Surrey academic won Finland Distinguished Professorship

Professor Yaochu Jin has been awarded the Finland Distinguished Professor (FiDiProf) for 2015-2017. The FiDiPro Programme enables distinguished researchers world-wide to work and team up with the “best of best” Finnish academic research. Supported by the programme, Prof Jin will work with Prof Kaisa Miettinen from University of Jyvaskyla, a world-renowned expert in multi-criteria decision-making on developing new evolutionary algorithms for solving real-world multi-objective optimisation problems.

Computing researcher interviewed by IET

Dr Leandros Maglaras, a post-doctoral Research Fellow of the Department of Computing, was interviewed by IET (The Institution of Engineering and Technology) for the research work behind a paper he got accepted to IET Electronics Letters recently. The paper reports a distributed real-time intrusion detection system for SCADA systems based on an unsupervised machine learning technique called OCSVM (one-class support vector machine). Dr Leandros Maglaras’s research was conducted under the supervision of Prof Jianmin Jiang with the cooperation of the University of Coimbra in Portugal and it was supported by the FP7 EU project.

Surrey Computing researchers won Best Paper Award at InTrust 2014

Ms Veronika Kuchta, a PhD student of the Department, and Dr Mark Manulis, a Senior Lecturer of the Department, received the Best Paper in Cryptography award from the 6th International Conference on Trustworthy Systems (InTrust 2014), which was held from 16-17 December, 2014 in Beijing, China. The award was given for their paper “Rerandomizable Threshold Blind Signatures” that describes new constructions of threshold blind signatures, enabling a set of distributed signers to produce a digital signature on a message that is chosen and kept secret by the user. Rerandomizable threshold blind signatures have useful applications in the design of distributed electronic cash systems and electronic voting protocols.

World’s first end-to-end verifiable electronic election uses Surrey’s voting system

The State elections in Victoria, Australia, which took place over November 17-29, made successful use of an end-to-end verifiable electronic voting system, the first time this has been done on a statewide election. The system was used to provide Electronically Assisted Voting to particular groups (vision impaired, motor impaired, insufficient literacy skills), and for remote voting for voters in London. The system, called VVote and based on the original Pret a Voter, was designed by an international team of researchers led by Prof Steve Schneider at Surrey, and including the Universities of Melbourne and Luxembourg, and was implemented by the University of Surrey with Dr Chris Culnane as lead architect, the Victorian Electoral Commission, and CryptoWorkshop. Novel cryptographic techniques ensure the integrity of the election can be verified, while preserving voter privacy. Further information on the system is available at: https://www.vec.vic.gov.au/Voting/Electronicvoting.html.
End of Year Party 2014

On the 15th of December the Computing department held its first undergrad Beer and Pizza evening! With nibbles and lots of Cheesy music including Lady Java. The event was well attended by students, academics and staff where final years had the chance to mingle and see a different side of the academics outside the “office” hours. As part of the evening there were retro games featuring 007 Golden Eye, Smash Brothers and the overly competitive Mario Kart.

Throughout the evening everyone had the chance to bag themselves some Surrey swag featuring USBs, Picture Frame (Stock family photo included), T-Shirts, Notebook (the kind made of paper) and pen, key rings and some Wines for the more sophisticated types (did someone say free Wine?). Of course the prizes came at a price... of fun challenges!

Poker was one of everyone’s favourite games of the night featuring Prof Tony Ho’s ($100) and Dr Steve Wese- meyer’s dollars ($50). The event was concluded by the popular Musical Chairs played by Prof Tony Ho, Dr Andre Gruning, Dr Saeid Sanei and the students. Needless to say the students won this game! Special thanks go to Ms Sarah Turnbull and Mrs Denise Myers for organising this wonderful party.