**News from Head of School**

**Student Coding Competition**

The School’s inaugural student CodingDojo competition took place on Wednesday last week. With a total of 7 teams participating, they struggled through 12 challenging algorithmic problems. The winning team received £20 of Amazon vouchers each: Varuna Venkatesh, Tanvi Bhardwaj and Darkhan Imangaliev. The runners-up received £10 of Amazon vouchers each: Marius Popescu, Victor-Sorin Paunescu, and Mircea Gabriel Suciu.

**Thefts in Kilburn Building**

There have been two incidents of theft in the last two weeks, please take care with possessions, and if you see anybody acting suspiciously, especially towards the end of the day, please call security on 0161 306 9966 (External) or 69966 (internal).

**IT Building/Kilburn LF Bin the Bin**

There are now only two weeks before office bins are removed from the IT Building and Kilburn LF, please inform Eamon if the recycling bins are insufficient or not ideally placed.

**New Staff Cards**

Staff cards should all have been replaced as announced in a previous newsletter. Anyone who didn’t make it to the Whitworth Corridor on the 26th and 27th April needs to collect their new card from Room B9, Sackville St Building. I have asked HR whether somebody can bring the uncollected cards to Kilburn building and issue them from here at a pre-arranged time, if that can be arranged I will let you know.

**Greater Manchester Cycle Challenge starts today!**

Last year the school came 2nd in the Greater Manchester Cycle Challenge - what about winning it this year? The Head of School has recklessly thrown down a challenge to other schools, so to avoid abject humiliation for the School please get on your bike (not in the Tebbit sense).

All you need to do is (1) ride your bike at least once, (2) register and (3) log your trips between Monday 14th May and Tuesday 5th June. You don't need to log each of them individually, and it only takes a couple of minutes.

Go to [www.tfgmcyclechallenge.org.uk](http://www.tfgmcyclechallenge.org.uk) and register as:

Organisation: The University of Manchester
Department: School of Computer Science

**Open day – all hands on deck...**

It is University Open Day on 22nd and 23rd June. These events are very important in encouraging the students of the future to apply here. The School needs to recruit the best students in the country in order to have the educational environment that we all want. The 22nd June is a particularly busy day for the School and we will need academic staff who don’t normally do open days to help out. If you haven’t already volunteered to help out, please respond to Saba’s email of 25th April, or just let her know when you can help:

Saba Mirshafiei <saba.mirshafiei@cs.man.ac.uk>
Video Conferencing Service - free to use and fully supported

The University has high quality video conferencing suites available to use by staff and students for a variety of meeting types, are free to use and fully supported by Media Services. There are three suites distributed across campus as follows:

South Campus
- Humanities Bridgeford Street
- Roscoe Building

North Campus
- Renold Building

If you wish to use the service, you will need to give the technical support staff contact details for the team at the other end of the conference. They will then make contact and take care of all the connection arrangements. More information

Events

EPSRC Regional Meetings Various

EPSRC are holding 3 Regional Meetings during May to highlight progress made against our Delivery Plan and to discuss how we can continue to work together to ensure that we maintain, if not improve, the UK’s relative international research standing in the face of increased competition.

Regional Meetings will be held in Newcastle (3rd May), Birmingham (11th May) and London (23rd May) further information regarding timings and registration can be found on our website following the links included above.

Grant Applications Workshop 15 May 12

GRANTSMANSHIP
09:00-17:00, C24 Sackville Street Building

This day course is primarily intended for New Academics and those who have not yet clinched their first grant. It will be run by Prof Hugh McCann (EPS Associate Dean for Research) and colleagues and they will explore the latest information from the Research Councils and give strategic advice regarding applying for grants, including the research structures in place and how to cost applications. There will be an opportunity for participants to receive feedback on their potential ideas and how to structure cases for support.

Please book your place with Janet Goodier. If you would like to attend but there is a clash with the date, please will you contact Janet as we will be considering a rerun at a later time, depending on numbers.

Funding Opportunities

School Research Office

There is information about support for grant writing and submission at http://www.cs.manchester.ac.uk/reso/

Software for the future 15 May 12

Closing date: 16:00 on 15 May 2012
Issue date: 02 May 2012
Return form to: EPSRCSoftware@epsrc.ac.uk
EPSRC plan to begin a process to allocate funding to address grand challenges in software in July 2012. Prior to this, we will be holding a workshop which will both map the activities in the UK that currently support software as an infrastructure and find out where the gaps and challenges lie.

The workshop will have two sessions: The purpose of the morning will be to set out the current activities, show where they link and identify any gaps. Attendees to the morning of the workshop are therefore by invite only and represent software activities funded by EPSRC.

The afternoon will focus on looking forward to where EPSRC should be investing in the future and we would like to open this to those involved in all aspects of software development and engineering, both with and without EPSRC funding. Unfortunately, we are limited on numbers and this call is an invitation to apply to join the afternoon session.

This will also be an opportunity for networking and the forming of future collaborations.

Further details