News from the Head of School

School Christmas Party
Party time is 3pm on Wednesday 19th December in the senior common room. This year there will be a quiz at 4pm, so get there on time to be in with a chance to win. Pizza will be served at 5pm. Please contribute by bringing along something to drink.

Atlas Symposium
Over 150 visitors attended the Atlas Symposium on Wednesday 5th, celebrating the 50th anniversary of the inauguration of the Atlas Supercomputer. To mark the event Google have made a film about the Atlas, which can be seen with their blog at: http://googlepolicyeurope.blogspot.co.uk/2012/12/remembering-ferranti-atlas-uks-first.html

Thanks to Ruth Maddocks and everyone who helped out with the arrangements for the day, organising, printing, shifting furniture and moving displays, providing drinks, registration and guidance for visitors and all the other ‘little’ jobs that needed doing. There were many compliments from the visitors, and the event would not have been a success without all the hard work that CS staff put in.

Raspberry Pi initiative
The School has been awarded £15K from Faculty to support a new initiative for 1st Year undergraduate teaching. In September 2013, all new 1st year students will be given their own Raspberry Pi computer (http://www.raspberrypi.org), which will be used in the introductory labs. If this experiment is successful, the UG team will be looking at integrating the RPi further into the curriculum. If you’d like to know more or get involved, contact Steve Pettifer/Toby Howard.

Arrivals and Departures

Caroline Jay has been appointed as a Lecturer in the School, starting on February 1st 2013.

Bernard Strutt and Chris Farrington have secured secondments into the Student Recruitment and International Development Division (SRID). Chris will be working as a UG Recruitment and WP Coordinator on a 12 month secondment from 1st January, supporting on-campus recruitment activity. Bernard is being seconded into the post of Head of UK/EU Student Recruitment from Jan 28th until September 2014.

Charlotte Hooson-Sykes has left the School to join the School of Physics and Astronomy as Executive Assistant to Professor Novoselov and Professor Geim. Melanie Price has taken over Charlotte’s old role as Executive Assistant to Professor Goble and Professor Brass.

Amanda Banks has resigned from her part-time post in the School in order to work full-time on her PhD.

Department for Education: Meeting of Teacher Trainers in Computer Science

The University of Manchester is taking a leading part in activities to upgrade computing in schools nationwide. Part of this activity involves the training of school teachers, another issue is to engage school students in the fun and excitement of computer science, another issue is to address the lack of new
teachers being trained in computing (less than 5 nationwide last year according to BCS).

To address the issue of initial teacher training in computer science, we are hosting the first national meeting of teacher trainers who are committed to training CS teachers.

The meeting is: Wed 12th 10.00-4.00 in room 2.19 Kilburn Building.

The aim is to develop strategies nationwide and to develop the support that university CS departments can provide. About 45 teacher training institutes will be represented and c10 universities, as well the Department for Education, BCS Academy and Computing at School (CAS).

### Teaching Excellence Awards 2012/13 17 Jan 13

Submissions are invited from academic and related staff who can demonstrate a significant and sustained commitment to excellence in teaching or in supporting teaching. All details, including writing/completing statements of support, can be found on the link below. Please note that there have been a few changes this year.

*Full information and guidance can be found on this link*

Further queries, as well as submissions (by 17th January 2013 please) should be sent to Rosemary Tomkinson.

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### Events

#### SIGGRAPH CAF Animation Session 12 Dec 12

14-15:00, Roscoe Theatre B, Roscoe Building

SIGGRAPH will be presenting some of the best SIGGRAPH animation video clips from the 2012 DVD collection. Animation is from professional houses to amateur enthusiasts. This meeting will not be transmitted across the Access Grid so you will have to travel to Manchester.

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### Funding Opportunities

#### School Research Office

Please contact us through researchsupportcsm@manchester.ac.uk. There is information about support for grant writing and submission at [http://www.cs.manchester.ac.uk/reso/](http://www.cs.manchester.ac.uk/reso/)

**ERC Consolidator Grants** 24 Jan 2013

- Faculty peer review deadline: **24 Jan 2013**

**ERC Consolidator Grants** are available for researchers with 7-12 years of experience (since PhD-completion). The grants are designed to support researchers with a good track record, at the stage at which they are consolidating their own independent research team or programme. Generally, up to € 2 million is available for up to 5 years.

School peer-review is required before submission for Faculty peer-review.

- Faculty peer-review deadline: 24 Jan 2013
- Review and sign-off: 8 Feb 2013
- Submission to ERC: 21 Feb 2013

**SET for Britain – poster competition** 24 Dec 2012

- Closing date: **24 Dec 2012**

SET for Britain 2013 is a competition for early-stage researchers (including Masters/PhD students and post-docs) undertaking scientific, engineering,
technological or medical research.

This annual poster competition, hosted at the House of Commons, aims to encourage and promote early-career researchers, as well as raising the profile of science and engineering within the Houses of Parliament. The competition is divided into three distinct areas:

- Engineering
- Biological and Biomedical Science
- Physical Sciences (Chemistry and Physics)

Prizes are awarded in each scientific discipline for posters that best communicate high-level science to a lay audience. Finalists will have the opportunity to present their research at the House of Commons Marquee on 18 March 2013.

The closing date for entries is **Monday 24 December**. To apply: complete the online application form, upload a full abstract of the poster and include a letter of reference. Full details can be found on this [website](#).

**ICT Call 11 – European Commission Information Day** 10 Jan 2013

The European Commission is organising an Information day specifically dedicated to potential applicants to the technology-enhanced learning work programme on **10 January 2013 in Luxembourg**. This is in readiness for the next call for proposals of technology-enhanced learning research projects, which closes on 16 April 2013.

It aims to help participants understand the work programme and criteria for the evaluation of proposals, facilitate the sharing of ideas and experiences, and meet potential partners for project consortia. A registration form will soon be available for this event.

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**Research and Grant Awards**

Congratulations to all those involved in the following successful awards!

**Health e-Research Centre (HeRC)**

Funding Body: MRC  
PI: Carole Goble  
Award Amount: £4,883,088

The Health e-Research Centre (HeRC) will turn under-used electronic health data (eg NHS) in Northern England into new knowledge and improved healthcare. HeRC will develop Health Informatics (HI) methods to clean up and link up the different data sources in ways that give a bigger picture of patterns of health and how patients respond to treatments.

The consortium integrates Northern England’s top centres for statistics at Lancaster, public health at Liverpool, computer science at Manchester, and health economics/services research at York.

_Have we missed something? If you have some award news that you would like us to know about please contact Sarah Chatwin._