

Centre for Data Science and AI



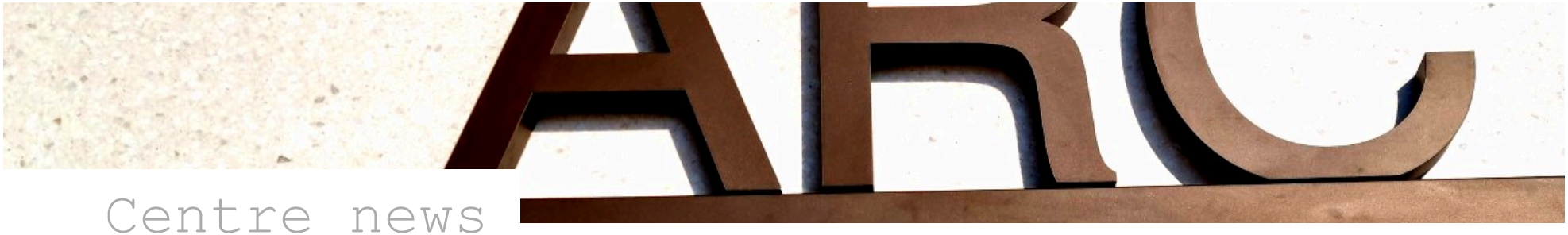
October Newsletter

September has been a busy month for the Centre, with lots of activity taking place across our research, training and engagement programmes. There is plenty more to look forward to, with a range of upcoming events and opportunities highlighted in this newsletter.

We are keen to strengthen our engagement with colleagues across the University and ensure that we support and showcase the excellent data science and AI research taking place across disciplines. If you have news, events, training opportunities or research that you would like us to share, or if you think the Centre could support you, please do get in contact.

Dr Sarah Henry, Centre Manager





Centre news

Centre and CoSE Programme launch



The Centre and CoSE launched our new AI in Physical Sciences and Engineering Programme on the 22nd September, with colleagues from across the University coming together to explore how AI can support research, innovation and collaboration across the College.

Thank you to everyone who participated and shared their ideas. The insights gathered during the workshop will help shape the next phase of the programme and inform future activities.

Special thanks to our Programme Director, Dr Katy Tant, for leading the initiative and helping set out an ambitious vision for the future.

Centre Director, TV interview

The Centre for Data Science and AI Director, Professor Ana Basiri, featured on STV's Scotland Tonight, discussing the UK's role in leading conversations around safeguards and regulations for AI.

View the interview

"AI and the Paradox of Agency" book launch

Centre Programme Director Professor Sarah Cook is launching her new book **"AI and the Paradox of Agency".**

The use of AI raises questions about who or what has agency. What does the shift of this decision-making power away from the individual mean for artists as well as for society, the planet, and the future of humanity?

Book launch and more info

Opportunities

Research Software Engineer vacancy

We are hiring!

Based within the Centre and working closely with Research Computing as a Service (RCaaS) teams, the RSE will make a leading contribution to the creation and delivery of world changing research by applying digital and scientific expertise to provide data driven solutions which can be applied to research questions and challenges.

Apply here

Applications for Conception X are now open

Conception X is looking for 115 ambitious scientists who want to influence the world with

scientists who want to influence the world with their research.

Applications are now open for their 2027 programmes, offering two routes for PhD students, postdocs and early-career STEM researchers to turn their breakthrough discoveries into venture-backed companies.

Find out more about the application process.

Research Computing as a Service (RCaaS)

RCaaS provide services that facilitate many benefits for the research communities, by expanding research capabilities and expertise across the university, providing equal access to critical tools and methods for research, and helping to build career opportunities for supporting software, data and infrastructure engineering roles.

Services provided by RCaaS include:

- Azure and other cloud services
- Central Active Research Data Storage (CARDS)
- eXtended Reality (XR) Research Support
- High Performance Computing (HPC)

- Research Data Stewardship Services (RDSS)
- Research Software Engineering (RSE)
- Research web hosting

RCaaS have recently launched CARDS (Central Active Research Data Storage).

Find out more about RCaaS

UofG Events

Lovelace-Hodgkin Symposium

Making the Invisible, Visible: AI, Stories, Power & Participation

13th October

Glasgow University Union

Registration is now open for the **Lovelace-Hodgkin Symposium 2026: *Making the Invisible, Visible: AI, Stories, Power & Participation***, taking place on

Tuesday 13 October 2026 (Ada Lovelace Day) at the Glasgow University Union.

Artificial intelligence is often talked about as though it exists in an invisible digital world. Yet behind every AI system are people, data, infrastructure, resources and decisions that shape how it works and who it serves. From missing data and hidden labour to environmental impacts, surveillance and the stories AI tells about our communities and futures, much of AI remains unseen.

You can find the full programme and register to attend here.

Join us for a day of creativity, conversation and collective exploration as we make the invisible, visible.

Mitchell Lecture 2026 - "Evolving extremes: Statistical models for spatial and non-stationary environmental risk assessment"

Professor Thordis L. Thorarinsdottir, University of Oslo

Lecture Room 311B, Mathematics and Statistics Building

Monday 5th October

4 PM - 5 PM

Reserve a spot

GRID for You: Industry Open Day & Mixer

Advanced Research Centre (ARC)

Thursday, October 8

2:30 PM - 6:30 PM

GRID for You is an afternoon bringing together businesses, entrepreneurial researchers, founders and experts from across the innovation ecosystem to create new opportunities.

Register

Data with Impact: Scottish LEO - Exploring learner journeys in Scotland

Scotland

University of Glasgow

Monday 9 November

10 AM - 4 PM

Register

External events

AI, Information Overload, and What Comes Next

Technology and Innovation Centre (TIC)

University of Strathclyde

Thursday 3 December

8:30 AM - 5 PM

Register

Revolutionising the next era of cancer research: data, AI and collaborative

Stirling Court Hotel, Stirling

Friday, November 13

10 AM - 4:30 PM

Register

Open Studio: Critical AI Literacy Library

Just as a library is a community space that gathers diverse and multicultural resources, the Critical AI Literacy Library is a curated repository of publicly available resources related to the understanding and delivery of critical AI literacy.

Aimed at educators, public engagement practitioners, researchers as well as leaders, policy makers, and anyone interested in critical

policy makers, and anyone interested in critical AI literacy awareness, **the library is a go-to place to find existing critical AI Literacy resources across many countries, and showcases practices, studies and approaches that go beyond learning AI technical skills.**

Register here

Sonica: They've Got Your Eyes – Rachel Maclean & Ela Orleans

A free art and music installation as part of the Sonica Festival.

Buchanan Galleries.

Until Sunday 4th October.

Find out more

Learning

Responsible AI Study Group

AI is changing the way we write research code. For many of us, this is making a fundamental change to our professional practice. The Responsible AI Study Group was formed by fellows of the Institute for Research Software as a way to build understanding of AI adoption in research software engineering, and to promote ethical, responsible and sustainable use. We have monthly discussions covering topics such as training and skill development, legal and copyright issues, and guiding institutional policy - with guest speakers from institutions across the UK.

Meetings usually occur on the first Tuesday of the month at 13:00, and are open to anyone with an interest the adoption of AI into research software practices.

October's guest speaker

We'll be joined in the next meeting by **Loïc Lannelongue**, Assistant research professor in environmentally sustainable computing at the University of Cambridge. Loïc will be talking to us about the environmental considerations of AI use in research software, and about his work on the GreenDisc project - a digital sustainability certification aimed at recognising environmentally

conscious research computing.

We're hoping this will spark conversation about our environmental responsibilities as computational researchers, and what this means for AI use.

We're also excited to learn more about how GreenDisc was created, as certification for responsible AI use is something that has been identified as a potential target for the group.

You can sign up to the mailing list here.

Applied AI for Engineers and Scientists: Practitioners Specialisation

This course, developed by Professor Bo Liu, follows the 1st MOOC, Applied AI for Engineers and Scientists: Foundations, which received 4.9/5 on Coursera. The core of this course is to educate science and engineering students and professionals on higher-level evolutionary computation and machine learning concepts and technologies, utilising large language models: "use AI to learn AI".

View the course

Generative AI in Healthcare: Responsible Decision Making

This course, co-authored by Dr Ourania Varsou, equips you with critical skills to work safely and effectively with generative AI in healthcare. Through realistic scenario-based learning, you'll master effective prompting strategies, evaluate AI outputs for bias and hallucinations, and crucially, learn when to trust AI and when human judgment must override it.

Whether you're a healthcare student, clinician, manager, or policy professional, you'll discover how to harness AI as a tool for better decision-making without surrendering clinical expertise or ethical responsibility. Using concrete scenarios in clinical planning, resource allocation, and risk assessment, you'll explore the principles behind different AI tools and recognise their limitations in complex, real-world healthcare contexts.

View the course

Ethics of Innovations for the

Ethics of Innovations for the Digital Welfare State

When: Thursdays 1 pm, 15 October – 17 December 2026, online

For: Master's and PhD students within a CIVIS University, English Level C1

An algorithm to catch childcare benefit fraud: What could possibly go wrong? In the Netherlands, quite a lot: tens of thousands of parents were wrongly accused of fraud, many families were pushed into debt and in 2021 the entire Dutch government resigned over the scandal (Interested? Read: Xenophobic machines: Discrimination through unregulated use of algorithms in the Dutch childcare ben…).

Cases like this raise questions far beyond technology: In our CIVIS course "Ethics of Innovations for the Digital Welfare State" (part of the micro-programme "Equitable and Just Digital Society") we explore questions surrounding topics like these: What ethical questions arise when digital innovations such as AI tools are used in the welfare state? And how can ethical reflection help to prevent such scandals and contribute to responsible innovation? We will have a highly interactive course: We'll try out creative methods such as speculative design exercises and card

games, current AI ethics tools, and get into conversation with each other.

More information: More info

Regular application deadline has passed, but late registrations are very welcome!

If you are interested, please send an email to mone.spindler@uni-tuebingen.de by **Friday, 9th October 2026.**

External funding opportunities

UKRI funding opportunity: Next generation artificial intelligence (AI): explainable AI

Details of the funding call are here.

If you are considering applying and would like to discuss ways in which the Centre may be able to support your application, please contact us.

Closing date, 20th October.

Contact us

If you are interested in collaborating with the Centre for Data Science and AI, or would like to feature an event in a future newsletter, please get in touch.

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https://www.gla.ac.uk/research/az/datascience

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