

**UKCRCEC/2012/12**

**Minutes of the meeting of the UK Computing Research Committee held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2012, at 11.00 at IET, 2 SAVOY PLACE, LONDON, WC2R 0BL.**

**PRESENT**

Anthony Cohn (AC)	Chris Hankin (Chair) (CH)	Martin Loomes (CPHC) (MLo)
Ursula Martin (UM)	David Robertson (DR)	Morris Sloman (MS)
Joe Sventek (JS)		

**BY INVITATION**

Alan Berry (IET) (AB)	Liam Blackwell (EPSRC) (LB)	Christina Turner (EPSRC) (CT)
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**IN ATTENDANCE**

Maxine Leslie (BCS)	Penny Ballard (BCS)
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**APOLOGIES**

John Baird (EPSRC) (JB)	Paul Davies (IET) (PD)	Darren Gladwin (IET) (DG)
Cliff Jones (CJ)	Bill Mitchell (BCS) (BM)	Ron Perrott (RP)
Tom Rodden (TR)	Martyn Thomas (MT)	

**1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received as above.

**2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> June 2012 were signed and APPROVED for transfer to the UKCRC website.

**ACTION:** Darren Gladwin

**2.1. Matters Arising**

The Action List was reviewed and the following updates noted:

Website – AB to speak to DG to prioritise updating the website as the UKCRC Constitution is still showing the old version and to ensure Membership list and Constitution are up to date.

AOB – UM advised that BM has delegated to Jeremy Barlow (BCS Academy Development Manager) responsibility for the 2013 BCS Karen Sparck Jones Lecture. It will take place on 23 May 2013, following the London Hopper Colloquium 2012, which is organised by QMUL and held at BCS London office.

### 3. ELECTIONS

#### 3.1 Election Results of Committee Members

##### Executive Committee

Under the Terms of Office, three members of the Committee were due to stand down in November 2012: Anthony Cohn, Joe Sventek & Cliff Jones. AC & JS were elected to stand for a further term and two further candidates stood for election to the committee. AC, JS and Ron Perrott were elected to join the committee from November 2012 for a term of 3 years.

##### Membership Panel

There were two candidates for the one vacant position on the Membership Panel and Cliff Jones was duly elected on the Membership Panel for a term of 2 years.

#### 3.2 Election of Chair

Chris Hankin had served two 1 year terms as Chair and as he would be stepping down from the Committee in November 2013 and in order to facilitate the handover to a new Chair, CH nominated Joe Sventek as Chair, Morris Sloman seconded. JS was asked to leave the room at this point. CH asked if any other members were interested in becoming chair and if there were any objections to JS nomination. No objections were raised. Joe Sventek was duly elected for 2 years (or for a maximum of 3 years) and asked to return to the room. CH congratulated JS.

AGREED: For the process of elections of all new Chairs it was agreed that the Chair would receive nominations for EC members from Executive Committee members and that voting would take place by email.

### 4. CHAIR'S REPORT

NOTED: CH advised committee at this point that all reports should be written and received prior to the meeting where possible to avoid the high level of verbal reports and to ensure that the wider UKCRC membership is kept informed of the discussion items.

#### 4.1 UKCRC Strategy

Following the June meeting, CH/LB met to look at upcoming call for Centres for doctoral training, did a brainstorming session looking at the SAT and various areas that have been identified as centres for doctoral training.

Membership push is now in progress and a set of names is in place to approach.

#### 4.2 European Matters

There had been a series of calls from the EU reflecting the FP7 programme, working towards building a bridge towards Horizon 2020 and may be impacted by government budget cutbacks. If budget approval is delayed for Horizon 2020 then the most recent budget for is the one that applies.

ISTAG came to an end in June 2012 and have now launched an open call for membership for its replacement, CAF – Connect Advisory Forum. CAF will be constituted from equal numbers from Industry, Academia and civil society and should meet early next year. CH has put his name forward to join.

Flagships submissions are in being assessed by the EC at present and two are due to be launched early next year.

MS reported that he had received an email regarding the future of emerging technologies and undertook to circulate this to the Committee. **ACTION:** Morris Sloman

## **5. RESEARCH FUNDING AND POLICY**

### **5.1 Recent Developments**

See item 4.2 above.

### **5.2 EPSRC update**

Flagships - LB advised that all 6 pilots have been submitted as proposals to the Commission. EPSRC led an exercise to look at reports and paperwork that the pilot consortia submitted in order to reach an RCUK position on each. EPSRC had identified some issues based on the assessment criteria being used by the Commission.

Regional sessions on ICT-specific Shaping Capability panels – these are taking place at the moment but a relatively low turnout is anticipated. They are due to take place at Leeds, UCL, Oxford and Glasgow. The aim is to feedback experiences of panels in terms of quality and national importance in Shaping and to engage researchers in discussion on this and Shaping priorities.

CDT calls – The timing of the call is due to the fact that the majority of existing centres have their last cohort admission in October 2013. The formal CDT call is going live in February and a list of the themes will be published (e.g. ICT, digital economy) and will include requirements on bids. The possibility of new centres being funded over existing ones was raised and CT advised that, on the positive side, the call could be an opportunity to balance the portfolio, giving the example that there is no CDT in Electronics at the moment. CH advised that information on this should be included in the briefing document for the UKCRC website.

LB advised that EPSRC will be running a workshop of T13 in December which will help to shape this priority and calls for next year

The Triennial review of Review Councils is to start in January and members will be asked for feedback and comments.

### **5.3 REF update**

MS reported that there has been a call for Universities to submit submission intentions based on the latest 2012 classification. MS undertook to send this list to CT.

**ACTION:** Morris Sloman

CJ is collecting nominations for industrialists to sit on the panel. There will also be another call for assessors on outputs once the submission intentions have been looked at, as there are some areas that are not covered, e.g. bioinformatics.

## **6. MEMBERSHIP PANEL**

JMc was not in attendance and no written report was received, so nothing to report.

## **7. CONSULTATIONS AND SUBMISSIONS**

Nothing to report but the FET consultation should be looked at, to see if anything UKCRC should do. DR commented that this activity was very slow at present.

## **8. REPORTS**

## **8.1 CPHC**

MLo reported that that CPHC had asked for clarification on how consultations are responded to by the Committees and Boards of BCS, UKCRC, CPHC and the IET as it was felt that joint responses would send a stronger message. The Chair had introduced Carsten Maple and DR, who look after consultations and responses for CPHC and UKCRC respectively, keeping BM informed. It would be important to reflect this for organisation/committee roles rather than individuals.

## **8.2 BCS Academy Research Committee**

Nothing to Report.

## **9. AOB**

NOTED: For the purposes of communication between UKCRC and the BCS Research Committee it was suggested that the RC Chair, Faron Moller, be invited to attend UKCRC Executive Committee meetings in future.

It was suggested that perhaps UKCRC Committee could have the minutes from the RC meetings in the future.

AGREED: JS to contact Faron to invite to future meetings and to produce a report for each meeting where he can't attend.

**ACTION:** Joe Sventek

CH had previously raised the need to try and increase the industrial members of UKCRC.

The criteria for membership may need to be reviewed for industrialists to change the emphasis from the publication of papers to credentials such as sitting on standards bodies, producing patents and being a Fellow within own company.

It was suggested that there should be more involvement with the Membership Panel of UKCRC and involve John McDermid after the Executive Committee have discussed the matter further.

AC to send membership criteria to all Committee Members for review and discussion at a future meeting

**ACTION:** Anthony Cohn

CH advised that the AGA will be due in March 2013 and would be electronic as previously discussed and declared the meeting closed.

JS suggested as his first action as the new Chair was to propose a vote of thanks to the outgoing Chair for his hard work for the past two years.

## **COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2013 (All 11am start)**

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2013 at 11.00 (BCS, London)**

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2013 at 11.00 (IET, London)**

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at 11.00 (BCS, London)**