

# comp.news

The Newsletter from the Department of Computing

## Chris' outstanding contribution

The Department of Computing is taking a leading role in the Guildford Branch of the British Computer Society (BCS). We have had strong links with the BCS over a number of years, but this has now been boosted by the election of Dr Roger Peel as the Chair of the branch. Our students also take a leading role in the BCS, with Chris Culnane and David Williams as Young Professional Group (YPG) representatives.

The YPG group has run a number of very successful events on a range of technical subjects from programming mobile phones to robots over the last year. Chris was recently recognised for his contribution to student life by

winning the "Outstanding Contribution to Students" award at the BCS YPG OneTeam Congress in August.



Chris and the team at the YPG Congress

For all the latest news in the Department, see [www.cs.surrey.ac.uk](http://www.cs.surrey.ac.uk)

## About the Department

We are a friendly Department with a cohort of about 350 students, offering highly rated undergraduate and postgraduate degrees.

Times Good University Guide 6th  
Good University Guide 7th  
Guardian University Guide 14th

National Student Survey  
90% overall satisfaction  
95% employment rate

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## Celebrating student success



### Students graduating in June

June 17th saw the graduation of our first degree students. In total, 4 graduated from the CS programme, 49 from CIT, 4 from CMS, and 11 from CSE, 20 of all these with a first class degree.

PhD student Athanasios Pavlou was awarded a grant to attend

the International Joint Conference on Neural Networks (IJCNN) 2008 in Hong Kong, while Zhe (Joson) Xia and David Williams were both awarded grants to attend the 3rd European Trusted Infrastructure Summer School, sponsorship by HP Labs, Microsoft, Intel, and Infineon.

Ge Qin is also celebrating after winning three prizes for his work: best poster at the Faculty poster competition, best presentation and runner-up poster at the Department's 6th Annual PhD Conference.

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## Undergraduate Study

**BSc Computer Science (CS)**  
Software knowledge and skills at the forefront of innovation

**BSc Computing and Information Technology (CIT)**  
Business computing for the next generation of IT professionals

**BSc Computer Science and Engineering (CSE)**  
Software, hardware and communications technologies

E: [cs.ug@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:cs.ug@surrey.ac.uk)

## Postgraduate Study

**MSc Information Systems (IS)**  
Business computing for future IT directors

**MSc Internet Computing (IT)**  
Advanced computing for Internet applications and science

**MSc Security Technologies and Applications (STA)**  
Protecting the digital age for future security consultants

**MPhil/PhD in Computing**  
Research in computer science at the leading edge

E: [fepe-pg@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:fepe-pg@surrey.ac.uk)

## Graduates making giant leaps

After completing their first degrees at Surrey, Computing students have secured jobs with the likes of Accenture, ProspectSoft, Reuters and JPMorgan Chase. Surrey boasts one of the highest graduate employment rates for UK universities, with the Department having a 95% employment rate after 6 months. For example, Natalie Akumiah has gone to work for Accenture Technology Solutions, Paul Davis has gone to ProspectSoft, Simon Moore is joining Reuters in Canary Wharf, and Peter

Yung Hok has joined the investment bank JPMorgan Chase in London. Some, however, marked the end of their degrees with a long holiday and other adventures. Simon, for example, was planning a long trip to Australia and New Zealand, while Steve Jolly is taking a year out to travel around the Far East before working as a scuba diving instructor at the Great Barrier Reef. That was after his celebratory bungee jump, all recorded for posterity and released on YouTube, of course.

## Where are they now?



Craig Bennett,  
CIT 2003, PhD 2008  
Software Developer,  
Experian

Craig joined the CIT programme in 1999, after being attracted by the course's focus on developing skills and experience directly

relevant to industry, through its placement scheme (which Craig spent at IBM), its links with the outside world, and its blend of business and computing. After completing his degree, Craig was offered a place to study for a PhD within the Department, and he then

spent another four years researching the field of computational visual attention, completing successfully in March 2008. Shortly after completing his PhD, Craig was offered the role of software developer at Experian in London, where he now works in the field of data quality management. His role involves working with both private and public organisations within the Asia Pacific region, ensuring they maximise the accuracy and reliability of their data. Recent projects include the development of a Geographical Information System to provide regional statistical information, and a validation tool for name and address data held within databases with Australia.

### Forthcoming talks at Surrey

All are welcome to these talks, held in room 39BB02:

**08/10/08, 2:00pm:**

Dr Karoline Wiesner,  
University of Bristol

**15/10/08, 2:00pm:**

Dr Peter Tino,  
University of Birmingham

**28/10/08, 2:00pm:**

Dr Gavin Lowe, University of Oxford

## Recent research publications

Gillam, L. & Vartapetian Salmasi, A. (2008). A Database for Fighting Crimes that Haven't Been Committed Yet. *Proceedings of the 10th International Conference on the Social and Ethical Impacts of Information and Communication Technology (ETHICOMP 2008)*.  
Heather, J. & Lundin, D. (2008). The Append-only Web Bulletin Board.

*Proceedings of the 5th International Workshop on Formal Aspects in Security and Trust (FAST2008)*.  
Lundin, D. & Ryan, P.Y.A. (2008). Human Readable Paper Verification of Prêt à Voter. *Proceedings of the 13th European Symposium on Research in Computer Security (ESORICS 2008)*.

