

Interdisciplinary Research

Uwe Aickelin

Bio – What's in a name

- Love of mathematics
- UG degree in business school
- PG degree in business school
- PhD in business school
- Lecturer in mathematics
- Lecturer in computer science
- Complexity science

Are you curious?

- Personalised nurse rostering
- Immune systems for computers
- Simulating a department store
- Evolving controllers for robots
- Catching people hiding on lorries
- Who knows what's next?

Benefits of collaboration

- Real collaboration?
- New ideas – adventurous
- Critical mass
- Opens up new funding streams
- More & better publications

Problems of collaboration

- Time consuming day to day
- Takes years to get going
- Misunderstandings - language
- Tests your project management
- Internal competition
- Formal collaboration agreements
- Jack of all trades, master of none

Tips & Tricks

- Keep one foot in the old camp
- Employ translators (PhD students)
- 'Double up' jobs
- Ask what's hot – not current
- Look for skills and personality
- Use your 'research support' unit

How to get going

- IDEAS factories
- EPSRC networks
- Bridging the gap initiatives
- Discipline hopping initiatives
- Submit papers to different journals
- Go to other parts of your university