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Proceedings of The Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Computing and Engineering Annual Researchers’ Conference 2012: CEARC’12

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Introduction

It is my pleasure to introduce you to the proceedings of the ‘Diamond Jubilee Researchers’ Conference (2012)’. This conference, and these proceedings, showcase and celebrate the work of our PhD research students in the School of Computing and Engineering. The conference this year has been named to reflect another national celebration – that of the 60th anniversary of the accession of Queen Elizabeth II to the throne.

The long papers and short abstracts presented in these proceedings reflect the wide range and high quality of PhD research undertaken within the School and cover topics as varied as ‘magnetohydrodynamics’, ‘three dimensional metrology’, ‘data mining’ and ‘wireless patient diagnosis systems’. The long papers have undergone a refereeing process and I would like to take this opportunity to thanks the referees for their hard work. Several of the long papers have been selected for oral presentation on the day of the conference, whilst each short abstract is associated with a poster which is also displayed on the day of the conference.

The combination of formal refereeing, use of a standard paper template, oral presentations and a poster display is intended to give an 'international conference' atmosphere and I have found that this provides invaluable experience for our research students who may never have previously submitted a paper to a conference. The conference and these proceedings together provide insight into, and a useful record of, the School’s research activities over the past 12 or so months. However it is also to be hoped that they provide encouragement to those students who may be thinking of undertaking a research degree in the future, particularly final year undergraduate students and those currently undertaking taught MSc courses.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the authors for their contributions.

Professor Gary Lucas
(School of Computing & Engineering).