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## News from Head of School

### Congratulations

Last week the University Promotions Committee finalised their decisions on this year's academic promotions. Many congratulations to Alasdair Rawsthorne and Jim Miles who were promoted to Chairs, to Doug Edwards who was promoted to Reader, and to Toby Howard and Suzanne Embury who were promoted to Senior Lecturer. All these promotions were supported strongly by the School and are richly deserved.

### Research Best Practice Booklet

The Research Office has compiled a booklet of research best practice for Research Council applications. The booklet contains funded applications along with reviewers' comments and responses to those comments. Copies of the booklet are available from the Research Office and should be available online shortly.

### University Open days – 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> June

The University Open Days will be held this summer on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June. As usual, the School will be holding events throughout the two days, and academic members of staff will be required to man the Computer Science stand in the Schuster Building, and meet, greet and talk to prospective students and their families. It is really important that we ensure there is a 'buzz' about the place for these events. Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June is also Digital60 Day, and we're expecting over 500 schoolchildren and their teachers to descend on the Kilburn and SCAN Buildings from across the UK, for the Schools Computer Animation Competition Show and Prize-Giving, a live video link-up with MOSI, and an inspirational "Computer Science Magic Show". **Volunteers are needed urgently** to help with both events. If you are able to assist – ideally for at least two hours between 1000 and 1600 – please contact [Sophia Lewis-Martyr](#) or [James Warnes](#) with your availability.

## Events this Week

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### Collaborative Text Processing for e-Assessment

28 May 08

*Human-Computer Collaborative Text Processing for e-Assessment*  
Mary McGee Wood, Computer Science  
1530, Atlas 1, Kilburn Building

### CS Mentors' Drinks Evening New

30 May 08

The CS Mentors will be hosting a Drinks Evening on Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> May 2008 (from 5pm) in the courtyard outside the postgraduate common room. All CS staff and students are welcome to attend. Alcohol (beer and wine) and soft-drinks will be available (under a not-for-profit donation scheme) although you can, of course, BYOB.

### 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.

## Future School Events

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### School BBQ

4 Jul 08

With 2008 being the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the programmable computer we have special reason to celebrate this year at the School BBQ. Details to follow.

### Research Away Days

7 & 8 Jul 08

The event will take place at The Palace Hotel, Buxton and will run from approximately 9.30am on 7th to 5pm on 8th July, with a reception, dinner and accommodation provided on the first evening.

### UG & PG Graduation Ceremony

17 Jul 08

The graduation ceremony for undergraduate and postgraduate students will take place on Thursday 17th July at 2.30pm. A light lunch and drinks will be served from 1215 and prize-giving will be at 1300. Any members of staff who have been involved in teaching the former Informatics programmes are also invited to attend the MBS ceremony and reception which will take place on 18th July. Their ceremony is at 1230pm followed by a drinks reception from 1400-1530. Please contact [Katherine Lloyd](#) for further details.

### Visit from Professor Nancy Rothwell

24 Jul 08

Please make a note of this date in your diary. The Deputy President will be visiting the School, and would welcome the opportunity to discuss with staff, in an open meeting, the University's progress towards achieving its 2015 goals.  
1315-1400, IT 407

### School Board Dates

Wednesday 2nd July 2008 (Resources Report and Dean attending)  
All meetings take place 1530-1700 in IT 407.

## Future External Events

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### Theory and Practice of Computer Graphics

9-11 Jun 08

Presented by the UK Chapter of the Eurographics Association (EGUK)  
The 26th Conference organised by the UK chapter of the Eurographics Association will be the sixth Theory and Practice of Computer Graphics 2008 Conference (TP.CG.08). All accepted papers will be published by Eurographics and held on the Digital Library, and will be available at the conference.

Venue: Alan Turing Building

[More Information](#)

### Pathways – Career Options for PhDs and Research Staff

13 & 16 Jun 08

This University-wide event will take place on 13 & 16 June 2008. Dr Jim Boran, in the [EPS Graduate Office](#), is looking for contact details for any Science and Engineering PhD Alumni (VUM or UMIST) from within the last 10 years to ask if they would be willing to share their career success stories with current research postgraduates and research staff.

### Research to Enterprise Summit

17 Jun 08

Research to Enterprise is an exciting event, organised by MSEC (Manchester Science Enterprise Centre) and funded by EPSRC (Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council), designed to raise the profile of enterprise at the University of Manchester. Research to Enterprise will be an opportunity for researchers in all faculties, whether at postgraduate, postdoctoral or staff level to be inspired to become more enterprising in whatever their career holds for them in the future be it academia, industry or in starting their own business. Alasdair

Rawsthorne is one of the guest speakers. To book, please contact [Claire Gill](#).

**Arts meets Science, Science meets Art** **10 Jun, 15 Jul, 23 Sep 08**

A series of free Roberts funded summer seminars for postgraduate research students. These seminars have been organised by the Graduate Education Team and Jodrell bank and are open to research students from the University of Manchester. The series of seminars will explore collaborations across the Arts, Humanities and Sciences. Students are also invited to provide posters about their own cross-disciplinary work.

[More information](#)

**Manchester Parallel Programming Summer School** **11-22 Aug 08**

Run by RCS, this annual summer school aims to teach you all you need to know to start writing your own parallel code in MPI or OpenMP. If you are new to scientific programming (Fortran or C) you can attend the Fortran course prior to the summer school.

[More Information & registration](#)

**BCS International Academic Research Conference** **22-24 Sep 08**

*Visions of Computer Science* - Preliminary Call for Papers and Participation  
The British Computer Society is launching its first International Academic Conference. Full paper submissions are being solicited in all areas of research covering the broad field of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE). The conference will be organized in sessions and mini-tracks, each devoted to a theme or area, and will include a small number of invited presentations. The topics included are deliberately broad to reflect the rich texture and intellectual vigor of CSE. Venue: Imperial College London

[More Information](#)

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## Funding Opportunities

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**JSPS Short-Term Award Programme** **30 May 08**

A call for applications from pre and post doc researchers to the JSPS research programme – an opportunity for funded short term research in Japan.

[Mor Information](#)

**Industrial Secondment Scheme** **Open**

The Industrial Secondment Scheme provides an invaluable opportunity for engineering teaching staff in Higher Education institutions 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 organization which gains a temporary but highly qualified member of staff, and to the university which has the opportunity of strengthening its links with industry.

[More Information](#)

**UoM Knowledge Transfer Challenge** **Open**

The KT Challenge offers small grants for *concept studies* and *feasibility studies*. If you are interested in developing ideas in collaboration with an industrial partner – developing new technology, or applying existing technology in an industrial setting – please contact [Constantinos Astreos](#).

**EPSRC Encouraging Postdoctoral Mobility Between Disciplines** **Open**

EPSRC would like to encourage the transfer of outputs of research between

different research disciplines as well as aiding the career development of EPSRC funded PDRAs. In the first instance an extra year of support will be offered. Transfers between the engineering and physical science disciplines and the life sciences are encouraged. There are no closing dates for proposals.

[More Information](#)

#### **EPSRC ICT Platform Grants** **Open**

EPSRC invites outline proposals for its information and communication technology platform grants. Platform grants aim to provide world-leading UK groups with continuity of funding for strategic development, longer-term research and international networking.

[More Information](#)

#### **Royal Academy of Engineering Research Chairs** **Open**

Full-time professorial appointments, in any engineering-related subject. The academy particularly welcomes proposals of a multidisciplinary nature. Funding is provided for 5 years.

[More Information](#)

#### **RAEng Industrial Secondment Scheme** **Open**

An opportunity for university lecturers in engineering to gain state-of-the-art industrial experience.

[More Information](#)

#### **BBSRC International Scientific Interchange Scheme (ISIS)** **Open**

To help scientists make and establish new contacts with their international counterparts.

[More Information](#)

#### **RAEng Global Research Awards** **Open**

Projects in centres of excellence overseas focussing on stimulating wealth creation and improvements in the quality of life.

[More Information](#)

#### **EPSRC Engineering Visits** **Open**

Support for salary costs and travel subsistence for scientists and engineers of acknowledged standing, either from within the UK or abroad, to visit the investigator's organisation.

[More Information](#)

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### **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.

None currently open

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### **Research Awards**

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None this week

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### **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

Charlotte Hooson-Sykes - IMG

### Administrative Departures

None this week

### Sabbatical Leave

*Alasdair Rawsthorne*: 80% secondment to Transitive Technologies  
Oct 07 – Sep 08.

*Steve Pettifer*: Manchester Interdisciplinary Biocentre  
Academic year 2007/2008

*Robert Stevens*: Web Intelligence Technologies Lab, Natural Language  
processing Group, Department of CS, University of Sheffield.  
Semester two 2007/08

Plus short-term visits to: The text-mining group at the European bioinformatics  
Group & The bio-Technology Group at the Technical University of Dresden

*Renate Schmidt*: NICTA, Australian National University, Canberra  
February – Mid-Sep 2008

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## Vacancies

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### Academic Staff

None

### Research & Technical Staff

[Project Manager - National Centre for Text Mining](#)

Closing date: 20/05/2008. Ref EPS/80094.

### Management & Professional Staff

None

### Administrative Staff

None