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News from Head of School

Promotion to Senior Lecturer

Congratulations to Xiao-Jun Zeng and Liping Zhao, recent arrivals from Informatics, on their promotion to Senior Lecturer. This is an auspicious start to their membership of the School, and I am sure you will all join me in wishing them both continued success in their academic careers.

Extreme Blue Success

Congratulations also to Robert Craig, one of our final-year Computer Science students, who has received exciting recognition from IBM for work he started during his summer vacation. Robert played a key role in developing a piece of business software called ESP, as a participant in IBM's international [Extreme Blue](#) programme. The company has now taken the unusual step of announcing their intention to take his work further. Further details are available in an IBM [press release](#).

EPS Call for Academic Promotions

Although we have yet to receive the official call from Faculty, the School will need to consider cases for promotion to Senior Lecturer and Reader soon. Now is the time for any of you this might affect to discuss with your line-manager whether there is a case that should be submitted this year and, if so, to start preparing it. You will need to have completed the work-up of your submission by mid January, allowing time for your line-manager to prepare a supporting statement for consideration by the School Promotions Committee, in the first place.

EPS Collaborative Training Account

This is to alert you all to the fact that there is an internal source of funding for PhD studentships that we should aim to exploit. The University has Collaborative Training Account (CTA) funding, administered by our Faculty. Some of the money has been earmarked to provide part funding for PhD students, with the balance coming from industry or other external collaborators. This provides companies with a relatively low-cost, low-risk opportunity to work with the University, taking what may be a valuable first step in building a longer term relationship. There are regular deadlines throughout the year – [details below](#). The Faculty web site provides [more information](#), or email [Simon McKenna](#).

Events this Week

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Methodologies and Tools for Heterogeneous Platforms

15 Nov 06

Design Methodologies and Tools for Heterogeneous Platforms

Prof Roger Woods, Queen's University of Belfast

1415, Lecture Theatre 1.5, 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

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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 Book sale 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. Please bring donations to ACSO, Room 2.127.

Postgraduate Open Day

6 Dec 06

An all day event with centrally organised activities in the morning and School presentations 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

Future External Events

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Young Engineers Presentations – House of Commons

17 Nov 06

The annual poster presentation for Young Engineers at the House of Commons, co-organised 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.

[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](#)

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

With participants from mathematics, statistics, computer science, bioinformatics, biology and related fields, the MASAMB 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](#)

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Funding Opportunities

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's 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 Weichert, 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 Weichert](#), 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](#)

University CTA Studentships New

30 Nov 06

Part funding for PhD studentships, in collaboration with industry or other qualifying organisations. 2007 deadlines: 24 Jan, 28 Mar, 30 May, 25 Jul, 26 Sep, 28 Nov. Decisions are normally announced in less than three weeks.

[More information](#) (or by contacting [Simon McKenna](#)).

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.

[More Information](#)

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.

[More Information](#)

DTI Technology Strategy - Competitions for Funding New

08 Jan 07

The Autumn 2006 Competition for Funding was launched in London last week and the Technology Priority Areas are as follows:

- Network security: Human vulnerabilities in network security (£5m)
- Moving towards the zero emission enterprise: A challenge to business to reduce their diverse negative environmental inputs (£10m)
- Emerging energy technologies: Low carbon energy technologies (£8m)
- Bioscience and healthcare: Technologies for development and manufacture of biopharmaceuticals (£7.5m)
- Sensors and imaging for medical, security and environmental applications (£7.5m)
- Plastic electronics: Novel materials, deposition and patterning techniques (£5m)

[More Information](#)

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.

[More Information](#)

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.

[More Information](#)

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](#)

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.

[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.

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.

[More Information](#)

Royal Academy of Engineering MacRobert Award

31 Jan 07

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.

[More Information](#)

ERCIM Cor Baayen Award New

15 April 07

The Cor Baayen Award is awarded each year to a most promising young researcher in computer science and applied mathematics. The award was created in 1995 to honour the first ERCIM President. Nominations should be made by a staff member of the university or research institute where the nominee is undertaking research. Self nominations are not accepted.

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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

Technical Arrivals

None this week

Academic Retirements

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

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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Academic Staff

None

Research & Technical Staff

None

Management & Professional Staff

None

Administrative Staff

None