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News from Head of School

Digital 60 & Industrial Forum

Congratulations to all concerned, for an absolutely fantastic series of events last Friday. The day did much to enhance the reputation of the School, both internally and externally ... and was fun too. Thanks to all of you – and I know there were many – who contributed. Although it can be invidious to name names, I'd particularly like to thank Bernard Strutt and Toby Howard who moved mountains. The success of the animation event was particularly encouraging, enthralling over 500 school children on the day and, hopefully, inspiring computer scientists of the future. It's also appropriate to remember that Hilary Kahn was very much involved in the early stages of planning the event but, sadly, did not live to enjoy it. Finally, I'm sure you would all like to join me in congratulating Steve Furber on an outstanding inaugural Kilburn Lecture, which managed to capture the interest of aficionados and public alike. A good day was had by all!

Google Event

Google have selected Manchester as one of a 'handful of top CS departments in the UK' invited to send a member of academic staff and five students to a half-day event in London on **2nd July**. The objective of the event as 'to cultivate discussion between the technology leaders of today and tomorrow around the future of technology in the workplace – specifically in relation to Cloud Computing and the consumerisation of IT'. They want us to select promising students, interested in distributed systems, and with leadership qualities, who we believe are likely to become CIOs in the future. We are looking for a member of academic staff to attend the event and help select students from amongst our UG and PG cohorts. If you are interested, please contact [James Warnes](#) as soon as possible.

Research & Teaching Away-Days

The programme for the away-day event has now been drafted and appears [below](#). Please note the addition of the T&L session on the afternoon of the 8th. If you were not scheduled to attend the Research Away-Days, but would like to attend the T&L session on Tuesday, please email [Anna Smethurst](#) asap, indicating whether you will need lunch.

Events this Week

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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

We have special reason to celebrate this year at the School BBQ because 2008 is the 60th 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. 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.

Day 1 July 7th

0930 Registration
1000 Opening (CJT)
1030 Introductions to first 5 Grand Challenge Topics
1145 Tea/Coffee
1215 Break-out Groups: each group to discuss 1 topic – prescriptive group membership
1315 Lunch
1430 Groups report back
1530 Tea/Coffee
1600 Discussion (with mini breakouts): promoting interaction between research groups
1730 Break
1800 Reception and posters
1900 Dinner

Day 2 July 8th

0900 Introductions to second 5 Grand Challenge Topics
1015 Break-out Groups - each group to discuss 1 topic each - prescriptive group membership
1115 Tea/Coffee
1145 Groups to report back and wrap up of research element of the days
1300 Lunch
1400 Discussion: University review of Teaching and Learning introduced by Prof Tony Brown
1700 Close

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

2 July 2008 (Resources Report)
1 October - Budget Report and Dean attending
26 November - UG Report
4 February - PG Report
25 March - External Affairs Report
6 May - Research Report
1 July - Resources Report
All meetings take place 1530-1700 in IT 407.

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](#)

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](#)

Funding Opportunities

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Newton International Fellowships

4 Aug 08

A new multi-million pound initiative to fund research collaborations and improve links between UK and overseas researchers has been launched. The Newton International Fellowships aim to attract the most promising, early stage, post-doctoral researchers working overseas, who do not hold UK citizenship, in the fields of humanities, engineering, natural and social sciences. The scheme provides funding to successful candidates for up to 2 years to work with research groups at a UK research Institution and to establish long term international collaborations.

[More 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](#)

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

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

None this week

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

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.