Joseph Fourier Prize

Atos, a global leader in digital transformation, together with the Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) Hartree Centre have launched a new UK and Ireland competition aimed at supporting innovative work in the field of quantum computing.

In encouraging researchers, academics and industrial scientists to submit their own research project it is hoped the cash prize of €10,000 will help sustain and generate momentum in this area of significant potential.

The submission deadline is 26 April 2021, and the winning applicant will be announced in May 2021, as well as those who win the second and third prize of 3 days access to the Atos Quantum Learning Machine at the STFC Hartree Centre, which can be used for developing quantum algorithms.

Enquiries and application forms should be sent to atosfourier_uk@atos.net. To download your application form, and for more information on the competition and rules, please visit https://atos.net/en-gb/united-kingdom/atos-stfc-hartree-centre-joseph-fourier-prize.

Clay Van Doren, CEO, Atos UK and Ireland, said: “We believe this to be the first such competition in the UK which supports and celebrates researchers’ own work rather than answering a set challenge thereby fostering live research. In order to stay at the forefront of quantum innovation and competitiveness, UK public organisations and enterprises need to understand how to harness this emerging technology effectively. We hope this prize can be a springboard for quantum research and ultimately, collective competitiveness.”

Michael Gleaves, Deputy Director, STFC Hartree Centre, said: “We are on the cusp of a quantum revolution and at this crucial stage it is vitally important we encourage and promote the excellent work in helping apply theory to practical quantum computing use. We are pleased to partner with Atos and play a central role in the judging for prospective winners of this prize.”

Call for University of Cambridge Data Champions

Are you passionate about good data practices? Do you want to make a contribution toward improving the overall integrity of research data outputs at the University of Cambridge? Are you looking to boost your career with peer engagement and transferable skills? If so, consider becoming a Cambridge Data Champion. As a Data Champion, you will be a local advocate for good research data management, supporting researchers in areas such as data organisation, storage and sharing. We are looking for people who work in the arts, humanities, social sciences and sciences who would like to volunteer to become a Data Champion within their Department (or Faculty, Institute, Centre) and College (if applicable).

Any member of the University of Cambridge who is interested in research data management (RDM) and data sharing who would like to become a local contact on RDM can apply to become a Data Champion. You do not need to be an expert in RDM in order to become a Data Champion and there will be numerous opportunities to expand your knowledge in this area. Researchers, postgraduate students, librarians, IT managers, data managers, or other members of research support staff who possess a keen interest in RDM are invited to apply. Applications from those working in all subject areas in all disciplines are welcome. All types of digital and non-digital information produced and used during the course of research require some degree of data management (e.g. textual, audio, visual, numeric, code, etc.) – we are looking for a range of Data Champions who work with diverse sources of information.

To find out more about what the role entails, what the benefits are for you, and what sources of support will be available to help you in your role as a Data Champion, please visit the Data Champions webpage.

To apply to become a Data Champion, visit the Data Champions webpage and you will find further information and a link to the online form under ‘Next steps to becoming a Data Champion’. The form consists of several short questions and we will be in contact shortly after the closing date of 22 February 2021. If you have any questions, please email info@data.cam.ac.uk.
Natalia Berloff gave two short commentaries on the BBC World Service Radio and the Times Radio about the recent events in Russia and the letter signed by over 700 academics now “Stop Increasing Confrontation and Turn to Dialogue.” Listen here BBC World Service.

EVENTS

Philosophy of Mathematics Lectures

The Philosophy of Mathematics lectures envisaged in the schedules are now going to take place. They will be given over Zoom, at 20:00hrs on Thursdays, starting on 18th February before a live audience in Wellington. The Zoom meeting number is 291-819-7812 and the password is: jacinda

They come from the same stable as Mr Bursill-Hall’s History of Mathematics lectures, in the sense that they are aimed at more-or-less the same audience. A thoughtful mathematical audience. All are welcome.

JUNIPER Research Meeting
23 February, 9.30am-12.30pm

JUNIPER (Joint UNIversities Pandemic and Epidemiological Research) is a UKRI funded consortium of epidemiology modelling groups from seven universities:Bristol, Cambridge, Exeter, Lancaster, Manchester, Oxford and Warwick. The teams of epidemiological modellers and statisticians in the JUNIPER consortium represent a core of committed and experienced research groups that have been generating predictions, forecasts and insights feeding into the Scientific Pandemic Influenza Group on Modelling (SPI-M) and the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE), both of whom advise the UK government on scientific matters relating to the UK’s response to the pandemic.

This meeting will provide an introduction to who JUNIPER are, the key goals of the consortium and the current COVID-19 related research activities being undertaken by consortium members. The lead academics from each university will also identify research areas of immediate priority to support the scientific advice on the UK government's pandemic response. Topics covered include vaccination and transmission within structured environments.

This meeting is the first in a series of JUNIPER research meetings over the coming 18 months. A key goal of the consortium is to be outward-facing and inclusive. These research meetings are a major part of the consortium’s engagement with the wider epidemiological and mathematical research communities. There will therefore be time for discussion within this half-day meeting and it is hoped that the talks will spark lively discussions and potentially future collaborations.

Please note that while this event is free to attend, you need to register here.