal and $2000 honorarium are presented for outstanding recent theoretical, design, educational, practical, or other similar innovative contributions that fall within the scope of Computer Society interest.

IEEE Technical Achievement Award

A certificate is presented for outstanding and innovative contributions to the fields of computer and information science and engineering or computer technology, usually within the past ten, and not more than fifteen years.

Research Awards

Not requested this week

Staff News

Awards and Promotions

None

Sabbatical Leave

Andrei Voronkov: Microsoft Research, Redmond USA
Aug 05 – Aug 06.

Ian Horrocks: University of Bozen-Bolzano, Bell Labs, and Stanford University
Feb 06 – Sep 06.

Peter Aczel: Nijmegen University, and Maths Institute at the University of Munich
Jan 06 – Sep 06.

Alasdair Rawsthorne: 80% secondment to Transitive Technologies
Oct 05 – Sep 06.

Alvaro Fernandes: IBM Almaden Research Centre US
Jul – Dec 06.

Academic Appointments

None
### Academic Departures
None

### Research Appointments
- **Robert D. C. Shearer** – IMG
- **Ixent Galpin** – IMG
- **Tom Gardiner** (Student Placement) – IMG
- **Matthew Gamble** (Student Placement) – IMG
- **Michael A. Maibaum** – IMG/BBSRC Systems Biology Centre

### Research Departures
None

### Administrative Appointments
None

### Administrative Departures
- **Vicky Roberts** – Temporary Clerical Assistant ACSO

### Vacancies

#### Academic Staff
Temporary Lecturer (5 year appointment supporting Ian Horrocks' Fellowship)

#### Research Staff
Research Associate in Adaptive System Development (IMG)

#### Administrative Staff
- External Affairs Officer
- Undergraduate Administrator
- Postgraduate Assistant