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News from Head of School

I apologise if this week's news is briefer than normal, but I have had to work in this en route to Beijing where I am attending ICCV.

RCUK Research Fellowships

The University will soon be advertising the next round of RCUK Fellowships. We need to identify good people we would want to attract to Manchester and start encouraging them to apply. As last year, the areas advertised will sound rather specific but will be interpreted very broadly. In practice, candidates from many/most areas of CS will be eligible. I will draw your attention to the advert as soon as it is out but, in the mean time, I suggest that it is worth everyone trying to identify and interest suitable candidates. Some (but not a lot) more information on the scheme is available [here](#).

Distinguished Speaker from IBM

The good news last week was that Dr Irving Wladawsky-Berger, Vice President for Technical Strategy and Innovation at IBM had agreed to give a lecture at the University. The less good news this week is that his trip to Europe has been cancelled and the lecture has had to be postponed to early 2006. The plan is that we will host the event jointly with MBS. I will let everyone know as soon as the new date is available – I know that the extra preparation time will certainly not be unwelcome to those members of staff who will be involved in organising the event.

CS-Informatics Review

We are currently sorting out a detailed Agenda for the External Review panel visit on 27th – 28th October. The panel will be given an opportunity to meet academic staff from the various research divisions and to meet some students from both Schools. Most of the meetings will take place at Chancellors, where the panel will be staying. Carmel will be in touch this week to ensure that everyone who will be involved knows where and when they are expected.

Seminars

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School seminars are held on Wednesday afternoons. The 2005/6 series is underway, [the programme](#) is available online.

Adaptive query evaluation

Wed 19th Oct

Adaptive query evaluation: new challenges from internet-based applications
Dr Fabio Porto, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland
1415 – 1515, Kilburn 1.5

Why Degressive Proportionality?

Thur 20th Oct

Why Degressive Proportionality? An Argument from Cartel Formation
Professor Luc Bovens, LSE
1400, G.10 Newman Building.

Internal Meetings and Events

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ESNW Technical Meeting -- Security

Thursday 20th October

1500 – 1700, Mercury

ESNW (E-Science Centre for the North-West) is holding a series of meetings at monthly intervals on various themes. The aim of these meetings is to bring together technical experts from the many e-Science and Grid projects at Manchester to share methods and solutions. The aim is to avoid duplication of effort and also to develop better solutions to key technical problems by sharing expertise. The first meeting will be on Security. The format of the meeting is that those projects, groups or individuals who wish to share their work prepare a talk of no more than 10 minutes duration.

The first part of the meeting will consist of these presentations (no more than 6 per meeting) and then the second hour will involve informal discussion. The aim is to stimulate create develop and not to develop a competition between the various presentations.

Security is regarded as a key topic but there are many different interpretations of what Security involves and many different models for provision of secure access to Grid resources. A recent paper from the OMII addresses some of the issues and is available from OMII:

<http://www.omii.ac.uk/dissemination/SecurityOverview.pdf>

If you wish to attend and if you wish in addition to make a presentation, please inform the ESNW manager Constantinos Astreos by Monday 17th October

Events Calendar

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CS-Informatics Review

27-28 Oct 05

Panel visit and interviews with staff and students

40th Anniversary of first UG intake

4 Nov 05

[More Information](#)

Manchester Turing Lecture

25 Jan 06

[More Information](#)

Fifth Virtual Conference on Genomics and Bioinformatics

25-28 Oct 05

The University of Manchester will be one of the registered sites to broadcast the Fifth International Conference on Genomics and Bioinformatics over the Access Grid. This is scheduled for October 25-28, and the event is completed without registration fees. Topics include: Artificial and Synthetic Life, Biological Knowledge Representation, Biological Data Mining, Data Visualization, Evolutionary Genomics, Genomic Data Standardization, Management, and Integration High Throughput and GRID Computing Machine Learning Techniques for Genomic Analysis Nanobiotechnology Proteomic Analysis Protein Structural Analysis and Modeling Systems Biology Structural Genomics. The venue will be Room 1.10, Kilburn Building, People interested in attending any of the session will need to contact Javier Gomez Alonso ([Email](#))

IBM Lecture

tbc

Enabling a Business Process Revolution

Dr Irving Wladawsky-Berger, VP, Technical Strategy and Innovation, IBM

EPSRC Public Engagement Workshops

Following the recent ICT programme visit where public engagement was highlighted as a concern within the academic community, the EPSRC have

organised two workshops. As you will be aware, the ICT Programme has one of the largest budgets in EPSRC but the community currently participates least in public engagement schemes. This was highlighted recently by the ICT Strategic Advice Team (SAT), who felt that many in the community were eager to promote their work but were unacquainted with appropriate mechanisms by which to stimulate public interest through their research.

The events have been scheduled for early 2006 but due to the interactive content of the day, places are limited to a maximum of 30 per workshop. The sessions are designed to target researchers that are new to the field of Public Engagement, who would like to gain a better understanding of the area and learn best practice from more experienced members of the community.

The workshops will take place on:

8th February 2006 - Centre for Life, Newcastle-upon-Tyne

9th March 2006 - Harbourside, Bristol

Registration is now open and forms can be completed on the EPSRC website at <http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/Content/DiaryEvents/default.htm>

Funding Opportunities

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EPSRC Postdoctoral Fellowships

18 Oct 05

The EPSRC offers Postdoctoral fellowships in several targeted areas of relevance to CS. There are fellowships of up to 3 years (we believe) in Theoretical Computer Science, Mathematical Sciences, and Theoretical Physics, awarded to talented young researchers to enable them to establish an independent research career, directly or shortly after completing their PhD. Also, the Life Sciences Interface Programme offers Postdoctoral Fellowships to enable the most talented young researchers from physical sciences or engineering disciplines to establish an independent research career working across the interface into the life sciences, again shortly or immediately after completing a PhD. These awards, which are for a period of up to three years, will be held at a UK academic institution but include provision for the fellow to spend between 12 to 18 months working at a leading overseas laboratory.

[More information](#)

Nuffield Foundation New Science Lecturers Grants

27 Oct 05

Grants of up to £6,000 are offered to new lecturers in Science, Engineering and Mathematics (but not in Biomedical or Social Sciences) at Higher Education Institutions in the UK to help them develop innovative research projects in the early stages of their independent research careers.

[More Information](#)

Leverhulme Research Fellowships

10 Nov 05

The Leverhulme Trustees are offering approximately 90 Research Fellowships to support experienced researchers in any subject area, particularly those who are or have been prevented by routine duties from completing a programme of original research. Awards are not limited to those holding appointments in higher education. Applicants should be resident in the UK; should normally be age 30 or over; should be able to demonstrate experience and academic background sufficient to confirm their ability to complete the proposed programme of research. The duration of awards will be between 3 and 24 months. Awards made in 2006 to be taken up between 1 June 2006 and 1 May 2007.

[More Information](#)

Leverhulme Study Abroad Fellowships

10 Nov 05

Study Abroad Fellowships support a period overseas in a stimulating academic environment. These differ from Research Fellowships in that the awards support a range of activities other than straight-forward research (e.g., the exchange of ideas or the development of new lines of research and collaboration). Applicants must be resident in the UK and be aged 30 or over. They should have held an established full-time post in a UK institution of higher education, or in a museum, art gallery or comparable institution for at least five years. They are available for all fields of study with duration between 3 and 12 months. Awards made in 2006 to be taken up between 1 June 2006 and 1 May 2007.

[More Information](#)

EPSRC Senior Research Fellowships

10 Nov 05

Applications are invited for the 2006 Senior Research Fellowships exercise. Senior Research Fellowships are awarded to outstanding academic scientists and engineers of international repute, to enable them to devote themselves full-time to personal research. Up to 6 of these most prestigious EPSRC awards are made each year. The proposed research must be important and timely and should offer opportunities for major scientific advances. Fellowships are full-time for up to 5 years and are tenable in the UK. A comprehensive list of research areas for the 2006 call is also available on the research noticeboard opposite office 2.10.

[More information](#)

Toshiba Fellowship Programme 2006

None given

Toshiba, supported by the EPSRC (Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council) is offering outstanding European scientists the opportunity to join one of its high-technology research teams in Japan for up to two years. The Toshiba Fellowship Programme is open to PhD level researchers of EU nationality currently working in a UK academic institution. The research areas vary broadly from year to year in the field of science and engineering. The Programme offers the successful Fellow a generous package including a fixed salary and travel to and from Japan.

[More Information](#)

Prize and Award Opportunities

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We have acknowledged the need to raise the profile of the School both nationally and internationally. Nominating individuals for awards, and working actively with others to ensure that deserving individuals are nominated is one way of doing that.

ACM Call for Award Nominations

31 Oct 05

ACM is calling for nominations for a series of individual and group awards recognising outstanding contributions to the field of Computer Science in education, theory, and practice and in its application to other disciplines.

[More information](#)

Research Awards

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None this week

Staff News

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Awards and Promotions

None this week

Academic Arrivals

None this week

Academic Departures

None this week

Research Arrivals

None this week

Research Departures

None this week

Administrative Arrivals

Martin Wain– Temporary appointment in the Student Support Office

Administrative Departures

None

Sabbatical Leave

Andrei Voronkov: Microsoft Research, Redmond USA
Aug 05 – Aug 06.

Ian Horrocks: University of Bozen-Bolzano, Bell Labs, and Stanford University
Feb 06 – Sep 06.

Peter Aczel: Nijmegen University, and Maths Institute at the University of Munich
Jan 06 – Sep 06.

Alasdair Rawsthorne: 80% secondment to Transitive Technologies
Oct 05 – Sep 06.

Alvaro Fernandes: IBM Almaden Research Centre US
Jul – Dec 06.

Vacancies

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Academic Staff

None

Research Staff

None

Administrative and Support Staff

Interviews will take place as follows:

Admin post in External Affairs on Friday 21st October

Undergraduate admin post (Una's replacement) on Tuesday 25th October

Postgraduate Admissions Secretary on Wednesday 26th October