

StaffUpdate

Exclusively for staff at The University of Manchester

STUDENT FEEDBACK POLICY

The University has given a commitment to provide students with feedback on their assessed coursework within a defined timescale.

Students on all units will be able to expect feedback within 15 days of the final submission deadline or 20 days in exceptional circumstances as approved by the Faculty.

This is the key feature of a new Feedback Policy which has been drafted following extensive consultation with students and staff and which was agreed in principle by Senate last month – subject to a number of minor amendments.

Seventy nine per cent of students consulted felt that two to three weeks was an appropriate period of time to wait for feedback.

The new Policy acknowledges the need for a flexible approach that can be adapted to the different needs of each discipline and the level a student is studying. However the two overarching requirements of the Policy are that feedback is provided in a timely manner to allow the student to make use of it and improve their performance, and that feedback must be tailored to the individual student to allow them to reflect on their own skills and performance.

The Policy marks a key development in moving forward the Teaching and Learning agenda at the University, in particular addressing the low-levels of satisfaction with feedback and assessment expressed by final year undergraduates at the University of Manchester in the National Students' Survey.

Other areas covered by the Policy include managing student expectations to ensure they are aware of how feedback will be given and how it should be used and the requirement for Schools to facilitate individual student requests to see exam scripts, without charge.

It is expected that the Policy will be fully implemented in the next academic year although some Schools will be in a position to implement the new requirements more promptly.

Vice-President for Teaching and Learning, Professor Colin Stirling, said: "We've listened to our students and our students are telling us that they feel that our feedback processes could be improved."

WELLBEING WEEK

22-26 March 2010, 11am-3pm

Wellbeing Week is designed for staff and students to try out new ways of improving mental and physical wellbeing along with having fun and meeting new people.

The event and all of the activities are FREE and the programme is designed to encourage us all to think about how we manage our own wellbeing, and steps we can take to recognise and reduce stress. It offers an opportunity to take time out to reflect, relax and find balance in our daily lives.



All sessions and activities are introductory and suitable for complete beginners and will take place across campus.

Activities on offer during Wellbeing Week:

- Staff only 5-a-side Football Tournament
- Swimming
- Health Checks by Occupational Health
- Pilates, Yoga and Meditation
- Wide Variety of Dance Classes
- Food Workshops
- Free pedometers when you join the campus walk
- Relaxing Massages
- Plus many more

For details of the Wellbeing Week schedule and how to book, visit:
www.manchester.ac.uk/wellbeingweek or email
health.fitness@manchester.ac.uk

This event is funded by Human Resources (HR) working in partnership with Counselling, Occupational Health, FoodOnCampus and SPORT



UNI CHALLENGE UPDATE

Manchester's University Challenge team were beaten in their latest quarter final match against St John's College, Oxford last month.

The team were pipped at the post in a tie-break, after the scores were 140-140 at the gong.

Having knocked out the Royal Veterinary College in the first round and King's College, London in the second round, Manchester comfortably defeated St Andrew's 195-50 in their first quarter-final.

But now captain Jakob Whitfield, Nick Daunt, Rachael Neiman and Tom Whyman still have a chance to reach the semis if they win their remaining match at the quarter-final stage.

The Manchester team will next be appearing on 'University Challenge' on BBC2 at 8pm on 1 March when they face Edinburgh.

PROFESSOR APPOINTED NEW 'DEMENTIA TSAR'



Professor Alistair Burns at The University of Manchester has been appointed as the new National Clinical Director for Dementia, the Department of Health has announced.

Professor Burns will promote better care of people with dementia within the NHS and social care communities and provide leadership for the implementation of the National Dementia Strategy. He is currently the University's Professor of Old Age Psychiatry within the Manchester Academic Health Science Centre.

He developed the South Manchester Memory Clinic, which provides specialist assessment and diagnosis for people with memory problems. He is also an instrumental part of the Old Age Psychiatry General Hospital liaison service and helped establish a Dementia Drug Treatment clinic.

Professor Burns said: "In the past few years, there has been a great deal of public interest in dementia and several influential initiatives, in particular the National Dementia Strategy. The challenge, now, is to build on this to make a real positive difference to people with dementia, their families and carers. I very much look forward to working with colleagues to realise this ambition."

NEW CHAIR TO STRENGTHEN PHARMACY RESEARCH GROUP

Amin Rostami-Hodjegan has been appointed Professor of Systems Pharmacology in The University of Manchester's School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Professor Rostami is a founder of Simcyp, a company that provides a platform for modelling and simulation of drug absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion in virtual populations, where he is currently Director of Scientific Research and Development.

Commenting on the appointment, Professor Brian Houston, Director of the Centre for Applied Pharmacokinetic Research and Head of Drug Metabolism and Pharmacokinetic (DMPK) research at Manchester, said: "Amin's appointment is pivotal to the future of the Manchester group in strengthening existing DMPK activities and promoting future links between the University and Simcyp."

Professor Rostami previously held a Chair at the University of Sheffield and will maintain his affiliation with the institution for several more years as Honorary Professor of Systems Pharmacology.

HEAD OF DRAMA IS TOP 50 ASIAN

A University of Manchester lecturer has been recognised as one of the UK's top 50 South Asian 'Global Achievers' for his contribution to the understanding of the Bollywood film industry through his academic and media work.

Dr Rajinder Dudrah, who is the University's Head of Drama, joined with some of the Asian community's most successful names at an awards ceremony hosted by The Triangle Media Group last month.

Awards are given to professionals who have excelled in their respective fields and are noted for their contribution in promoting South Asian work globally.

Dr Dudrah said: "The TMG Awards have been in existence since 2004 and aim to recognise the growing importance of professional South Asian talent and its influence around the world."



STEPPING STONE FOR TOP RESEARCHERS

The Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences recently awarded their Stepping Stone Fellowships for 2010. The Fellowships, awarded in open competition, provide support to the highest calibre early postdoctoral researchers in the Faculty.

Professor Chris Griffiths, Faculty Associate Dean for Research, said; "The Stepping Stones scheme is the Faculty's investment in its stars of the future. The majority of previous recipients have been successful in gaining externally awarded senior fellowships".

This year's recipients; Dr Karen Forbes, Dr Emma Hilton, Dr Laura Matthews; and Dr Rachel Lennon, who is funded by the NIHR Manchester Biomedical Research Centre, will be working on various aspects of translational research. They will be supported for up to four years and will receive research expenses up to £10,000 annually for their research projects.

US HONOUR FOR MANCHESTER PHYSICIST

The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) has honoured a ground breaking Manchester physicist for his exceptional scientific achievements.

Professor Andre Geim is one of 17 individuals who will receive awards in the areas of biology, chemistry, geology, astronomy and psychology.

Professor Geim, Langworthy and Royal Society 2010 Anniversary Research Professor of Physics, is the

recipient of the prestigious John J Carty Award for the Advancement of Science.

The award is bestowed for noteworthy and distinguished accomplishments in any field of science within the charter of the NAS.

Professor Geim, who is the only non-US recipient of an award, has been honoured for his experimental realisation and investigation of the material graphene.



PENSIONS UPDATE

As you will be aware from media reports, most public and private sector employers are having to examine the long-term viability of their pension arrangements.

The pressures of "people living longer", a sustained period of low investment returns and the volatility of markets in the current economic climate mean that many pension schemes, particularly defined benefit (DB) schemes, are simply not sustainable in the longer-term without a very dramatic and unrealistic increase in contributions.

The private sector has already seen reductions in benefits available in some DB schemes and has closed 90% of them either to new entrants and/or to existing members. In most cases, DB schemes have been replaced by defined contribution (DC) arrangements which do not guarantee any benefit and where members of the scheme, rather than their employer, carry all the risk.

Universities are not immune from these pressures and this University, like almost all others, is looking closely at the future sustainability of its two biggest schemes: the local University of Manchester Superannuation Scheme (UMSS) and the national Universities' Superannuation Scheme (USS).

In both USS and UMSS, there is a legal obligation on the University to "balance the books" of the pension scheme within an approved timescale. This situation is different for the local government and NHS schemes (which cover a small number of our staff) where there are other pressures, but where any shortfall is borne ultimately by the taxpayer.

To ensure the long term sustainability of USS and UMSS for all members and beneficiaries, it is clear that changes will need to be agreed by employees and employers in the near future at this University and across the higher education sector.

The University, through its membership of Universities UK, is participating in discussions at a



national level about possible future changes to USS and it is expected that there will be a communication on this within the next few months.

The future options for UMSS will be determined locally. We are endeavouring, as far as possible, to mirror the timetable and types of options that are being discussed for the national USS scheme but we will have to re-assess the situation if progress on discussions on the national USS scheme takes longer than expected.

Whatever changes to employee contributions and benefits are agreed after consultation, the cost of sustaining these two schemes is likely to have a severe additional impact – amounting to tens of millions of pounds - on the University's budget for the foreseeable future.

I understand that, in already straitened financial times, the prospect of changes to pension schemes will not be welcome news, although it is important to recognise that earned benefits are guaranteed, so any change is in respect of future service only. The guiding principle is that pensions, a key benefit for staff, must also be fair, prudent and affordable for the University.

As soon as further information is available that will be communicated to you.

Albert McMenemy
Registrar and Secretary

RELAUNCH OF LGB STAFF NETWORK

The Equality and Diversity Team have relaunched the Lesbian Gay and Bisexual (LGB) Staff Network Group. The relaunch came during amid a series of events organised to celebrate LGBT History Month last month.

It was marked with a free performance from Manchester Lesbian & Gay Chorus which all staff were invited to attend.

For further information about the LGB Network or to be added to the confidential mailing/discussion list please contact: lgbt@manchester.ac.uk or call Paul in the Equality and Diversity Office on ext. 65878.

UPGRADE TO THE WEBSITE CONTENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Staff will be able to manage and update content on the University's website much more easily thanks to a project being undertaken by the central web team.

Web Manager, Chris Eccles, said: "The University website has over 300,000 web pages and 1.5 million visitors a month therefore managing its content can be a challenge.

"To achieve consistent themes and navigation yet remain simple and easy for non-technical people to manage and make changes to it a Content Management System (CMS) is needed. Unfortunately the existing CMS is not suitable for such a large organisation and is too complicated to use."

Although this is a large and complex project which will take time and will be implemented in a phased approach, the benefits of the new CMS will be:

- Stable, resilient and better performing CMS
- Reduction in the time required to create and edit web pages
- Better management of users and organised workflows
- Improved content management and security
- Increased training and support

Phase one of the project has been to procure and install the new hardware, and install the latest version of the CMS software. This was completed before Christmas and now the website content from the old CMS is being migrated across to the new CMS, website by website in stages.

The end of phase one will be completed when all current users of the CMS are using the new CMS. This is expected to happen in July 2010.

Phase two of the project is to work with the company that created the CMS, T4, and improve the usability and simplicity of the CMS for non-technical users. Once this has been achieved this version will be deployed to all users of the CMS.

Through increased training and support it is hoped that management and control of sections of the University website can be devolved out to the relevant departments. This process of devolution is expected to start at the beginning of 2011.

KAYAK RACE

Matthew Hubbard, a receptionist at Manchester Business School, is taking part in the world's longest single kayak event as a tandem race team with his training partner and life-long friend.

The event is 125 miles long from Devizes in Wiltshire to Westminster in London just outside the London Eye. They will be travelling for around 24 hours with

almost no breaks so the task is arduous to say the least. They have been training for just under six months and hope to raise around £2000 for the Springhill Hospice charity in Rochdale.

To sponsor Matt go to: <http://tiny.cc/mattrace> our sponsorship link.

Donations will also be accepted in person at MBS East reception.

MARTIN'S MARATHON



Martin Moore a Locksmith within Estates for the past nine years (currently based at STARS) will be running the London Marathon on 25 April for the third time for the charity Motor Neurone Disease Association.

The charity is close to Martin's heart as his brother died from the muscle wasting disease two years go, aged 41. Martin will be running the 26-mile marathon dressed as Zorro to help raise funds for the Association and also awareness of the disease.

If you would like to sponsor Martin he can be contacted on 07795 290 929 or by email at martin.c.moore@manchester.ac.uk.

JUST THE JOB

DIANNE McLEAN

Leisure Attendant, STARS.

Dianne McLean is the only female member of the team of ground maintenance staff at the University who are dedicated to caring for the University's 90 acres of outdoors sports facilities.



"Although you do it week in week out, you still get that pleasure looking back over your shoulder at the pitches you've worked on."

Currently based at the Wythenshawe Sports Ground, Dianne works as part of a team of four who between them maintain one 27 football pitches and one rugby pitch at the facility.

The Sports Ground is used on Wednesdays and if every pitch is used over the weekend that can attract as many as 600 people. To accommodate this, Dianne is required to work shifts and meet very tight deadlines for putting the pitches back into shape again. After weekend matches preparation for 25 student mid-week matches begins. This involves using a tractor to roll out any imperfections, the aerator to improve the drainage on the pitches and the re-marking of the pitches if necessary... and so this process rolls on in preparation for the weekend.

Some might find the prospect of this relentless, but not Dianne. She first became interested in ground keeping when she used to come into work and help her brother who works at the Armitage site. She loves everything about her job. She loves being outdoors and in all weathers and although the job is sometimes physically demanding loves seeing the fruits of her labour. "Although you do it week in week out, you still get that pleasure looking back over your shoulder at the pitches you've worked on,

seeing something old and used turned into something new and untouched," she says.

Dianne received funding from her department to take her interest in and love of her job to the next level; she completed her NVQ Level 2 in Sports Turf Maintenance at Reaseheath College in Nantwich in one year instead of two, making her a star pupil. Completing the qualification was extremely important to her as she now feels she knows why she is doing her job: "It's easy to do a job once you've been taught how to do it," she explains. "Knowing why you're doing it is different and much more satisfying".

Impressively, Dianne is now qualified to look after a Premiership football pitch. Asked if the prospect of that excited her she says: "No, not really, looking after only one pitch would become boring after a while, I'd much rather be kept busy here where the challenges are very different."

Although she loves being outdoors she says the weather is the main challenge they face; this winter's snow has made life difficult for everyone concerned as all ground keeping came to a standstill and left some pitches water-logged. Instead of working outdoors all the time she cleared snow from the main pathways, maintained machinery and carried out general maintenance.

Originally from Gorton in Manchester, Dianne always wanted to work for the University because of its reputation as a good employer. She loves her job that much she nowadays commutes from Shropshire. When asked what the best thing about her job is she says it comes in the summer when she stands high up and sees the pitches looking fantastic. "You feel a real sense of achievement and you get to see how the seasons eventually work in your favour," she says.



CONTACT US

If you have any news or story ideas, you can contact us via: uninews@manchester.ac.uk or 275 2112

OPT OUT OPTION

If you wish to opt out of receiving a printed copy of Unilife/Staff Update each month you can do this by completing the online form at: www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/optout

If you wish to keep up with the news, you can still view the magazines online at: www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/news/unilife
www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/news/staffupdate

Next issue: 6 April 2010 Copy deadline: 17 March 2010

J2794 02.10 The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL Royal Charter Number RC000797



Training Update

Exclusively for staff at The University of Manchester

STAFF TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT UNIT – OPEN PROGRAMME

The following courses are available at STDU. Places can be booked online at www.manchester.ac.uk/training or by email to courses-stdu@manchester.ac.uk. All enquiries should include your staff number/date of birth to help us process your enquiry promptly.

MARCH 2010

TMS28A: Information Session: Advanced Certificate in Management Studies
2 March 2010
1pm-1.30pm

TMS52: Team Briefing Training
2 March 2010
12.30pm-2pm

TBF44: Managing in a Customer Care Environment
4 March 2010
9.30am-12.30pm

TTL32: Organising Introductions to Academic Articles
4 March 2010
2pm-3.30pm

TP30: Presentations for Beginners
4 March 2010
9.30am-4.30pm

TBES1: Beginning Photoshop Course
5 March 2010
9.30am-4pm

TBF50: Higher Education Institution Seminar
10 March 2010
12.30pm-1.45pm
(for topics, see www.manchester.ac.uk/training)

TMS60: Child Protection Policy & Guidance
11 March 2010
10am-12pm

TBF25: Project Management
11 and 12 March 2010
(MUST be available for both days)
9.30am-4.30pm

TBES2: Intermediate Photoshop
12 March 2010
9.30am-4pm

TBF25 Project Management
12-Mar-2010
9.30am-4.30pm

TIC1: University Induction Course
15 March 2010
9.15am-2pm

THS11: COSHH to Work with Biological Materials
16 March 2010
10am-1pm

TBF52: Problem Solving and Decision Making
16 March 2010
9.30am-4.30pm

THS67: Risk Assessment Workshop - For lab based staff
16 March 2010
9.30am-12.30pm

TTL43: Writing Discussion Sections
16 March 2010
2pm-3.30pm

THS3: Accident Investigation
17 March 2010
1pm-4pm

TAP8: PDR Reviewer (Academic Related and Support Staff)
17 March 2010
9.30am-1pm

THS15: Principles of Risk Assessment
17 March 2010
9.30am-12.30pm

TMS60: Child Protection Policy & Guidance
18 March 2010
10am-12pm

TMS5: Effective Recruitment & Selection
18 March 2010
9.30am-4.30pm

TP26: Speed Reading and Mind Mapping
22 March 2010
9.30am-4pm

TBF51: Managing Conflict
23 March 2010
9.30am-12.30pm

TP28: Springboard Development Programme for Women
4 workshops on 23 March, 30 April, 28 May and 25 June 2010
(MUST be available for all four dates)
9.30am-4.30pm

TMS9: Training in Equality & Diversity Issues
24 March 2010
9.30am-1pm

THS98: Laser Awareness
26 March 2010
11am-12pm

THS42: Laser Safety Training
26 March 2010
1.30pm-4.30pm

TBF41: Speedwriting
30 March 2010
9.30am-4pm

APRIL 2010

TMS60: Child Protection Policy & Guidance
13 April 2010
10am-12pm

TAP6: PDR - A Briefing for Reviewees (all)
14 April 2010
10am-12pm

TTL41: Presenting at Conferences
15 April 2010
9.30am-12.30pm

TMS9: Training in Equality & Diversity Issues
15 April 2010
9.30am-1pm

TOE2: Pre-Retirement Course
16 April 2010
9.15am-5pm

THS18: Manual Handling Risk Assessment
20 April 2010
9.30am-12.30pm

THS7: Compressed Gases Workshop
21 April 2010
9am-12pm

THS7A: Cryogenic Gases Workshop
21 April 2010
1pm-3pm

THS7B: Practical Sessions Workshop
21 April 2010
3.15pm-4.30pm

TBF50: Higher Education Institution Seminars
21 April 2010
12.30pm-1.45pm
(for topics, see www.manchester.ac.uk/training)

TTL45: PASS Demystified
21 April 2010
1pm-4.30pm

TBF55: Introduction to Project Management
22 April 2010
9.30am-4.30pm

TMS3: Effective Shortlisting and Interviewing (For Academic Panels)
23 April 2010
9.30am-1.30pm

TBF51: Managing Conflict
23 April 2010
9.30am-12.30pm

THS26: Safe Use of GMOs
26 April 2010
10am-1pm

TMS59: Criminal Records Bureau Training
27 April 2010
10am-1pm

TMS53: Developing Excellence in Internal Communications
27 April and 20 May 2010
(MUST be available for both dates)
10am-4pm

TMS42: Performance Coaching for Line Management
27 April and 10 May 2010
(MUST be available for both dates)
9.30am-5pm

TBF46: Writing in a Clearer Style
27 April 2010
2pm-3.30pm

TBF53: Negotiation Skills
28 April 2010
9.30am-4.30pm

TTL31: Making Your Voice Heard 1
29 April 2010
12pm-4pm

TIC1: University Induction Course
29 April 2010
9.15am-2pm

MAY 2010

TP47: Accessing University News Channels
5 May 2010
12.30pm-2pm

THS98: Laser Awareness
6 May 2010
11am-12pm

THS42: Laser Safety Training
6 May 2010
1.30pm-4.30pm

THS3: Office Safety
10 May 2010
9.30am-12.30pm

THS15: Principles of Risk Assessment
10 May 2010
1pm-4pm

TBF45: Achieving Flow in Writing
11 May 2010
2pm-3.30pm

TMS60: Child Protection Policy & Guidance
11 May 2010
10am-12pm

TBF11: Minutes, Meetings & Agendas
11 May 2010
9.30am-4pm

THS85: GM Training for Principal Investigators
12 May 2010
10am-1pm

TMS3: Effective Shortlisting and Interviewing
14 May 2010
9.30am-1.30pm

TIC1: University Induction Course
17 May 2010
9.15am-2pm

TMS9: Training in Equality & Diversity Issues
18 May 2010
9.30am-1pm

THS50: COSHH Assessment for Lab Based Staff
19 May 2010
9.30am-12.30pm

TMS5: Effective Recruitment & Selection
19 May 2010
9.30am-4.30pm

TBF50: Higher Education Institution Seminars
19 May 2010
12.30pm-1.45pm
(for topics, see www.manchester.ac.uk/training)

TP29: Building Confidence
20 May 2010
10am-4pm
Follow up sessions 3 and 14 June 2010
(MUST be available for all dates)

THS71: Health & Safety for Managers
20 May 2010
10am-4pm

TAP5: PDR Reviewer Briefing (Academic)
20 May 2010
9.30am-1pm

TMS3: Effective Shortlisting and Interviewing
24 May 2010
9.30am-1.30pm

TBF61: Having Difficult Conversations
25 May 2010
9.30am-12.30pm

IT SERVICES TRAINING

CORPORATE AND DESKTOP APPLICATIONS MARCH 2010

OPEN COURSE DATES

CCCINT - Campus Solutions: Introduction to Campus Solutions
01 March 2010
10.30am – 12.00

CCSRM1 - Campus Solutions: Student Records Maintenance 1
01 March 2010
1.30pm – 4pm

CCBKICK - Blackboard: Introduction to Blackboard
01 March 2010
2pm – 4pm

CCPCP - Campus Solutions: Publishing Plans
02 March 2010
9.30am – 12.00

FO-AR001 - Oracle Financials: Sales Invoices and Credit Memos
03 March 2010
9.30am – 12.30

CCSRM2 - Campus Solutions: Student Records Maintenance 2
4 March 2010
9.30am – 12.00

CDDW7FND1 - Desktop: Microsoft Word 2007 Foundation (Day 1)
8 March 2010
9.30am – 12.30

FO-PA006 - Oracle Financials: Introduction to Research Projects for Administrators
9 March 2010
10am – 12.00

CDDAFOUND1 - Desktop: Microsoft Access 2003 Foundation (Day 1)
9 March 2010
10am – 4pm

CDDW7FND2 - Desktop: Microsoft Word 2007 Foundation (Day 2)
10 March 2010
9.30am – 12.30

FO-PA005 - Oracle Financials: Project Journals
11 March 2010
10am – 12.30

CDDAFOUND2 - Desktop: Microsoft Access 2003 Foundation (Day 2)
11 March 2010
10am – 4pm

CCRINC - Remedy: Submitting Incidents
12 March 2010
10am – 12.00

CDDE7FND1 - Desktop: Microsoft Excel 2007 Foundation (Day 1)
15 March 2010
10am – 1pm

CCLBAS - Livelink: Basics
15 March 2010
10am – 12.00

CCCPGAD - Campus Solutions: Postgraduate Admissions
15 March 2010
2pm – 4pm

CDDPFOUND1 - Desktop: Microsoft PowerPoint 2003 Foundation (Day 1)
16 March 2010
1.30pm – 4pm

CCCINT - Campus Solutions: Introduction to Campus Solutions
16 March 2010
2.30pm – 4pm

CDDE7FND2 - Desktop: Microsoft Excel 2007 Foundation (Day 2)
17 March 2010
10am – 1pm

CCUGAD - Campus Solutions: Undergraduate Admissions & Offer Making
18 March 2010
9.30am – 12.00

CCBKICK - Blackboard: Introduction to Blackboard
18 March 2010
10 am – 12.00

FO-PA007 - Oracle Financials: Introduction to Projects for Project Managers
18 March 2010
1pm – 4pm

CDDPFOUND2 - Desktop: Microsoft PowerPoint 2003 Foundation (Day 2)
18 March 2010
1.30pm – 4pm

CDDP7FND1 - Desktop: Microsoft PowerPoint 2007 Foundation (Day 1)
23 March 2010
9.30am – 12.00

CCCAPRF5H - Campus Solutions: Assessment & Progression - Refresher Workshop
23 March 2010
1.30pm – 4pm

FO-PA003 - Oracle Financials: Project Invoicing
24 March 2010
10am – 12.00

CDDP7FND2 - Desktop: Microsoft PowerPoint 2007 Foundation (Day 2)
25 March 2010
9.30am – 12.00

CCCPP - Campus Solutions: Programmes and Plans
25 March 2010
1.30pm – 4pm

CCBKICK - Blackboard: Introduction to Blackboard
30 March 2010
2pm – 4pm

Please note all dates and times are subject to change, please check the website for latest information.



LATEST COURSE NEWS

Training Feedback – Now Online

IT Services Training is pleased to announce we are now offering online feedback. After your course you will be given the opportunity to complete our quick feedback survey; we value feedback very highly as it enables us to develop and maintain our courses in line with trainee experiences. All feedback is reviewed individually and we often contact trainees to follow up any good ideas proposed or issues raised about the session in question. The online feedback method has proven to be very successful with our colleagues in the Staff Training and Development Unit as it is quicker to complete and saves on the use of paper.

Discoverer Upgrade to 10g – Bridging Road shows coming in March!

Bridging road shows are being scheduled in March for Discoverer users who wish to glimpse how the upgrade to 10g will differ to the current version. Once the upgrade goes live training will re-commence and dates will be advertised accordingly. If you already have access to Discoverer version 9 or you have just been granted access you will still be able to use it up until you are notified of the upgrade day.

Remember to check the IT Services Training website for information regarding 10g road shows and training along with links to bridging guides and new 10g training guides.

www.its.manchester.ac.uk/trainingcourses/corporateapplications/discoverer

Research Computing Training – Getting the most from your research effort using advanced research computing techniques.

Do you encounter questions like this in the course of your research?

- Ever wondered how to get your research models to run quicker?
- How do I run larger problem sizes and address more ambitious research questions?
- Should I use Fortran or MATLAB to develop my research applications?
- Do you wonder why your research code doesn't run 4 times faster on the quad-core machine on our desk?
- How do I make sense of large amounts of research data with visualization?

IT Services RCS offer training courses (including bespoke courses tailored to your research group) that will help you answer every one of these questions, assisting you along the way whether you are a beginner or an expert user of high end computing facilities.

For more information on our training see the listed dates or visit: www.manchester.ac.uk/researchcomputing alternatively email us: rcs-training@manchester.ac.uk

IT Services Training - Kilburn Training Room Update

We have been given the green-light to proceed with the refurbishment of Training Rooms 2 and 3 in Kilburn. It is anticipated that work will commence on TR2 from the beginning of March and will last for 4 weeks. Training Room 3 will then have some down-time as we complete the works previously started in there. Although we do not have definite timeframes for the required works we are hopeful that it will be completed as soon as possible to avoid any disruption to our training schedules. It may be necessary to rearrange courses and/or venues over the periods of March and April but any changes will be communicated directly to the trainees involved and published on the IT Services Training website.

CONTACTS / USEFUL LINKS

BAS ACCESS REQUEST

This is an online facility whereby you are able to request access to any of the Corporate Applications. When you submit an Access Request a BAS Access Request ID will be generated for you – this is usually a string of zeros with digits at the end. You will need to have been granted access to systems such as Discoverer, Livelink and Oracle Financials prior to taking training.

<http://helpdesk.man.ac.uk/cgi-bin/BASUserAccess/controlpanel.cgi>

IT Services Training Course Enquiries / Bookings

Email its.training@manchester.ac.uk

Web www.itservices.manchester.ac.uk/trainingcourses/coursesforstaff
Follow us for the latest training info at: http://twitter.com/ITS_Train_UoM

RESEARCH COMPUTING TRAINING APRIL – JUNE 2010

UPCOMING COURSE DATES/TITLES

Introduction to Advanced Research Computing
Thursday 13 April

Fortran95
Wednesday 14 & Thursday 15 April

Introduction to MATLAB
Tuesday 20 April

Programming in MATLAB
Wednesday 21 April

Advanced MATLAB topics
Monday 26 April

Research Computing using MPI
Tuesday 27 April

Further advanced MATLAB
Wednesday 28 April

LaTeX for Researchers
Thursday 29 April

Introduction to MATLAB
Tuesday 4 May

Programming in MATLAB
Thursday 6 May

RCS Booking information

For more information on Research Computing Services Training or to book one of these courses please see: www.manchester.ac.uk/researchcomputing or email rcs-training@manchester.ac.uk

Advanced MATLAB topics
Tuesday 11 May

Further advanced MATLAB
Thursday 13 May

Introduction to Scientific Visualisation
Tues 18 May

Research Computing using Condor
Tues 25 May

Shared Memory and Multicore Programming with OpenMP
Thurs 27 May

Intro to AVS Express
Tuesday 1 June

Image Based Modelling Using Finite Elements
Wednesday 9 & Thursday 10 June

Module Writing in AVS/Express
Tuesday 15 & Wednesday 16 June

Introduction to Avizo/Amira
Tuesday 22 June