

Contents[News from HoS](#)[This Week](#)[School Events](#)[External Events](#)[Funding Opps](#)[Prize & Award Opps](#)[Research Awards](#)[Staff News](#)[Vacancies](#)**Links**[Newsletter Archive](#)[School Strategy](#)[School Intranet](#)[School Seminars](#)[ESNW Seminars](#)[NaCTeM Seminars](#)**News from Head of School****Interruption to Service**

My apologies for failing to send out a newsletter last week – I hope some of you noticed! I'm afraid that several unexpected calls on my time came up at short notice, and had to take precedence.

CS/Informatics Review

You will be pleased to hear that the long-running discussions regarding the future of the School of Informatics have finally reached a conclusion. I can give you an overview now, and hope to be in a position to circulate a more detailed statement later in the day, once it has been agreed with the Faculty of Humanities.

The existing School of Informatics will be repositioned so that there is no significant overlap with the School of Computer Science. It will be renamed the School of *Information and Society* (SoIS), to reflect its humanities-oriented mission, and those staff with primarily computer science expertise (around 15) will transfer to our School. Responsibility for existing teaching programmes will be reallocated on the basis of their fit to the (revised) missions and staffing of the two Schools, whilst a small working party with representation from CS, SoIS, MBS and EEE will be charged with agreeing a coherent set of programmes in 'computing', reflecting the needs of the market, rather than the internal organisation of the University. It is understood that CS will provide the teaching for any course units that fall within its remit. There is also enthusiastic support from both Faculties for the creation of a multidisciplinary Centre for Informatics, which will place Manchester on the map by taking a strategic approach to the role of information and computing across all disciplines.

The broad outcome was agreed recently by the Faculty of Humanities Policy and Resources Committee. Important implementation details were agreed by the two Heads of School and the two Deans last week – in particular, the 'shape' and scope of the new School were defined in such a way as to avoid any serious possibility of overlap with CS. The plan now is to move rapidly to implement the agreed reconfiguration. This will present us all with some 'interesting' challenges, but I believe that what has been agreed is as good an outcome for CS, and for the University as a whole, as we could have hoped for.

Research Event

As those who attended will know, the research event that was held in Buxton at the end of last week was a great success. The format of pairwise meetings between groups led to stimulating discussion, and many new ideas for collaborative research. Feedback was almost universally positive, and there was considerable support for holding a similar event in two or three years from now. Congratulations to Ursula, John Gurd, and Steve Furber for coming up with the concept and, particularly, to Ursula and Anna for their faultless organisation of the event. Congratulations also to Andy Brass who, in collaboration with the EISS group came up with the winning entry in the *new project* competition, combining expertise in fabricating arrays of magnetic devices with an understanding of the emerging need for comprehensive characterisation of biological systems, *in situ*, to arrive at a new measurement concept that could have a significant impact in computational systems biology.

Events this Week

[top](#)

UG Exam Board

3 Jul 06

UG Internal Exam Board: 1st & 2nd year progression, plus any unresolved issues relating to final year students.
0930, IT407

School Leadership Team

3 Jul 06

Annual Research and Resources reports
1415, Atlas 1

Bayesian categorical data analysis with factor level merging

4 Jul 06

Prof. Claudia Tarantola (University of Pavia)
1600, Room 2.31, CCSR, 2nd Floor, Crawford House, Booth Street East
[More Information](#)

School Board

5 Jul 06

Professor Nancy Rothwell, Vice President for Research, will be attending the Board and will give a short presentation.
1130, IT407 (please note unusual time!)

School UG Graduation Party

5 Jul 06

We will be celebrating the graduation of our UG students
1430 – 1530, prize-giving 1445, graduation ceremony 1645.

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.

Future School Events

[top](#)

School BBQ

14 Jul 06

1400 onwards – details to follow

Future External Events

[top](#)

CLASS (Clerical and Secretarial Support) Network

30 Jul 06

One Day Conference giving staff the opportunity to attend a range of personal and professional development sessions and the chance to network with colleagues from across the University.

[More details and Registration](#)

Interdisciplinary Summer School on Complex Systems

20 – 29 Aug 06

From Individual to Collective Behaviour in Large-Scale Complex Systems
Organised by the Schools of Computer Science, Mathematics and Physics
St. Martin's College, Ambleside.

[More Information](#)

Lunchtime Yoga Classes – Karon Mee

Every Tues

1200 – 1300 Tues, Staff House
UMSA members £1.50; non-UMSA £2.00 per class

Funding Opportunities

[top](#)

RAEng Industrial Secondment Scheme

Open

An opportunity for university lecturers in engineering to gain state-of-the-art industrial experience.

[More Information](#)

BBSRC International Scientific Interchange Scheme (ISIS)

Open

To help scientists make and establish new contacts with their international counterparts.

[More Information](#)

RAEng Global Research Awards

Open

Projects in centres of excellence overseas focussing on stimulating wealth creation and improvements in the quality of life.

[More Information](#)

BBSRC Research Equipment Initiative (REI) 2006

28 Jun 06

For the purchase of mid-range multi-user, multi-project equipment.

[More Information](#)

The Leverhulme Trust - Research Leadership Awards New

21 Jul 06

The scheme is aimed at those who have succeeded in beginning a university career but who are then confronted with the task of building a research team of sufficient scale to tackle an identified but distinctive research objective. The Trust is limiting the number of applications to one from each university and anyone from this Faculty who is interested in being considered by the University's Research Group should send the Associate Dean for Research, [Professor Helen Gleeson](#), a 1 page outline of their case by Friday 21st July.

[More Information](#)

Royal Society Short Visits from the UK New

1 Sep 06

The key objectives of short visits are to initiate one-to-one collaborations, explore opportunities to build lasting networks and gain access to complementary equipment, data observations and ideas. Both UK and overseas host scientists should have established contact before submitting an application, either through previous collaboration or correspondence.

[More Information](#)

Royal Society Conference Grants New

1 Sep 06

The Conference grants scheme supports UK based scientists to either present their own paper/poster or chair a session at an overseas conference.

[More Information](#)

EPSRC Postdoctoral Fellowships

26 Sep 06

For talented young researchers, shortly or immediately after completing a PhD.

[More Information](#)

Royal Society Research Grants

1 Nov 06

Seed corn funding for new projects. For research scientists at an early stage of their career or established scientists wishing to change the direction of their research.

[More Information](#)

Prize and Award Opportunities

[top](#)

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.

ACM Grace Murray Hopper Award

31 Oct 06

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](#)

Research Awards

[top](#)

None this week

Staff News

[top](#)

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.

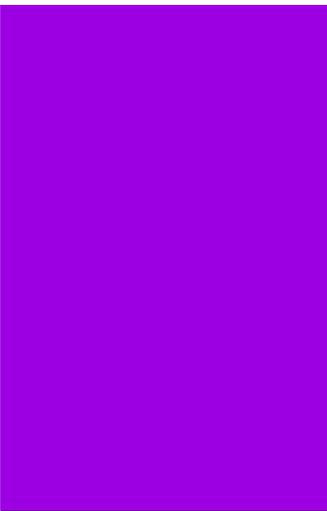
Peter Aczel: Nijmegen University, and Maths Institute at the University of Munich
Jan 06 – Sep 06.

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

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

Vacancies

[top](#)



Academic Staff

None

Research Staff

None

Academic-Related Staff

Bioinformatics Curator – myGrid Project
[More information](#)

Administrative Staff

None

