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News from Head of School**Performance and Development Review Prompts**

Following a period in which the school has not issued prompts in relation to academic staff Performance and Development Reviews (PDRs), a system has been put in place to remind staff when these are due; the schedule is driven from month of birth. The hope is that these reviews can be helpful in enabling staff and their managers to reflect on recent performance and planned activities in a way that benefits both the reviewee and the school. The school will seek to be helpful in following up recommendations that emerge from the process. We also hope to have the system of prompts for research staff PDRs implemented in the near future.

Open Days

Despite recent calls in the newsletter and on email we are still very short of staff to assist with the Undergraduate Open day on Saturday 20th June. This is disappointing and potentially extremely damaging given that the open days represent one of our most important recruitment activities. Without further support we will be unable to run the activities that we are required to put on for prospective students and their parents. Volunteers are needed to help between 10:00 and 16:00 by either manning our School stand in the Schuster building or by giving the School presentation. Please can I urge those of you able to spare even just a couple of hours to send your availability to [Sophia Lewis-Martyr](#)

New Arrival

Congratulations to Mabel Yau (from the External Affairs Office) on the birth of her daughter Eleanor on 26th May.

Events**Meeting to Finalise White Paper on Computational Science, Simulation and Modelling and HPC** 17 June 09

1300 to 1600 (including lunch)

IT 407, IT Building

This Workshop will provide the opportunity to finalise the White paper on the future of 'Computational Science' (including all computationally intensive activity - computational science, simulation and modelling, HPC, data mining and visualisation) at Manchester.

The meeting will be open to all - if you have an interest in 'Computational Science' you are encouraged to attend.

The final draft of the White Paper will be made available on the 5th of June 2009. We strongly encourage all interested staff to respond to the report before the meeting by emailing miadmin@manchester.ac.uk

To register for the Workshop and for further information, please email miadmin@manchester.ac.uk

DBLP: How the data get in

3 June 09

Dr Michael Ley. University of Trier

14:15, Lecture theatre 1.4, Kilburn building

[Seminar home page](#)

Production of Virtual Goods and Services**4 June 09**

Gold Farming - Real-World Production in Developing Countries for the Virtual Economies of Online Games

Prof. Richard Heeks, Centre for Development Informatics

13:00, Room 6.210, University Place

Standards Enabled Interoperability**5 June 09**

NaCTeM seminar

W3C Semantic Web for Health Care and Life Sciences Interest Group

Dr. M. Scott Marshall, The University of Amsterdam

11:00, MLG.001 Lecture Theatre, MIB building