

FoC PhD award

Kevin Munisami (pictured second from the right) successfully defended his PhD viva on 5th July. His research project was entitled "Novel Technique for Solar Power Capture using Plastic Optical Fibres". The External Examiner Dr Robert Leslie Ward (pictured left) was impressed by the quality and originality of Kevin's work. He commended Kevin's research and said "...with refinement it's a commercially viable product". The viva just took over an hour. His supervisors were: Dr Bal Virdee (Director of Studies), pictured right, Dr Nicholas Ioannides, and Dr Demetri Kalymnios. Academic Subject Leader in Communications Technology, Dr Saeed Taghizadeh, is also pictured, second from the left.



Science, Engineering & Technology Student of the Year Awards

Staff might like to consider entering their best students for the 2011 SET Awards. The closing date for entries is 25 July. Entry costs nothing, and if your student is shortlisted it could lead to wide publicity and recognition for the university and for your teaching. Entry is a simple "point and click" process via www.setawards.org.

New Faculty presence in Nepal

Last week staff from FoC presented four new courses at the newly renamed Islington College in Kathmandu. Subject to conditions the following courses were approved: BSc Computing, BSc Computer Networking & IT Security, BSc Multimedia Technology & Computing Extended Degree. Pictured right are the FoC team Dr Fang Fang Cai, Professor Dominic Palmer-Brown and Dr Vince Hargy, with staff from the college.



Professor Palmer-Brown commented: "This is an exciting new collaboration. Interest in the courses is impressive and there are expected to be 700 students in 2011/12. It is an historic moment for higher education in Nepal as it is their first UK degree programme, subject to the approval of their Ministry of Education".

FoC students at GameJam 2011

Graduates from FoC's BSc Computer Games course took part in the Brains Eden Gamejam 2011 at Anglia Ruskin University over the weekend (9-11 July), working in 2 teams to design and develop a computer game in 48 hours. The theme this year was "Trapped" and the teams worked with game engine Unity and with Flash. Professional developers from Jagex and Sony were on hand to mentor the teams and give advice throughout the weekend.



The completed games were showcased on Monday, at the Brains Eden Symposium and our teams are now finally getting some well-deserved rest! Taking part: Yanhua Ou, Aaron Hoyte, Awais Qureshi, Michael Tran (Team Demotivational); Kamran Sarkar, Chris Newsum, Ashley Mackenzie, Vlad Vorontsov (Black Cloud). A screenshot from one of our games is shown (left) and a photo of Yanhua Ou at the symposium on Monday is above.



School students taste multimedia apps

Last Friday's taster and AimHigher events brought dozens of school students into the multimedia lab for a taste of Second Life (pictured right) and the Maya 3d development environment. Lots of fun was evident and the AimHigher students, in particular, were able to celebrate their week's engagement with a Certificate of Attendance and, in three cases, a special prize for their work - creating spaces in Second Life. Thanks to staff involved - Alan Hudson (Second Life) and Dr Romas Mikusauskas (Maya).



OBE for FoC industrial collaborator

Richard Boyd (pictured below), CEO of Disability Essex, has been made an OBE. The official citation states that the award is for several achievements, including:

"A research and development partnership between Disability Essex and London Metropolitan University, over 4 years, for the creation of new Software applications for disabled people to use standard computer Systems. The University contribution, under the leadership of Dr Karim Ouazzane, was unique in the innovative partnership between a charity and a university, to create new concepts based on user need."

Richard reports that he is very grateful to Londonmet, particularly the work he did with Karim through the KTP programme (Intelligent keyboard for disabled people). He is pictured in front of the £2.3 million innovative building housing The Centre for Disability Studies, in Essex, which was inaugurated last November. FoC collaboration with Richard is still ongoing.



Cascade 2011

onedotzero_cascade is an education platform for creative collaboration and innovation across diverse disciplines to foster personal and professional development. Now in its fourth year, *onedotzero* is offering 40 top talented and collaborative graduates a chance to take part in the award winning education platform cascade in October. This is also an opportunity to be a part of the *onedotzero_adventures in motion* festival at the BFI Southbank. Cascade is open to all UK and international recent graduates from all creative disciplines. The deadline is 29 July at 5pm. If your students are interested in being considered for this year's cascade programme apply now and ask them to email education@onedotzero.com answering the following questions [no more than 750 words in total]:

- *A bit about you and what course you studied?
- *What would you like to get out of cascade and what will you bring to the project? *An example of your best project?

Download the cascade brief 2011 at: www.onedotzerocascade.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/cascade-brief-2011.pdf

eCommerce Expo

The eCommerce Expo is on 11-12 October at Olympia, see www.ecommerceexpo.co.uk. Claimed to be the UK's number 1 event dedicated to all aspects of selling online, eCommerce Expo is for anyone "looking to maximise their online sales". Now in its 5th year, eCommerce Expo offers a wealth of practical advice in the most comprehensive free education programme across Europe, and thought-leading Keynote presentations from inspirational speakers.

Diary

Friday 29th July.....

Resit Coursework Deadline

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