News from Head of School

ERVS Applications
If you are considering making an ERVS application, please consider doing this well before the deadline, as it is helpful for the school in making decisions on individual cases if we know the whole story.

New Plaque
Staff will not need reminding that The University of Manchester is the birthplace of the modern computer. The commemorative plaque in Bridgeford Street, opposite Kilburn Building, had become very weather damaged, and we are delighted to report that, thanks to Eamon Griffin and Toby Howard, it has now been restored to its former glory.

Events

On the Saturation of YAGO
Prof Christoph Weidenbach, Max-Planck Institute
15:15, Lecture Theatre 1.4, Kilburn Building
[Seminar page]

EPS Grantmanship Workshop
This study day aims to give university researchers who are thinking of applying
to the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council an overview of how
the organisation works and an insight into the peer review process. The day
typically involves:

- Presentations – introduction to EPSRC, the peer review process and
  funding opportunities
- Tips on proposal writing – first steps in grantsmanship from Professor
  Richard Winpenny
- Mock panels – attendees have the chance to practice a prioritisation
  panel meeting with real grant proposals
- And plenty of Q&A time

If you wish to attend this workshop please contact:
Stephanie.Ball@manchester.ac.uk.

City Innovation Lab: Manchester            30 June 10
Prof. Chris Taylor
13.00 – 14.00, Atlas Rooms

We are all aware of the transformative potential of information and
communication technologies, and have observed the gathering pace at which
technology has become part of everyday life. Arguably, we have reached a
tipping point, where the power, ubiquity and low cost of technology is such that
we can contemplate tackling some of the major challenges facing developed
societies: sustainable transport infrastructure, the obesity epidemic, affordable
health and social care, security, social cohesion etc. It is, however, characteristic
of all these challenges that they are not just about the technology - they involve
people and the need to address questions like how does the necessary cross-
sectoral innovation happen, how will an intervention play out in practice, what
are the social and personal psychology drivers, what new business models are
needed? Realistically, such questions can only be answered by doing real
experiments - deploying new technology at scale and measuring outcomes. The
City Innovation Laboratory is a joint initiative between the University and the
City-Region that aims to establish Manchester as a place of choice to conduct
such experiments, by establishing the infrastructure to run large-scale trials,
typically based around mobile technology. This should create research
opportunities across many of the School's research areas including: information
management, machine learning, sensors and low-power devices, biohealth
informatics, social networks etc. In the (fairly short) talk, I will explain in more
detail what is happening and discuss the opportunities for CS.

Computational Electromagnetics Seminar     1 July 10
The Schools of Mathematics and Electrical and Electronic Engineering in
collaboration with the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics
(SIAM) would like to invite you to the first university-wide Computational
Electromagnetics (CEM) seminar. This seminar will consist of four presentations
followed up by a discussion and networking session.
13-15:00, Sackville Street Building, Room D39
Title: Modelling Low Frequency Electromagnetic Fields in the 3D Earth
Speaker: Oliver Dorn, School of Mathematics

Title: Huygens Subgridding for Finite-Difference Time-Domain Method
Speaker: Maksims Abalenkovs, School of EEE

Title: Trouble with Toolboxes
Speaker: Michael Croucher, Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences

Title: Parametric Finite Element Modelling in UXO Landmine Detection
Speaker: Chris Munro, School of Mathematics
Abstracts available here