News from the Head of School

New Dean sought
The University has started a search for a new Dean of EPS following Colin Bailey’s appointment as Deputy President and Deputy Vice-Chancellor – more details at: http://www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/news/display/?id=11802

iTech: design your future” and the School of Computer Science
The first iTech: design your future event for schoolchildren was held at the Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester as part of the national Science and Engineering Week. Over 200 schoolchildren (KS3) attended. It was a great success with the schoolchildren engaged and enthused by a wide range of computing exhibits and talks.

The School of Computer Science was a major contributor with the two keynote speakers being Steve Pettifer (Virtual Reality and the Phantom Limb Phenomenon) and Gavin Brown (Can Computers Think?). Both talks were enthusiastically received by the audience.

Jez Lloyd and Vartul Agrawal (1st-year student) represented the School, whilst three of our final-year schools-based project students (Lizzy Hamer, Alex Webb and Sarah Thomas) taught the children to program robots.

Also present were the Robogals, a worldwide organisation of university students whose aim is to increase women’s participation in science and engineering subjects by taking robots into schools and encouraging schoolchildren to program them. The University of Manchester has an active Robogals group.

Finally, the replica Baby was on show with talks about its role in the history of computing.

David Rydeheard
President’s visit (note time changes) 31 March 2014

The times of meetings have changed slightly. The programme is now:
10.30 – 11.00 – Student meeting in 2.19
11.00 – 11.30 – SLT meeting in 2.15
11.30 – 12.00 – Staff meeting in 2.15

Staff are not invited to the student meeting. All staff are invited to the staff meeting and Nancy will take questions as usual.

Teaching with Mobile Devices - Learning from Experience 10 Apr 14

14-16:00, C24 Sackville St Building
The EPS eLearning team would like to invite you to an event showcasing best practices within the University of Manchester in the use of mobile technology to enhance teaching and learning.

Through a series of presentations, demonstrations and discussions led by academic and learning technologists from the University of Manchester, participants will be introduced to various mobile teaching and learning approaches and see exemplars applied in practice.

Speakers include Dr Colin Lumsden from Manchester Medical School, Dr Nathan Proudlove from Manchester Business School, Dr Richard Kirkham from the school of MACE and Professor Niels Walet from the school of Physics & Astronomy.

Please bring your own devices (laptop, tablet, mobile and etc.) with internet access. There will be some live interactive demonstrations!

To register, please go to Eventbrite at http://epsmobile.eventbrite.com

Funding Opportunities

Research Support Office
Please contact us through researchsupportcsm@manchester.ac.uk.
There is information about support for grant writing, submission and successful examples at http://staffnet.cs.manchester.ac.uk/reso/ and through EPS. The EPS blog The Word contains features News, Events and comment relevant to Postgraduate Researchers, Research Staff and Supervisors or PIs.

Important: Changes in EU Funding Opportunities
More detailed information is available now that for Horizon2020 has started (the successor of FP7 EU programme). EU research funding is important for the School and it's important to understand what's available http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/index.html

Details on upcoming events are available, including focuses on graphene, HBP and FET.

Featured Research Outcomes

European Big Data project RETHINK big launched
The RETHINK big Project brings together key European hardware, networking, and system architects with the key producers and consumers of Big Data to identify the industry coordination points. Specifically, RETHINK big will deliver a strategic roadmap for how technology advancements in hardware and networking can be exploited for the purpose of data analytics and beyond. The overall aim of the project is to maximize European competitiveness in the processing and analysis of Big Data over the next 10 years.
Within the School of Computer Science at The University of Manchester, Big Data is a key research area. Researchers involved in the project include Mikel Lujan, Gavin Brown, Josh Knowles, Jim Garside, Vasilis Pavlidis, Dave Lester, Javier Navaridas, Nick Filer, Robert Stevens, Carole Goble and Tom Thomson, with input from many others within our Big Data community.

Did you know... papers featured in the newsletter also go on display in the Kilburn Building (outside 2.7)? Send your new publications to Robert Stevens so that more people get to know about your research.

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