



University of
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Informatics Research Institute (IRIS) June 2001 newsletter

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ISRC Newsletter - Issue1: June 2001

Welcome to the first edition of the Information Systems Institute's Research Newsletter. This Newsletter will be published four times a year (March, June, September and December), and will be published on the ISI research web page. The aim of the Newsletter is to facilitate the exchange of information related to research activities in ISI. Submissions are welcome from staff and research students.

***The success of this newsletter relies on your submissions!
Don't be shy - inform your colleagues about your new publications, projects,
awards, prizes, research, etc.***

MEET YOUR RESEARCH COMMITTEE

The ISI Research Committee deals with the details of a number of areas of School business. It is also the formal channel whereby the views of research students and staff can be expressed and sought. It covers primarily issues that relate to research publishing, research projects, research students and studentships, research seminars and conferences, and the related infrastructure and support.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Prof. A.T. Wood-Harper (Chair) - Associate Head Research
Prof. J.R.G. Wood, Associate Dean for Research
Prof. G. Cooper, Head of School
Dr. Y. Rezgui, Associate Head Funded Projects
Ms. D. Bailey, Research Officer
Dr. D.W. Chadwick, ISI academic representative*
Dr. D. Howcroft, ISI academic representative*
Dr. A. Basden, ISI academic representative*
Dr. F. Wilson, ISI academic representative*
Mr. I. Wilson, Research Assistants/Fellows Representative*
Postgraduate Student Representative (Open)*

*Elected staff. The term of office of elected members will be one year.

The position of postgraduate research student representative on the Committee remains open. If you wish to be considered for this position or would like to nominate a postgraduate research student, please contact Donna Bailey by 15 July 2001.

The Committee is open to all ISI professors. The dates of upcoming meetings are available on the ISI Calendar.

PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to Yacine Rezgui and David Chadwick on their promotions to Professor, effective August 2001.

RESEARCH ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 2001

It's been a busy time (understatement of the year!) for some members of ISI with

preparations for the RAE submission. Trevor Wood-Harper and Debra Howcroft have been working extremely hard, and not to mention long hours, on the ISI submission. Along with Trevor and Debra a number of staff deserve recognition for their efforts with the submission including David Wastell, Bob Wood, Alison Adam, Francis Wilson and Ruth Aylett.

The ISI submitted 23 members to the Library and Information Systems Panel. The University has returned twelve Units of Assessment and submitted its return on 26 April 2001.

Thank you all for your patience in returning requested materials for the RAE submission.

PUBLICATIONS

JOURNALS

Nevill, N. and Wood-Harper, A.T. 2001, 'Choice of Target Audience for IS Research: Reflections on Discussions with IS Academic Leaders in the UK', Communications of the Association for Information Systems, Volume 5, Article 4. [ABSTRACT](#)

McBride, N. and Wood-Harper, A.T., 2001, 'Towards User-Oriented Control of End-User Computing in Large Organizations', in Journal of End-User Computing (forthcoming).

Kawalek, P. and Wood-Harper, T., 2001, 'The Finding of Thorns: User Participation in Enterprise System Implementation', in DataBase (forthcoming).

Chadwick, D.W. (In Press), 'Deficiencies in LDAP when used to Support Public Key Infrastructure', in Communications of the ACM.

EDITED BOOK

Green, E. and Adam, A. (eds.) 2001, 'Virtual Gender - Technology, Consumption and Identity Matters', Routledge, March 2001. [ABSTRACT](#)

CONFERENCES Cont'd

Bell, F., Howcroft, D. and Light, B., 2001, 'From Vendor to Portal: A Case Study of Internet-Enabled Re-configuration, Proceedings of the 7th Americas Conference on Information Systems, August, Boston, USA.

Adam, A., Howcroft, D.A. and Richardson, H., 2001, 'Absent Friends?: The Gender Dimension in IS Research', IFIP 8.2 Conference, July 2001.

Adam, A. and Howcroft, D., 2001, 'Critical Information Systems', NUKAIS Seminar, University of Newcastle, 28 March, 2001.

Wheeler, S. and Wood-Harper, T., 2001, 'Ethical Information Systems Analysis', in Information Resources Management Association Conference, Toronto, Canada, May 2001.

Saravanamuthu, K. and Wood-Harper, A.T., 2001, 'Developing Emancipatory Information Systems', First Conference on Critical Information Systems, Manchester, July 2001.

Bennetts, P.D.C. and Wood-Harper, A.T., 2001, 'Churchman and Stories of Information Systems Development', American Conference on IS (AMCIS), August 2001.

Bennetts, P.D.C. and Wood-Harper, A.T., 2001, 'Multiple Viewpoints: An Initial Look at

BOOK CHAPTER

Adam, A., 2001, 'Feminist AI Projects and Cyberfutures', in Barbercheck, M., Cookmeyer, D., Ozturk, H., Wayne, M. and Wyer, M. (eds.), *Women, Science and Technology: A Reader in Feminist Science Studies*, Routledge, New York and London.

CONFERENCES

The following papers have been accepted at one of the top European IS conferences. ECIS 2001 - The 9th European Conference on Information, June 27-29, 2001, Bled, Slovenia. The ISRC will be well represented!

Howcroft, D., Richardson, H. and Wilson, M. 2001, "'Now You See It Now You Don't" Myths of the Dot.com Market', ECIS Conference, Bled. [ABSTRACT](#)

Wastell, D.G., 2001, 'Barriers to Effective Knowledge Management: Action Research Meets Grounded Theory', ECIS 2001 Conference, Bled. [ABSTRACT](#)

Wastell, D., Kawalek, P. and Willetts, M., 2001, 'Designing Alignment and Improvising Change: Experiences in the Public Sector Using the Sprint Methodology', ECIS 2001 Conference, Bled. [ABSTRACT](#)

Adam, A. 2001, 'Gender, Emancipation and Critical Information Systems', ECIS 2001 Conference, Bled. [ABSTRACT](#)

Light, B. 2001, 'A Review of the Issues Associated with Customer Relationship Management Systems', ECIS 2001 Conference, Bled. [ABSTRACT](#)

Ben will also contribute to the panel: *ERP is Dead (or is*

Individual Profiles', American Conference on AI (AMCIS), August 2001.

Tom McMaster presented a paper entitled 'The Illusion of Diffusion in Information Systems Research', IFIP (International Federation for Information Processing) Working Group 8.6 International Working Conference on the Diffusion of Software Products and Processes in Banff, Alberta, Canada, 7-10 April 2001. [ABSTRACT](#)

At the Banff business meeting, it was decided that Tom would take responsibility for the Working Group's website and listserve, and edit and produce its twice annual newsletter - an initiative that will help to promote the University of Salford around the world.

The next 8.6 International Conference will be held in Sydney in 2002, and either Atlanta or India in 2003.

Adam, A., 2001, 'Heroes or Sibyls? Gender and Engineering Ethics', accepted for Special Issue of IEEE Technology and Society on Engineering Ethics.

Janice Whatley presented a poster session entitled 'Agent Support for Students Working Online', at the EuroCSCL Conference held in Maastricht in March 2001. [ABSTRACT](#)

it?). Long Live E-Business!: An Exploration of the Future of ERP and its Relationship with E-Business at the ECIS 2001 Conference.

Panel Chair: Guy Gable - Queensland University of Technology, Australia
Panel members: M. Lynee Markus, City University of Hong Kong, Kenny K.F. Lee, Nanyang Technology University, Graeme Shanks - The University of Melbourne, Australia, and Ben Light, University of Salford.

NEW PROJECTS - (from January 2001)

Principal Investigator: David Chadwick
[PERMIS](#) (Privilege and Role Management Infrastructure Standards Validation) funded by the European Commission.

Yacine Rezgui has recently secured three research contracts (two funded by the European Commission under the IST programme and one by EPSRC/IMI) in the area of Knowledge Management. These projects totalling a funding of £2.3m in excess involve the key players from research and industry in Europe in the building and construction sector.

[C-SAND](#) (Creating, Sustaining, and Disseminating Knowledge for Sustainable Construction: Tools, Methods and Architectures) funded under the EPSRC/IMI Programme (The Innovative Manufacturing Initiative Call 9).

[e-COGNOS](#) (Methodology, tools and architectures for electronic Consistent knowledGe maNagement across prOjects and between enterpriSes in the construction domain - IST-2000-28671).

[ICCI](#) (Innovation co-ordination, transfer and deployment through networked Co-operation in the Construction Industry).

COMPLETED PROJECTS (since January 2001)

David Chadwick and Andrew Basden completed an EPSRC project [Intelligent Computation of Trust](#) in January 2001.

Both David and Andrew presented a seminar on the above project on 5 June 2001.

WHO'S DOING WHAT?

Alison Adam presented the keynote paper 'Gender/Body/Machine', at Ratio Conference on Philosophy of the Body, Department of Philosophy, at the University of Reading on 28 April 2001.

Janice Whatley attended Autonomous Agents 2001 in Montreal, Canada. Please [click here](#) to read her article about the Conference.

POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH NEWS

[New Postgraduate Students](#) - (from January 2001)

Marie Griffiths, MPhil (Supervisor: Ben Light) Marie is an ISI BSc Business Information Systems graduate. Her research will focus on cultural implications of the implementation of an IT based relationship management system.

Wokasha Ben Laguda, PhD (Supervisor: David Wastell) Ben graduated from UMIST with a BSc in Management before completing the MRes course at the University of Manchester. His research interests include the development and implementation of Customer Relationship Management (CRM) strategies in the public sector. His current work involves the study and assessment of recent/ongoing CRM related initiatives at various local authorities in the UK (<http://www.publiccrm.co.uk>). His other interests include Business process re-engineering (specifically tools and modelling methods) and knowledge management.

Stephen Leaver, PhD (Supervisor: John Rae) Stephen is an ISI MSc graduate. His research is in organisational learning and knowledge management.

Fay Selvan, PhD (Supervisor: John Rae) Fay is an ISI MSc graduate. Her research is in strategic leadership, learning and development.

Abuagila Musa, PhD (Supervisor: Bob Wood) Research topic - Online learning systems.

Norafida Ithnin, PhD (Supervisor: Trevor Wood-Harper) Research topic - Technological support of CSCW in virtual organization.

Othman Ibrahim, PhD (Supervisor: Trevor Wood-Harper) Research topic - Information systems planning in virtual organization.

[Graduated Students](#) - (from January 2001)

Amit Mitra, PhD (Supervisor: Paul Jackson) 'An Interpretation of the Organisational Context of Geographic Information System Use in British Local Government'. ABSTRACT (Amit was funded by the International Development Department of the School of Public Policy, University of Birmingham.)

Mike Winfield, PhD (Supervisor: Andrew Basden) 'Multiple-Aspectual Knowledge Elicitation'.

RESEARCH FELLOWS/ASSISTANTS NEWS

ISI research fellows/assistants attended an informal meeting and lunch on 27 March. This event provided an opportunity for the ISI researchers' to meet one another and discuss their research interests.

Research Assistants/Fellows are invited to join the ISI Researchers Group Bulletin Board. Please contact Donna Bailey if you haven't been invited to join.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Prof. Grahame Cooper's Inaugural Lecture '[Architecture in the Cyber-City](#)', Thursday, 5 July 2001, at 5pm, Rayleigh Room, Faraday House, followed by a complimentary buffet.

ESRC Seminar Series 'Equal Opportunities On-line: The Impact of Gender Relations on the Design and Use of Information and Communications Technologies'.

Seminar 7: Bometrics and Health Information: Gender Stories.

Alison Adam is hosting this seminar on Wednesday, 13 June 2001, Unipart Lecture Theatre.

Click here for list of [speakers and agenda](#).

(Re-)Defining Critical Research in Information Systems Workshop

Debra Howcroft, Alison Adam, Helen Richardson and Francis Wilson are in the process of arranging an international workshop to be held at the Information Systems Institute on the 9-10 July 2001.

This workshop follows on from the successful Information Systems stream at the 1st Critical Management Conference in Manchester in 1999. The workshop will precede the 2nd Critical Management Conference to be held at the University of Manchester on 11-13 July 2001.

The workshop will consist of a mixture of panels, invited speakers and researchers from round the world that are interested in applying critical theory/theories to information technologies.

Further information available at <http://www.isi.salford.ac.uk/cris/>

RESEARCH AWAY DAY

The ISI Research Away Day was held on Monday, 4 June 2001, at Campanile Manchester Hotel, Salford. Various issues were discussed including RAE2001, RAE2005, and funding opportunities and mechanisms.

RESEARCH NEWLETTER SUBMISSIONS

The next issue will be published in September 2001. Deadline for submissions to Donna Bailey is **30 August 2001**

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