

Contents

News from HoS
This Week
School Events
External Events
Funding Opps
Prize & Award Opps
Research Awards
Staff News
Vacancies

Links

News Submissions
[Newsletter Archive](#)
School Strategy
School Intranet
School Seminars
ESNW Seminars
NaCTeM Seminars

News from the Head of School

Children In Need - Book sale and online auction

15 Nov 13

Reminder - we need your books, CDs, DVDs and any other fabulous items for our book sale and online auction on **Friday 15th November**. Please bring all donations no matter how large or small to ACSO: room 2.127.

The book sale begins at 11am on the second floor Kilburn landing outside the finance office and will finish at 4pm.

The auction is available online from Wednesday 13 November until 4pm on Friday 15 November.

In October's warm-up email it was stated that Terry Wogan would be commenting live on our auction. I feel sure that must be true, so please make the event exciting enough to be worth his while by creating a bidding frenzy.



November

...and **DON'T** forget to support our Movember team and help us beat the £1,233 we raised last year! So far £452... <http://moteam.co/csmcr>

HackManchester Success

Two student teams won challenges at HackManchester 2013 last week: Team Koupedia (Vasilis Nicolaou (Y4, CS4), Maria Charalampous (PGT), Georgios Chairepetis (PGT), Kyriacos Georgiou (Y3, CSwIE) and Angelos Georgiadis (CS graduate, July 2013)) won the BarclaysTech challenge:

<http://www.cs.manchester.ac.uk/people/news/full-article/?articleid=310>

And the Foot Injury Clan (James Robertson (Y3, CS4), Ted John (Y3, CS4), Radu Chichi (Y3, CSwIE) and Miso (Mike) Zmiric (Y3, CS4)) won the LayerShift challenge:

<http://www.cs.manchester.ac.uk/people/news/full-article/?articleid=308>

NaCTeM achieves highest accuracy in text mining challenge

The National Centre for Text Mining (NaCTeM) has won two first place rankings at the Biocreative IV challenge for developing software which can identify important information in biological text, accurately and automatically.

[BioCreative IV](#), which took place from 7 to 9 October 2013 in Bethesda, Maryland, USA is the latest in a series of challenges in which research groups from various different universities apply their text mining tools to extract a range of types of information from biology texts.

NaCTeM's text mining tools were ranked highest in two separate tasks involving the recognition of different types of concepts mentioned in texts. NaCTeM was ranked first out of 12 groups in the recognition of both chemicals and genes, and first out of 23 teams in another task involving the recognition of chemical names.

Computer Science students in the classroom

In a new venture, we have introduced schools-based projects for our final-year students. Students who choose these projects are allocated to schools in the

Manchester area. In collaboration with the teachers and school students, our students develop teaching tools to help get over the concepts, skills and excitement of computing.

There is a rapidly-growing movement to improve the quality of Computer Science in schools nationwide. Many schools are keen to participate in this but lack the staff with appropriate skills. These schools-based projects can help in several ways: directly in providing classroom materials and tools, encouraging schoolchildren to consider studying Computer Science through meeting our students, and, in the longer-term, encouraging our students to consider a career in teaching.

In this initial year, we have four students who are collaborating with Cheadle Hulme High School, Altrincham Grammar School for Girls, Altrincham Grammar School for Boys, and Fairfield High School for Girls. Duncan Hull is leading this new venture and has provided the organisation behind it, including the liaison with the schools. A good indicator so far is that at least one of the students is keen on taking up a career in teaching



Duncan Hull (right) and the students undertaking projects in schools

Non-Business Staff Entertaining Policy

The University has published a new Policy on Staff Entertaining.

“Non-business entertaining is described as events paid for from University funds (irrespective of their source), which take place primarily for the benefit of members of staff. This would include, for example, meals with colleagues, retirement functions and school parties.”

“In the majority of cases non-business entertainment is subject to tax.”

If you are thinking of arranging any such event please read the Policy before you do so as you are likely to find that tax has to be paid.

<http://documents.manchester.ac.uk/display.aspx?DocID=17960>

Proof of Principle Funding

The University of Manchester has recently signed a deal with IP commercialisation specialist IP Group plc for proof of principle (PoP) funding to support early stage spin out opportunities. A special event has been arranged for anyone who might consider making a spinout from their research or PoP funding. Register here:

<https://epsinvestmentshowcase.eventbrite.co.uk/>

Announcements and news

RCUK peer-review outcomes available to Research Support

Research Councils are taking steps to improve the transparency of peer-review decisions by feeding back information on outcomes to Research Organisation administrative offices **as well as to applicants**.

This feedback will consist of i) some form of written feedback on the peer-review outcome (from 1 Dec 2013); and ii) an indication of the relative position of the proposal in the priority order (from 1 Nov 2013).

Events

Representing and Generating Curve-based Diagrams 13 Nov 13

Dr. Andrew Fish, University of Brighton
14:00, Lecture Theatre 1.4, Kilburn building
[Seminar page](#)

Children In Need - Book sale and online auction 15 Nov 13

Further details in news section above.
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Auction is available from Wednesday 13 November until 4pm on Friday 15 November.

Technology Inspired Innovation Feasibility Study Call – Briefing Events

26 & 27 Nov 13

- Event: **26 November 2013**, Glyndwr University, Wrexham, 3-6pm
- Event: **26 November 2013**, Cardiff Marriott, 3-6pm

In early 2014, the TSB (Technology Strategy Board) will be inviting Feasibility Studies Projects in:

- Advanced Materials
- **Biosciences**
- Electronics, Sensors and Photonics
- **Information and Communication Technology**

These 2 [briefing events](#) will provide an overview on next year's Feasibility competition and on other TSB opportunities. Register [here](#).

Funding Opportunities

Research Support Office

Please contact us through researchsupportcsm@manchester.ac.uk.
There is information about support for grant writing and submission at <http://staffnet.cs.manchester.ac.uk/reso/> and the EPS blog [The Word](#) contains features News, Events and comment relevant to Postgraduate Researchers, Research Staff and Supervisors or PIs.

Reminder - H2020 drafts available

EU funding-related documents are placed by the University's EU team at: <http://documents.manchester.ac.uk/search.aspx>
The easiest way to find these documents is to search using the keyword: **'Horizon 2020'**

A great resource recommended by the ICT National Contact Point is <http://www.ictic.org/>, which also provides handy overview documents.

LMS Computer Science Small (Travel) Grants - Scheme 7 15 Nov 13

The London Mathematical Society (LMS) [Scheme 7 grant](#) provides small financial grants (max £500) for a brief collaborative research visit between a Computer

Scientist or Mathematician - either travelling to see them at another institution (UK or abroad), or having them come to you. The aim of the scheme is to promote the development of links between Mathematics and CS.

Closing date: 15 November 2013

UK ICT Pioneers 2013

4 Dec 13

For PhD students...The EPSRC are inviting Expression of interest for the [UK ICT Pioneers](#) scheme that aims to recognise the **most exceptional UK PhD students** in ICT-related topics.

The competition is sponsored by Dstl, HP, EPSRC, ARM, BCS and BT. It is open to all 2nd and 3rd year UK postgraduate research students in ICT-related subjects, including (but are not restricted to) Electronics, Communications, Computer Science and Human-Computer Interfaces and Photonics. Your PhD does not have to be funded by EPSRC to participate in this competition. Here's some information on [last year's winners](#).

Closing date: noon, 4 December 2013

Toshiba Fellowship Programme

6 Dec 13

The [Toshiba Fellowship](#) is an excellent opportunity for **post-doctoral researchers** to gain a rare experience of working in a leading technology company's R&D labs in Japan for 1 yr initially, allowing them to conduct new research within their field and learn about key R&D techniques, as well as about different country and workplace cultures.

Note you must [register your interest](#) in good time to receive the paper applications.

Closing date for paper applications: 6 December 2013

BCS Roger Needham Award 2014 – nominations open

11 Dec 13

The [Roger Needham Award](#) (sponsored by Microsoft Research) is awarded for a distinguished research contribution in computer science by a UK based (resident for past 3 yrs) researcher who has completed up to 10 yrs of post-doctoral research.

The award winner receives a £5000 prize, with an opportunity to give a [public lecture](#) on their work and will also be asked to contribute an article to ITNOW, the BCS magazine.

The 2013 winner was [Boris Motik](#) (previously a PDRA in the School).

Closing date: 11 Dec 2013

BCS Lovelace medal 2014 – nominations open

11 Dec 13

The [Lovelace medal](#) is presented to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the understanding or advancement of Computing. In 2014, the medal will be awarded for contributions to products and practices ie, contributions that have (directly) led to innovative products and widely deployed applications. Winners will normally be invited to give a public lecture on their work at the [BCS Lovelace lecture](#) the following year; and asked to contribute an article to ITNOW, the BCS magazine.

Closing date: 11 Dec 2013

ARCHER Resource Allocation Panel (RAP) top-up call

6 Jan 14

Do any of your grants include access to the national high performance computing resource [ARCHER](#)? Initially, these are limited to two years of resource, after which, grant holders can apply for a top-up to facilitate the remainder of their existing EPSRC grant. Eligible applicants are invited to apply for top-up funding for use of the ARCHER.

[More information available.](#)

Closing date: 16:00, 6 January 2014

CHIST-ERA: Call Open

21 Jan 14

The European Coordinated Research on Long term Challenges in Information and Communication Sciences and Technologies ([CHIST-ERA](#)) Call is looking for highly innovative, multidisciplinary and trans-national collaborative projects to start in Oct 2014. In general projects will last 2 or 3 yrs and include investigators from at least 3 countries. This year's call topics are:

- **Adaptive Machines in Complex Environments** (AMCE)
- **Heterogeneous Distributed Computing** (HDC)

Closing date: 16:00, 21 January 2014

Innovative Medicines Initiative

28 Jan 14

The [Innovative Medicines Initiative](#) has launched its 10th Call for Expressions of Interest in the topic of **Immunological Assay Standardisation and Development for Use in Assessments of Correlates of Protection for Influenza Vaccines**. This Initiative is Europe's largest public-private partnership aiming to improve the drug development process by supporting a more efficient discovery and development of better and safer medicines for patients.

Closing date: 28 January 2014

[Research Professional](#) is a useful search engine for finding other funding opportunities.

Research Outcomes

Research outputs from Computer Science

J Navaridas, Steve Furber, Jim Garside, Xin Jin, Mukaram Khan, David Lester, Mikel Lujan, José Miguel-Alonso, Eustace Painkras, Cameron Patterson, Luis A. Plana, Alexander Rast, Dominic Richards, Yebin Shi, Steve Temple, Jian Wu and Shufan Yang "SpiNNaker: Fault tolerance in a power- and area- constrained large-scale neuromimetic architecture", *Parallel Computing* 39(11), November 2013, pp. 693-708, ISSN 0167-8191, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.parco.2013.09.001>.

Sampo Pyysalo and Sophia Ananiadou (2013). Anatomical Entity Mention Recognition at Literature Scale. *Bioinformatics*. doi: 10.1093/bioinformatics/btt580 <http://bioinformatics.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2013/10/24/bioinformatics.btt580.abstract>

Have we missed something? If you have some award news that you would like us to know about please contact [Sarah Chatwin](#).