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The Newsletter from the Department of Computing

Top Ranking National Student Survey

The 2009 National Student Survey results to be published in August show that our final year students give us a 95% overall satisfaction rating. This result ranks us 2nd out of 103 computer science departments surveyed in the UK. The survey is

run independently of all universities by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE). Full details of the National Student Survey, including comments, will be published by HEFCE shortly.

About the Department

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

Guardian University Guide 9th
Complete University Guide 19th
Times Good University Guide 20th

National Student Survey
95% overall satisfaction
95% employment rate

Contact

Department of Computing
University of Surrey
Guildford GU2 7XH

T: +44 (0) 1483 686058
F: +44 (0) 1483 686051
E: cs@surrey.ac.uk

Celebrating Student Success

June 16th saw the graduation of our first degree students. In total, 6 graduated from the CS programme, 1 from CC, 23 from CIT, 2 from CMS, and 11 from CSE. Peter Nattress was awarded three prizes for his outstanding final year performance: Our new Department of Energy and Climate Change prize for best final year performance, as well as the Department's prizes for best overall performance and best project.



Computing students celebrating outside the Cathedral on Friday June 26th

First year student Anthony Timotheou has been awarded an EPSRC vacation bursary to undertake research during the summer break. This is one of 9 such bursaries awarded in the University in 2009 and reflects his potential to become a professional researcher.

Farah Alsudani, who has just completed her MSc in IC, has had her

work on web site credibility accepted for publication and presentation at the 23rd BCS conference on Human Computer Interaction (HCI 2009). This is an outstanding achievement for an MSc project.

The start of the summer period has also been a busy time for our PhD students. Neil Newbold won the Graduate School award for a peer

reviewed abstract, Arwa Jamjoom and Bin Li successfully passed their MPhil to PhD transfer examinations, while Amir Razavi, Zhe Xia, Athanasios Pavlou and David Pizarro de la Iglesia successfully defended their PhD theses.

For all the latest news in the Department, see
www.surrey.ac.uk/computing

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

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: feeps-pg@surrey.ac.uk

International Best for Digital Ecosystems

In June, Paul Krause, Amir Razavi, Sotiris Moschoyiannis and Alexandros Marinos celebrated the top ranking of their work on digital ecosystems. The work on stability and complexity in digital ecosystems was presented at the IEEE International Conference on Digital

Ecosystems and Technologies (IEEE-DEST 2009), winning the prestigious best paper award. Research into digital ecosystems has become one of the top funding priorities within the UK. The winning paper was one of six presented by the group at the conference.

New Home for Computing



Stefan and Ioana pose for the web site

July saw the launch of our new Departmental website. The site has been re-written to provide easily accessible and greater information for all of our potential audiences. Information is now available for prospective students, researchers and business partners. On-line resources and contacts for our current students have also been increased, and this coincides with the launch of our revised 2009 syllabus for both our undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. As well as flag ship modules, such as that provided by IBM on mainframe computing, we are now offering new modules on cloud computing and parallel architectures. See our new site at www.surrey.ac.uk/computing

Recent research publications and Grants

Alsudani, F. & Casey, M.C. (2009). The Effect of Aesthetics on Web Credibility. *Proceedings of the 23rd BCS conference on Human Computer Interaction (HCI 2009)*.

Xi Zhao, Anthony TS Ho & Yun Q Shi. (2009). Image Forensics Using Generalised Benford's Law for Accurate Detection of Unknown JPEG Compression in Watermarked Images.

Proceedings of the 16th International Conference on Digital Signal Processing (DSP 2009).

Casey, M.C. & Damper, R.I. (2009). Guest Editorial: Special Issue on Biologically-Inspired Information Fusion. *Information Fusion*.

Pavlou, A. & Casey, M.C. (2009). A Computational Platform for Visual Fear Conditioning. *Proceedings of the*

International Joint Conference on Neural Networks (IJCNN) 2009.

Schaathun, H.G. & Brown, T. Mobile Phone Security. £65,294 EPSRC CASE 3 year studentship in conjunction with Consult Hyperion, awarded by the Cyber Security Knowledge Transfer Network.

