News from Head of School

President's visit to Computer Science – 7th February

The President will be visiting the School on the afternoon of 7th February.

There will be an open meeting for students, followed by an open meeting for staff, details below. At the open meetings the President will speak for a short time and then take questions or comments on anything relating to the University. Please do come along.

1300-1315 Meeting with Head of School - Room 2.123
1315-1350 Open meeting for students Lecture Theatre 1.3
1350-1430 Open meeting for staff – Kilburn room 2.19

The meetings will include an opening address (c. 5 minutes) from the President which will then be opened up into a general question and answer session.

£45M Graphene Building

The University of Manchester has been confirmed as the single supplier invited to submit a proposal for funding a new £45 million national institute, £38 million of which will be provided by the UK Government. This world-class shared facility for graphene research and commercialisation activities will be accessible by both researchers and business. See: http://www.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus/news/display/?id=7930

Fellow of the Computer History Museum

Steve Furber has been honoured by the Computer History Museum, the world’s leading institution exploring the history of computing and its ongoing impact on society, for his pioneering work on the ARM processor. Congratulations Steve.

Reunite

Gavin Brown’s Reunite project has featured on the BBC and in the Manchester Evening News.

Reunite is an EPSRC Knowledge Transfer Account (KTA) funded feasibility study of the use of crowdsourcing and machine learning techniques to help reunite those separated by conflict and natural disaster. Two Manchester students, Peter Sutton and Lloyd Henning performed the research and development of the system.

You can read more about Reunite here:
http://mlo.cs.manchester.ac.uk/reunite

The Manchester Evening News report can be found here:
http://menmedia.co.uk/manchestereveningnews/news/education/s/1470070_looking-to-save-a-life-manchester-university-graduates-create-an-app-for-that

and a recording of the BBC Click programme is here:
http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00mys0r#p00njr02

Events
Two-Variable First-Order Logics over Transitive Structures 8 Feb 12
Dr Lidia Tendera, University of Opole, Poland
14:15, Lecture Theatre 1.4, Kilburn Building
http://www.cs.manchester.ac.uk/research/seminars/school/

School board meeting 8 Feb 12
PGT report, CPD report and Update on the Contracts Policy and redeployments.
15:30, IT building 407.

Call for Participants in a five-day Sandpit focused on Innovative Solutions to Flood Risk 20 Feb 12
Expression of interest: EPSRC announces a Statement of Intent to hold a research sandpit to support transformative, multidisciplinary, novel research projects in response to the LWEC Flooding and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Research Strategy.

Closing Date: 20 February 2012
http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/calls/open/Pages/floodingsandpit.aspx

SUPERGEN Bioenergy challenge 6 Mar 12
Expression of interest: The RCUK Energy programme invites EOI s to attend a workshop that aims to scope the challenges that face the deployment of bioenergy technologies for a subsequent open SUPERGEN Challenge call.

Closing Date: 06 March 2012
http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/calls/open/Pages/bioenergyworkshop.aspx

Higher Education Academy Web2.0 Workshop 4 April 12
On Wednesday 4th April 2012, The University of Manchester, in conjunction with the Higher Education Academy is holding a workshop that focuses on using web 2.0 in teaching and learning, within the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines.

This workshop uses the term ‘social media’ to refer to internet services where the online content is generated by the users of the service. Although there are other synonymous terms for such services (web 2.0, participatory media, etc), for consistency this session will use the terms social media (to describe the phenomenon) or social tools (to describe the technologies).

Examples of the social tools which may be covered include:
- Social Networking: Facebook and beyond
- Twitter
- Blogs
- Wikis
- Document sharing
- Presentation tools
- File sharing
- Conferencing

Further information

Funding Opportunities
Technology Strategy Board: Boosting innovation in manufacturing competencies 22 Feb 12
Invitation for proposals: The Technology Strategy Board and EPSRC are to invest up to £6m in collaborative research and development that stimulates innovation in manufacturing. This is a two-stage competition. The deadline for registration is at noon on 22 February 2012.

Closing Date: 22 February 2012

http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/calls/open/Pages/mfinnovation.aspx

Royal Society Wolfson Research Merit Awards 14 Mar 12

Jointly funded by the Wolfson Foundation and BIS, this scheme aims to provide universities with additional support to enable them to attract to this country, or retain, respected scientists of outstanding achievement and potential. Awards are made to the university and as such researchers must remain at the university named on the application.

The focus of the award is a salary enhancement. Research expenses will only be considered for overseas researchers being recruited to the UK to support integration into the UK research and funding environment. Researchers who are already based in the UK cannot request research expenses.

Eligibility: Applicants can be of any nationality and must hold, or be guaranteed, a permanent post at a UK university. All applicants must have their basic salary wholly funded by the university.

Length of tenure: Five years funding after which the award holder continues with the permanent post at the host university.

Place of tenure: UK University. Please note that these awards are made to the host university and cannot be transferred to another university.

Value: Salary enhancements have been made usually in the range of £10K to £30K per annum.

royalsociety.org/Wolfson-Research-Merit-Awards/

Closing date for approved applications: 14 March 2012

Industry Fellowship 22 Mar 12

These appointments are funded by the Royal Society, the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, the Natural Environment Research Council, BP plc, Rolls-Royce plc and AstraZeneca Ltd.

The scheme aims to enhance knowledge transfer in science and technology between those in industry and those in academia. It provides opportunities for an academic scientist to work on a collaborative project with industry, or someone employed in industry to work on a collaborative project with a university department or not-for-profit research organisation. It is anticipated that fellows will establish personal and corporate links between the two sectors in the UK as a foundation for their long-term future development.

Subjects covered: Natural sciences (including agriculture, mathematics, biotechnology, environmental research, medical and engineering sciences). Projects at any stage from fundamental science to industrial innovation will be supported.

Eligibility: Applicants can be of any nationality and should be at a stage in their career when they would particularly benefit from establishing or strengthening
personal and corporate links between the two sectors as a foundation for long-term future collaboration and development. They should hold a PhD or be of equivalent standing in their profession and hold a permanent post in either a UK university, a not-for-profit research organisation (e.g. the Marine Biological Association), or UK industry.

**Length of tenure:** Awards can be for any period up to two years’ full-time or pro rata, i.e. could be held at 50% part-time for four years enabling fellows to maintain links with their employing institution more easily.

**Place of tenure:** Must involve transfer between UK private industry and a UK university or a not-for-profit research organisation. We encourage applications involving spin-offs or small companies. Publicly funded bodies are not eligible to act as the industrial partner.

**Value:** The fellow’s basic salary only will be paid during the secondment; the employing institution continues to pay oncosts. Please see scheme notes available online for more information on funding arrangements. Research expenses may be claimed up to the value of £2000 per year.

royalsociety.org/Industry-Fellowships/

**Closing date for approved applications:** 22 March 2012

**RCUK Energy Programme - NSFC Call for Collaborative Research with China on Smart Grids 29 Mar 12**

Invitation for proposals: The Research Councils UK Energy Programme wishes to develop collaborative projects between the UK and China, in partnership with the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC), in the field of 'Smart Grids'.

Closing Date: 29-03-2012

http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/calls/open/Pages/smartgrids.aspx

**Research Institute in the Science of Cyber Security 29 Mar 12**

Invitation for proposals: EPSRC and GCHQ are inviting proposals from academic researchers who wish to form a Research Institute in the Science of Cyber Security. Eligibility to apply is restricted to attendees at the scoping workshop hosted by EPSRC in December 2011.

Closing Date: 29 March 2012

http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/calls/open/Pages/scienceofcybersecurity.aspx

**Newton International Fellowships 16 Apr 12**

The Newton International Fellowship Scheme is delivered by the British Academy and the Royal Society. The Scheme has been established to select the very best early stage post-doctoral researchers from all over the world and enable them to work at UK research institutions for a period of two years. The Scheme covers researchers in all disciplines covered by the two academies – physical, natural or social sciences and humanities.

The aim of the scheme is to:
• ensure the UK engages with the best post-doctoral researchers, across all disciplines physical, natural or social sciences and humanities, from around the world.
• provide an opportunity for post-doctoral researchers at an early career stage from any country outside the UK to work at a UK research institution for up to two years.
• foster long-term relations between Newton Fellows and the UK research base.
through the establishment of an alumni programme for former Fellows of this Scheme.

**Subjects Covered**: The two-year Fellowships cover the broad range of the physical, natural or social sciences or humanities.

**Eligibility**: For eligibility criteria, please download the scheme notes.

**Length of Tenure**: 2 years, full-time

**Value of Grant**: The Fellowships include £24,000 per annum to cover subsistence and up to £8,000 per annum to cover research expenses, plus a one-off relocation allowance of up to £2,000. Newton Fellows may be eligible for funding worth up to £6,000 per annum for up to 10 years after the Fellowship ends, will support follow-on activities to enable Newton Fellows to build long-term links with the UK.

**Private funding Fellowships**: The Sino-British Fellowship Trust and the K.C. Wong Foundation provide the Royal Society with funding to support 3 scientists who make applications within physical, natural sciences and engineering to the Newton International Fellowship scheme. The selected individuals must be Chinese nationals and be based in China at the time of application. It is not possible to apply directly for this private funding. Instead, eligible candidates are selected from all the shortlisted Newton International Fellowship applications. These private fellowships are for a continuous duration of 2 years. They do not include FEC or contribution to overheads nor the alumni funding that Newton International Fellows may receive. The project has to be as outlined in the original application but is not branded as a Newton International Fellowship.

[http://royalsociety.org/grants/schemes/newton-international/](http://royalsociety.org/grants/schemes/newton-international/)

**Opening date**: 31 January 2012

**Closing date for approved applications**: 16 April 2012

**EPSRC Centres for Innovative Manufacturing 2012**

Invitation for proposals: EPSRC wants to fund additional EPSRC Centres for Innovative Manufacturing in targeted areas. There will be a town meeting on 6 March in Birmingham. Those wishing to apply will need to register their intent to submit a proposal by 29 March.

Closing Date: 09 May 2012

[More information](#)