News from Head of School

EPSRC KT Challenge Success

Congratulations to Aladair Rawsthorne and colleagues for their major involvement in the University’s successful submission to the EPSRC Knowledge Transfer Challenge. As a result, the University has been awarded a minimum of £100k to support knowledge transfer activities, and has been shortlisted for a £500k award. Over 50 Universities were invited to apply by submitting details of an "outstanding knowledge transfer achievement" in the engineering and physical sciences, together with an outline business plan for eventual use of any funds awarded. Transitive, whose software is installed on every Intel-based Apple Macintosh delivered, and whose technology derives from research in the School of Computer Science, was cited as the University’s exemplary KT achievement. The independent judging panel deemed this to be one of the most exciting submissions and shortlisted the Manchester proposal. The overall winner will be selected later this month, and our very best wishes go with the team.

EA Games Event

Later this month, we will be holding a schools’ liaison event in conjunction with EA Games. Fred Gill, Chief Technical Officer from EA's North West development studio, will give a lecture aimed at introducing students to the mathematical, computing and engineering elements that provide the foundations of computer games development. This will be followed by a 'games ladder' event in the Lower First area. The aim is to raise awareness of CS in local schools and motivate students to take an interest in the subject. We have invited year 11 and 12 students from the top schools and colleges across Greater Manchester and have already had a huge response (approx. 150 students and teachers). Some CS students will also be invited – depending on the final number of schools attending. We expect the final number of attendees to be around 200 attendees, plus teachers and staff.

I’d like to congratulate Bernard and Mahalia on this exciting initiative. I’d also encourage as many of you as possible to put the date – Wednesday 29 November, 1600-1830 – in your diaries and contact Mahalia if you are prepared to help. We need as many CS people as possible at the event, to answer questions and help create a ‘buzz’.

Postgraduate Open Day

There will be a University postgraduate open day on 6 December. Events will be run by the Central University in the morning and the School of Computer Science will hold a presentation and demos in the afternoon. We have a standard School presentation but we are in need of demos. If you have any demos that would be suitable for the Open Day please contact Bernard in the External Affairs Office.

Events this Week

On Dynamic Pattern Analysis and Recognition
Dr Ke Chen, School of Computer Science
1415, Lecture Theatre 1.5, Kilburn Building

More Information
Technology, Media, Communities and Learning from 8 Nov 06

From Wednesday 8 November 2006, The School of Computer Science will be hosting a series of 10 workshops which is open to all from inside and outside the University. The series will be specifically concerned with convergences between: Social software, New media-capable hardware devices, Interactive / broadcast media, Community formation and maintenance, Learning and e-learning, Greater inclusion, and the growth of social capital. The aim of the series is to build knowledge and skills in these topics and their intersections in order to facilitate research and practice. These workshops will be of interest and value to participants from a broad spread of practices and disciplines that bear on the areas of concern (as listed above), including the social sciences, media studies and computer science. To find out more about the series of workshops, please contact: Mark Van Harmelen

More Information

Dissertation Exam Board for the 05/06 cohort 9 Nov 06

If you have supervised an MSc project, please ensure you are contactable on this day in case one of the external examiners wishes to speak to you. Contact Susie for more information.

New Techniques in High Resolution Laser Spectroscopy 8 Nov 06

Professor Wolfgang Demtroder (PSI Fellow 2006)
1430, Moseley Lecture Theatre, Schuster Building

More Information

Careers Event – What’s IT all About? New 8 Nov 06

Careers Services are holding an event for 2nd and 3rd year undergraduates and all postgrads with seminars and workshops by some of the biggest blue chip names in the IT business, on topics such as: Enterprise Architecture; Future of Computing; IT Security; 21st Century Networks; Big Software Implementation projects; Future of Wireless – and canapés. Please bring this to the attention of relevant students.
1000, Renold Building

More Information and Registration

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 9 Nov 06

A one-day conference for fixed-term researchers with presentations by:
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

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
EA Games Event 29 Nov 06

*The Technology Behind the Computer Games Revolution*

Fred Gill, Chief Technical Officer, EA Games NW Development Studio

An event for year 11 and 12 secondary school students to raise awareness of computer science and motivate them to take an interest in the subject. Intended to be informative and fun. Help required – please contact Mahalia if you are prepared to participate.

1600-1830, Lecture theatre 1.1 and the Lower First area, Kilburn Building

Children in Need/Christies Book Sale 1 Dec 06

The 4th Annual (!) Computer Science Charity Booksale will take place this year on Friday 1 December, with proceeds going to Children In Need and Christies Hospital. This year has a new twist, in that we are holding the event in conjunction with Manchester Computing. So we hope the sale will be bigger and better than ever! This year we're concentrating on books, CDs and DVDs, so if you have any unwanted items at home or in your office that you'd like to donate to the sale, please bring them in ASAP and either leave them with ACSO (Room 2.127), or with Toby (Room 2.93). Thank you to those who have already contributed! We welcome other things too, computers, stereos, golf clubs, cars, etc, which we will sell by Web auction. Please help us make this year's Sale another roaring success!

Postgraduate Open Day 6 Dec 06

All day event with centrally organised activities in the morning and School presentation and demos in the afternoon. Demos required.

President's Visit 28 Feb 07

The President and Vice-Chancellor will be visiting the School. Please make a diary note – more details nearer the time.

1400-1600

Mathematical and Statistical Aspects of Molecular Biology 29-30 Mar 07

With participants from mathematics, statistics, computer science, bioinformatics, biology and related fields, the MASAMM meetings provide an intimate setting for exchange of ideas in methodological and applied research. Research students and scientists newly entering the field of genomic research are particularly welcome. To be considered for a talk or poster, authors should submit a one page abstract describing their research. This abstract will be used to select presentations and should provide an overview of the research objectives, methods and results.

More Information

Future External Events

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

IST 2006 Event Helsinki 21-23 Nov 06

This year's edition of the most important European event in the field of Information Society Technologies will coincide with the launch of the EU's Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Development.
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

EPSRC 2007 Advanced Research Fellowships 9 Nov 06
Applications are invited for the 2007 Advanced Research Fellowships exercise. Advanced Research Fellowships are awarded to outstanding researchers with 3 – 10 years of postdoctoral experience. More Information

Teaching & Learning (T&L) Innovation Funding 20 Nov 06
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 are interested. More Information

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), 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. More Information

International Research Mobility Scheme 30 Nov 06
Research opportunities from one week to six months in the US, China and mainland Europe for staff and postgraduate students. More Information

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. More Information

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. More Information

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 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.

EPSRC 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.

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<th>Royal Academy of Engineering MacRobert Award</th>
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<td>The UK's premier award for innovation in engineering. The Award, first presented in 1969, honours the winning 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.</td>
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