

Minutes of IT Leaders Forum committee meeting held virtually on 7th March 2023 at 16.30

Attendees

David Miller (Chair)
Jonathan Leeson (Vice Chair and Events)
Karl Smith (Treasurer)
Phil Crewe (Secretary)
Norman King (Inclusion Officer)
Jon Hall (Academic Liaison)
Matthew Taylor (Early Careers Advocate)
Chris Fowler (Marketing and Communications)
Ian Golding
Gill Ringland
Shakeeb Niazi
Christos Stavroulakis
Haiyan Wu
Algirdas Pakstas
Sonia Patel (Guest)

Absent

Gordon Thompson
John McCarthy (Cyber Security Lead)

Apologies

Jacqui Hogan

1. Welcome

The chair opened the meeting by welcoming members of the committee and was pleased to extend a special welcome to Sonia Patel, Chair of the new Fellowship Committee, who was asked to say a few words about her role.

2. Sonia Patel

Her role is concerned with the process and award of Fellowship. Her aim is to keep Fellowship as a high standard but to broaden it, promote it and understand what Fellows think of the value of Fellowship in order to develop the strategy for Fellowship. Also, Sonia felt there was an opportunity to understand how Fellows could give back to the BCS and contribute to the wider society.

It was suggested that Sonia might consider conducting exit interviews for Fellows leaving. Another view expressed was that Fellows may not feel like they get much back from being a Fellow.

Sonia wants to meet with people who can give views and it was agreed that there should be a follow up meeting to develop some themes. Sonia was thanked by the Chair for attending and for her inputs.

ACTION: David to thank Sonia and to arrange a follow-up meeting.

3. Vote for council

Dave Donaghy	1
Soheir Ghallab	4
Liz Stuart	5

Note: The above results of the vote were submitted on behalf of the group after the meeting.

4. Chairs report

David spoke recently with Rashik Parmar about his concerns about the governance of the BCS, i.e. the make-up of the Council and the Trustee Board. He stressed that this was a personal view based on many years in the BCS and management consultancy. David had been reflecting on how we had achieved the changes in the ITLF by improving our communication with the membership (i.e. up and down) and encouraging communication between members (i.e. across). From sparse events to events, working groups, conference, and symposia with consequential improvements in member engagement. Comparing this with the governance of the BCS his observation was that the governance bodies are disconnected from the active membership in the SIGS and Branches (i.e. up and down) and chairs are disconnected from each other (i.e. across). Rashik recognised the problem and said that communication between chairs was being worked on and he has appointed Jenna Griffin to look into the whole governance area. David has since met with Jenna and we look forward to hearing about her recommendations.

David thanked those members of the committee for resolving the multiple committee roles. The primary responsibility is as circulated by David, with others to assist as appropriate.

Membership counts:

Date	BCS		Total BCS	IT LEADERS FORUM BCS membership							ITLF	ITLF	LINKEDIN	Notes	
	Total FBCS	Total MBCS		M	F	U	Fellow	Profess'l	Other BCS	Overseas					Total BCS
30/11/2018				3078	274	40	1395	1980	17	320	3392	22	3414	1632	Memsec AGM data
03/12/2020		31675									2487	22	2509	1650	Migration to Salesforce
20/01/2021	2870	33944		1705	125	437	1195	1059	13	251	2267	22	2289	1649	First data available from PowerBI
22/01/2021	3066			1869	142	477	1310	1164	31	251	2488	22	2510	1649	
09/02/2021	3073	31885		1867	142	477	1308	1164	31	252	2486	22	2508	1649	
06/04/2021	3049	32002		1859	141	476	1296	1157	23	183	2476	22	2498	1651	
07/04/2021	3049			1859	141	476	1296	1157	23	253	2476	22	2498	1664	
05/05/2021	3054	31580		1854	141	476	1295	1152	24	253	2471	22	2493	1665	
19/05/2021	2884			1723	115	443	1214	1054	13	230	2281	22	2303	1663	
04/08/2021	2890	26367		1686	122	430	1212	1015	11	227	2238	22	2260	1669	
27/09/2021	2928	26443		1701	119	434	1222	1021	11	229	2254	22	2276	1668	
23/11/2021	2924	26305		1681	120	429	1213	1006	11	224	2230	22	2252	1673	10 requests waiting to be approved
29/12/2021	2915	26250		1663	119	420	1204	987	11	222	2202	22	2224	1675	5 requests waiting to be approved
18/02/2022	2898	26001		1625	117	415	1187	959	11	224	2157	22	2179	1678	2 accepted, 5 waiting to be approved
22/03/2022	2897	25961		1609	116	409	1172	951	11	217	2134	22	2156	1677	2 accepted, 5 waiting to be approved
06/05/2022	2834	25599	47484	1575	111	404	1143	936	11	215	2090	22	2112	1680	2 accepted, 4 waiting to be approved
23/06/2022	2865	25741	47920	1575	114	399	1140	937	11	213	2088	0	2088	1683	1 accepted, 8 pending
30/08/2022	2870	26396	48952	1568	114	400	1142	929	11	214	2082	0	2082	1685	4 accepted, 1 pending
13/10/2022	2847	26480	48959	1558	111	397	1131	924	11	217	2066	0	2066	1684	7 pending
24/11/2022	2843	31067	49548	1541	107	395	1122	911	10	210	2043	0	2043	1684	4 requests pending
10/01/2023	2827	31305	49926	1522	108	391	1107	904	10	204	2021	0	2021	1681	11 request pending
03/03/2023	2831	32255	51388	1505	109	386	1102	889	9	206	2000	0	2000	1684	3 requests pending

5. Events

- 5th April – virtual – Karl is leading on a “hot topics” event. “BCS IT Leaders Hot Topic Mosaic Talks” focussing on IT leadership challenges. 6-8 minutes per speaker. Still looking for speakers, currently 4. Suggestion to look at Amazon and see who has new books out that may want to publicise.
- April – face to face – Architecture and leadership
- 8th June – face to face – Joint IT Leaders and CCI event – John McCarthy leading on Industrial cyber security.
- 25th Oct – face to face – joint event with National Preparedness Commission – Gill leading an update on software resilience.
- September – virtual – Symposium – Jonathan to look for a date.

- Also, AGM in November – what do we want to do? Identify speaker.
- NOTE: August TBC – Jon Hall – may have a joint IT Leaders and Education forum event and will liaise with Jonathan.

ACTION: Jonathan and Karl to put together a draft budget based on the above assumptions.

6. Working Groups

- Nurturing Leaderpreneurs - Shakeeb has circulated the first draft of the opinion piece for comment. **ACTION: All feedback to Shakeeb please.**
- Software Risk and Resilience - Gill reported that this will now focus on service resilience i.e., keeping the lights on as far as “end users” are concerned. How does IT Management change if the focus is service resilience? **ACTION: Gill has offered to discuss the impact of service resilience on other WG topics with owners – if this may be appropriate, please contact Gill.**
- The Future CEO - Jonathan has conducted some 1:1 interviews which have resulted in working group members being more forthcoming with their opinions. Need now to look at how to spin off into several different ideas. The most favourable at the moment seem to be an insight in IT for CIOs to increase awareness and to understand how the BCS could position itself to work with other institutions such as IoD, CIONET, CBI, FSB etc.
- Early Careers Leadership – Matthew has posted an interim paper on basecamp. **ACTION: All feedback to Matthew please.** His overview is that BCS does provide mentorship and training, but there may be gaps outside of what BCS offers (e.g., finance management, contract law). So, this may mean a new direction for the working group.
- IT Leadership in education, and training – Jon’s goal is to provide guidance to BCS as to what needs to be provided, and whether there is a revenue opportunity. There is a potential MBA module for IT Leaders. **ACTION: Next meeting 15th March if anyone wants to join.**

ACTION: Chris will be talking to the working group leads with his marketing view to get headlines that can be used to inform members.

7. Other topics under consideration

- Digital literacy and cybercrime awareness at board level
 - No action on this topic yet. This could be addressed by The Future CEO working group and the Nurturing Leaderpreneurs working group.
- Honesty in Software Development. May be a good conference topic but not this year – do we want to consider this as a working group topic?
 - No action on this topic yet
- Strategy and Architecture joint with the EA SIG
 - **ACTION: Representatives have met with members of the SIG and meet again on Thursday 9th March.**
- Is agile tech driven or business driven? Option 1: David to restart IT Management Methods working group; Option 2: Matt and Chris to consider a new “Digital Maturity” working group. **ACTION: David, Matt, and Chris to report back to next meeting.**
- There were no questions/matters arising/discussion following on from the Coding Black Females Report 2022. Norman is leading on this and it was felt that this is another topic where a leadership perspective might be interesting and so it will be given further consideration.
- ESG stands for Environmental, Social, and Governance. Investors are increasingly applying these non-financial factors as part of their analysis process to identify material risks and growth opportunities. An ESG event has been suggested but no further work has been done on this so far.

- We have been approached by Amit Bhagwat who has offered to speak on Empathy, Inclusion, and Diversity for Leaders. So far what we have seen does not have a leadership focus but we remain hopeful and Norman is attending an event on 8 March by the same speaker to find out more.
- There is perhaps an opportunity to combine the Coding Black Females content, ESG, and Amit's material into something much bigger. **ACTION: Norman is leading on this. Chris Fowler has also been working in this area recently and will contact Norman to discuss what might be a compelling Leaders event.**

8. Future 2023 Meetings:

9 May
04 Jul
5 Sept
10 Oct
28 Nov AGM

9. Budget

Karl needs info as soon as possible as the budget has to be submitted by 31st March. Finance would like more realism as all groups seem to over-budget and under-spend. Karl needs to know what to budget for events, and what likely income. Note there is a potential that virtual events may become chargeable. **ACTION: Jonathan and Karl to work the cost and revenue budget, keeping David informed.** Events will also be mapped against the four strategic pillars of Membership, Progression, Inspiration, and Influence, **ACTION: David.**

10. AOB

- Gill requested information on the four pillars. **ACTION: David to forward the link which is also here for those interested: <https://www.bcs.org/membership-and-registrations/member-communities/bcs-strategy-2021-23/>**
- Gill requested Jonathan shared the info from last year's event as October is a follow up – 30 people attended, **ACTION: Jonathan.**
- **The meeting closed at 17.45**