

## The 2007 IT Futures conference: bringing the stars down to earth

### More practical than 'stargazing'

The old C&IT Committee set up its 'stargazing group' in 2001 "to examine longer term IT strategies for the University". The term 'stargazing' doesn't convey its role, though, so the group has been reconstituted as the IT Futures group, and is currently organising its latest one-day conference.

### IT Futures Conference 2007: Mobile Computing

Last year's conference, "Social technologies: from pioneers to main-stream use?", was a highlight of 2006.

This year's conference tackles 'Mobile Computing' – the theme to be interpreted widely, embracing mobile access to computing from locations within and outwith the University; by wireless and otherwise; access from mobile phones and PDAs; SMS to MMS (if you don't know – come and find out!); and future trends and prospects.

Capitalising on a successful formula, the conference will again feature a strong line-up of internal and external speakers, panel sessions with plenty of opportunity for discussion, and networking in the breaks. Already confirmed are Prof. Mike Sharples, Director of the Learning Sciences Research Institute at the University of Nottingham, Stuart Smith of MIMAS,



University of Manchester, and Alex Taylor of Microsoft Research, Cambridge. Internal speakers will include James Stewart, Institute for the Study of Science, Technology and Innovation, and Abbe Brown from the School of Law.

Once again, Principal Tim O'Shea, and Jeff Haywood, Vice Principal for Knowledge Management, will take an active role in the proceedings, which will as before be streamed and archived on the IT Futures website for the benefit of those unable to attend in person.

Book your place early via MyEd! Full information, and an opportunity to help frame the conference by telling us your experiences, ideas, or concerns around mobile computing, can be found at <http://www.itfutures.ed.ac.uk/>

### Big increase in our mailspace

- 1gb for every student
- 2gb for every member of staff

See page 3!

The 2007 IT Futures Conference will be held on **Friday 23rd November** in the John McIntyre Centre, Pollock Halls.

*John Lee*

*(Informatics and Architecture)*

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**Pleasing prospect: the new website** *page 2*

The University of Edinburgh  
The University's fundamental mission is the advancement and dissemination of knowledge and understanding.

Welcome to The University of Edinburgh

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**Is Man Just Another Animal?** 14 May  
Steve Jones, Professor of Genetics at University College, London, will explore man's evolution in the William Dick Memorial Lecture next month.

**Medieval Instrument Reconstructed** 09 May  
An 800 year old musical instrument, called a 'gigue', has been painstakingly reconstructed by a Music student at the University.

**Research Centre Boosts Economy** 08 May  
More than £250 million of investment & 6,500 new jobs are expected to result from a new University partnership.

**More Top headlines**

- > Andrew Bell Public Lecture
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## Website Development Project update

Following six months' research, consultation and development, the Project has delivered a graphic design concept approved for the launch of the new University website.

This design concept represents the first step in the development of the University's image online. Research, consultation and development will continue after the new website is launched, to enable the site to evolve over time.

The Project has looked to engage with the University community at each stage in the development of the website look and feel. The primary drive has been to develop something appealing to external audiences, but opinions of current staff and students have also fed into the process.

We have been conducting research with internal and external audiences throughout the graphic design development process. In total, we've worked with 814

people to date. This work has informed the look and feel, colour, labelling and usability of the interface.

The mocked-up screenshot above is indicative of how the new University homepage will appear.

Read more about the development of the new website design at <http://www.ed.ac.uk/websiteproject/latestnews/0708aug/070822graphicdesign.html>

### More information

For the latest news on the Website Development Project, see <http://www.ed.ac.uk/websiteproject/>

To receive regular news updates via email, get in touch by emailing [website.project@ed.ac.uk](mailto:website.project@ed.ac.uk).

If you would like to discuss any issues regarding the development of the University website, or contribute your views, please telephone Dawn Ellis on 506379 or email [website.project@ed.ac.uk](mailto:website.project@ed.ac.uk).

Neil Allison (CAM)

## Increased mail storage

Information Services is pleased to announce that quotas on the staffmail and studentmail services have been increased substantially for the coming academic year. The staffmail quota has been raised to 2 gigabytes and the student mail quota to 1 gigabyte. These figures more closely match the free offerings available on the Internet.

Information Services is keen to provide an email service that is responsive to staff and student needs, and available from desktop mail clients as well as from the web. This is addressed by this big increase in quotas and the transition to the new scalable email service infrastructure that is now in place for both services.

*Graeme Wood (IS-ITI)*

## Which VLE for Edinburgh?

The University's Online Learning Systems Review Group reported in April (see *BITs*, May 2007). Building on that work we are now investigating options for a future Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) that is suitable for all degree programmes, and which may help us to avoid unnecessary duplication. This will improve our ability to provide and support sophisticated, integrated teaching and learning systems, which enhance the learning and teaching experience for staff and students.

A new project managed by Stephen Vickers of Information Services has been approved by the Knowledge Strategy Committee. It will be under the direction of a Board chaired by Professor Lesley Yellowlees (Chemistry).

The project's first main task is to obtain an in-depth understanding of the needs of those who are not currently using the centrally-provided VLE, WebCT Vista. This can then be used to identify the extent to which these needs can be accommodated by WebCT Vista now or in the future, before looking at how the wider needs of the University community might be delivered using alternative platforms, such as the open source systems Sakai and Moodle.

Our intention is to provide recommendations for the future VLE service provision by July 2008. Further communications about the project will be disseminated through *BITs* and through a wiki, which will be established when the project is under way. Feedback and comments will be welcomed as part of this project, whether you use WebCT, another VLE or no VLE, to ensure that we take as many views as possible into account (feedback mechanisms will be publicised in due course).

*Stephen Vickers (IS-Apps)*

## New centrally-provided wiki service

Responding to strong demand, Information Services is launching a wiki service to support collaborative teaching and learning as well as research activities.

Over the Summer we have been developing a 'Confluence'-based wiki service, and the live service will be available in the week beginning 8th October 2007. As soon as the service is open, we will be able to set up wikis for anyone who requests one through the form at <http://www.mis.ed.ac.uk/services/wiki/>

The October launch is the first phase of getting the wiki service up and running: this will be a 'vanilla' version of Confluence with EASE login and some additional plug-ins to enhance the core features. A further delivery is planned before Christmas to deliver tighter integration with WebCT and MyEd. The IS InfoSkills team is currently developing a wiki training course which will include hands-on activities; courses are planned to start next month.

(A 'wiki' was described by its inventor as "the simplest online database that could possibly work". He named it after a Hawaiian airport rapid bus service. Using the system, anyone can easily create and edit web pages using any web browser. Anyone who has access to a particular wiki can change it, creating a new phase of Web democracy. The most famous wiki is probably the online encyclopaedia 'wikipedia', at <http://www.wikipedia.org/>

There is a light-hearted video showing the advantage of a wiki over email messages for group work at <http://www.commoncraft.com/video-wikis-plain-english>)

*Liza Zamboglou (IS-Apps)*

## MyEd sees record usage at start of term

As expected, MyEd usage rose again this year, with total logins on the first teaching day of the session hitting a new high of 38,000.

Since 2005 we have been offering access to MyEd for students before they arrive on campus. Year on year the number of students using the service rises, and this year was no exception; prior to Freshers' Week 7,079 new students had used MyEd (compared to 6,525 at the same time last year).

## Edinburgh First Channel recently launched

Take a look at the new Edinburgh First Channel located on your services tab. It highlights the services provided and gives contact details with a link to the website.

If you would like a channel added to MyEd for your area, please get in touch with the Service Management team via the Feedback form link on any MyEd page, and we will be pleased to discuss your requirements.

*Liza Zamboglou (IS-Apps)*

## Guidelines for using external Web 2.0 services

There are many companies on the Internet offering attractive and useful services based on the 'Web 2.0' paradigm, including blogs, wikis, office systems, social bookmarking *etc.* There are also virtual worlds such as Second Life which transcend the definition of Web 2.0. These are increasingly being adopted in the University for administrative, teaching, learning and research purposes.

Guidelines have been drawn up to help staff consider some of the issues involved in using such external services for University purposes. These are intended to be helpful for all staff, including researchers, teaching staff and support staff.

The University's use of Web 2.0 services is developing quickly, and the services themselves are changing and expanding even more rapidly. It is inevitable that the information in the guidelines will be far from complete or comprehensive. You should therefore seek other relevant advice and use your own common sense as well as relying on this document, which is a *draft*.

The guidelines will be published and maintained on a wiki, so that readers may discuss and contribute to them. A recent snapshot of this evolving and interactive resource is available at <http://www.vp.is.ed.ac.uk/pub/jsp/polopoly.jsp?d=290&a=1245>

*Chris Adie (IS-ITI)*

## Web 2.0 on the Web – and the Isle of May

### Podcast about Web 2.0's impact on education

Students are increasingly familiar with using social networking services such as Facebook, MySpace, Flickr and YouTube. This phenomenon has important implications for education as students increasingly expect such services – or at least aspects of them – to be mirrored in the delivery of courses.

In this podcast, JISC's Lawrie Phipps and Dave White from the University of Oxford consider the impact of Web 2.0 technologies on education and research, and how institutions can harness them effectively in support of their students. See <http://scottish-rscs.org.uk/newsfeed/?p=64>



### Second Life (Edinburgh showing up well)

There is a lot of talk these days about Second Life – a virtual online world where you can learn English, speak foreign languages, watch videos, run a business, listen to music, experience schizophrenia, dance, fly, swim, ride horses and bikes – practically anything you can do in real life (RL) you can simulate in Second Life (SL).

EduServ, the not-for-profit professional IT services group, has published a report to give a snapshot of Second Life usage in UK Further & Higher Education.

See <http://scottish-rscs.org.uk/newsfeed/?p=35>

### Pedagogical templates for eLearning

A report from the Institute of Education at the University of London describes a series of pedagogic templates for the integration of technology into teaching and learning. The main objective of this report is to provide an overview on how to integrate eLearning into courses. Practitioners are guided on how eLearning can be used in the context of a course, and the description of each template focuses on the pedagogical aspects of using eLearning.

The report is accessible through <http://scottish-rscs.org.uk/newsfeed/?p=88>

### A virtual tour of the Isle of May

Scottish National Heritage has launched an online tour of the Isle of May's nature reserve in the Firth of Forth. Over 250 species of birds have been recorded on the island which is home to large colonies of razorbills and puffins. Now you can visit the island from the comfort of your own computer, where we hope the weather is always perfect.

The tour starts from

<http://www.snh.org.uk/VirtualTours/IsleOfMay/mapholder.html>



*Hugh Dailly, Caroline Porteous (JISC Regional Support Centres)*

## eDiary service development leader



Angi Lamb, of IT User Services, has been appointed as eDiary Service Development Leader. She has been seconded to the Service Management Section for six months, and will take the OCS eDiary project through to completion and the launch of the service.

The aims of the project are to provide a centrally-managed electronic diary for all University Staff and University Visitors, based on the Oracle Collaboration Suite (OCS). A similar service for students was introduced in September 2006.

It is planned that all staff and visitors will have access to the new service by March 2008, and be able to use it through a desktop client or via the Web, with access through MyEd.

The eDiary service will create an online diary for every person authorised to use it, that s/he can maintain, and that other users of the service can view (with permission, where necessary). Students' diaries will only be viewable by others by 'invitation'; staff diaries in general will be available to other colleagues, except for entries marked 'private'.

For all users, the service will allow meetings to be scheduled based on participants' availability, as indicated by their advertised 'free/busy' time, and will permit invitees to accept, decline or amend meeting proposals. The service will also let users make bookings for appropriate room and equipment resources.

Full information is at <http://www.projects.ed.ac.uk/areas/servicemgt/ediary/APS001/>

*Anne-Marie Scott (IS-Apps)*

## IT Forum meetings

The IT Professionals' Forum has organised three technical meetings over the next couple of months, at which anyone in the University with an IT interest will be very welcome:

24th October: 'Security – the balance with usability', with Brian Gilmore, Director of IS-ITI, Hugh Robson Lecture Theatre.

2nd November: 'Keeping IT legal – procurement', with Karen Bowman, Director of Procurement, DHT Lecture Theatre B.

7th November: 'What is ITIL? – an accepted framework for Service Support and Service Delivery', with Bryan MacGregor, Acting Director of IS-ITUS, Appleton Tower LT1.

All the meetings take place from 3pm to 5pm with an extended break half way for refreshments and to meet colleagues. Please help us with the catering arrangements by reserving your place through MyEd, at <https://www.myed.ed.ac.uk/>

### Widening horizons

Several other universities have organisations like our IT Forum to look after their IT staff, and we're planning to have a joint meeting with some of them on **8th November**. The meeting will include representatives from Cambridge, Exeter and Oxford, and Richard Kenway, whose review of computing services led to the creation of our Forum. The subject will be the role of an IT Forum, here and elsewhere, and we plan to run the meeting as a webcast. There will be further news in next month's *BITs* and on the Forum website at <http://www.ucs.ed.ac.uk/ucsinfo/cttees/itforum/>

*James Jarvis (Convenor, IT Professionals' Forum)*

## Software News

### Office for under £40! – for students

Microsoft has launched a low-cost deal for UK students to get Office Ultimate 2007 (with 2007 versions of Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, Access, Outlook, OneNote, InfoPath and Groove). Until 30th April 2008, students may download a £25 launch trial of Office Ultimate 2007, then upgrade to a perpetual licence for £38.95 or buy an annual licence for £12.95. Details of this and other offers for students are provided at [http://www.ucs.ed.ac.uk/tsd/software/student\\_offers.shtml](http://www.ucs.ed.ac.uk/tsd/software/student_offers.shtml)

### Office for Staff

If you are a member of staff and your School or College is part of a Microsoft Campus Agreement, you can run one copy of the Campus products, including Microsoft Office, on a home computer, for work-related purposes only. Initial enquiries should be made to your Support Team: see <http://www.is.ed.ac.uk/itus/>

### Office for Free!

If £40 is too much, or you're not a student and wish to use an office package for non-work related tasks, you can get OpenOffice – with its word processor, presentation package, spreadsheet package and database program – from <http://www.openoffice.org/> OpenOffice 2 is in the open-access Computing Labs this year.

*Lorenzo Vigentini (Psychology), Robert Gormley (IS-LUSD)*

## Emily Peppers raises Edinburgh's profile

Emily is the Library's Cultural Collections Audit Officer, and she recently gave a talk on her work at the triennial International Council of Museums conference in Vienna. Her paper on the University's Cultural Audit was particularly well received, and will make a significant contribution to this emerging field. Many people expressed an interest in our Audit project because they have just started, or are contemplating, a similar exercise at their museums.

Emily has been invited to join an international working group to create a set of guidelines for universities planning to undertake survey projects similar to our Cultural Audit, reflecting very well on the University of Edinburgh's international reputation.

*Sheila Cannell (IS-L&C)*

## Cultural nourishment in October

In this month's glimpse of the University's treasures, Rosie McLure will give a short talk on 'The Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh 100 years ago – an introduction to the records of the Lothian Health Services Archive'. This takes place at 1:10pm on Thursday 25th October, in the Lecture Theatre, Chancellor's Building, Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, Little France. The talk is open to everyone and will last about half an hour; you are welcome to bring your lunch!

There is further news of this nourishing series at <http://tweed.lib.ed.ac.uk/audit/Web/lunchtimelectures.html>

*Emily Peppers (IS-L&C)*

## Saints go live

A two-day conference, 'The Cult of Saints in medieval Scotland', held at the National Museum of Scotland last month, marked the launch of a publicly-accessible website of Dedications to Saints in medieval Scotland: <http://www.shc.ed.ac.uk/Research/saints/>

This work, related to dedications prior to 1560, is the result of a three-year AHRC grant awarded in October 2004 to Dr Steve Boardman, School of History, Classics and Archaeology.

Through a systematic survey of published and unpublished sources, researchers Dr John Davies and Dr Eila Williamson catalogued in detail 12,000 dedications to 250 saints covering 1,000 locations in Scotland. The data was collected using a distributed Access database and migrated into sql-server to drive the web-based search application with interactive mapping capabilities. The data collection application and the searchable website were built by Information Tools (latterly WAMS and now Application Division); the mapping data was provided by the Data Library.

*Steve Boardman (History, Classics & Archaeology), Ed Dee (IS-EDINA)*



## Does the Library know what books your students need?

Thank you to all academic staff who have told the Library about the books needed by students on their courses. We still have instances where the Library has not been asked to purchase titles which appear on student reading lists. If you think you have reading lists in this category please contact your liaison librarian as soon as possible: see [http://www.lib.ed.ac.uk/resbysub/staffguide\\_subjects.shtml](http://www.lib.ed.ac.uk/resbysub/staffguide_subjects.shtml)

The form for book recommendations is at <http://www.lib.ed.ac.uk/services/librec.shtml>

*Sheila Cannell (IS-L&C)*

## Extra access to EEBO and ECCO

The Digital Library team has implemented an additional means of access to two existing research collections – Early English Books Online (EEBO) and Eighteenth Century Collections Online (ECCO).

These major e-book collections offer access to approximately 250,000 digital facsimile versions of works across a wide range of disciplines. EEBO includes virtually every work printed in England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales and British North America, and titles in English printed elsewhere, from 1473 to 1700. ECCO complements this with a collection of 150,000 18th century books covering history, literature, religion, law, fine arts, and science.

Some 250,000 records have been added to the Library's online catalogue (<http://catalogue.lib.ed.ac.uk/>). This offers author and title access to EEBO and ECCO content, with hyperlinks which go directly to the digitised volumes.

Researchers continue to have a deeper level of access to these key resources through the full-text searching provided by the Library's Searcher service at <http://searcher.lib.ed.ac.uk/>

*Elize Rowan (IS-L&C)*

## IT courses in October

The following IT courses are free to most staff and postgraduates at Edinburgh University. Most are held at the Computing Skills Centre at 19 Buccleuch Place; some run at The King's Buildings. Course synopses and later dates are available on our website, where you can also book online:

<http://www.ucs.ed.ac.uk/usd/cts/courses/>

Date	Course	Venue*		
Oct	Tue 2	Introduction to Minitab	GS	
	Tue 2	Introduction to SPSS	GS	
	Wed 3	Introduction to Computing	GS	
	Thu 4	Excel Advanced: Manipulating and Managing Data (Pt 1)	GS	
	Thu 4	Creating Web Pages with HTML	GS	
	Thu 4	Formatting Web Pages with Cascading Style Sheets	GS	
	Mon 8	Managing Bibliographies with Reference Manager	GS	
	Tue 9	Introduction to Windows XP Operating System	GS	
	Wed 10	Creating a Database with Filemaker Pro	GS	
	Thu 11	Excel Advanced: Manipulating and Managing Data (Pt 2)	GS	
	Mon 15	Programming in Perl	GS	
	Mon 15	Managing Bibliographies with EndNote	GS	
	Mon 15	Creating and Editing Web Pages with Dreamweaver 8	GS	
	Mon 15	Templates and Websites with Dreamweaver 8	GS	
	Tue 16	Basic Image Manipulation Techniques using PhotoShop	GS	
	Tue 16	Introduction to Access Database Management (Part 1)	GS	
	Wed 17	Word Introduction: Creating and Formatting Documents	GS	
	Wed 17	Editing Web Pages with Contribute	GS	
	Tue 23	Introduction to Access Database Management (Part 2)	GS	
	Tue 23	Creating Accessible Websites	GS	
	Tue 23	Creating Leaflets and Posters with InDesign	GS	
	Wed 24	Introduction to Programming in Fortran 95	KB	
	Wed 24	Using EDINA Digimap	GS	
	Wed 24	Introduction to Visualising Data in ArcGIS 9	GS	
	Wed 24	Video Editing with Premier Pro	GS	
	Thu 25	Excel Introduction: Basic Spreadsheets and Charts (Pt 1)	GS	
	Tue 30	Scanning and Image Capture	KB	
	Wed 31	Introduction to Mac Operating Systems: Mac OS X	GS	
	Nov	Thu 1	Intermediate SPSS: Data, File and Output Manipulation	GS
		Thu 1	Excel Introduction: Basic Spreadsheets and Charts (Pt 2)	GS
		Tue 6	Introduction to Unix	GS
		Wed 7	Email with Thunderbird	GS
Thu 8		Preparing a Presentation with PowerPoint	GS	
Thu 8		Creating Web Pages with HTML	GS	
Thu 8		Formatting Web Pages with Cascading Style Sheets	GS	
Tue 13		Intermediate Unix	KB	
Tue 13		Producing a Thesis using Word	GS	
Wed 14		Basic Drawing Techniques using CorelDraw8	KB	
Wed 14		Introduction to Access Database Management (Part 1)	GS	
Wed 14		Introduction to Wikis	GS	
Thu 15		Word Intermediate: Document Layout and Customisation	GS	
Tue 20		Mail Merge with Word	GS	
Tue 20	Using SPSS Commands	GS		
Wed 21	Introduction to Access Database Management (Part 2)	GS		
Tue 27	Managing Bibliographies with Reference Manager	GS		
Tue 27	Intermediate Access Database Management	GS		
Wed 28	Basic Image Manipulation Techniques using PhotoShop	GS		
Thu 29	Unix Shell Programming	KB		
Thu 29	WebCT Vista Fundamentals	GS		

\* Venues: GS – George Square area, KB – The King's Buildings

## Featured Courses

Our Dreamweaver course has been updated and enhanced, and is now presented as two half-day events, the next on Monday 15th October. Both are designed for people with some experience in writing web pages, who wish to learn more about developing and maintaining websites.

For full course descriptions and bookings please see

<http://webdb.ucs.ed.ac.uk/eucscourses/courselist/>

### Creating and Editing Web Pages with Dreamweaver 8

An introduction to managing and maintaining websites using Dreamweaver 8. The course covers the use of Dreamweaver to create well-structured content with links, images, metadata and style sheets.

### Creating Templates and Managing Websites with Dreamweaver 8

This course introduces techniques for the reuse of content and layout in Dreamweaver 8 through the asset panel and templates. Topics include site management, checking and validation.

### Taster Sessions

Book on to these through MyEd!

### Creating online quizzes and self-tests: 22nd October

Creating an online quiz does not need to be complicated. This will be a chance to see three or four tools (including but not only the WebCT quiz tools) designed to make creating interactive exercises very straightforward.

### Smart charts: creating stylish charts in Excel: 29th October

Already know how to create a basic chart but want to make it look more professional? Learn how to customise and format your Excel charts to maximise their impact.

Jenni Reeves (IS-LUSD)

## Stop Press! – New Electronic Resources

Over the Summer, a range of new resources and backfiles have been licensed for the University. Full details are on *Library Online* at <http://www.lib.ed.ac.uk/resources/databases/findlita.shtml>

Access to all the services will be available via Searcher, at <http://searcher.lib.ed.ac.uk/>

### New resources

- Cold Spring Harbor Protocols
- Encyclopaedia Judaica, 2nd ed
- Encyclopaedia of Islam
- Encyclopaedia of the Qu'rān
- Knovel engineering collection
- Mass Observation Online
- Merck Index online

### Backfiles

- Biosis Previews, now available from 1926 to date
- CAB Abstracts, now available from 1973 to date
- Compendex, now available from 1884 to date
- Lancet, now available from 1823 to date
- Web of Science, Science Citation Index now available from 1900 to date

The British Library will soon add two million pages of 19th century newspapers and a million from the 18th century to its digital resources, and is embarking on a project to digitise 100,000 19th century books: see <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/technology/7018210.stm>

*Liz Stevenson (IS-L&C)*

IS-ITUS: IT User Services: Acting Director Bryan MacGregor  
 IS-LUSD: Library User Services: Acting Director Richard Battersby  
 IS-L&C: Library and Collections: Director Sheila Cannell  
 IS-Apps: Applications: Director Simon Marsden  
 IS-ITI: IT Infrastructure: Director Brian Gilmore  
 IS-EDINA: EDINA and the Data Library: Director Peter Burnhill  
 IS-DCC: the Digital Curation Centre: Director Chris Rusbridge

## New manager for new team



Sonia Viridi has been appointed as Team Manager for Content and Hosting, following on from her work in MALTS and WAMS, mainly in the area of graphic design.

The services for which she is responsible include Web Hosting, Web Publishing, and Media & Graphics. She leads a team of highly skilled professionals who have many years of experience in these areas.

Please contact Sonia for more information (email [sonia.virdi@ed.ac.uk](mailto:sonia.virdi@ed.ac.uk), tel 502122).

*Simon Marsden (IS-Apps)*

## :-) is 25!

The 'smiley' icon that many people use to lighten email messages was proposed by Prof Scott E. Fahlman, of Carnegie Mellon University, on 19th September, 1982 – as simulated at <http://www.cs.cmu.edu/smiley/>

Where does the time go?

*Liam McDowell (IS-Apps)*

## BCS meetings: parallel computing, and learning by playing

The British Computer Society Edinburgh Branch is organizing two public lectures in October which may be of interest to *BITs* readers:

- 10th October: "Massively Parallel Architectures", with Colin Egan and Jason McGuinness, University of Hertfordshire.
- 24th October: "Learning by Playing – using game technology in Education", by Chris Brannigan, Caspian Learning.

Both meetings are at 6.30pm, at the Royal Scots Club Hepburn Suite, 29/30 Abercromby Place, Edinburgh EH3 6QE.

Full details are at <http://www.edinburgh.bcs.org/events/>

*David Muxworthy (BCS)*

### EDINBURGH BITS

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<http://www.ucs.ed.ac.uk/ucsinfo/acronyms.html>

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Contributions to *BITs* are welcomed.

Copy deadline for November *BITs*:

**Wednesday 17th October**