FoCus

Faculty of Computing Weekly Staff Newsletter
Issue 133 14th May 2012

FoC at the IET

FoC PhD student Kafil Uddin has been interviewed by the IET following the successful completion of the last Technical Enterprise Workshop. To access the IET interview page please visit:
http://www.theiet.org/students/you-and-iet/on-campus/technical-workshop.cfm

PhD student organises technical workshop for young professionals

Making great industry contacts and learning new skills - Kafil Ahmed has gained so much from putting forward his idea for a technical event for young professionals.

Kafil Ahmed is a PhD student at London Metropolitan University. Having joined the RF and Microwave Technical Professional Network (TPN) [new window] executive committee he was keen to give young researchers and professionals more opportunities to network, as he felt that many local events were aimed at more established individuals.

"We have massive conferences and workshops but we didn't have anything that young people could really get involved in and get in touch..."

FoC research seminar

Olivia (Jo) Gill, Faculty of Computing, gave a talk entitled 'Geometric and Homological Methods in Group Theory: Constructing Small Group Resolutions' which was a review of the work of her PhD thesis, recently passed subject to minor edits. The main topic of the talk was the Construction of Free Crossed Resolutions of Groups. Pictured right is Dr Andy Tonks, supervisor, alongside Jo.

IET awards

Undergraduate students on IET accredited degrees (BEng Computer Networking and BEng Electronic and Communications Engineering) can apply for scholarships of up to £3,000, deadline 28th June:
http://conferences.theiet.org/ambition
Staff can nominate a colleague for Achievement awards, including the Faraday Medal and the Young Professional Achievement award. See:
http://conferences.theiet.org/achievement/

STEM conference

The national HE STEM conference in September will provide the opportunity for STEM practitioners (specifically those working in physics, chemistry, mathematics and engineering) to discover the latest developments in the learning and teaching of STEM courses. This includes different approaches to widening participation and outreach activities, how to develop higher level skills in their student cohorts and work colleagues, as well as finding new ways to

encourage uptake of these strategically important subjects. From 4-6 September at the University of Birmingham, the conference is free, and accommodation can be booked at an early bird rate of £60 per night until 15th June. After that date, accommodation will cost £120 per night. The deadline is 30th June; to register www.hestem.ac.uk/conference.

BCS Student Prizes

Staff are asked to nominate a student for the British Computer Society student prizes. The prizes are awarded as a cheque and a free BCS membership, and will be presented in September at a large public meeting by the BCS president. Please forward the name, course, award criteria, for your chosen student to p.chalk@londonmet.ac.uk. Friday 27th July is the final deadline for submissions. See:
http://www.bcs.org/content/ConWebDoc/17930

Harnessing the potential of space

IET Young Professionals will be holding their very popular annual Engineering Challenge. This year's theme is how to exploit resources in space. The guest speaker is Will Whitehorn, former president of Virgin Galactic with 25 years' experience of business in the Virgin group, who now leads the Loewy Group of industrial and product design companies. In his lecture he will look at the current rush of new commercial entrants into the space launch and satellite industries and discuss how this has come about and where it is leading. He will question why space access needs to become cheaper and what that might mean for future industrialisation of the region outside the atmosphere and beyond our planet.
For further details and to register for this free event on May 21 at 6.30pm at the IET, Savoy Place, visit
http://www.theiet.org/local/uk/london/engchallenge12.cfm

IEEE AP-S Distinguished Lecture

The Centre for Communications Technology (FoC) in association with Imperial College London and the University of Manchester have organised an IEEE AP-S Distinguished Lecture which will be given by Prof. S.R. Rengarajan from California State University, USA (pictured). The lecture is on "Design, Analysis, and Applications of Waveguide-Fed Slot Arrays". All staff are welcome to attend this event on Monday 28 May, 12.30-13.30 pm in T11-03 (registration from 11:30am). Further details can be found at:
https://meetings.vtools.ieee.org/meeting_view/list_meeting/12099.

New course, new partner

FoC has been given approval for the development of a new course, the Dip HE Information and Communications Technology, in collaboration with Islington College, Kathmandu, Nepal. The planned start date for this new course is autumn 2012.
We have also validated a new course BSc Business Information Systems with Eden College Dublin, also to start in September 2012.

Guidelines for research funding bids

A guideline for Faculty of Computing staff who are seeking research funding, approved by the research and enterprise committee, can be found at J:\COMP\North\CCTM\FoC Research. It is entitled 'Faculty of Computing staff seeking funding'. It is also on the staff intranet.

Inaugural Professorial Lecture

The Inaugural Professorial Lecture by Professor Mikis Stasinopoulos (pictured) will be on Tuesday 22nd May at 5.30 for 6pm start in GC1-08. Normally the lecture is under an hour, followed by wine, soft drinks and canapes. Prof Stasinopoulos has worked for the last 22 years at London Metropolitan University having previously worked for the Wellcome Foundation and Lancaster University. He is a member of STORM/FoC. He is an expert on statistical modelling and one of the founding members of the statistical modelling society. He has published extensively in the area and contributed to the creation of the GAMLSS model and statistical software used world-wide.

Diary

Tuesday 22nd May...5.30pm	
Inaugural Lecture by Professor Mikis Stasinopoulos GC1-08	
Friday 8th June……………………………………………..9.30am-4.30pm	
FoC/ FLS Away Day on Learning & Teaching Innovation TG-30	

All items for future newsletters by Thursday 17.00 to p.chalk@londonmet.ac.uk