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News from Head of School

EPSRC Knowledge Transfer Challenge

Congratulations to Alasdair Rawsthorne and colleagues for their major involvement in the University's winning entry in the EPSRC's first Knowledge Transfer Challenge. We knew at the beginning of the month (see 6 Nov newsletter) that the Manchester bid had been shortlisted. It was announced as the overall winner at a ceremony in London last week, bringing an award of £500k to the University. Over 50 Universities were invited to apply by submitting details of an "outstanding knowledge transfer achievement" in the engineering and physical sciences, together with a 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 business case for making innovative use of the funds was put together by EPS Associate Dean for External Affairs, Alison Bowen. For further information see the EPSRC [press release](#) (complete with rather embarrassing summary of the technology behind the Manchester bid).

Academic Promotions – Reminder

A reminder for anyone who missed it two weeks ago – the annual academic promotions round is upon us, and any member of academic staff who thinks they have a case should discuss it urgently with their line manager, with a view to preparing a case for early in the New Year.

School Plan

The School Leadership Team will be discussing the latest version of the School plan this afternoon. It would be extremely useful if we could receive, before that meeting, any further comments on the draft circulated last week. Work is also progressing on the financial plan for 2007/8, though uncertainties surrounding the influx of staff and students from the School of Informatics are making this a difficult exercise. One message is, however, clear – **not enough of you are submitting grant applications** (this applies equally to existing and new staff). Our success rate, at 55% by value, is the highest in the Faculty (congratulations to all those involved), but significantly less than 50% of research active staff actually submitted a grant application last year. You will have seen from the draft plan that we need to aim for something much closer to 100% if we are to meet our ambitious goals in terms of research 'power' – or even remain financially viable. Please ask yourself if this means you.

EA Games Event – Reminder

As already advertised we are hosting an event on Wednesday with EA Games. There will be students from across Greater Manchester attending the event. The schedule is as follows:

1530 – 1600: Registration for local schools

1600 – 1715: Lecture by Fred Gill, Technical Director, EA Games: LT 1.1

1715 – 1830: Food, drinks, gaming and demos

Space in the lecture theatre will be limited, but we're keen for as many staff as possible to attend (from 1715) to speak to teachers and prospective students. If you have any questions regarding the event or the disruption it may cause please contact Bernard Strutt [Bernard Strutt](#) or Michaela Ashton [Michaela Ashton](#).

Degree Ceremony Processions

Many thanks to all those who have volunteered to take part in the degree ceremony on the 14th December. We will have a very good turnout, which is important if the event is not to be devalued for our students and their parents. It also does us no harm that the CS turnout currently looks set to be the best in the Faculty.

Events this Week

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SLT meeting **New**

27 Nov 06

Meeting of the School Leadership Team. Main Business – UG report.
1415, Atlas 2

Modular model building for systems biology **New**

28 Nov 06

Modular model building: novel capabilities for systems biology

Prof. Jeremy Gunawardena, Dept Systems Biology, Harvard Medical School
Part of the First UK-wide meeting of BBSRC/EPSRC-funded Centres for Integrative Systems Biology, one of which is the MCISB, located in Manchester.
[MCISB Website](#).

1600, Main Lecture Theatre, MIB

Workflow discovery **New**

29 Nov 06

Mr Antoon Goderis, IMG, School of Computer Science, University of Manchester
1300, Atlas 1, Kilburn Building

[More Information](#)

Text Mining with the Cafetiere Toolkit **New**

29 Nov 06

Mr Bill Black, School of Computer Science, University of Manchester
1415, Lecture Theatre 1.5, Kilburn Building

[More Information](#)

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.

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

Grantsmanship Workshop

29 Nov 06

One day course 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](#)

Supporting International Students Post Induction **New**

30 Nov 06

EPS-TSD Lunchtime event. There will be two interactive sessions, the first, where Chinese academics on the Teaching Science and Engineering in English (TSEE) programme, will share their experiences and expectations with the audience (in groups), and the second, where you will work in groups on anonymised case studies. Please book at least two days in advance (for catering purposes) by emailing: [EPS TSU](#)

1200-1400, George Begg C4

On the Architecture and Form of Flexible Process Support **New**

1 Dec 06

Dr Bob Snowdon, School of Computer Science, University of Manchester

The talk concerns the architecture of business process support systems, where change is essential. A business supply chain scenario is used to illustrate the ideas. The scenario has been implemented in ProcessWeb thus providing some concrete examples of some of the issues involved. If time permits it may be possible to demonstrate the implementation.

1200, Lecture Theatre 1.3, 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.

Text Analytics & Drug Discovery - NaCTeM **1 Dec 06**

Dr Ian Dix, AstraZeneca
1300, MIB building, LG0.10

[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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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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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](#)

Funding Opportunities

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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

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](#)

EPSRC ‘Follow-on-Funds’

8 Dec 06

The deadline for the University’s internal competition for EPSRC ‘Follow-on-Funds’ is 1600 Friday December 8th 2006. Grantholders interested in applying for this funding should contact the CS Research Office for further information and the two page application form and send it to [Richard Price](#).

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

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; Moving towards the zero emission enterprise; Emerging energy technologies; Bioscience and healthcare; Sensors and imaging for medical, security and environmental applications; Plastic electronics

[More Information](#)

Royal Commission 1851 Industrial Fellowships 2007 New

25 Jan 07

The Commission now sees its Industrial Fellowships as catalysts in the encouragement of innovation and creativity in British industry. Although the Fellowships are awarded to individuals, their parent Companies and associated Universities derive equal advantage from the scheme. About eight Industrial Fellowships are offered each year for selected graduates, working in British Industry, who have a good first degree in engineering, science or medicine.

[More Information](#)

UoM Simon Industrial and Professional Fellowship	1 Jul 07
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The regulations and faculty financial allocations for the Simon Industrial and Professional Fellowship appointments during the 2006/07 academic session are available [here](#). Any applications should be sent to Helen Gleeson initially (not the Dean as stated). Nominations must be received no later than 1 July 2007.

EPSRC ICT Platform Grants	Open
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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
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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
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An opportunity for university lecturers in engineering to gain state-of-the-art industrial experience.

[More Information](#)

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

[More Information](#)

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

[More Information](#)

EPSRC Engineering Visits	Open
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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
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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

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

