News from Head of School

Preparation for RAE 2008

Everyone who is (or may be) eligible to be returned in RAE 2008 should have received an email from Ursula this week, regarding the selection of staff for inclusion in the University’s submission. The overall process is set out in the University’s Code of Practice. The first step is to make provisional decisions about who will and will not be included in the University’s return, applying the criteria set out in Section 7 of the Code of Practice, informed by data held in the School RAE database. The University has set a deadline of 31 October 2006 for finalising the evidence base for these decisions. It is thus important that all academic staff, and those who have been nominated as independent researchers, ensure that, by that date, their entries in the database present their research in the best possible light. Also, if any of these staff believe there are circumstances which may have affected their research during the assessment period, as set out in sections 10 and 11 of the Code of Practice, they should let John Gurd know, in confidence, by the same date. Provisional decisions on inclusion/non-inclusion will be made in consultation with the EPS Associate Dean for Research, and the University Vice President for Research, and will be communicated to the staff concerned by the 31st January 2007. The final submission will be made on 30 November 2007 and decisions will not be finalised until shortly before that date. I realise that this request comes at what is already a busy time, but I’m sure you all appreciate the importance to the School of maximising our RAE performance.

Call for UG & PG Examination Papers 27 Oct 06

If you are teaching a CS course this semester, which has assessment by examination, you need to set the paper now! The final deadline is Friday October 27th. Papers and marking schemes should be handed in to Jennie, room 2.12. The exam period for both UG and PG will be 15th-26th January 2007. Please inform Jennie/John Sargeant if the exam is to be online. Arrangements for Informatics courses will be handled through SoI.

New Arrival

Congratulations to Clare Swann who worked in the CS Finance Office until the end of July. She gave birth to a baby girl, weighing 8lb 3oz, on the 18th September. Mother and baby (name still undecided) are both doing well.

Events this Week

Retrenchments, Refinements, and the Mondex Electronic Purse 11 Oct 06
Dr Richard Banach, School of Computer Science
1415, Lecture Theatre 1.5, Kilburn Building
More Information

Semi-Parametric Regression of Genetic Pathway Data 11 Oct 06
Semi-parametric Regression of Multi-Dimensional Genetic Pathway Data: Kernel Machines and Mixed Models
Xihong Lin, Professor of Biostatistics, Harvard School of Public Health
1300, Room C.18, Ferranti Building, Sackville Street
More Information
The School's Learning Technology Unit is organising a Planning Meeting for a workshop series on Learning, Communities, and Media. The series will be concerned with convergences between Learning and e-learning, Social software, New media-capable hardware devices, Interactive broadcast media, Community formation and maintenance, Increased inclusion, and the growth of social capital. To date we have colleagues from Education, MBS and NCeSS attending that meeting. Contact Mark van Harmelen if you wish to attend.

1500, Atlas 1, Kilburn

**Virtual Organisation Membership Services** 13 Oct 06

An overview of the Virtual Organisation Membership Service and how it is being deployed for GridPP and the National Grid Service.

1400, Room 1.10 ESNW Access Grid, Kilburn Building

[More Information]

**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**

**Managing Large-Scale Scientific Workflows** 18 Oct 06

*Challenges of Managing Large-Scale Scientific Workflows in Distributed Environments*

Dr Ewa Deelman, USC Information Sciences Institute

1415, Venue TBC

[More Information]

**Respecting Relevance in Belief Change** 25 Oct 06

Prof David Makinson. King's College London

1415, Lecture Theatre 1.5, Kilburn Building

[More Information]

**Research Students' Symposium** 1-3 Nov 06

Each year the School holds a Research Students' Symposium, which features a collection of talks and posters by research students.

[More Information]

**Future External Events**

**Innovative & Interdisciplinary Research in Photon Science** 18 Oct 06

This event will give PSI Members and Associates a chance to network, share research experiences, review the Institute’s research strategy, and contribute to the development of the business and technical support processes to support innovative and interdisciplinary research.

1215 – 1630, Simon Building,

[Programme & Registration]

**Stochastic Modelling of Biological Networks** 19 Oct 06

Prof Alan McKane, School of Physics and Astronomy, UoM

Organised by the BioModelling Network which aims to bring together researchers who are active in the area of Biological Modelling. For further information contact Frank Bruggeman.

1400 – 1700, MIB Lecture Theatre
The HPC European User Forum New 26 & 27 Oct 06
The HPC User Forum is an initiative developed by IDC to promote the interests of High Performance Computing users in industry, government and academia. Attendance is free but places must be reserved.
The Midland Hotel, Manchester
Registration & More Information

New Techniques in High Resolution Laser Spectroscopy New 8 Nov 06
Professor Wolfgang Demtroder (PSI Fellow 2006)
1430, Moseley Lecture Theatre, Schuster Building
More Information

Climate Warming / Climate Change 9 Nov 06
Sir David King, Chief Scientific Adviser to the Government
1430-1530, Whitworth Hall. Email Lesley Sisson for tickets.

Expanding Your Horizons New 9 Nov 06
A one-day conference for fixed-term researchers
Professor Simon Gaskell, Vice President (Research)
Professor Nigel Vincent, Vice President (Graduate Education)
Dr Iain Cameron, RCUK and UKHerd Task Force Member.
Plus presentations and discussions with former fixed term researchers who have gone on to achieve excellence in academia and beyond. Places are strictly limited and can be reserved by contacting Susan Hogan.
0900 – 1600, Chancellors Conference Centre
More Information

Young Engineers Presentations – House of Commons 17 Nov 06
The annual poster presentation for Young Engineers at the House of Commons, coorganised by SET for Britain, is an opportunity to bring the work of the School to a different and important audience, enhance your CV and, potentially, win a prize. It is relevant to all PhD students and junior RAs in the School, and those who have attended in the past have thoroughly enjoyed the event.
More Information

Grantsmanship Workshop 29 Nov 06
This popular one day course is aimed at both new staff and more established members of staff who have not had recent interactions with the EPSRC either as applicants, grant holders or referee/panel members. To register your interest please email Louise Rogers

Funding Opportunities top
Leonardo da Vinci Programme for Staff Exchange 10 Oct 06
For the exchange of expertise, competencies, innovative methods and practices in relation to vocational training. Exchanges do NOT need to involve two-way movement of staff. Deadline for use of the funds and completion of exchanges has been extended.
More Information

RAEng/EPSRC Research Fellowships 13 Oct 06
The Royal Academy of Engineering and EPSRC are jointly offering up to ten Research Fellowships. These fellowships provide five years funding to enable outstanding researchers from all branches of engineering to establish an independent research career, normally shortly or immediately after completing
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Title</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Council Follow-on-Funds</td>
<td>27 Oct 06</td>
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<tr>
<td>There is a call for proposals to be submitted to BBSRC and NERC for 'Follow-on-Funding'. This funding is designed to bridge the gap between academic and industrial research, specifically for commercialisation projects. Proposals need to be submitted via UMIP and generally require significant input from UMIP on the commercial exploitation and potential.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESF Research Networking Programmes</td>
<td>30 Oct 06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bringing together nationally funded research activities for four to five years, to address a major scientific issue or a science-driven topic of research infrastructure, at the European level with the aim of advancing the frontiers of science.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal Society Research Grants</td>
<td>1 Nov 06</td>
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<tr>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal Society University Research Fellowships 2007</td>
<td>1 Nov 06</td>
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<td>More Information</td>
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<tr>
<td>EPSRC 2007 Senior Research Fellowships</td>
<td>1 Nov 06</td>
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<td>Applications are invited for the 2007 Senior Research Fellowships exercise. Senior Research Fellowships are awarded to outstanding academic scientists and engineers of international repute with a minimum of 10 years post doctoral experience. Fellows will be released from their current teaching and administration loads to devote themselves to research for the period of the award (up to 5 years).</td>
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<tr>
<td>EPSRC 2007 Advanced Research Fellowships</td>
<td>9 Nov 06</td>
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<td>Applications are invited for the 2007 Advanced Research Fellowships exercise. Advanced Research Fellowships are awarded to outstanding researchers with between 3 – 10 years of postdoctoral experience. Fellows are expected to devote themselves to research for the period of the award (up to 5 years), with the expectation that they will have established an independent research career of international standing by the end of the award. Approximately 50 of these awards are made each year.</td>
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<tr>
<td>AHRC-EPSRC-JISC e-Science Research Projects Scheme</td>
<td>2 Nov 06</td>
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<td>EPSRC is a partner in this new e-Science Initiative. The aim of the scheme is to advance research in the Arts and Humanities through the use and development of e-Science technologies. In addition to a total budget of £2 million, six four-year PhD project studentships are available either as part of an e-Science Research Grant or as a stand alone.</td>
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<td>Teaching &amp; Learning (T&amp;L) Innovation Funding</td>
<td>20 Nov 06</td>
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<tr>
<td>The third round of bids for Teaching and Learning Funding for Schools is now open. Please contact Pete Jinks (the School Learning Enhancement Officer) if you</td>
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**BBSRC Systems Biology (SABR)**  
27 Nov 06

Recently, the BBSRC announced a new Systems Biology call. As Manchester already has a Systems Biology Centre (MCISB, see [www.mcisb.org](http://www.mcisb.org)), we are in a very good position to apply for funding. Dieter Weichart, on behalf of Prof. Doug Kell (Director of the MCISB), would like to take the initiative in coordinating potential SABR bid(s) from the University (but not bids to the related ESB initiative). If you are interested in participating in a proposal please send a brief (few sentences) response to Dieter Weichart, cc to Douglas Kell outlining your proposed research.

**International Research Mobility Scheme**  
New  
30 Nov 06

Research opportunities from one week to six months in the US, China and mainland Europe for staff and postgraduate students.

**IBM-UoM Partners Programme**  
30 Nov 06

Last year Kung-Kiu Lau became one of the first “University of Manchester-IBM Partners”. Academic staff are now invited to apply for the 2007/8 scheme. It is important to the School that we grasp this opportunity to engage with the company, who have much to offer all our activities.

**Royal Society Conference Grants**  
1 Dec 06

The conference grants scheme supports UK based scientists to either present their own paper/poster or chair a session at an overseas conference, where conference participation is the main or sole purpose of visit. The objectives of this scheme are to enable scientists to disseminate research findings, establish collaborations and build international reputations.

**Leverhulme Trust Research Leadership Awards**  
1 Dec 06

To support researchers confronted with the task of building a research team of sufficient scale to tackle an identified but distinctive research objective. Each award will be at a level of up to £800,000 in total for up to five years of work. The intent is that the funds be used to provide each awardee with ten 'post-doctoral assistant years' and ten 'research student years' for the grant period, though other patterns would be permissible.

**Toshiba Fellowships**  
15 Dec 06

Toshiba in association with the EPSRC invites applications from European scientists to join one of its high technology research teams in Japan.

**EPSRC ICT Platform Grants**  
Open

EPSRC invites outline proposals for its information and communication technology platform grants. Platform grants aim to provide world-leading UK groups with continuity of funding for strategic development, longer-term research and international networking.

**Royal Academy of Engineering Research Chairs**  
Open

The Royal Academy of Engineering invites applications for its research chairs.
Research Chairs are full-time professorial appointments, in any engineering-related subject. The academy particularly welcomes proposals of a multidisciplinary nature. Funding is provided for 5 years.

**RAEng Industrial Secondment Scheme**  Open
An opportunity for university lecturers in engineering to gain state-of-the-art industrial experience.

**BBSRC International Scientific Interchange Scheme (ISIS)**  Open
To help scientists make and establish new contacts with their international counterparts.

**RAEng Global Research Awards**  Open
Projects in centres of excellence overseas focussing on stimulating wealth creation and improvements in the quality of life.

**EPSRC Engineering Visits**  Open
Support for salary costs and travel subsistence for scientists and engineers of acknowledged standing, either from within the UK or abroad, to visit the investigator's organisation.

**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.

**ACM Turing Award**  31 Oct 06
ACM's most prestigious technical award is accompanied by a prize of $100,000. It is given to an individual selected for contributions of a technical nature made to the computing community. The contributions should be of lasting and major technical importance to the computer field. Financial support of the Turing Award is provided by the Intel Corporation.

**ACM Grace Murray Hopper Award**  31 Oct 06
A prize of $15,000 awarded to the outstanding young computer professional of the year.

**Computer Science Writing Competition 2006/07**  31 Jan 07
We want unpublished articles of up to 750 words about research that's part of any EPSRC-funded computer science project. For this competition, computer science means the study of methods for acquiring, storing, processing, communicating and reasoning about information, and the role of interactivity in natural and artificial systems through the implementation, organisation and use of computer hardware, software and other resources.

**Research Awards**
None this week
## Staff News

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<tr>
<th>Awards and Promotions</th>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Arrivals</td>
<td>None this week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technical Arrivals</td>
<td>None this week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Retirements</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Arrivals</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative Departures</td>
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### Sabbatical Leave

- **Alasdair Rawsthorne**: 80% secondment to Transitive Technologies
  - Oct 06 – Sep 07.
- **Alvaro Fernandes**: IBM Almaden Research Centre US
  - Jul 06 – Dec 06.
- **Milan Mihajlovic**: University of Maryland, College Park
  - Jul 06 – Dec 06

## Vacancies

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<th>Academic Staff</th>
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<tr>
<td>Research &amp; Technical Staff</td>
<td>Software Developer in Electronic Assessment (ABC)</td>
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<td>Management &amp; Professional Staff</td>
<td>None</td>
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