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## News from Head of School

### All Change!

I am pleased to announce that we are now in a position to finalise several changes in personnel that have been in the offing for some time. First, congratulations (if that is the correct term) to Norman Paton, who has been appointed by the President as next Head of School. Norman will take over from the 1<sup>st</sup> November, but I think most of you are aware that I am already involving him in all major decisions. As you also know, Carmel Dickinson is moving on to become Programme Manager for Manchester Informatics, and Ursula Hayes has been appointed as acting Head of School Administration. We held interviews last week and I am pleased to say that, in Jacqui Grant, we believe we have found an excellent replacement for Ursula in the role of Research Development Manager. A warm welcome to Jacqui who starts in her new role today. Ursula will pick of the reins as HoSA with immediate effect, though Carmel will continue to be based in the building and is happy to provide valuable advice when called upon. Clearly, both Ursula and Jacqui will take time to bed into their new positions, and would appreciate your patience during this period of transition. I will say more on another occasion about the fantastic service Carmel has given the School over more years than she would care to remember. I'm sure you all join with me in wishing her the very best of luck in her new appointment.

### Digital60 & Industrial Forum

Friday sees our Digital60 event and Industrial Forum. The outline timetable for the day is as follows ([more information](#)):

0900-1530: Schools' Digital60 Day

1330-1630: Industrial Advisory Board (preceded by lunch)

1700-1800: Research Exhibition, Champagne Reception and Medal Ceremony

1800-1915: Kilburn Lecture 'The Relentless March of the Microchip'

1915-onwards: Birthday Buffet in the Kilburn staff Common Room

Please note that the **Research Exhibition, Champagne Reception, Medal Ceremony, and Kilburn Lecture will all be held in Crawford House**. This represents a change of location for all but the lecture. The Champagne Reception and Birthday Buffet, before and after the Lecture, are intended for staff and guests of the School, and everyone is encouraged to attend. If you wish to do so, please make sure that you have [registered](#) by midnight on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June so we don't run out of food or wine!

### 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 400 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, but **especially for the Open Day on the Saturday**. 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.

### Stress Survey Focus Groups

The University is currently running focus groups for academic and research staff to discuss the recent University Stress Survey. The sessions will be facilitated by Brainbox Research, the same firm of consultants who conducted the survey for the University. This will ensure confidentiality for participants. The information gathered will be presented in a format that does not allow individuals to be identified. Each session will last for a maximum of 90 minutes. There are spaces left at various times on 30 June, 2 & 4 July. If anyone is interested in attending one of the sessions, please contact [Simon Bonfield](#) directly to indicate when you would be able to attend.

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## Events this Week

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### 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](#).

### Learning Associations that run Counter to Biases in Learning 18 June 08

Professor Andrew Heckler, Department of Physics, Ohio State University  
1530, Atlas1, Kilburn

### Bike2Work Day

18 Jun 08

If you are interested in cycling to work but perhaps don't know of a good route, or are nervous about cycling alone in traffic, you now have an opportunity to try it out. Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June is Bike2Work Day and cyclists from the 'HEP' institutions are organising a number of rides to work in the morning from around Manchester, arriving at the new Bridgeford Street Bike Park at around 8:30am.

[More Information](#)

### Digital60 & Industrial Forum

20 June

0900-1530: Schools Digital 60 Day

1330-1630: Industrial Advisory Board (preceded by lunch)

1700-1800: Exhibition, reception and medal ceremony (Crawford House)

1800-1915: Kilburn Lecture (Crawford House) – 'The Relentless March of the Microchip' by Professor Steve Furber CBE

1915 onwards: Birthday Buffet, Staff Common Room Kilburn Building

[More Information](#)

### 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.

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## Future School Events

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### School BBQ

4 Jul 08

We have special reason to celebrate this year at the School BBQ because 2008 is the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the building of the world's first programmable computer.

Details to follow.  
1530 onwards

### School Away Days

7 & 8 Jul 08

The event will take place at The Palace Hotel, Buxton and will run from approximately 0930 on 7<sup>th</sup> to 1700 on 8<sup>th</sup> July, with a reception, dinner and accommodation provided on the first evening. The main focus will be on research, but we will also spend time considering how we should respond to the recommendations of the University Review of UG Education.

### 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)  
All meetings take place 1530-1700 in IT 407.

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## Future External Events

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### Arts meets Science, Science meets Art

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 **Cancelled** 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

## Funding Opportunities

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### 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

**top**

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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### Title: Overseas Visit in Automated Model Building

Funding Body: EPSRC

PI: Renate Schmidt

Award Amount: £23852

### Title: Arithmetic Circuits in Mathematical Logic

Funding Body: EPSRC

PI: Ian Pratt-Hartmann

Award Amount: £40055

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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

Jacqui Grant – Acting Research Development Manager

### Administrative Departures

Carmel Dickinson – Head of School Administration

### 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

#### [Research Associate](#)

School of Cancer and Imaging Sciences  
Closing date: 27/06/2008. Ref MHS/80564.

#### [Research Fellow in Text Mining](#)

School of Computer Science  
Closing date: 15/07/2008. Ref EPS/80023.

### Management & Professional Staff

None

### Administrative Staff

#### [PGR Admissions Officer](#)

School of Computer Science  
Closing date: 01/07/2008. Ref EPS/80479.