

Welcome to Informatics





On the premises:

- ~ 100 Academic staff
- ~ 150 Postdoc researchers
- ~ 80 Support staff
- ~ 250 PhD students
- ~ 200 Masters students
- ~ 400 Undergraduates (200 1st year)

People

Graduating students:

- PhD: ~70 per year
- MSc: ~200 per year
- Undergraduate: ~100 per year

20% Software Engineering50% Computer Science30% Other joint programmes (AI, Cog Sci,Maths, etc).



RAE Top 10 CS/Informatics Universities



69% more top rated research than nearest competitor 10% of all UK "world leading" research

www.rae.ac.uk



Recent Awards

- 2 Fellows of Royal Society
- 1 Fellow of British Academy
- 4 Fellows of Royal Academy of Engineering
- 12 Fellows of Royal Society of Edinburgh
- 3 Academia Europea
- 10 Fellows of British Computer Society
- 3 BCS Roger Needham Awards
- 2 ACM Fellows
- 1 Fellow of Cognitive Science Society
- 5 AAAI Fellows
- 1 Herbrand Award
- 1 IJCAI award for Research Excellence
- 4 Water Saver Award,
 - Stanford Global Enterprise Week:
- 6 Young Scottish Software Engineer of the Year
- 1 Google Anita Borg Scholarship
- 1 Young Scientist Award, AMLaP
- 3 RSE Enterprise Scholarship
- 1 Shell Technology and Enterprise Program, most enterprising student in UK Award
- 3 Sir William Siemens medal



Teaching

Depth and breadth:

Longest tradition of teaching in CS/AI in UK

One of the largest Masters ICT programmes in UK

Engagement:

Experience of joint provision with ICT Labs partners

Quality:

Half the Young Software Engineers of the Year in the last decade were from Informatics

Many MSc/UG theses lead to published results or innovation (e.g. Ian Clarke's thesis "A Distributed Decentralised Information Storage and Retrieval System" led to Freenet)

Innovation:

Routine: (e.g. lecture capture on video (23,000 video downloads) New: (e.g. MOOCs – Coursera collaboration)



ProspeKT + Informatics Ventures AspeKT + CGES + Design Informatics

Startups and spinouts:	33 generated £5M investment £3M sales
Hub effect:	250 companies 17 universities
Entrepreneurial training:	23,000 hours delivery 1000 participants £11M for 75 companies

Edinburgh holds UK record for number of university spinoff companies in last 10 years. Informatics, if it was a university, would come 4th in UK.

spinoutsuk.co.uk



the UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH

Edinburgh Start-up Ecosystem





Foundations for a new science

The science of information – how natural and artificial systems process, store and communicate information

A fundamental science underpinning all areas of life -Academic, Industrial and Social.

Encompasses sub-disciplines such as Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence and Cognitive Science

This view of informatics is necessary because: Big technological problems are multi-disciplinary Big societal problems demand integrative science



StateLogic

Classical Period (1965-1984)

Roots of our science:

Led to major breakthroughs, including:Types and functional programming

- Logic programming
- Formal verification
- Natural language processing



Eclectic Period (1985-1999)



- Many sub-fields 80
- Many institutes OF EDINBURGH

DIVISION OF INFORMATICS CENTRE FOR

Led to major breakthroughs, including:

- Proof planning
- Algorithmic skeletons for parallel computation
- Modular speech synthesis systems
- 3D imaging



Modern Period (2000-2007)

Technologies begin to scale:

Internet scaleUbiquitous

Led to major breakthroughs, including:

- XML databases
- Peer to peer knowledge sharing systems
- Very large scale learning systems
- Proof carrying code



Post-Modern Period (2008+)

Maturing as a science:

- Common core
- Computational scholarship
- Symbiosis with other sciences
- Impact on design and innovation

Leading to major breakthroughs, including:

- High performance, low power micro-architectures
- Humanoid robotics
- Network science
- Computational biomedicine



Our research landscape





An example of our breadth





