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## News from Head of School

### First 2+2 Agreement Signed!

The school has signed an agreement with The Communication University of China (CUC), whereby students from CUC who have completed their first two years of study with good grades and who satisfy our normal English language requirements can enter the second year of our undergraduate programmes. The scheme allows for up to 15 students per year to join the second year of our undergraduate computer science programme, which means that this agreement could potentially provide an annual income to the school of over £300K, even with the discount negotiated as part of the agreement.

Establishing such 2+2 agreements has been an important goal for the school, as part of our wider strategy of opening new non-government income streams. Thanks to those who have contributed to putting the arrangement in place, who include Liping Zhao, Ian Watson and Jim Miles. Liping has been particularly important to taking the contact through to completion, and will also be involved in managing the relationship.

### RCUK Research Equipment Funding Changes

RCUK have brought in some major changes to the way they fund equipment on research grants. From now on, the cost of any items of equipment more than £10K will need to be funded 50:50 by the research councils and the school. As this has a potentially significant impact on the School/Faculty budgets, the Faculty has put in place some new procedures.

With immediate effect, for any RCUK proposals that require equipment over £10K, PIs will need to complete the Faculty Research Equipment Form (link below) and submit it to the Research Office. This will then need to be signed off firstly by HoS, and then by the Dean and Head of Faculty Finance, so staff should ensure there is sufficient time for this process to be completed before submission is due.

Please could I also ask all staff who will be needing equipment over £10,000 to discuss this with the Research Office early in the proposal writing process.

[FAQs - Changes to funding requests for research equipment from 1 May 2011](#)

[RESEARCH EQUIPMENT FORM](#)

[Research Equipment Administration Guidance](#)

[Research Councils UK Equipment Guidance \(pdf\)](#)

[RCUK DETAILS REQUIRED FOR ITEMS OF CAPITAL OVER THE OJEU THRESHOLD](#)

## Events

**Careers event for PhD researchers**

**10-15 Jun 11**

PATHWAYS 2011: the essential careers event for all PhD researchers

**\*Friday 10th June:** Explore your Options A full day of Q & A panels with PhD qualified experts and professionals from a wide range of sectors including academia.

**\*Monday 13th June:** Succeed at interview and assessment A series of workshops and practical sessions to help you secure your ideal job, either inside or outside academia.

**\*Wednesday 15th June:** PhD and Research Career Zone  
Talk to employers who recruit PhDs & researchers and learn how to market your experience effectively.

**Venue:** The University of Manchester

Free places for all University of Manchester PhD staff and researchers. One, two or all three days - your choice.

Each year over 400 Manchester researchers attend.

[Find out more and book a place](#)

### **Research Computing Courses** **Various June/July 11**

There are still places left on the following courses for UoM researchers.

IT Services for Research is running a series of courses aimed at staff and postgraduates who run computer simulations as part of their research. The following courses (all 1-day except where noted) are:

- Introduction to Research Computing Tues 21 June (morning)
- Programming Techniques for Research Computing Weds 22 June (morning)
- Intro to Parallel Programming with OpenMP & MPI Fri 1 July
- High Throughput Computing using Condor Weds 20 July
- Programming in MATLAB Thurs 21 July
- Shared Memory & Multicore Programming with OpenMP Tues 22 March
- Parallel Computing using the Message Passing Interface (MPI) Tues 26 July

[More information](#)

### **Beyond the PhD: Academia vs Industry** **17 Jun 11**

14:00 – Start of the session (participants introduce themselves)

14:30 – Start of the panel discussion

15:30 – End of Panel discussion followed by a networking session

IT building room 407

Conventional myth that PhDs are for academia and bachelors and masters are for industry is changing as more and more companies focus on research and development activities as part of their business. Research methodologies and office culture being practised in the industry may or may not be similar to that of academia. It is interesting to see how the PhD program has helped individuals to succeed in both academia and industry and of course it might even help current PhD students to have a different perspective on their future. In the light of this, mentors of the School of Computer Science, University of Manchester, are organising an event in which people from industry and academia express their views on the subject.

Participating People

Dr. Daniel Owen – IBM (Manchester)

Dr. Ugo Ekweozor – Solution Analyst at Computer Sciences Corporation

Dr. Matt Horsnell – Research Engineer at ARM

Dr Barry Cheetham – Senior Lecturer, University of Manchester

Prof Ulrike Sattler – Professor, University of Manchester

Dr Simon Harper - Lecturer, University of Manchester

Tea, coffee and snacks will be served throughout the session.

### **School barbecue**

**8 Jul 11**

The School summer barbecue will be held from 15:00 on Friday 8 July in the quad area. Please bring your own drinks.

### **Introduction to Implementing Ontologies in the Web Ontology Language (OWL)**

**11 & 12 July 11**

BioHealth Informatics group at the University of Manchester are pleased to invite you to participate in their internationally renowned OWL Ontology tutorials.

Number of Places and Cost

In total there are **15 places**. The cost of the course is **£350 per day**.

### **Registration and Further Information**

To register and for further information please visit the website at: <http://www.nweh.org.uk/ViewCourses.aspx>

### **Graphene: Materials in the Flatland**

**19 Jul 11**

11:00, G51 School of Chemistry

The W L Bragg Lecture of The University of Manchester 2011 will be presented by Physics Nobel Laureate Professor Kostya Novoselov, of the Schuster Laboratory, The University of Manchester. This is an open lecture and there is seating for 250. It will last slightly over an hour and will be followed by a soft drinks mixer.

The Lecture will be Chaired by Prof Sine Larsen of the University of Copenhagen, President of the International Union of Crystallography. The Vote of Thanks will be given for the University of Manchester by Dr Cinzi Casiraghi.

Poster including the lecture abstract can be found [here](#).

Contact [John Helliwell](#) for further information.