

Minutes of the 38th meeting of the UK Computing Research Executive Committee on **Monday 16th March 2015** at 11.00am at the IMechE Offices London, 3 Birdcage Walk, Westminster, London. SW1H 9JJ

PRESENT

Dave Robertson (Chair)
Tom Rodden

Anthony Cohn
Iain Stewart

Cliff Jones
Martyn Thomas

BY INVITATION

Morris Sloman (Guest)
John Baird (EPSRC)

Alan Berry (IET)
Bill Mitchell (BCS)

Anke Davis (EPSRC)

IN ATTENDANCE

Penny Ballard

APOLOGIES

Ron Perrott
Edmund Robinson

Liam Blackwell

Paul Davies

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies were received as above.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

An amendment to the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 3rd November 2015 was requested and following approval by the Executive Committee of the amendment, these minutes will now go before the Committee at the meeting due to be held on Monday 8th June 2015.

ACTION: Secretariat

2.1. Matters Arising

The Action List was reviewed and the following updates noted:

MINUTES OF MEETING - Monday 3rd November 2014

Item 3 – Chair’s Report – The Committee discussed the procedure of becoming a member of UKCRC and how this can be changed to make simpler and less work. It was suggested that a member of the Executive Committee put forward names of

eligible people to the Chair of the Membership panel along with a C.V and a case for becoming a member of UKCRC; Chair will discuss with the rest of the Panel and then invite the person to become a member, if applicable. Discussions are continuing between the Chair and Kevin Jones (Chair of Membership Panel).

Item 8 – AOB – Cliff Jones confirmed that he had passed a more detailed list of ResearchFish issues to EPSRC and has not received a response. Following a discussion it was agreed that Cliff would send the list again but this time to Ben Ryan at EPSRC, copying in Liam Blackwell and John Baird.

ACTION: Cliff Jones

MINUTES OF MEETING - Monday 17th March 2014

Item 6 – Membership Panel – Bill Mitchell confirmed he has spoken to Jeff Magee of the BCS Academy Board regarding the issue of nominating someone to represent BCS on the UKCRC Membership Panel and this is still pending. It was agreed that Dave Robertson would discuss this issue further with Jeff Magee.

ACTION: Chair

3. CHAIR'S REPORT

HEFCE – Dave Robertson and Ron Perrott attended the Accreditation Review Workshop meeting on 3rd March 2015. Bill Mitchell also was in attendance at and advised that the meeting was called due to concerns over the BCS Accreditation process from BIS & HEFCE regarding the employability of Computer Science graduates. The aim of this meeting was to set up Terms of Reference for a Working Group that would work on how BCS could reform their Accreditation process. Bill Mitchell advised that he would keep the Committee updated.

Paul Nurse Review Consultation – Martyn distributed a request for submission and input for this consultation, from the responses received he will produce a draft and re-distribute to members to stimulate further input, to finalise the UKCRC submission in time for the deadline of 17 April 2015.

Alan Turing Institute – A discussion followed on the Joint Venture and how to try and make the Turing Institute more open and also that the Turing Institute partners will need to appoint a Director. Dave Robertson suggested that if UKCRC EC has an opinion on this, he could take this back to the Institute. The joint venture is made up of five institutions which are Edinburgh, UCL, Oxford, Cambridge and Warwick. Considerable discussion took place.

EPSRC Network Bid – The proposal 'UK Foundational CS Network: Case for Support' was distributed by the Chair. A discussion followed regarding the bid and Tom Rodden requested a deadline date from EPSRC. John Baird advised that there was no specific deadline but when UKCRC felt ready to submit. Anke Davis advised that EPSRC are aiming for a September panel to give a guideline of how much time for a Peer review. Tom Rodden will put together specific objectives and circulate to the Exec before Easter.

ACTION: Tom Rodden

CRA – Computer Research Association – Joe Sventek (as Chair of UKCRC EC) attended the 2013 meeting of the biennial CRA Conference at Snowbird on behalf of UKCRC and had usefully reported back to Committee. Cliff

Jones gave an overview of the CRA and noted that the current Chair of its Board of Directors (J Strother Moore) is currently in the UK. Dave Robinson will meet with J, at Cliff's instigation and report back to the UKCRC EC.

ACTION: Cliff Jones & Chair

REF Impact Report - Morris Sloman advised that out of the fifty Impact case studies submitted, twenty were used for the report to cover a broad spectrum of subjects and Universities. The science writer John Hill advised he has interviewed people from all twenty case studies and is at present pulling all the information together.

Morris is at present waiting for a draft report which will then be submitted to the sub panel for review. It is hoped to have a sub report for the CPHC Conference. John will look to produce a high quality PDF version to put on the website for printing purposes, rather than print copies to distribute. Morris also advised that he will be looking for further funding from different areas for further case studies.

Dave Robertson thanked Morris for all his hard work on the project.

4. CONSULTATIONS AND SUBMISSIONS

This item was covered in Item 3 and Martyn advised that was nothing further to Report

5. RESEARCH FUNDING AND POLICY

5.1 UK Foundational Computing Science Network

REPORT RECEIVED AND NOTED:

This item was covered under Item 3 – Chairs Report - EPSRC Network Bid.

5.2 Recent Developments

There was nothing to report and it was agreed to remove this item from future agendas.

5.3 European Matters

REPORT RECEIVED AND NOTED:

5.4 EPSRC Update

Anke Davis gave an update on the Delivery Plan for the ICT SATS, stating that Liam Blackwell who was unable to attend the meeting would again invite BCS, UKCRC IET and CPHC to help to contribute to the Delivery Plan.

EPSRC have produced slides that they have been using for some workshops to help inform and get input to assist with the process. Anke advised that she would send the presentation to the Secretariat to circulate to Exec members advising they that are free to distribute to colleagues. There is a set of questions at the end of the presentation which Anke asked members to complete and return responses to

EPSRC. Further regional workshops will be held later in the year around the UK. The Chair encouraged Exec members to attend a workshop in their area.

ACTION: Anke Davis & Secretariat

5.5 UKCRC Representative on CPHC

Anthony Cohn volunteered to represent UKCRC at the meetings of CPHC but advised that he could not commit to attending all of the yearly meetings. Morris Sloman agreed that he would attend the meetings that Anthony was unable to attend.

6. MEMBERSHIP PANEL REPORT

REPORT RECEIVED AND NOTED:

7. UKCRC EC 2016 MEETING DATES

REPORT RECEIVED AND NOTED:

All of the 2016 meeting dates were accepted and approved by the Executive Committee.

8. REPORTS

8.1 CPHC

As Edmund was unable to attend the meeting at the last minute, no update was received.

8.2 BCS Academy

Bill Mitchell advised that the Academy has been involved with running the 830 workshops in Primary School to highlight Computer Science and hoped, following the General Election to continue to run the Network of Excellence and extend the expression to Universities. The new model for Network of Excellence will be creating regional centres later in the year which will be University led, and at present twenty four responses have been received.

8.3 IET

Alan Berry gave an update highlighting area's such as Energy and work around Smart Grid and Smart meters where some progress is now being made. Alan is also involved in Communications & IT and advised that he would send the Committee a copy of the information on the DAN (Demand Attentive Networks) vision which is the vision of where IET want the networks to be in the next five to ten years.

ACTION: Alan Berry

Another sector Alan highlighted was the Emergency Services in the Digital age, the '999' service which has been in service since 1937 with no legislation provided for

emergency services, its done on best efforts amongst the service providers and at present there is a lot of interest from the Cabinet Office, about what is an emergency and how to it make more useful in this digital age. IET are working closely with the Royal Academy on this.

The IET Manifesto has now been published focusing on numerous areas and Alan will send an electronic copy to the Exec member, he did advise that this has not gone public yet.

ACTION: Alan Berry

Alan highlighted the area of the IPD 6 Council, which is a group of Academics, Industrialists and some Service Providers looking to promote IPD 6 where at present little is happening and they are now looking for other members to assist. The group is planning a round table next month and if any of the Exec members have any questions they think should be raised, please let Alan know.

Alan informed the Committee that Savoy Place is due to open September/October of this year, following extensive refurbishment. No exact date has been given but Alan will keep the Committee updated.

9. AOB

9.1 – UKCRC Website

Anthony Cohn advised that he is still working on the UKCRC website update and it was agreed that the Grand Challenge's page can be archived. Tony will email UKCRC members to ask for updates to the list of dissertations.

It was agreed that Anthony would add to the website a link to the Distinguished Dissertations following responses to his communication.

ACTION: Anthony Cohn

9.2 – UKCRC Executive Committee

A discussion took place regarding the number of Executive Committee members which at present only has seven members with the potential to rise to nine as stated on the UKCRC Constitution. It was suggested that committee actively approach and encourage some of the female members of UKCRC to join the UKCRC EC.

The Chair requested that each Committee member send him by email with at least one name, especially those of female members from the list of members. The Chair would then produce a full list of names which he will circulate to the Committee to create a definitive list of names of prospective members of the Executive Committee to approach and ascertain if they would stand for election. The Chair asked for a volunteer to make contact with prospective members.

ACTION: All

The Chair closed the meeting by thanking Morris Sloman for all his hard work and support to the UKCRC Executive Committee during his time on the Executive Committee as this was his final meeting.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 8th June 2015 at the BCS Offices, London

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2015

Monday 8th June 2015 (BCS Offices, London)

Monday 2nd November 2015 (IMechE Offices, London)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2016

Monday 14th March 2016 – BCS Offices, London

Monday 6th June 2016 – IET Offices, London

Monday 7th November 2016 - BCS Offices, London