UK COMPUTING RESEARCH COMMITTEE

UKCRCEC/2013/06

Minutes of the meeting of the UK Computing Research Committee held on **Monday 18th March 2013 at 11.00** at BCS Offices, 5 Southampton Street, London. WC2E

PRESENT

Joe Sventek – Chair	JS	Chris Hankin	CH	Morris Sloman	MS
Martyn Thomas	MT	Anthony Cohn	AC	Ron Perrott	RP

BY INVITATION

Alan Berry (IET)	AB	Christina Turner (EPSRC) CT	Faron Moller	FM

APOLOGIES

Ursula Martin	Liam Blackwell (EPSRC	David Robertson
John Baird (EPSEC)	Martin Loomes (CPHC)	Darren Gladwin (IET)
Paul Davies (IET)	Bill Mitchell (BCS)	Tom Rodden

IN ATTENDANCE

Sharon Hurd BCS	Penny Ballard BCS

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies were received as above.

Due to train disruption Joe Sventek contacted Chris Hankin and advised that he would not arrive before 12 noon and asked him to deputise until his arrival. CH welcomed members and invited guests and acknowledged the Apologies.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on the Monday 5th November 2012 were signed and APPROVED for transfer to the UKCRC website.

2.1. Matters Arising

The Action List was reviewed and the following updates noted:

NOTED: AC to contact Darren Gladwin to update the UKCRC website with Faron Moller's full name and title.

ACTION: Anthony Cohn

NOTED: Actions from 11th June Meeting
2.1 New UKCRC member - To contact Cliff as a reminder that this action remains outstanding against his name.

ACTION: Secretariat

2.1 Research Funding & Policy – MT advised that this action should be closed and for the Committee to decide what really needs to happen and what we want to achieve from the interaction and for the committee to discuss if UKCRC are engaging at the right level with BIS and revisit the subject.

NOTED:
8.3 SH to contact Bill Mitchell for an update on this action against his name.
- *To Communicate with IBM and Microsoft contacts to give an update on the misunderstanding regarding BCS/UKCRC Policy*

ACTION: Sharon Hurd

3. **CHAIR'S REPORT**
   3.1 UKCRC Strategy
   Due to train disruption as mentioned above CH acknowledged the chair's report.

   REPORT RECEIVED AND NOTED:

   Membership – RP asked how many UKCRC members in total and no confirmation could be given. AC confirmed there were 102 members on the website and it was requested that Cliff Jones run a report of total number of members and report to Committee so the website can be updated.

   ACTION: Anthony Cohn/Cliff Jones

4. **CONSULTATIONS & SUBMISSIONS**
   REPORT RECEIVED AND NOTED:

   It was noted that it might be good to see more of the membership form committees to take the lead on some of the activities; this can be difficult, as many of these consultations come with very short deadlines that do not provide sufficient time to obtain replies from all of the membership.

   It was agreed that MS would respond to the HEFCE Open Access Letter that had been received as the deadline was 25th March.

   ACTION: Morris Sloman

Post Meeting: MS circulated the original HEFCE correspondence and a draft of the UKCRC response with a response from Exec Committee for comments/changes by 20th March before sending to membership. Response sent to membership 19th March 2013.

5. RESEARCH FUNDING AND POLICY

5.1 European Matters
REPORT RECEIVED AND NOTED

CH was previously a member of the IST Advisory group which ended June 2013 and has been replaced by DG Connect and ISTAG was replaced by the DG Connect Advisory Forum, which was launched 3 weeks prior to this meeting and CH will be Vice-chair and is happy to continue to provide updates on European matters after his UKCRC term comes to an end in November 2013.

5.2 EPSRC update
This report was given on behalf of Liam Blackwell by Christina Turner

Following the announcement of the two successful pilot FET flagships, ESPRC is engaging with other national funding agencies. It is not clear at the moment whether new money will be made available as existing investment will be taken into account. ESPRC to review how to take forward

EPSRC's Council met in early March to consider the government's Industrial Strategy and how EPSRC needs to take this strategy into account; the feedback received was that EPSRC strategy already takes those technologies into account; they have, however, been advised to take notice of industrial sectors, and the EPSRC structures are not set up to align completely, but they do have mechanisms in place.

CT reminded the committee that the Centre's of Doctorial Training deadline is 4th April EPSRC are advising that at this outline stage they only want letters of support from Companies that have an active role in the steering the direction of the bid and not for companies who are interested in the training.

EPSRC have estimated about 350/600 outlines, partly based on feedback from their Framework and Strategic Partner Universities.

The ICT Theme will be meeting with its Strategic Advisory Team in May. There is an opportunity to engage further with UKCRC based on the outcomes of this meeting. JS suggested LB, CT and elected committee members could stay after the June UKCRC meeting for such a discussion.

5.3 REF
Google Scholar Citations is not going to be used, as it proved to be too complicated and Google has restrictions on automated access.

Additional members are required for the REF panel, and nominations are required from UKCRC; Cliff Jones and Alan Bundy are collecting an additional set of nominations from the UKCRC. An additional seven user members (assist in examining impact scenarios) are to be nominated, as are three new members to assist with examining outputs; these new

nominees are to include non-academics; these additional members have been authorised by HEFCE due to potential increased workload and the lack of non-academics on the panel.

6. MEMBERSHIP PANEL
No report was received
JS to call John McDermid for update

ACTION: Chair

7. UKCRC Executive Committee Meetings 2014
Report was received and noted: all dates for 2014 were accepted.

8. REPORTS
8.1 CPHC
No Report was received

8.2 BCS Academy
No Report was received

8.3 BCS Academy Research Committee
After a lengthy hiatus, the BCS Research Committee was convened for the first time by Faron Moller as Chair in September 2012 and again in January 2013. The Committee had agreed to three meetings per year and the main agenda items to date are bullet pointed below:

- Creating, populating and promoting the new Academy web pages. They wish to promote it as a discussion/blogging forum for open debate. E.g. there are currently discussions started on open access publications and data.
- Open access. As noted above, they wish to promote debate on this in the community and have also added their backing to the UKCRC response to the BIS consultations led by Dave Robertson.
- Supporting BCS academic publications, in particular the Computer Journal
- Organising and/or supporting various events, in particular the BCS Academy Symposium which will take place in April 2014 alongside the CPHC and BCTCS conferences.
- EPSRC support of doctoral students. The committee have agreed to write to EPSRC in response to concerns from the academic community over which such moves can impact are also reflected in the 2013 Spittle Report on postgraduate education.

9. AOB

JS asked the Committee to think about 'what can UKCRC do next to energise the UK computing community' which will tie in with work being done by BCS Academy, CPHC, EPSRC, the meetings with EPSRC to continue; he asked that between now and the next meeting the committee try to enumerate two or three ideas through emails. JS advised that he would call an extra meeting for the Executive committee if it was required.

JS will send an email to the UKCRC membership to get two/three big ideas for the coming year to eighteen months.

JS asked the assembled committee members if they were happy with the On-line AGM that he had emailed early that week. This is an experiment and if it works well the chair will use it again and if not he will try another format for next year.

EPSRC and UKCRC executive committee members to meet after the next UKCRC meeting to discuss the SAT meeting, which will be held 22/23rd May. PB to contact Darren Gladwin to extend the room reservation until 5pm after the next UKCRC meeting due to be held on 10th June 2013.

ACTION: Secretariat

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2013 (All 11am Start)

Monday 10th June 2013 at 11.00 (IET, London)
Monday 4th November 2013 at 11.00 (BCS, London)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2014

Monday 17th March 2014 (IET, London)
Monday 9th June 2014 (BCS Offices, London)
Monday 3rd November 2014 (IET, London)