

Hi there,

Welcome to the March edition of the LIRA newsletter. In this issue, we have news on a robotics symposium, an industry showcase, plus the latest in our LIRA seminar series. As ever, if you have an item you'd like us to include in the newsletter, please do [get in touch](#).

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### **University recognises LIRA success**

PVC Research and Enterprise Louise Heathwaite has congratulated colleagues at LIRA on their recent successful grant application 'Towards explainable AI4EO', awarded by the European Space Agency. In a letter to Plamen Angelov, Prof. Heathwaite highlighted the strategic importance of research income for the University and thanks colleagues for their work.



### **Innovation fellowships at No. 10**

The government is seeking to recruit digital and technology experts to help accelerate the adoption of cutting-edge approaches. Successful applicants will

receive a Senior Civil Service contract of 12 months and will be matched with a government department that will make the most of their skillset. [See gov.uk for more details.](#)



### **Medical robotics symposium**

The Hamlyn Symposium on Medical Robotics will take place this year between April and July. The programme will feature CPD accredited workshops, invited talks, and robotics challenges. LIRA members are also welcome to submit [workshop proposals](#). See the [Hamlyn Symposium newsletter](#) for more details.



### **RAI21 industry showcase**

The KTN [Robotics and AI Industry Showcase](#) will take place virtually from 25–27 May 2021. [Exhibitor applications](#) for the Showcase are now open, with details on webinars and guest speakers to be released in coming weeks.

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## **Updates from our members**

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### **Cognition in conversational agents**

The next event in the LIRA Seminar Series will take place on Wednesday 31 March, 1–2pm. The seminar will feature Prof. Mattias Wahde of the University of Chalmers, who

will explore: 'Cognition in conversational agents: An interpretable approach'. [Use this Teams link to join the event.](#)

## Designing the future

Colleagues are invited to join the ESRC-funded event 'Designing the Future of Additive Manufactured Electronics', on 21–22 April 2021. This online event is hosted in collaboration with IMAPS and will include a mix of lectures, seminars and workshops to facilitate multi-disciplinary discussions and cross-fertilisation of ideas. For more details, see the [Design for AM Network website.](#)

## Deep learning in pervasive computing

Plamen Angelov was invited to give a Key Note talk on at the First IEEE International Workshop on Deep Learning in Pervasive Computing [IEEE PerDL2021](#) part of the [IEEE PerCom 2021](#) which is the premier conference in pervasive and distributed computing and communications. [IEEE PerDL2021](#) focuses on pervasive Deep Learning (DL) techniques and architectures in order to foster a fully connected environment of intelligent systems. Plamen spoke about new methods that provide explainable by design deep learning and its applications to autonomous driving and fight against Covid.

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**Got a news item, or event to share?**

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