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News from Head of School**Turing Lecture**

Congratulations to all those involved in organising the Manchester Turing Lecture, which we hosted last Wednesday. The event, which was sponsored by BCS, IEE, and IBM, was a great success, and provided us with an excellent opportunity to raise the profile of both the School and the University. Chris Mairs provided a fascinating insight into the not-always-positive impact of technology on the disabled and sent us all away to think again. The organisation was impeccable, with outstanding attention to detail. Many thanks to Bernard and particularly to Mahalia for all their hard work in making this a success, and to everyone else who contributed. We know that the sponsors were also extremely pleased with the event, and hope that this will help to establish Manchester as a permanent venue for the lecture.

IBM Partnerships

You will probably remember a previous item about the new UoM-IBM Partnership scheme, encouraging you to think about submitting proposals by the deadline in early December. Unfortunately, we only managed to secure one partnership in the first round (congratulations to Kung-Kiu Lau), whereas Informatics was successful with several. Given the importance we attach to engagement with industry, this seems like a missed opportunity. The partnerships do not carry any funding, but provide an opportunity to build relationships that will inform our research and may lead to funding opportunities in the future. The good news is that, now the initial cohort of partners has been agreed, we can come forward with new proposals at any time. Trevor Hopkins, our School contact at IBM, is happy to discuss ideas at an early stage, and will help us find suitable partners within IBM. If you have any ideas, please keep Steve Furber and Bernard Strutt in the loop.

Seminars[top](#)

The School Seminar Series resumes on the 8th Feb

Regular Seminar Series

See [links](#) in contents bar for information on seminar series organised by the School of CS, E-Science North West and National Centre for Text Mining.

Internal Meetings and Events[top](#)**School Board****Wed 1 Feb 06**

Any items for the agenda to [Iain Hart](#)
1530-1700, IT407

Developing an Academic Portfolio New**31 Jan 06**

What is an academic portfolio? Why do I need one? These are the sort of questions that we shall try to answer at this lunchtime session, presented by Bland Tomkinson (University Advisor for Pedagogic Development). Portfolios are increasingly used by universities around the world, often for the purposes of tenure and promotion, but they can also be used for personal development. Are

these two purposes compatible? The short answer is 'Yes' but we can explore the ways in which to make it a reality. Please book at least two days in advance (for catering purposes) by emailing: eps-tsu@manchester.ac.uk
1200-1330, Whitworth Council Chamber

[More information on this and other Teaching Support Unit Events](#)

Events Calendar

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BBSRC Open Meeting 2006 **20 Feb 06**

At BBSRC's second Open Meeting, facilitated by Nick Ross, Julia Goodfellow will invite discussion on the Council's current and future scientific priorities, and views on how best it can work with industry. Questions will also be welcomed on any aspect of BBSRC's policies, either raised on the day, or submitted in advance to maggie.leggett@bbsrc.ac.uk. Entrance free but tickets required. 1600-1830, Manchester Town Hall, tickets from diane.sly@bbsrc.ac.uk.

[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.](#)

Genomes to Systems Conference **22-24 Mar 06**

An important conference concerning the latest concepts and breakthroughs in genomics and systems biology. Discounted registration before 31 Dec 05.

[More Information](#)

BCS/IEE Accreditation Visit **18-19 May 06**

Those who will definitely need to be involved should already know and have these dates in their diaries, but could all staff involved in teaching please note the dates and try to ensure they will be available if required.

Funding Opportunities

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Data & Content Storage, Management, Retrieval & Analysis **31 Jan 06**

Funding is available from the DTI to support Collaborative Research and Development projects that address innovations in the systems issues associated with the management, storage, retrieval, presentation and interpretation of high volumes of data, to help mitigate the technical risks and uncertainties associated with the development of new information storage technologies.

[More Information](#)

Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences **31 Jan 06**

Call for Proposals. The Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences is a national research institute in Cambridge. It aims to bring mathematical scientists from UK universities and leading experts from overseas together for concentrated research on specialised topics in all branches of the mathematical sciences from pure mathematics, applied mathematics, and statistics, to engineering, computer science, theoretical physics and mathematical biology. The Institute now invites new proposals for programmes for 2008 onwards.

[More Information](#)

BBSRC International Scientific Interchange Scheme (ISIS) **Open**

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 grantholders, 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.

[More Information](#)

Royal Commission Research Fellowships

23 Feb 06

The scheme of 1851 Research Fellowships is intended to give a few young scientists or engineers of exceptional promise the opportunity for conducting research for a further period of two years. Approximately six awards are made each year. Candidates in science subjects must normally be in possession of a PhD degree, or in the final stages of their PhD studies. The Fellowships are open to candidates in any of the physical or biological sciences, in mathematics, in applied science, or in any branch of engineering.

[More Information](#)

Royal Society Research Grants New

4 April 06

The Research grants scheme provides seed-corn funding for new projects of timeliness and promise initiated by research scientists at an early stage of their career or by established scientists wishing to change the direction of their research. The objectives of the scheme are to increase the availability of equipment and consumables for high quality research.

[More Information](#)

RAEng Industrial Secondment Scheme

Open

The Industrial Secondment Scheme provides an invaluable opportunity for university lecturers in engineering to gain state-of-the-art industrial experience. Applicable to engineers of all disciplines, the Scheme's objective is to enable the secondees to impart the fruits of this experience to their students through teaching, through case studies using up-to-date material and, in the longer term, through course design. The benefits also accrue to the host organisation which gains a temporary but highly qualified member of staff, and to the university which has the opportunity of strengthening its links with industry. The Scheme provides funding for the university to employ a temporary replacement for the secondee. In this way it minimises the effects on the normal flow of teaching, and makes it easier for universities to release members of staff for secondment. The Scheme has also been well received by industry, and many organisations have indicated a willingness to offer places to engineering academics: where possible The Royal Academy of Engineering helps in the 'matchmaking process'.

[More Information](#)

Royal Academy of Engineering Global Research Awards

Global Research Awards provide an opportunity for engineers currently engaged in research and development to undertake projects in centres of excellence overseas. Projects should focus on activities which could help stimulate wealth creation and improvements in the quality of life, supporting the international development of research networks and encouraging the uptake of globally competitive technology in the UK.

[More Information](#)

Prize and Award Opportunities

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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.

MacRobert Award for innovation in engineering **31 Jan 06**

The Award, first presented in 1969, honours the winner company with a gold medal and the team members with a prize of £50,000. The presentation of the Award recognises the successful development of innovative ideas in engineering. It seeks to demonstrate the importance of engineering and the role of engineers and scientists in contributing to national prosperity and international prestige.

[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](#)

UK National Science Week 2006 – Nominations **New** **17 Feb 06**

Young researchers in science, engineering and technology (SET) are invited to participate in the annual presentations in the House of Commons that have been a feature of National Science Week since 1999. Successful applicants present posters at Westminster on "leading-edge" science, engineering, medicine and technology research, and compete for prestigious national awards and prizes. This year's event is sponsored by Dr Brian Iddon MP. This is an opportunity to strengthen your CV, whilst helping to communicate the importance and excellence of UK SET to MPs and ministers. The event will take place in the House of Commons on 13th March 2006 with separate lunchtime and evening presentations.

[More Information](#)

René Descartes Prizes 2006 **4 May 06**

The European Commission is inviting proposals under its framework 6 science and society programme for Rene Descartes prizes. These are to recognise excellence in research and science communication. Prizes for research will be at least 200000 euros each, and projects must include legal entities from 2 different

member or associated states, and include at least one member state or associated candidate country.

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Research Awards

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None this week

Staff News

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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

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Academic Staff

None

Research Staff

None

Administrative Staff

None