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## 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 ☀ 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 **26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> 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, 26<sup>th</sup> 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

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

### Cell Processors ☀

**Thu 22 Sep**

*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**  **Mon 26 Sep**  
Leonid Libkin, Department of Computer Science, University of Toronto  
1000 – 1100, Atlas 1

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

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## Events Calendar

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**CS-Informatics Review** **27-28 Oct 05**

Panel visit and interviews with staff and students

**40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of first UG intake** **4 Nov 05**

Web link to follow

**Manchester Turing Lecture** **25 Jan 06**

Web link to follow

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## Funding Opportunities

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**SEAS DTC Call for Research Proposals** **23 Sep 05**

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).

[More information](#)

**RAEng/EPSRC Research Fellowships** **7 Oct 05**

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.

[More information](#)

**EPSRC Postdoctoral Fellowships**  **18 Oct 05**

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.

[More information](#)

## **EPSRC Senior Research Fellowships**

**10 Nov 05**

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](#)

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## **Prize and Award Opportunities**

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### **ACM Eugene Lawler Award for Humanitarian Contributions**

**31 Oct 05**

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**

**31 Oct 05**

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**

**31 Oct 05**

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**

**31 Oct 05**

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**

**31 Oct 05**

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

systems.

[More information](#)

#### ACM Allen Newell Award

31 Oct 05

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.

[More information](#)

#### IEEE Harlan D. Mills Award

1 Oct 05

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.

[More information](#)

#### IEEE W. Wallace-McDowell Award

1 Oct 05

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.

[More information](#)

#### IEEE Technical Achievement Award

1 Oct 05

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.

[More information](#)

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## Research Awards

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Not requested this week

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## Staff News

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### 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

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## Vacancies

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### 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