Bridging the Gaps
Cognitive Systems Science

- Professor Douglas Saddy: Linguistics, Neuro-Psychology
- Professor Peter Grindrod: Mathematics
- Dr. Slawomir Nasuto: Engineering, Cybernetics
- Dr. Roland Potthast: Mathematics
- Dr. Peter beim Graben: Physics
- Dr. Kelly Sloan: Linguistics, Manager
Cross Disciplinary agendas our BTG supports

- BCI
  - Capacitive electrodes
  - Real time signal analysis
- BCI–HCI reverse loop
  - Recovery from acquired language and motor disorders
- Decision Making
- Diet and Cognition
- GPU clusters as cloud resource for computational modelling
- Neural Field modelling (field theoretic models of neuro–cognitive processing)
- Data Visualization
- Hyperscanning and simultaneous multi–platform brain imaging
Successes

- Consolidated the ties between the three core departments
  - Leading to Neuroscience and Neurodynamics MSc
- Established or expanded links to
  - ICMR (Institute for Cardiology and Metabolic Research)
  - Pharmacology
  - Food and Nutritional Sciences
  - Agriculture
  - Economics and International Relations
  - Henley Business School
  - Royal Berkshire Hospital, NHS and NHSR (DeNDroN)
- Developed continuing joint studentship programmes
- Grants
- Leveraged BTG to broad University support
  - CINN now a University Research Platform
  - Cross-Disciplinary management position
Things that work well

- Joint studentships
- Summer School
- Focussed Workshops
- Sponsored Seminar Series
- Grant Writing Support
- Summer Students / research internships
- Public Forums
Difficulties

- Overcoming multiple departments, schools and faculties
  - Signing chain – dotting the is
  - Resolving issues wrt to overheads
    - Not just who gets it but “why should we bother, there is no financial benefit to department”
  - REF ….. Cross disciplinary publications considered lower value

- Convincing the finance office to cooperate
  - Transparency for effective management essential

- Home Office
Solutions

- Talk to other (smaller) interdisciplinary grant holders and learn about common problems
- Use status as BTG to promote effective university policies
- Get your manager appointed as a permanent cross disciplinary enabler
- Make it your business to know what people’s research interests really are and act as an advocate
- Work to generate good will