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As you know, there was an away day for support staff last week. Roger and I spent some time at the event and from what we saw, and the feedback we have received, it seems to have been very successful. It was encouraging to find that staff morale is still generally high, despite Unity, HERA and everything else that has been thrown at us over the past couple of years. Many thanks to all of you who gave up some of your own time and joined in so wholeheartedly – though it comes as no surprise that our staff are prepared to contribute beyond the call of duty. The role of support staff will be critical in achieving the School's 2015 goals and it is important that we value their contribution and invest in the personal development of all the individuals concerned. I hope we can also have fun, and was pleased to see that the away day involved plenty of that too.

BCS/IEE Accreditation Visit

The joint BCS/IEE accreditation visit is a key event for the School, since the 'kite mark' of these professional bodies is an important attraction for some potential students, and is one of the ways we can differentiate our programmes from the competition. The visit will take place on the 18-19 May, and preparations are now well under way under Ian Watson's watchful eye. One key component of our submission is a set of mini-CVs for all our academic staff. Draft versions have been sent out and it would be very helpful if you could correct and return yours as soon as possible.

Manchester Turing Lecture

A reminder that the Manchester Turing Lecture takes place next week. I believe that places are still available, but it is essential to register. This should be an enjoyable event, but it is also important that we have a good turn-out, so can I encourage any of you who have not yet done so to sign up.

JeS Applications and fEC costings – Important Information

There are a couple of important issues with research proposals submitted through the JeS system and with fEC costings that the Research Office would like to bring to your attention.

First, if you are putting together a research council proposal, please can you ask the Research Office to create the JeS form for you. The reason for this is that it is important to choose the right type of form; if you do it yourself and choose the wrong form, the already hard-pressed Research Office staff have to re-input everything, having created the correct one. This has happened more than once recently. As soon as the form has been created and you have been listed as an investigator, you will automatically get an email notifying you of its existence, and you will then be able to log into JeS to edit it directly.

Second, under fEC we have to cost for investigator time. We have an algorithm (which is driven by a number of factors, but includes a variable for the amount for direct research input you will have to a project). The School has had to choose a method for calculating PI time, so that if we are audited, we have some justification for the costs we have included. Unfortunately, this means that it is not possible for another School, or another Faculty, to calculate our staff costs. If you

have a project with another school, please let us know at an early stage. This is also important, as different Schools across the University have different estates rates, and the academic and RA staff time drive these costs.

Seminars

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The School Seminar Series resumes on the 8th Feb

Regular Seminar Series

See [links](#) in contents bar for information on seminar series organised by the School of CS, E-Science North West and National Centre for Text Mining.

Internal Meetings and Events

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None this week.

Events Calendar

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Manchester Turing Lecture 25 Jan 06

Lifestyle access for the disabled – adding positive drift to the random walk with technology. Chris Mairs, Data Connection.

Registration necessary. [More Information](#)

EPSRC Public Engagement Workshops 8 Feb & 9 Mar 06

Introducing PE to 'virgins' and passing on best practice. Space limited.

[More information and registration.](#)

Genomes to Systems Conference 22-24 Mar 06

An important conference concerning the latest concepts and breakthroughs in genomics and systems biology. Discounted registration before 31 Dec 05

[More Information](#)

BCS/IEE Accreditation Visit New 18-19 May 06

Those who will definitely need to be involved should already know and have these dates in their diaries, but could all staff involved in teaching please note the dates and try to ensure they will be available if required.

Funding Opportunities

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Data & Content Storage, Management, Retrieval & Analysis New 31 Jan 06

Funding is available from the DTI to support Collaborative Research and Development projects that address innovations in the systems issues associated with the management, storage, retrieval, presentation and interpretation of high volumes of data, to help mitigate the technical risks and uncertainties associated with the development of new information storage technologies.

[More Information](#)

Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences 31 Jan 06

Call for Proposals. The Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences is a national research institute in Cambridge. It aims to bring mathematical scientists from UK universities and leading experts from overseas together for concentrated research on specialised topics in all branches of the mathematical sciences from pure mathematics, applied mathematics, and statistics, to engineering, computer science, theoretical physics and mathematical biology. The Institute now invites new proposals for programmes for 2008 onwards.

[More Information](#)

BBSRC International Scientific Interchange Scheme (ISIS) Open

BBSRC's International Scientific Interchange Scheme (ISIS) provides support to help scientists make and establish new contacts with their international counterparts. Funding is available to BBSRC grantholders, and researchers working on BBSRC-supported projects at BBSRC-sponsored Institutes for travel and subsistence for three main types of visit. The scheme is open to bids at any time (at least 6 weeks before travel) with payments being made in advance of any visits. Please note BBSRC-supported students are not eligible to travel under ISIS support.

[More Information](#)

EPSRC Senior Media Fellowships 26 Jan 06

The Public Engagement Programme invites applications for Senior Media Fellowships. These enable leading researchers to devote time to develop a higher media profile. The aim is to advance public engagement with the physical sciences, mathematics and engineering via the broadcast and written media. Senior Media Fellowships are intended to be used for active development of media opportunities (not research, scholarship or teaching).

[More Information](#)

Royal Commission Research Fellowships 23 Feb 06

The scheme of 1851 Research Fellowships is intended to give a few young scientists or engineers of exceptional promise the opportunity for conducting research for a further period of two years. Approximately six awards are made each year. Candidates in science subjects must normally be in possession of a PhD degree, or in the final stages of their PhD studies. The Fellowships are open to candidates in any of the physical or biological sciences, in mathematics, in applied science, or in any branch of engineering.

[More Information](#)

RAEng Industrial Secondment Scheme Open

The Industrial Secondment Scheme provides an invaluable opportunity for university lecturers in engineering to gain state-of-the-art industrial experience. Applicable to engineers of all disciplines, the Scheme's objective is to enable the secondees to impart the fruits of this experience to their students through teaching, through case studies using up-to-date material and, in the longer term, through course design. The benefits also accrue to the host organisation which gains a temporary but highly qualified member of staff, and to the university which has the opportunity of strengthening its links with industry. The Scheme provides funding for the university to employ a temporary replacement for the secondee. In this way it minimises the effects on the normal flow of teaching, and makes it easier for universities to release members of staff for secondment. The Scheme has also been well received by industry, and many organisations have indicated a willingness to offer places to engineering academics: where possible The Royal Academy of Engineering helps in the 'matchmaking process'.

[More Information](#)

Royal Academy of Engineering Global Research Awards

Global Research Awards provide an opportunity for engineers currently engaged in research and development to undertake projects in centres of excellence overseas. Projects should focus on activities which could help stimulate wealth creation and improvements in the quality of life, supporting the international

development of research networks and encouraging the uptake of globally competitive technology in the UK.

[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.

MacRobert Award for innovation in engineering New **31 Jan 06**

The Award, first presented in 1969, honours the winner company with a gold medal and the team members with a prize of £50,000. The presentation of the Award recognises the successful development of innovative ideas in engineering. It seeks to demonstrate the importance of engineering and the role of engineers and scientists in contributing to national prosperity and international prestige.

[More Information](#)

IEEE Internet Award **31 Jan 06**

The IEEE Internet Award was established by the IEEE Board of Directors in June of 1999. It is presented annually for exceptional contributions to the advancement of Internet technology for network architecture, mobility and/or end-use applications. This award can be given to an individual or team of up to three.

[More Information](#)

The IEEE Koji Kobayashi Award **31 Jan 06**

The IEEE Koji Kobayashi Computers and Communications Award was established by the IEEE Board of Directors in 1986 for outstanding contributions to the integration of computers and communications. This award can be given to an individual, multiple recipients, or a team.

[More Information](#)

The IEEE Emanuel R Piore Award **31 Jan 06**

The IEEE Emanuel R. Piore award is presented annually to an individual, or team of two individuals, for outstanding contributions in the field of information processing, in relation to computer science, deemed to have contributed significantly to the advancement of science and to the betterment of society.

[More Information](#)

René Descartes Prizes 2006 New **4 May 06**

The European Commission is inviting proposals under its framework 6 science and society programme for Rene Descartes prizes. These are to recognise excellence in research and science communication. Prizes for research will be at least 200000 euros each, and projects must include legal entities from 2 different member or associated states, and include at least one member state or associated candidate country.

[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

Giovanni Cusinu - APT

Administrative Arrivals

None this week

Administrative Departures

None this week

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 Staff

None