BCS South Wales – Committee Meeting – 1 September 2021

1. Welcome, present and apologies

1.1. Present: **Andy**, **Jeremy**, **Paul, Rob, John**

1.2. Apologies: Lauren, Phil, Iain, Fred

1.3. Jeremy agreed to take and circulate notes of the meeting.

2. Actions from previous meeting

2.1. The actions had all been covered.

3. Update on BCS in Wales

3.1. Andy recommended that the committee and other members watch the YouTube video of the President's address to branches and members in Wales as the information about BCS future directions were important. Relatively short notice for the event may have made it difficult for members to make time for the event especially during the summer holiday period. Andy agreed to include a link to the video in his next eMail to members.

3.2. Dan Aldridge has set up a monthly meeting for BCS in Wales. The attendance list is currently quite short but can readily be expanded. Paul would be happy to take part.

4. Update from Branch Chair

4.1. Andy had agreed to canvass members to see if we could find volunteers to join the committee. Ten people had expressed an interest. Andy would engage with them to set up a "getting to know you" online meeting, probably a week or so before the AGM.

5. Update from Mid-Wales Branch Chair

5.1. Fred had provided his apologies.

6. Update from Branch Treasurer

6.1. Phil had provided his apologies and was planning a full report for the AGM. In the meantime, there were no issues for the committee to consider.

7. Update on Early Careers and Equality & Diversity Liaison

7.1. Lauren had provided her apologies.

7.2. John had added four members to the Early Careers committee to help bring together the work of the early careers' advocates. Member groups had between 10 and 15 advocates.

8. Update from STEM Outreach Working Group

8.1. Paul reported that the groups was making progress on expanding its content to cover the new programming environment for the LEGO robots (a scratch-like interface). He had restructured the BaseCamp filing for the group's working documents and end products.

8.2. The next video, due this year, was planned to cover the use of sensors.

8.3. Paul reminded the committee that we had planned to publicise the video that described how the groups had set about its work. He asked the **committee** for suggestions about how we might draw Member Groups attention to the video.

8.4. Andy wondered whether the video could be publicised through the newsletter eMailed to member groups. Alternatively, it might be worth using the BaseCamp forums. We agreed that **Paul, Andy, and Jeremy** formulate some messages and seek advice on distribution from the members Groups team at HQ.

9. Update from Events Coordinator

9.1. Overall Plan

9.1.1. A mix of hybrid events and more traditional online events.

9.1.2. The hybrid events would be in person with an online feed for member who weren't able to join in person. They would combine a talk with a panel discussion.

9.1.3. **Andy** agreed to circulate an updated version of the events programme that Iain had typed up.

9.2. AGM Planning

9.2.1. The AGM would use GoToWebinar with Tom Crick. We need to hear confirmation from Tom soon given the need to announce the AGM 21 days beforehand – this is imminent given the planned date of 30 September. Andy planned to contact HQ to set up the GTW event.

9.3. University and Industry Event

9.4. Andy reminded the committee that Lauren was beginning to plan two all-Wales universities conferences for dates before and after Christmas, perhaps staring in November. The committee agreed that November would allow longer time for planning, preparation, and publicity.

9.5. Other Events

9.5.1. **Rob** agreed to follow up on any contacts that **Andy** could, as Chair, make with some of the public sector bodies leading on green IT and climate change. Rob was keen that a talk cover the societal goals set in the Future Generations (Wales) Act. The BCS Green IT specialist group has 22 members in South Wales.

9.5.2. October GDPR four years on would be brought forward.

10.   Any Other Business

10.1.   Other Business

10.1.1.   Rob had been looking at the membership figure in the BI system. Numbers for all Wales were down a by about 110 to 2180. The member eMail for South Wales went to 1500 people. Grade, gender, and age distributions were unchanged.

10.2.   HQ Changes

10.2.1.   There is an interim chair for the PPP following Garfield Southall's departure from the role. The interim chair is Kevin Chalmers.

10.2.2.   HQ is developing a new on-boarding experience to improve a weak aspect of the Institute's offering to new members – with the intention that newly recruited members were retained.

10.3.   New Member Forum Launch

10.3.1.   Paul mentioned that HQ had just announced a new member forum and were planning to run a single introductory session (the short notice means that few of us would be able to attend).

11.   Date of Next Meeting

11.1.   The date was confirmed as 2 October 2021. **Andy** agreed to set up a Zoom meeting.

Resources

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
https://www.futuregenerations.wales/about-us/future-generations-act/

Member data dashboard Microsoft Power BI