



## Summer 2013

## Greetings

It has been another great year for the School of Computer Science. We were particularly proud to be ranked as the best Computer Science department in the UK by the *Guardian* newspaper. This reflects our continuing commitment to high quality teaching, and a great student experience. It was wonderful to see so many happy faces at this year's graduation; students we have taught and prepared to go out into the big wide world! We hope that, as new alumni, they will continue to stay in touch. We always look forward to visits from any of our alumni, where you can share your experiences with our new cohorts of students, and help us shape our curriculum for the future so please do get in touch with the alumni office [eps-community@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:eps-community@contacts.bham.ac.uk) and they will be happy to help make it happen.

With best wishes.

**Professor Jon Rowe**  
Head of School  
Computer Science

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## Congratulations to all our recent graduates



Congratulations to everyone who graduated this summer and welcome to the alumni community! Graduations this year fell at the beginning of the heat wave and graduands enjoyed a beautiful summer's day to shake hands with Professor David Eastwood and receive their degree certifications. [To read more and see photographs of the day click here.](#)

Birmingham School of Computer Science is Number One in UK

**the guardian** The School of Computer Science is delighted to announce that the Guardian University Guide 2014 has

## Birmingham recognised as Academic Centre of Excellence in Cyber Security Research

University of Birmingham School of Computer Science has been officially established as an 'Academic Centre of Excellence in Cyber Security Research' by the UK government. This accolade is a testament to the first rate research and work that is undergoing here at the School of Computer Science. Furthermore, it builds upon and enhances the number one spot claimed by University of Birmingham in The Guardian University Guide 2014 for computer science. [To read the full story click here.](#)

## New e-voting system to flag up coercion



University of Birmingham computer scientists have devised an e-voting system that can identify and monitor any votes that could have taken place under coercion. The internet-based system is designed to flag up any votes made by voters may be forced and flag them for analysis by the authorities. [Read the full story here.](#)

## Google Summer of Code Accepts MSc Student Project



MSc student Apostolos Giannakidis has been accepted by the Google Summer of Code 2013 programme with his design project 'Apache Gora support for Oracle NoSQL datastore'. Google Summer of Code is a global event that attracts thousands of students from around the world who submit their project proposals in the hope of their source codes being released for everyone to use and benefit from. [Read more about this story here.](#)

## Student project shortlisted for UK BSc Final Year Computer Science Project 2013



Horatio Caine graduated in July with a first class BSc Computer Science Year in Industry degree. His excellent research-focused final year project resulted in him being shortlisted as a finalist for one of the UK's leading Computer Science competitions. [Read more.](#)

## How intelligent robots stand poised to change all our lives for the better



From robot rock bands to cyborg cockroaches, robots are making more headlines than ever before. But do they really have the potential to change society for the better? Automation and technology, of course, have already made a huge impact on the way we make things and live our lives. Robots have played a part in this, principally in factory automation. But factory robots are simple puppets, continually repeating the actions scripted for them by human controllers. [Read the full story here.](#)

## Big Data for Development: Mobile phone data could be used to prevent the spread of epidemics in developing countries

Computer scientists at the University of Birmingham have devised a new set of models, using mobile phone data, for studying the geographic evolution of country-wide epidemics and for understanding and planning the diffusion of information among the population to advise on strategies to avoid spreading the infection further. Their models are part of a submission that has won the Orange Data for Development Competition, announced at the MIT Media Lab at US conference NetMob'13. [Visit our website to read the full story.](#)

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## “Computer Science is a pioneering subject and hugely exciting.”



Want to know what's it like to be a student in Computer Sciences today? Atif Hussain graduated this July with a 1st Class BEng in Computer Science and Software Engineering with Year in Industry and tells of his experience at Birmingham. [Click here to read more.](#)

## Have you joined the School LinkedIn Community yet?



An online community for alumni, students, faculty and friends from the School of Computer Science, the LinkedIn group provides you the opportunity to engage in conversation, find former colleagues, keep up to date with changes in the School and debate with academics. [Join this growing community today.](#)

## New staff in 2013

There have been a number of appointments in the School this year. [Read a summary of our new staff and their research interests online here.](#)

## Alumni support a wide range of novel applications of Computer Science



### Circles of influence

The School of Computer Science is always striving to solve real-world problems. Thanks to alumni generosity, this summer we've been able to host a number of undergraduate interns to tackle two extremely different, but challenging, tasks. [Read more.](#)

## We would love to hear from you

Everyone has a story to tell and we would love to hear yours. What have you been up to since leaving the School of Computer Science? Have you had any successes or challenges that you would like to share with fellow graduates? Do you have any particular words of wisdom you would like to pass on to graduating students?

Your stories help us to promote your School, communicate with prospective students and complete the history of this institution. Please fill in the [online form](#) or email us at [eps-community@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:eps-community@contacts.bham.ac.uk), we would love to hear from you.

## Your School needs you...

Would you be able to share some of your time, expertise or connections to help Computer Science to succeed? There are many ways in which you can give a little back, from providing a career profile, to mentoring a student. [Details can be found online and email us if you would like to get involved.](#)

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## Events taking place shortly...

### [Undergraduate Open Day](#)

**14/09 and 26/10/2013**

Encourage students you know to visit the School of Computer Science, meet our staff and students and learn about our degrees.

### [Prof Andrew Howes Inaugural Lecture](#)

**08/10/2013**

More details to come, keep an eye on our website

### [Prof Russell Beale Inaugural Lecture](#)

**22/10/2013**

More details to come, keep an eye on our website

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## Do we have the right details for you?

According to our records your current business details are as follows: **Position** at **Organisation Name** If this is not correct, please visit [your.bham](#) or email [alumnioffice@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:alumnioffice@contacts.bham.ac.uk).

**You have received this email from the University of Birmingham because we believe that it is relevant and of interest to you.** If you would like to opt-out of receiving information from your College, School or Department by email, please opt-out by visiting [your.bham](#), emailing [alumnioffice@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:alumnioffice@contacts.bham.ac.uk), or telephoning +44 (0)121 414 2773 / 2744 / 4724. In order to further tailor the communication we send, all emails are tracked and processed; further information regarding our use of data, is available by looking at our [data protection statement](#)