Welcome to a new Semester and a new University Year!

Hello to……..

Cigdem Sengul joins the department as Senior Lecturer in Network Communications and is based in Turing - T2.26!

Cigdem received MS and PhD degrees in Computer Science from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) in October 2003 and 2007, respectively. Her BS degree in Control and Computer Engineering was awarded by Istanbul Technical University (ITU), Turkey in 2000. From 2008 to 2012, she worked as a senior research scientist in Telekom Innovation Labs at TU-Berlin, which serves as the main research unit of Deutsche Telekom. During 2007-2008, she was a post-doc at INRIA in ASAP group. She was the recipient of the Fulbright Scholarship and Department of Computer Science, UIUC fellowship in 2001. She received the Vodafone fellowship in 2003-2004.

Her main research interest is wireless networking. She is currently working on adaptive protocols for interference management, realistic simulations for wireless networks, sensor and WiFi networks, and measurements.

Gerald Roy joined us recently in the role of Technical Instructor for IT Support and will work closely with Faye Mitchell. Gerald was born in France but has lived in the UK for the last 20 years. In his spare time he enjoys spending time with his family, socialising and photography. Professionally, he has previous classroom experience teaching French in Special and Primary schools. For the last 10 years Gerald worked as an IT Manager for a manufacturer of TV broadcasting equipment called Miranda Technologies. He is looking forward to developing and learning new skills his new role as Technical Instructor at Brookes.

Steve Barker has joined us as Technical Instructor in Electronics, alongside completing his own PhD studies and robotics research. Steve will also be taking a module as an Associate Lecturer.

Come along and meet your department colleagues at the CCT Staff Forum on 31st October, 12 noon in T2.16.
Goodbye to……..

As you know, Geoff Childs is retiring at the end of this month. Geoff did not want a fuss made about his leaving, but we cannot let him go without acknowledging and thanking him for all of his contributions to the department and the university over many years of service. Despite being here for almost as long as Geoff has, I have only really got to know Geoff since returning to Brookes in June 2011 during which time he served as Postgraduate Programme Lead and was actively involved in the management of the department through the Management Group. His commitment and dedication to all aspects of his work has been exemplary. I have come to know him as a hard worker, someone who was always willing to go the extra distance needed to get the job done. He has been able to deal competently with a heavy teaching load and a substantial administrative burden. He sets himself high standards and looks for them in others. Over the last year I have very much valued his experience, support, advice and wisdom. I know he will be missed in the department.

Here are some things you might not know about Geoff. He regularly sings folk music at his local. At one time he was an active footballer and played for the University staff team. He also captained the School of Engineering staff team when they faced up to a challenge from the Engineering students (there are no records of the final score of that game – probably for very good reason). He has been an active sailor and rumour has it that he was Captain at the West of Oxford Sailing Club, as well as club champion.

Please join me in thanking Geoff and wishing him all the best for his retirement. I suspect he will be spending more time sailing, sipping Pina Colada and watching the sea gulls - spare the occasional thought for the rest of us back here Geoff! Nigel Crook

Here are some thoughts from some of Geoff's former students and colleagues:

“As a student at Oxford Polytechnic in the 1980's, I came across many lecturers, but few stuck in mind during the next quarter of a century before my return to Brookes. One that did was Geoff Childs. My memories of him as a teacher are vivid. He held the attention of the class with ultimate skill, produced excellent lecture notes and of course was an exceptional disciplinarian especially when it came to marking! I could argue over a few marks now, but I’ll resist the temptation! Certainly, in my own teaching practice, Geoff had an influence and I thank him for his dedication whilst I was a student. Let’s just say there are many topics that I remember such as the zone refining of silicon or the workings of a transistor that will simply stay with me forever! One last aspect, it may be me, but Geoff doesn’t look a day older either… “ Gareth Neighbour

“In the nineties the three of us used to play for Oxford Polygons every Sunday as part of Oxford Brookes staff football team which was very successful and where on many occasions we had to challenge younger players and teams. Geoff was playing as a midfield and defence player, he was very good at it, especially tackling opposition players to the ground. Part of our success was due to Geoff's defence skills and motivation. His motivation skills for the team were quite similar to his teaching style, where he kept telling us that if we do not play well we will fail and we will not progress much and we will have to replay and work hard for it. Geoff made sure every player did their bit for the team, if somebody was not performing or passing the ball he made sure they were made aware of it! Around 2002-2003 the team stopped playing and we ended loosing only one or two games throughout the last year of play. Certainly we had a great time playing with Geoff and he will be remembered for his great tackling skills.” Shpend Gerguri & Khaled Hayatleh
Recent Successes…….

**Glen Sheasby's** BMVC workshop paper was given an award for the best paper in the workshop! He would like to thank all of you for your help in getting this paper to such a standard.

**Dr Fabio Cuzzolin** is to take up the position of Head of the Machine Learning research group. Fabio, Michael Sapienza (student) and Phil Torr have received a Best Poster prize at the INRIA Visual Recognition and Machine Learning Summer School, Grenoble, France, in July 2012, for a poster entitled "Learning discriminative space-time actions from weakly labelled videos" - the web site is the following: [http://www.di.ens.fr/willow/events/cvml2012/](http://www.di.ens.fr/willow/events/cvml2012/)

Fabio has also received the "Outstanding Reviewer Award" at the latest British Machine Vision Conference (BMVC 2012), University of Surrey, Guildford, September 3-7 2012.

**Hong Zhu** was invited to join the EPSRC review college in August 2012 and was elected to a senior member of IEEE in June 2012.

Students News…….

On Wednesday 19th September students from Media Technology interviewed Sir David Attenborough about the release of his new book. Sir David was in Oxford at the Ashmolean to open the museum’s exhibition on the art and literature of Edward Lear on the 200th anniversary of his birth. The students produced a 6 minute documentary of the event and the museum plans to use this for promotional purposes on their website and they then had the opportunity to sit privately with Sir David for 30 minutes to question him about his life and work.

Workshops…….

Cyberpatterns Talk at Software Assurance Forum in Washington DC.

As reported in the last CCT bulletin, the first Cyberpatterns workshop was held in July to attempt to establish this emerging field. We have now presented Cyberpatterns to around 200 attendees at the Software Assurance Forum in Washington DC.

Clive Blackwell summarised the results of the Cyberpatterns workshop, and also gave a second presentation about his existing research on modelling the insider threat. There is a need for a firmer theoretical foundation for Cyberpatterns to support the excellent practical security schemas (such as CAPEC for attack patterns) that are very widely used in industry. The plan is to engender wider support for the future theoretical and practical development of Cyberpatterns, and seek collaboration and funding opportunities in the UK and overseas.

We have already been offered 100% funding from industry to hold a second Cyberpatterns workshop.
Visits……

Joe Carr was in Bulgaria with students recently filming for a documentary as part of an exchange with Sofia University. Their students came here in May.

Filming took place in various places including a press conference with the Rector of Sofia University, filming recently found roman ruins not open to the public underneath an old church and being interviewed for 'TV7', a newspaper and a radio show. Here are the links: http://amtv.bg/news/oksford-sofia-2/ http://amtv.bg/news/almamatervdovedestudiantotoxford/

Joe was accompanied on this trip by the following students:
Huma Ghouri - Director
Samya Fraser - Presenter/reporter
Harry Jacobs - Camera Operator
Andy Fraser - Sound Engineer

Ian Bayley and Hong Zhu visited the Wuhan University, China, for a month from August to Sept 2012. Mr. Basel Yousef (a Research Student supervised by Hong Zhu and M. Younas) also undertook a 3 month visit to Wuhan University returning recently. Their visits are a part of the EU FP7 project MONICA on mobile cloud computing.

Look out for……

The next university-wide undergraduate Open Day will take place on Saturday 6 October from 9 - 4. The final open day of 2012 will take place on Saturday 10 November. CCT and MEMS will be based at Wheatley as usual for both events. The members of the academic staff we are expecting to be involved have all been contacted by the departmental Open Day Champions (David Lightfoot for CCT and Brian Azzopardi for MEMS). Queries in the first instance should be directed to your departmental champion, but the operational manager for the TDE open days at Wheatley is Rosemary Ostley.

Students on the BSc in Sound Technology and Digital Music course are back on the road! A number of the students have been working on the sound teams at various festivals and events over the summer, and are continuing their experience-based learning by volunteering to set up and operate the sound systems for a number of events in the next academic year, supervised by subject coordinator David Carugo. The events include:

- The Oxfam OXJAM Oxford Takeover, on Sat 13th October (Brookes Students will be running the sound systems in the Purple Turtle and the Turl Street Kitchen venues). More info at http://www.oxjamoxford.co.uk
- Jazz at St Giles concert series. This takes place in St Giles church, on St Giles in Oxford. Concerts are the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month; a full programme can be found at http://www.jazzatstgiles.com
• Jazz at the Jam Factory. This is a late night jazz club which will start running on the 1st Saturday of each month at the Jam Factory cafe in Oxford. Music starts at 9 or 10pm.

Please come along to support these worthy (both in a charitable and in a cultural sense) causes and to see and hear our students in action!

Hong Zhu and M. Younas are organising the 7th IEEE International Symposium on Service Oriented System Engineering (SOSE 2013), which will be held in March 25 - 28, 2013, at San Francisco Bay, USA. Hong is a General Chair of the conference and Younas is the publication chair.

ADA Lovelace day is on 16th October. Staff and students (of both genders) may be interested. There’s going to be an “Evening of fun, inspiration and robots at the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET)” on the 16th itself. On 26-27 October the XX Game Jam will be running as part of the London Games Festival (location tbc). The games teams are meant to be female (I don’t want to disappoint anyone, but the XX refers to the chromosomes of the contestants, not the content of the games). However us chaps are welcome to come along and support. There are more details (and an attempt to get you to part with some money) here.
http://www.indiegogo.com/AdaLovelaceDay

Reminder of New Process…
Conference Attendance funding is extremely limited this year
The agreed process for staff and students who are asking for Department funds to support conference attendance is as follows:-

Requests from members of staff for internal funding will only be considered for the purpose of paper presentation if applications for external funding have also been made by the member of staff or one of their co-authors during the previous 12 months. Requests from PhD students will only be considered if applications for external funding have been made by the student's supervisor or one of their co-authors during the previous 12 months. One conference attendance for every grant submitted.

All requests must be made using the Travel Request Form and must be submitted concurrently with the paper to Sharon Howard (T2.21) giving an estimate of all costs (fares, accommodation, subsistence, registration).

Applications will only be discussed at the next available CCT Finance Group Meeting so please ensure you submit in plenty of time.

Please forward any items of news to Sharon Howard for inclusion in the next news bulletin
showard@brookes.ac.uk
Bank and Concessionary Holidays 2012 - 2013

2012

- Monday 2 January bank holiday (in lieu of 1st January)
- Friday 6 April bank holiday
- Monday 9 April bank holiday
- Tuesday 10 April concessionary day
- Monday 7 May bank holiday
- Monday 4 June bank holiday
- Tuesday 5 June bank holiday
- Monday 27 August bank holiday
- Tuesday 28 August concessionary day
- Monday 24 December additional concessionary day
- Tuesday 25 December bank holiday
- Wednesday 26 December bank holiday
- Thursday 27 December concessionary day
- Friday 28 December concessionary day
- Monday 31 December concessionary day

2013

- Tuesday 1 January bank holiday
- Friday 29 March bank holiday
- Monday 1 April bank holiday
- Tuesday 2 April concessionary day
- Monday 6 May bank holiday
- Monday 27 May bank holiday
- Monday 26 August bank holiday
- Tuesday 27 August concessionary day
- Wednesday 25 December bank holiday
- Thursday 26 December bank holiday
- Friday 27 December concessionary day
- Monday 30 December concessionary day
- Tuesday 31 December concessionary day

NB: If Christmas Eve falls on a weekday, the University will be closed from 2.30pm.