News from Head of School

School Charity Sale and Auction

The charity sale in aid of Children in Need and the Christie Hospital has become established as an annual event, but this year surpassed expectations. Toby and Lynn did a great job with the organisation, and donations were numerous. The second floor landing was packed with staff and students looking for a bargain, and several generously donated larger items were auctioned by Toby and his lovely assistants. Toby has clearly missed his vocation and expects a call from the Shopping Channel any day. The auction alone raised £160. Proceedings were rounded off with refreshments organised by Gill and Alex, including some exceedingly good cakes. A huge thank you to everyone who helped in any way – to those who donated time or items for sale, and to those who dug their hands into their pockets to raise money for two very worthwhile causes. Overall we raised in excess of £1000, and a lot of fun was had by all!

HPC Analytics Challenge Award

Congratulations to the Manchester members of the EPSRC-funded RealityGrid team who shared the prestigious HPC Analytics Challenge Award at SC-05 – the annual ACM/IEEE Supercomputing Conference which was held in Seattle last week. The award recognises achievements in “the development of technical and commercial applications for rigorous and sophisticated methods of data analysis and visualization using high performance computing”. The winning project, SPICE, which is a collaboration between RealityGrid and an NSF-funded team from Tufts, TeraGrid, Pittsburgh, and Argonne National Laboratory, uses haptic and visualisation technologies to simulate DNA passing through a cell membrane. The Reality Grid team included Stephen Pickles and Robin Pinning from Manchester Computing, together with members from UCL, Nottingham, Edinburgh, and CLRC Daresbury. The Manchester RealityGrid team is led by John Brooke and John Gurd.

Closure of Wilton Street

Although it involves some inconvenience, I am pleased that our representations regarding the unacceptable level of risk posed by the demolition of the Maths tower led to the closure of Wilton Street and the imposition of a no-go area around the site. Hopefully, this will be sufficient to ensure the safety of our staff and students.

CS-Informatics Review

Hopefully you will all have seen the report of the External Review Panel, which I circulated at the end of last week. I will be attending the School Board on Wednesday, and will try to answer any questions you may have.

Seminars

Biomedical Literature, Databases and Ontologies  New  Fri 25 Nov
Bringing together biomedical literature, databases and ontological resources: Approaches and Obstacles
Dr Dietrich Rebholz-Schuhmann, European Bioinformatics Institute
1400-1500, Lecture Theatre E7, Renold Building

Air Pumps, Cyclotrons and Black Boxes  New  Tues 29 Nov
Professor John Heilbron, UC Berkeley
1800-1900, Lecture Theatre C2, Renold Building
History of Science, Technology and Medicine series. More Information

**NW-Grid Seminar**  
New  
Tues 13 Dec
Six speakers – introduction to Grid and middleware
Merrison Lecture Theatre, CCLRC Daresbury Laboratory
Registration

**Regular Seminar Series**
See links in contents bar for School of CS, E-Science North West and National Centre for Text Mining seminars.

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**Internal Meetings and Events**

**School Board**  
Wed 23 Nov
UG report, CS-Informatics Review.
Additional agenda items to Iain Hart: iain@cs.man.ac.uk
1530-1630, IT407

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**Events Calendar**

**BCS Roger Needham Lecture**  
7 Dec 05
Ian Horrocks will be receiving his BCS Roger Needham award and presenting the eponymous lecture at the Royal Society, London.

**Manchester Turing Lecture**  
25 Jan 06
More Information

**EPSRC Public Engagement Workshops**  
8 Feb & 9 Mar 06
Introducing PE to ‘virgins’ and passing on best practice. Space limited.
More information and registration.

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**Funding Opportunities**

**University of Manchester-IBM Partners Programme**  
12 Dec 05
Partners will be working in areas of overlapping strategic importance to both organisations and through partnership will work together to achieve organisational goals. They will be supported to spend time interacting with each other and developing and promulgating an understanding of each organisation thereby identifying substantive areas of activity. The programme will also act as an enabler in developing the IBM-UoM relationship and the understanding between the organisations and will contribute to the Partners’ personal development. The 2005-2006 application process is competitive and will appoint four to six Partners who will be in post for 3 years subject to satisfactory annual review. IBM have “pump primed” the process at their end by “volunteering” 4 key IBM consultants who are already working with our academics i.e. IBM Jonathan Adams, IBM Henry Law, IBM Paul Verschueren and IBM Trevor Hopkins. Hence it is highly likely that most of our initial academics will be working with them already, or will know them. The process is open to those who know others in IBM whom they would like to work with and we would be delighted for such academics to apply. Selection will be undertaken by a small joint Panel drawn from the two organisations w/c December 12th. Candidates are required to submit CVs and supporting statements detailing who they wish to partner with, current activities with IBM, work with other companies, their personal objectives, and how they foresee their contribution to both organisations.
It is likely that 2006-2007 applications will hopefully be in areas where there is no current collaboration.

**BBSRC International Scientific Interchange Scheme (ISIS)**
BBSRC’s International Scientific Interchange Scheme (ISIS) provides support to help scientists make and establish new contacts with their international counterparts. Funding is available to BBSRC grantees, and researchers working on BBSRC-supported projects at BBSRC-sponsored Institutes for travel and subsistence for three main types of visit. The scheme is open to bids at any time (at least 6 weeks before travel) with payments being made in advance of any visits. Please note BBSRC-supported students are not eligible to travel under ISIS support.

**Research Councils Follow-on Fund** 14 Dec 05

"Follow-on-funds" provide financial support for projects with a clear commercial concept to accelerate their progress towards commercialisation. EPSRC funding will be limited to a total of £285k for UoM, with a maximum for individual projects of £110k under fEC. There are no restrictions on applications to BBSRC, NERC and PPARC. Applications will be coordinated by UMIP with Richard Price the primary EPS contact.

More information

**Royal Society Leverhulme Trust Senior Research Fellowships** 14 Dec 05

The Royal Society Leverhulme Trust Senior Research Fellowships were established through the generosity of the Leverhulme Trust and seek to provide opportunities for academic researchers to be relieved of all their teaching and administrative duties. These appointments enable academic researchers to concentrate on full-time research for up to one year. Applicants must be of postdoctoral status or equivalent, hold a permanent post in a UK University and be at a stage in their career when they would particularly benefit from a period of full-time research.

More Information

**Toshiba Fellowship Programme 2006** 15 Dec 05

Toshiba, supported by the EPSRC (Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council) is offering outstanding European scientists the opportunity to join one of its high-technology research teams in Japan for up to two years. The Toshiba Fellowship Programme is open to PhD level researchers of EU nationality currently working in a UK academic institution. The research areas vary broadly from year to year in the field of science and engineering. The Programme offers the successful Fellow a generous package including a fixed salary and travel to and from Japan.

More Information

**BBSRC Industry Interchange Programme** 16 Dec 05

The movement of people is considered one of the best forms of knowledge transfer and there is potentially great benefit to the UK economy and society from supporting such opportunities. BBSRC is piloting the Industry Interchange Programme to support the short-term exchange, in either direction, of researchers between the science base and industry. The objective of the Programme is to support Interchanges that provide strategic advantage to the UK science base and industry arising from reciprocal access to facilities, expertise and/or knowledge, and an increased understanding of scientific issues of common concern.

More Information

**Bridging the Gaps Between Mathematical Sciences, ICT and Engineering**

Workshop and Call for Proposals. EPSRC wishes to promote interdisciplinary working, within institutions, across the broad research areas of the mathematical sciences, information and communications technology (ICT), and engineering.
Funding is available to support institutions in the development of collaborative research programmes. Institutions are invited to submit a bid for funding to establish an environment that nurtures interdisciplinary working.

The University has been allocated just 2 places for the workshop on the 16-17th January 2006. If you wish to go please would you email your expression of interest to Adrian.Jarvis@manchester.ac.uk by Tuesday 22nd November. Colleagues who attend will be requested to produce a written feedback after the event.

More Information

Prize and Award Opportunities

We have acknowledged the need to raise the profile of the School both nationally and internationally. Nominating individuals for awards, and working actively with others to ensure that deserving individuals are nominated is one way of doing that.

Roger Needham Award 21 Dec 05

The Roger Needham Award, sponsored by Microsoft Research, and established in memory of the late Roger Needham, is for a distinguished research contribution in computer science by a UK based researcher within ten years of their PhD. It consists of a £5000 prize together with an opportunity to give a public lecture on their work.

More information

IEEE Internet Award 31 Jan 06

The IEEE Internet Award was established by the IEEE Board of Directors in June of 1999. It is presented annually for exceptional contributions to the advancement of Internet technology for network architecture, mobility and/or end-use applications. This award can be given to an individual or team of up to three.

More Information

The IEEE Koji Kobayashi Award 31 Jan 06

The IEEE Koji Kobayashi Computers and Communications Award was established by the IEEE Board of Directors in 1986 for outstanding contributions to the integration of computers and communications. This award can be given to an individual, multiple recipients, or a team.

More Information

The IEEE Emanuel R Piore Award 31 Jan 06

The IEEE Emanuel R. Piore award is presented annually to an individual, or team of two individuals, for outstanding contributions in the field of information processing, in relation to computer science, deemed to have contributed significantly to the advancement of science and to the betterment of society.

More Information

Research Awards

None this week

Staff News

Awards and Promotions

None this week

Academic Arrivals
None this week

## Academic Departures
None this week

## Research Arrivals
None this week

## Research Departures
None this week

## Administrative Arrivals
None this week

## Administrative Departures
None this week

## 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.

## Vacancies

### Academic Staff
None

### Research Staff
None

### Administrative Staff
None