

Welcome to your 2021 Computer Science Alumni Newsletter



**Dear Alumni,**

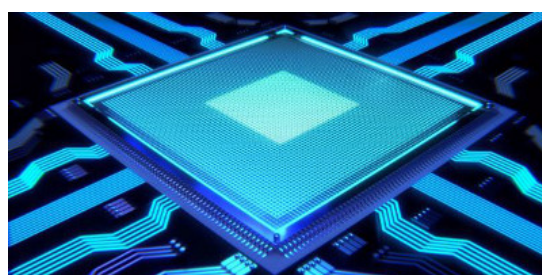
For obvious reasons 2020 was a challenging year for everybody but we have started to see signs of recovery. The University hosted physical graduation celebrations in June and we're looking forward to welcoming back the Class of 2020 to celebrate their achievements in September. The School is also growing – we are appointing new staff, launching new programmes and research institutes, and celebrating the successes of our colleagues and students.

[Read more from Mark Lee](#)



### **DeepMind scholarships provide fantastic opportunities for under-represented students**

Thanks to a generous donation from DeepMind, the School of Computer Science is pleased to announce new scholarships for students from under-

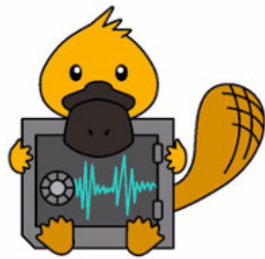


### **VoltPillager: the \$30 next-generation of undervolting attacks against Intel SGX**

Birmingham Computer Scientists have managed to break SGX, a set of security functions used by Intel processors, by creating a \$30 device to control CPU

represented groups to study artificial intelligence at the University.

[Find out more](#)



### **PLATYPUS reveals new vulnerabilities discovered in Intel processors**

Team of security researchers has presented new side-channel attacks, which use fluctuations in software power consumption to access sensitive data on Intel CPUs with unprecedented accuracy – even without physical access.

[Find out more](#)

voltage using undervolting to induce faults and recover secrets from secure enclaves.

[Find out more](#)



### **HackTheMidlands 5.0: Inspiring creation and innovation**

Led by a team of Computer Science students, HackTheMidlands helps to empower the technologists of the future, even in the pandemic. More than 700 participants of all ages came together for a 75-hour virtual creative marathon.

[Find out more](#)



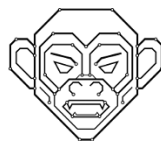
### **Success for our students at the annual Societies' Awards**

For the second year running we took the EPS Societies' Awards online to celebrate our remarkable student groups. The celebrations were not halted and watch parties were held across our societies and Schools! We're proud to announce a number of winners from Computer Science: congratulations to Dr Andreaa Radu on being named Staff Member of the Year and Valeria Popescu won Inspirational Committee Member! Plus, the Women in Tech Society won the Industrial Award and Head of College Idea of the Year!

[Watch the 2021 Virtual Societies' Awards](#)



The Computer Science Society have thrived this year, adapting their much-loved events to a virtual



A.F.N.O.M

Our ethical hacking club AFNOM have been busier than ever and topped the year off with some



games development society

Games Development have some fantastic new dev projects from the society and an exciting win at the

world and even adding some new activities.

[Read about CSS](#)

incredible Capture the Flag competitions results.

[Read about AFNOM](#)

NSE Games Innovation Challenge.

[Read about GDS](#)



### Alumni profile: Hung Hoang

Hung Hoang graduated in 2018 with a BSc Artificial Intelligence & Computer Science with year in Industry and is now a Software Developer at Bloomberg L.P. Here he shares an insight into his career so far and how his degree helped get him started.

[Read Hung's alumni profile](#)



### Remembering Ray Fiveash

We are saddened to learn of the passing of Ray Fiveash. Ray graduated in 2005 and thoroughly enjoyed his time at Birmingham. His wife Diana kindly shares his eulogy in the hope it will bring comfort to those who knew Ray.

[Read about Ray Fiveash](#)

# WE ARE BIRMINGHAM ALUMNI

## Help inspire our students

From recent graduates to industry leaders, you are making important things happen. You can inspire young people and offer an insight into the opportunities awaiting them. What will you share?

[Share your Birmingham story](#)

# MENTORING

## Could you be a mentor?

We all know the benefits of having someone to bounce ideas off, especially when it comes to our careers. Your advice is invaluable. If you'd like to be that person, we'd love to hear from you.

[Email Grace to become a mentor](#)



## Seventy graduates take part in 'Meet your alumni' series

In March 2021, the EPS Community launched the first event series aimed at introducing students to Engineering and Physical Science alumni from a broad range of sectors. More than 70 graduates and professionals took part in 'Meet your alumni', each with a different experience to share. From Computer Science alone we were fortunate to be joined by 10 graduates for two events: one a 'How to get into FinTech' series of talks, and the other Computer Science and Tech Speed-networking where students could grill recent graduations on their careers so far.

## News roundup

[Innovative 'EPS Futures Foundation Year' programme](#) supports young people from underrepresented groups to study STEM subjects thanks to generous donations.

Birmingham researchers confirm [speed, simplicity and sensitivity for new COVID-19 test](#).

[New hardship grants for students funded by Birmingham graduate](#), Emeritus Professor Barry P Hughes

[Supporting students](#) into engineering and physical sciences at Birmingham.

University of Birmingham Computer Science PhD student Tom Goodman has been crowned the [future face of technology and innovation](#).

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### Do we have the correct contact details for you?

Make sure you update your details to ensure you receive the latest news and information about events in your area. [Update now](#)



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