Minutes of the Online Annual General Meeting of the UK Computing Research Committee held on **Friday 1 December 2017** between 13:00 – 14:00 via Webinar.

Attendees:

Ann Blandford	Executive Committee Chair
Cliff Jones	Executive Committee Member
Jane Hillston	Executive Committee Member
Anthony Cohn	Executive Committee Member
Derek McAuley	Executive Committee Member
Fionn Murtagh	Membership Panel Member
Carsten Maple	Membership Panel Member
Alan Bundy	Member
Morris Sloman	Member
Maurice Perks	Member
Mark Josephs	Member
Perdita Stevens	Member
Achim Jung	Member
Sriram Subramanian	Member
Marcus Kaiser	Member
Michael Luck	Member
David Duce	Member
Maja Pantic	Member
Elaine Chew	Member
mc schraefel	Member
Joe Sventek	Member
Alessio Lomuscio	Member

Apologies:

David De Roure	Executive Committee Member
Erol Gelenbe	Membership Panel Member
Cecilia Mascolo	Member
Steve Furber	Member
Martyn Thomas	Member
John Fitzgerald	Member
Bashar Nuseibeh	Member

1.   MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING [UKCRC/AGM2016/05]

The minutes of the AGM held on Wednesday 7 December 2016 were recorded as a true record.

2.   Matters arising from minutes

All actions from the previous Annual General Meeting had been completed. It was reported that the available vacancies on the Membership Panel had now been filled and that the priorities discussed at the last AGM were being actively progressed. *[Post meeting note: B Nuseibeh had been unable to attend the meeting but had flagged that his action of providing a list of SAT members that were not UKCRC Members was now complete. The Chair indicated that the Executive Committee had reviewed the list sent, and invited some of the SAT members to be UKCRC members if they met the scope.]*

3.   CONSTITUTION 2017 – for approval

RECEIVED & APPROVED BY THOSE IN ATTENDANCE – Appendix 1. The Chair outlined the roles and responsibilities of the Executive Committee and the Membership Panel for the benefit of the new Members.

Although the AGM voted to approve the 2017 Constitution, the meeting was short of being quorate (which is 20% of the Membership) so Tony Cohn (via the Secretariat) undertook to circulate the draft by email to secure the required number of votes.

ACTION: A Cohn/Secretariat

4.   CHAIR'S REPORT – A Blandford

RECEIVED & APPROVED – Appendix 2. In response to the information on the EPSRC Equality & Diversity item, interest was expressed in seeing the report from the work done at Edinburgh Napier University and the EPSRC report. It would be important to check on any confidentiality attached to these documents.   **ACTION: Chair/Secretariat**

In relation to the new Members in attendance for the first time at the AGM, the Chair expressed her appreciation and acknowledgement of the recruitment of a near record number of new Members this year.

5.   CONSULTATIONS & RESPONSES REPORT – C Johnson

RECEIVED & APPROVED – Appendix 3. Chris Johnson gave a brief update and asked Members to let him know if they see any consultations outside of the mailing list to which they think UKCRC should provide a response. The consultation and submission procedure will be implemented as before and Chris thanked Members for their input to date.

6.   MEMBERSHIP PANEL REPORT – K Jones

RECEIVED & APPROVED – Appendix 4. The Chair indicated that 16 new Members had been appointed this year and that the Membership Panel was now at full strength. If Members had any comments or concerns about the

new process, they were invited to let the Chair know. Fionn Murtagh indicated that the Membership Panel was now immediately active in response to applications and the new process was going very well.

7.   WORKSHOP IN PREPARATION FOR EPSRC NETWORK BID – D McAuley

RECEIVED & APPROVED – Appendix 5. Derek McAuley introduced the item and indicated that this was a call to action for the next generation of research leaders, in particular those mid-career and new Member colleagues. A workshop to get the team together to write a network bid would be held on 14/15 March 2018 and he would be sending the invitations to this out shortly with an application deadline of the end of January 2018. Members were asked to consider applying, in particular to ensure a good diverse range of participants. Mac and the Chair will be helping to shortlist and mentor colleagues. In response to a question, Mac confirmed that the invitation would contain further information about the purpose of the bid.

ACTION: Members

8.   REF SUB-PANEL NOMINATIONS PROCESS – M Sloman (verbal)

Morris introduced this item. He had received 48 nominations from a full range of institutions. In terms of diversity, there were not as many female nominations as he had hoped (9) although this was a modest improvement on last time. It was noted that other diversity metrics had not been requested in the application form, but 10 nominations had previous REF/RAE experience. The Chair would be announced in the next couple of weeks and a sub-group comprising 3-4 Executive Committee Members and other Members would convene to review the list of nominations. The Chair thanked the team and Morris for leading the process.

9.   ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was reported.

The Chair thanked members for joining this Webinar and called the 2017 Annual General meeting to a close.

Appendix 1 – UKCRC Constitution
Appendix 2 – Chair's Report
Appendix 3 – Consultations & Responses Report
Appendix 4 – Membership Panel Report
Appendix 5 – Workshop in preparation for EPSRC Network Bid

UKCRC Constitution

The approved version of the Constitution will be published on the UKCRC website in January 2018.

Chair's report

REF2021: UKCRC is a nominating body for REF2021. We provided letters of endorsement for three excellent individuals who have applied for the role of sub-panel Chair for UoA11 (Computer Science and Informatics). Morris Sloman is leading a working group collating nominations for sub-panel members. Please contact Morris (with information as he specified in a recent email) if you are willing to take on this important role.

Engagement with EPSRC: The UKCRC executive continues to engage with EPSRC in its strategic thinking. We welcome Sam Francis, who has taken over from Liam Blackwell as Head of ICT, and look forward to working with her and her team.

EPSRC Equality and Diversity project: UKCRC is continuing to support EPSRC in their work on promoting E&D in ICT. Thank you to all members who contributed to this activity in this past year. The report commissioned from a team at Napier University has been launched, and we are working with EPSRC on refining their response to that report. We are also still following up on the discussion which took place over the summer on the role of Athena SWAN in assessing departments' engagement with E&D.

EPSRC network bid: We have been in discussions with EPSRC about the purpose and focus of a network bid, and Derek McAuley is leading a working group (to involve a few members of UKCRC and also "rising stars") to take this forward before March.

Membership: UKCRC is only as effective as its membership. We have been working hard this year to expand our membership, with a particular focus on Equality and Diversity while maintaining our status as an Expert Panel of the IET, BCS and CPHC, and our emphasis on research leadership. Welcome to all new members. And thank you to all members of the membership panel for their sterling efforts in rigorously reviewing all applications in a timely way.

Ann Blandford
November 2017

Consultations and Submissions Report

Working with Martyn Thomas, I collated responses to two consultations. The first was requested by BEIS and dealt with the UK approach to implementing the EC Network and Information Security directive. The UKCRC draft response was circulated to members and then submitted. Since then and unrelated to UKCRC, I was asked to attend a ministerial meeting at BEIS then subsequently at GCHQ/NCSC which showed the thinking about NIS implementation is still in a state of flux even though the implementation deadline is (likely to be) May 2017. NCSC sees itself as a facilitator and not a leader - they anticipate that the individual government departments (DCMS, BEIS, DfT) will work with industry in their own sector. I have some concerns about this, especially when operational technology in SCADA environments is common across
Industry sectors.

The second consultation was in response to a House of Lords request for Evidence on Artificial Intelligence. The same process of synthesising and then distributing members views was followed, as for the NIS consultation. I anticipate this will be one of many policy related requests in this area.

Chris Johnson
November 2017

Membership Panel Report

At the UKCRC Executive Committee meeting in June 2017, the Membership Panel Chair discussed the UKCRC Membership application process and how this could be simplified to encourage more applications.

Following the streamlining of the process, there has been a significant increase in activity. The Membership Panel now has a full 5 members including a representative from CPHC.

There have been 16 new members successfully elected (most from nominations from the Executive Committee).

Maxine Leslie (on behalf of Kevin Jones)
November 2017

Appendix 5

Workshop in preparation for EPSRC Network bid

Funding has been obtained from EPSRC to run a workshop in preparation for larger Network bid which is being orchestrated by UKCRC.

The purpose of the Network is to provide opportunities for emerging computing research leaders to shape a vision for computing research in responding to the interdisciplinary challenges inherent in the prosperity outcomes identified in the EPSRC delivery plan for 2016-2020, and provide articulations of this vision that are comprehensible to a wide range of audiences - not only researchers, but (e.g.) UKRI, government and the man on the Clapham omnibus.

The purpose of the first workshop is to shape the Network proposal, populate the first couple of topic areas to be investigated and recruit the team to lead the bid. The two day workshop for 30-40 participants will run in March with an open call for participation to be launched in December with expressions of interest due late January.

The call to action for UKCRC members is to encourage participation from as a diverse a community of computing researchers as possible once the call goes live.

Derek McAuley
November 2017