The Newsletter from the Department of Computing

Welcome to Dr Anna Lisa Ferrara

Dr Anna Lisa Ferrara has joined the Department of Computing as a new Lecturer from the University of Bristol. She will be part of the Formal Methods and Security (FMS) group of the Department. Her research interests include information and system security, privacy, applied cryptography and protocols and formal methods for security.

Surrey welcomes new information security specialist

Dr Adrian Waller is set to take up the position of Visiting Professor within the Department of Computing. His new academic appointment will run until 31 July 2017. Having collaborated with the Department for several years as industrial supervisor for PhD students and supporting teaching activities, Adrian currently works for electrical systems group Thales UK Research and Technology (TRT), where he is a Chief Technical Consultant in Information Security.

Surrey Centre for Cyber Security launched

On the 1 July, the SCCS brought together core cyber security researchers from the University’s Departments of Computing and Electronic Engineering – along with interdisciplinary input from Mathematics, the Surrey Business School, Sociology, Psychology and Law – to further Surrey’s research on cyber security. The key focuses of the Centre will be privacy and data protection, secure communication, and human-centred security. The SCCS will be led by Professor Steve Schneider, Deputy Directors Dr Mark Manulis and Dr Shujun Li.

Top Ten UK institution in ARWU 2014

Surrey’s Computer Science research has reached a 101-150th international ranking for the third year running and means that the University stays as a top ten UK academic institution for the subject, according to the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU).

Best presentation award at FORMS/FORMAT 2014

Dr Helen Treharne won the best presentation award at the 10th Symposium on Formal Methods for Automation and Safety in Railway and Automotive Systems. She presented the paper on “Decomposing scheme plans to manage verification complexity”, at the conference and received the award. The research forms part of an ongoing collaboration between University of Surrey and Swansea University. This research was partly funded by a RAEng/Levehulme Trust Senior Research Fellowship.
Prof Anthony TS Ho invited on two journal editorial boards

Prof Anthony TS Ho was invited to join the editorial boards of two journals: Signal Processing: Image Communication published by Elsevier, and EURASIP Journal on Image and Video Processing published by Springer. Both journals are well established in the image processing field, and affiliated with European Association for Signal Processing (EURASIP). The terms for both journal editorial boards are three years.

New research project on ANPR analysis

Dr Shujun Li and Prof Anthony TS Ho have been successful in getting a proposed research project “POLARBEAR - Pattern Of Life ANPR Behaviour Extraction Analysis and Recognition” granted by Innovate UK - Technology Strategy Board (TSB) via its Collaborative R&D Competition “Data exploration - creating new insight and value”. The project it is a joint effort with two industrial partners Thales UK Ltd (project lead) and HPC Wales, with Surrey Police as an additional collaborator. It will study new approaches to analysing ANPR (automated number plate recognition) data for identifying unknown vehicle-related criminal activities.

Computing student won runner-up for Best Student Paper Award

A paper entitled “Multi-Objective Evolutionary Recurrent Neural Network Ensemble for Prediction of Computational Fluid Dynamic Simulations” co-authored by Christopher Smith, a PhD student from the Department of Computing, and his supervisors, John Doherty from the Department of Mechanical Engineering Sciences and Prof Yaochu Jin from the Department of Computing, has been selected as runner-up for the “Best Student Paper Award” at the 2014 IEEE Congress on Evolutionary Computation (CEC 2014), held from 7th to 11th July 2014 in Beijing, China.

Graduation Day 2014

For more details of our graduation day, see our blog at: https://blogs.surrey.ac.uk/computing/2014/08/04/1012/

GCHQ certifies Surrey’s Information Security course

The new MSc Information Security, offered by the Department of Computing and the Surrey Centre for Cyber Security, has been provisionally accredited by GCHQ for delivering high-standard and industry-relevant cyber security research and education, from internationally recognised cyber security academics. Following a competitive process, Surrey’s new course was selected as one of six GCHQ-certified degrees in the UK. The programme is designed to ensure highly-skilled information and cyber security professionals for industry, government and academic sectors, in order to meet the security challenges of the future.