

Research news

[Let Robot Battle Commence \(/university/colleges/eps/news/college/2014/Let-Robot-Battle-Commence-.aspx\)](/university/colleges/eps/news/college/2014/Let-Robot-Battle-Commence-.aspx)



Celebrating the fourth edition of European Robotics Week (ERW), the School of Computer Science at the University of Birmingham will be taking part in a number of robot challenges from Monday 24 - Friday 28 November to showcase its broad and pioneering activity in the field of robotic research and development.

24/11/2014

[Work on community languages \(/schools/social-policy/departments/applied-social-studies/news-and-events/2014/11/work-on-community-languages.aspx\)](/schools/social-policy/departments/applied-social-studies/news-and-events/2014/11/work-on-community-languages.aspx)

Work by IRiS academic, Professor Angela Creese, on community languages has been featured in various ways recently.

24/11/2014

[From Lab Bench to Backbench \(/university/colleges/eps/news/college/2014/From-Lab-Bench-to-Backbench.aspx\)](/university/colleges/eps/news/college/2014/From-Lab-Bench-to-Backbench.aspx)

John Bridgeman, Professor of Environmental Engineering and Director of Research and Knowledge Transfer in the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences will be swapping lab coat for legislation, when he visits civil servant, James Riches, at the House of Commons today (Monday 24 November) for a "Week in Westminster", as part of a unique pairing scheme run by the Royal Society – the UK's national academy of science.

24/11/2014

[Does Ed Miliband have a future as Labour leader? \(/schools/historycultures/departments/history/news/2014/ed-miliband.aspx\)](/schools/historycultures/departments/history/news/2014/ed-miliband.aspx)



Dr Matthew Francis discusses Ed Milibands future as Labour leader.

21/11/2014

[Tower Hamlets residents must be wondering why they bothered to vote \(http://theconversation.com/tower-hamlets-residents-must-be-wondering-why-they-bothered-to-vote-34440\)](http://theconversation.com/tower-hamlets-residents-must-be-wondering-why-they-bothered-to-vote-34440)



Written by Chris Game. With a forced smile and through gritted teeth, Tower Hamlets' elected mayor, Lutfur Rahman, has announced himself willing to accept – and even "welcome" – the intervention package set out for his borough by Eric Pickles, secretary of state for communities and local government.

21/11/2014

[Erika Rackley speaks at 'Being Human' Festival Event at the UK Supreme Court \(/schools/law/news/2014/11/rackley-being-human-festival.aspx\)](/schools/law/news/2014/11/rackley-being-human-festival.aspx)



Erika Rackley, a professor at Birmingham Law School, joined a panel of speakers, chaired by Supreme Court Justice, Lord Carnwarth, to consider what it means for a judge to 'be human'.

21/11/2014

[Birmingham pub bombings 40 years on: why there is still no closure \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/thebirminghambrief/items/2014/11/Birmingham-pub-bombings-40-years-on-why-there-is-still-no-closure-20-11-14.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/thebirminghambrief/items/2014/11/Birmingham-pub-bombings-40-years-on-why-there-is-still-no-closure-20-11-14.aspx)



Birmingham Law School's Professor Andrew Sanders writes for the Birmingham Brief

21/11/2014

[Blog: Pickles' Tower Hamlets takeover: a sad affair all round \(http://inlogov.com/2014/11/20/pickles-tower-hamlets-takeover-a-sad-affair-all-round/\)](http://inlogov.com/2014/11/20/pickles-tower-hamlets-takeover-a-sad-affair-all-round/)



Written by Chris Game. He kept Communities and Local Government Secretary, Eric Pickles, waiting until almost literally the 23rd hour of the 14th day of his two-week deadline. In the end, though, Tower Hamlets' elected mayor, Lutfur Rahman, having last Friday lost his second, and ill-advised,

application for a judicial review, was left with little choice.

20/11/2014

[IDD Guest seminar podcast: The Green State in Africa: Environmental politics, climate change and social movements \(/schools/government-society/departments/international-development/news/2014/11/green-state-in-africa.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/international-development/news/2014/11/green-state-in-africa.aspx)

Speaker: Carl Death, University of Manchester.

20/11/2014



IDD GUEST
SEMINAR
SERIES '14

[Podcast: Russia and the West since 1991: a tale of growing distrust \(/research/activity/conflict-cooperation-security/news/2014/11/russia-west-since-1991.aspx\)](/research/activity/conflict-cooperation-security/news/2014/11/russia-west-since-1991.aspx)



The high level of trust that had been constructed between western and Soviet leaders in the late 1980s and early 1990s was not sustained when western leaders had to face an independent Russia, even though the new Russia began with every intention of transforming itself into a full participating member of the international institutions set up after 1945 to keep the peace. However, Russians – not just their government – had come to view international institutions with profound distrust as having deceived them in both the economic and diplomatic spheres.

20/11/2014

[Podcast: Russia and the West since 1991: a tale of growing distrust \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/conflict-cooperation-security/news/2014/11/russia-west-since-1991.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/conflict-cooperation-security/news/2014/11/russia-west-since-1991.aspx)



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20/11/2014

[Doctoral researcher's paper focuses on children's homes in Latin America \(/schools/psychology/news-events/2014/20Nov-doctoral-researchers-paper-focuses-on-childrens-homes-in-latin-america.aspx\)](/schools/psychology/news-events/2014/20Nov-doctoral-researchers-paper-focuses-on-childrens-homes-in-latin-america.aspx)



PhD student Manuela Garcia Quiroga has published a paper on the subject of children's homes and foster care around the world, with a special focus on Latin America.

20/11/2014

[Could a vaccine help to fight cancer? You can help us find out \(/university/colleges/mds/news/2014/11/ebv-vaccine-cancer.aspx\)](/university/colleges/mds/news/2014/11/ebv-vaccine-cancer.aspx)

Working with Cancer Research UK, the Birmingham research team (Prof Alan Rickinson, Dr Neil Steven and Dr Graham Taylor; all in the School of Cancer Sciences) have already tested the vaccine in a small number of patients with an EBV-related head and neck cancer. It is currently being tested in larger clinical trials worldwide.

20/11/2014

[Abe can win Japan's snap election but he needs to win big \(http://theconversation.com/abe-can-win-japans-snap-election-but-he-needs-to-win-big-34438\)](http://theconversation.com/abe-can-win-japans-snap-election-but-he-needs-to-win-big-34438)



Written by Dr Julie Gilson. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's decision to call a snap election for December 14 comes after what has been a rather bad week for him. Japan has slipped back into recession for the first time since 2012 and Abe has seen his popularity ratings drop below 50% for the first time.

19/11/2014

[HSMC in Australia: Setting health priorities \(/schools/social-policy/departments/health-services-management-centre/news/viewpoint/2014/hsmc-in-australia-setting-health-priorities.aspx\)](/schools/social-policy/departments/health-services-management-centre/news/viewpoint/2014/hsmc-in-australia-setting-health-priorities.aspx)



Last week was the biennial meeting of the International Society for Priorities in Health Care, and it took place in the glorious setting of the South Wharf of the Yarra river in sunny Melbourne Australia.

19/11/2014

[Applications invited for 12-month Post Doctoral Research Fellow post \(/schools/gees/news/2014/19Nov-applications-invited-for-12-month-post-doctoral-research-fellow-post.aspx\)](/schools/gees/news/2014/19Nov-applications-invited-for-12-month-post-doctoral-research-fellow-post.aspx)

Applications are invited for a 12 month Post Doctoral Research Fellow post to undertake magnetic susceptibility measurements research. The researcher will join a very active groundwater and geomagnetism research team.

19/11/2014

[Creating tomorrow's leading social scientists \(/schools/social-policy/departments/applied-social-studies/news-and-events/2014/11/creating-tomorrows-leading-social-scientists.aspx\)](/schools/social-policy/departments/applied-social-studies/news-and-events/2014/11/creating-tomorrows-leading-social-scientists.aspx)

The University of Birmingham is proud to offer 25 ESRC scholarships to fund postgraduate training and doctoral research.

18/11/2014

[Old Joe turns blue for European Antibiotic Awareness Day \(/university/colleges/mds/news/2014/11/Old-Joe-turns-blue-for-EAAD-18-11-14.aspx\)](/university/colleges/mds/news/2014/11/Old-Joe-turns-blue-for-EAAD-18-11-14.aspx)

The University of Birmingham's iconic clock tower 'Old Joe' turned a shade of blue as part of European Antibiotic Awareness Day (EAAD) on Tuesday 18 October

18/11/2014

[The Value of Heritage and the Heritage of Value \(/schools/historycultures/departments/ironbridge/news/2014/simon-thurley.aspx\)](/schools/historycultures/departments/ironbridge/news/2014/simon-thurley.aspx)



Full video recording of Simon Thurley's Ironbridge Annual Lecture.

18/11/2014

[Seaweed news! \(/schools/biosciences/news/2014/18Nov-seaweed-news.aspx\)](/schools/biosciences/news/2014/18Nov-seaweed-news.aspx)



The Coates lab at the University of Birmingham is part of a recently-funded EU-COST network set up to further understanding of basic growth and development in seaweeds, so that this knowledge can be applied to aquaculture in the future.

18/11/2014

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