


We were able to organise an annual Heinz Klein lecture in his memory.

Our congratulations go to the following students for successfully defending their thesis:

**PhD Student News**

**Sophia Koussidou** “Assistive Exoskeleton for Task Based Physiotherapy in 3-Dimensional Space”, supervisor: Dr Samia Nefti-Meziane, external examiner: Prof Stephen Billett, Associate Professor in the School of Vocational, Technology and Arts Education, Faculty of Education, Griffith University.

**Healthcare Louise Lloyd** “The Value of Feasibility Studies in Corporate Reputation Management: An Exploratory Investigation”, supervisor Prof Bob Light, external examiner: Dr Tally Hatzakis, Brunel University and Dr Wu (supervisor: Sunil Vadera) “A Study and Development of Bayesian Exemplar Based Models”, supervisor: Sunil Vadera, external examiner Prof Duncan Gilles - Imperial College.


distanceEducation.co.nz - Hambeleleni (Amber) Abisai, a PhD student in IRIS, won the poster prize at the Conference Dinner at Hadleigh Cricket Ground.

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IRIS Informatics Research Institute

**Digital Cultures Workshop**

In June 2008 Ben Light and Steve Sawyer organised the 1st Digital Cultures workshop. Over 60 academics, practitioners and PhD researchers attended from across the UK. The event also attracted academics and PhD researchers from the United States and Canada. Professor Bill Dutton or the Oxford Internet Institute a the University of Oxford and Professor Ruth Norman both gave keynotes over the two days and the workshop began with a practice led Smart City Futures session chaired by Professor James Powell, our Pro-Vice Chancellor for Enterprise. A special issue of the journal of Information, Communication, Ethics and Society, showcasing some of the papers from the workshop, is due to appear early in 2009. The call for the 2nd workshop will be available shortly.

**Campus Fellow Dr Stephen Billett**

Stephen Billett, Associate Professor in the School of Vocational, Technology and Arts Education, Faculty of Education, Griffith University Australia, spent a month with IRIS colleagues. He presented two seminars on workplace learning, a workshop and was a keynote speaker at a one day conference, speaking on social partnerships. He also provided sessions on research issues for staff completing a PhD in educational research.
The EU has been invited to give a plenary session at the 2008 ECIS 2008 conference (held at Salford in April 2009). The project has been running since 2008 and is due to finish in 2010. It has been supported by the European Commission and is a partnership with the University of Salford, the University of Leeds, the University of Manchester, and the University of Strathclyde. The project aims to establish a virtual marketplace for the exchange of digital documents, and to provide a platform for the development of new technologies for the storage and retrieval of digital documents.

Invited Seminars and Conferences

Professor Alison Adam has been invited to speak on her research of Women in IT at the 2008 ECIS 2008 conference (held at Salford in April 2009). The project aims to establish a virtual marketplace for the exchange of digital documents, and to provide a platform for the development of new technologies for the storage and retrieval of digital documents.

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Upcoming Events

The UK BCS Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining Symposium will be held at Salford in April 2009. The project has been running since 2008 and is due to finish in 2010. It has been supported by the European Commission and is a partnership with the University of Salford, the University of Leeds, the University of Manchester, and the University of Strathclyde. The project aims to establish a virtual marketplace for the exchange of digital documents, and to provide a platform for the development of new technologies for the storage and retrieval of digital documents.

Professional activities

Mrs Frances Bell has been appointed as co-editor of ALE, the journal of the Association for Learning Technology. Frances Bell is commissioning editor for a Special Issue of ALE (2008) on Learning and Teaching in Immersive Virtual Worlds. Frances Bell is a co-author of the chapter on "Virtual Environments and online learning" in the book "Virtuality and Society." Frances Bell is a co-author of the chapter on "Virtual Environments and online learning" in the book "Virtuality and Society." Frances Bell is a co-author of the chapter on "Virtual Environments and online learning" in the book "Virtuality and Society."