

# Report on the use of money from the Storrs Fund

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From 19 to 21 November 2010 I took part in the Northwestern European Regional Programming Contest (NWERC) at Jacobs University in Bremen, Germany. The NWERC is one of the regional contests that form the first tier of the ACM's International Collegiate Programming Contest, and participants have usually passed a qualifying round at their home university. Cambridge University entered 4 teams to the NWERC, of 3 members each, and we placed 5th, 25th, 28th, and 47th out of 67. I was on the team that placed 28th, and was the only member of Peterhouse to attend.

Programming contests like NWERC test for knowledge of algorithms and other mathematical tools via the ability to apply them to solving informatics problems with a computer. Training this skill complements my study at the Computer Laboratory, in which algorithmic knowledge is both taught and used.

To support my participation in the contest, I was awarded £50 from the Storrs Fund, for which I am very grateful. The main expense was air travel to Bremen (on Ryanair) for £149.67; the whole award was put towards this. Other expenses included transport and food within Bremen (partially funded by the contest) and accommodation (partially funded by Trinity College).