

Fire Safety Engineering Group

Centre for Numerical Modelling and Process Analysis

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PRESS RELEASE FSEG RATED 'WORLD LEADING' BY PEERS IN RAE 2008

The results of the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise (RAE2008) confirm that the Fire Safety Engineering Group (FSEG) of the University of Greenwich is one of the top research groups in the UK in the area of Mechanical, Aeronautical and Manufacturing Engineering (UoA 28). FSEG was part of the Centre for Numerical Modelling and Process Analysis (CNMPA) submission to UoA 28. RAE2008 rated 70% of the submission in the highest two research quality categories, with 30% rated as 'world leading' and 40% rated as 'internationally excellent'.

In the most respected RAE 2008 league table compiled by the Times Higher Education (18th December 2008), the CNMPA submission produced a grade point average of 2.95, placing CNMPA 4th out of the 33 submissions from 32 institutions. Its 4th place meant that the group was placed higher than 12 of the research intensive Russell Group Universities.

Prof Ed Galea, Director of FSEG and Co-Director of the CNMPA said "I am delighted that 70% of our research has been acknowledged by the toughest independent analysis in the UK to be world class". "It is a tribute to our team of talented and hard working researchers that we have been judged to be outstanding by our peers."

CNMPA SCORE PROFILE:

The work of CNMPA was judged as:

Category 4* - World Leading – 30%
Category 3* - Internationally Excellent – 40%
Category 2* - Recognised Internationally – 25%
Category 1* - Recognised Nationally – 5%
Unclassified – Quality that falls short of National Recognised – 0%

The quality of the CNMPA work was ranked ahead of 12 Russell Group institutions including: Nottingham, Bristol, Leeds, Birmingham, Cardiff, Newcastle, Queen's, Liverpool, Southampton, UCL, Glasgow and Kings.

NOTES FOR EDITORS:

1) CNMPA

The Centre for Numerical Modelling and Process Analysis is a world leader in providing computational engineering solutions to complex problems in industry, the environment and human systems. From Fire Safety Engineering to Aerospace; Materials Processing/Handling to Bio-medical Engineering; Information and Communications Technologies to Maritime Engineering, CNMPA staff have solved some of the world's most challenging multi-disciplinary engineering problems.

The CNMPA is made up of research groups from the School of Computing and Mathematical Sciences and the School of Engineering. The research groups are:

School of Computing and Mathematical Sciences:

Fire Safety Engineering Group, lead by Prof Ed Galea

Computational Mechanics and Reliability Group, lead by Prof Chris Bailey

Computational Science and Engineering Group, lead by Prof Koulis Pericleous

School of Engineering:

Wolfson Centre, lead by Prof Alan Reed

2) RAE 2008

The Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) is a peer review conducted on a regular basis to evaluate the quality of research in UK higher education institutions. The RAE is conducted jointly by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE), the Scottish Funding Council (SFC), the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW) and the Department for Employment and Learning, Northern Ireland (DEL). Research quality in UK Higher Education Institutions is assessed every few years as the basis on which to allocate an annual budget of £1.5 billion of UK government research funding and to provide information on the quality of research in HEIs. The last RAE was conducted in 2001. The results of the 2008 RAE were published on the 18 December 2008 by the UK Higher Education Funding Councils. A full listing of the results can be found at <http://www.rae.ac.uk/>. The Times Higher Education ranked tables can be found at <http://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/story.asp?sectioncode=26&storycode=404786&c=2>

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