Welcome to this first Health and Care newsletter, which is going out to members signed up to the health and care specialist groups and to our organisational members.

There are lots of exciting things going on in BCS Health and Care right now, so we thought you might appreciate an update on some of them. This is the first newsletter, and we would really appreciate any comments – whether it's useful, what you would like to see included, frequency, etc. Also, if you have anything you would like to contribute to the newsletter to share with your health and care colleagues, please let us know.

Best wishes,

Jan Hoogewerf,   Philip Scott,

Head of Health and Care   Chair of Health and Care Executive

Coming soon: Social Care White Paper

There were lively discussions and informative presentations at the Social Care Community of Practice launch on 16 January 2024. Look out for a white paper soon that will look at the current state of digital social care alongside facilitating a discussion amongst social care organisations, professionals, and governmental bodies around opportunities for digital services in the Social Care industry.

FCI Members to Transition to BCS

We are really pleased to welcome Faculty of Clinical Informatics members who have transitioned to BCS. Over a thousand FCI members have been invited to join after FCI decided to voluntarily wind down and transfer activities to BCS. This move means we can join forces, build on previous collaborations, add weight to our already substantial body of expertise and increase the breadth of knowledge of our specialist groups.

FBCS offer for Health and Care members of BCS

For the next three months, we are waiving the £160 application fee for individuals in the Health and Care sector who'd like to become a **BCS Fellow**. If you're a leader, influencer, or impact-maker in the industry, Fellowship might be for you. As a leader in your field, you're facing increasingly complex challenges and your influence and responsibility has never been more significant.

Please note: If you're already part of a BCS Organisational Membership scheme, you'll need to speak to your scheme coordinator about applying for Fellowship.

How to use the discount code:

1. You'll need to download the Fellowship application guidance and application form from our website to read and complete before applying.

2. Visit MyBCS to upgrade your membership using the 'Upgrade' link under 'My membership & registration'.

3. Follow the step-by-step application process, including details of at least one supporter.

4. Save and continue to proceed to the payment page.

5. Enter discount code* **HCAPP100** where prompted, the £160 application fee will be waived.

6. If your application is successful, the Fellowship membership fee will be applied to your membership account.

*Discount code expires on Monday 27 May 2024.

Please contact **our customer support team** if you encounter any issues whilst submitting your application.

Clinical Informatics Discourse Forum

We have launched a new online community, using Discourse, for Health and Care members to connect and share expertise. You can join by accepting this invite: https://community.bcs.org/invites/6bnP5UzB1v. Once you have joined, the Clinical Informatics Community will be available in your list of categories

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Upcoming events

HETT North 2024

28th February
Come and meet the BCS team at HETT North in Manchester Central on 28th February. With a programme spanning digital health and care and this year new primary health care and social care workstreams. Jan is on a panel discussing Creating a Digitally Forward NHS: What Could Future Digital NHS Job Roles Look Like?

BMJ Health and Care Informatics Journal Club

5th March, 5pm

Topic: How to organise a datathon for bridging between data science and healthcare?

Join the authors in discussion with Katie MacLure (BCS Health & Care Scotland) for our live BCS BMJ HCI Journal Club hosted by Digital Health.

Digital Health Rewired

12th and 13th March

The BCS Team will be at Digital Health Rewired so come and have a chat. We will also be providing an update on the FCI transition and plans to develop a faculty of digital health and care.

HDR UK Conference 2024

5th and 6th March

Sixth Annual Conference: The Grand Challenges in Health Data. Celebrate the latest advances in health data science that are improving people's lives.

BCS Peer Reviewers

21st March, 11am

Learn about peer review and its benefits while gaining insights from experts in a free webinar hosted by BMJ Health & Care Informatics editors Philip Scott, Yu-Chuan Jack Li, and Usman Iqbal.

Hybrid event: Project Management Methodologies, Training and Certifications

21st March, 6:30pm - 9pm

Stay informed about project and programme management methodologies with expert Paul Bradley. Gain insights into certification options and the value these methodologies offer for your career and work development.

MIE2024 – Medical Informatics Europe Conference

25th - 29th August

Have you thought about submitting a paper to MIE? The deadline for submissions is 18 March. BCS is the national member body of EFMI and has a representative on the programme committee, Elly Andrikopoulou

If you are arranging any events that you would like to share with others working in digital health and care, please email Elly Andrikopoulou, HCE communications, publications and events lead, at elly.an@port.ac.uk