

Minutes of the BCS IT Leaders Forum Committee meeting of 10 January 2023

Attendees:

David Miller (Chair)
Jonathan Leeson (Vice Chair)
Norman King
Phil Crewe
Chris Fowler
Jacqui Hogan
John McCarthy
Christos Stavroulakis
Karl Smith
Matthew Taylor
Gordon Thompson

Apologies from: Gill Ringland, Shakeeb Niazi, Ian Golding.

Did not attend: Jon Hall, Haiyan Wu, Algirdas Pak'stas.

1. The meeting opened at 16.30 with a welcome from the Chair.
2. Minutes of 12 Dec Meeting: matters arising not on today's agenda? None.
3. Appointments to committee roles:
 - 3.1. Inclusion Officer – Norman King reappointed.
 - 3.2. Early Careers Advocate - Matthew Taylor reappointed.
 - 3.3. Events - Jonathan Leeson reappointed and Karl Smith to work alongside Jonathan
 - 3.4. Cyber Security Lead - Dr John McCarthy reappointed.
 - 3.5. Academic Liaison - Prof Jon Hall reappointed and assisted by John McCarthy.
 - 3.6. Treasurer - Karl Smith appointed.
 - 3.7. Secretary – Phil Crewe reappointed, assisted by Chris Fowler.
 - 3.8. Marketing and Communications Manager – Karl Smith appointed as interim, assisted by Chris Fowler and Phil Crewe.
4. Membership

Date	BCS		Total BCS	IT LEADERS FORUM BCS membership							Total BCS	ITLF		LINKEDIN	Notes	
	Total FBCS	Total MBCS		M	F	U	Fellow	Profess'l	Other BCS	Overseas		Non BCS	TOTAL			Grp Total
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

- 4.1. BCS membership at FBCS level continues to decline, as does ours, but overall BCS membership shows signs of growth at the lower end. Perhaps this is a good omen. For those who are not aware, the BCS changed to Salesforce for recording membership and in the process of changing over it discovered a lot of duplicate records and non-members

which had the effect of reducing the numbers right across the membership grades. Also, we had 22 non-members in a special list from a long time ago. Last year we tried to contact all of them to offer them full membership of either this group or the LinkedIn group. I think we had one response.

- 4.2. With regard to the 11 requests to join the LinkedIn group, it was agreed that David would ask JJ to approve those who were Fellow Grade and leave the rest till when Mandy returns.
- 4.3. Assessing requests to join the ITLF and our LinkedIn Group is an HQ responsibility. David to discuss with JJ the possibility of training a second HQ person to undertake assessments.
- 4.4. Question was asked whether people are automatically enrolled into the ITLF if they gain Fellowship? Currently they are not and not everyone chooses to join. Sonia will attend the next meeting and we should discuss this at that time (see 9 below).
5. Working Group progress:
 - 5.1. Nurturing Leaderpreneurs: The working group seems to be back on course.
 - 5.2. The Future CEO: Meeting coming up.
 - 5.3. Software Risk and Resilience: There is a disagreement over the reporting structure for the next phase. After the last meeting David had proposed a sub-committee structure to support this working group where the chairs of each sub group would form a sub-committee chaired by Gill and Ed and Gill would be their representative on this committee. Jonathan as the incoming Chair next year had agreed with this as being more manageable. Gill had objected to this and asked that each sub group chair be co-opted as a full member of the committee. The Committee was unanimous in favouring a sub-committee structure whilst allowing Gill to send a representative if she wasn't available in person.
 - 5.4. Early Career Leadership Appreciation and Mentoring? There may be an assumption that the only outcome from a working group is an action plan to resolve the issue, e.g. in this case an actual mentoring programme. Other options were discussed such as a paper setting out an issue and a considered/informed opinion – changing public opinion can bring about change. The paper could be the basis for an event, conference topic, or social media activity as appropriate. Phil was asked to carry out an independent check of the working group TOR on Basecamp to make sure this and other options were clear.
 - 5.5. IT Leadership Courses for Universities and further education? Jon was not present to report.
 - 5.6. IT Management Methods. This arose under 6.4, below.
6. Further discussion and firm up on the 2023 topics for events, working groups, and conference:
 - 6.1. Digital literacy and cybercrime awareness at board level – separate wg topics or add to 'The Future CEO' wg? Jonathan will see if this emerges from the work so far.
 - 6.2. Honesty in software development – offer as a conference topic? This is considered to be deliberate criminal behaviour rather than just ethics. The committee decided that it would make a challenging topic for conference perhaps with speakers from the Bank of England, Parliament, Whitehall, a software products company, the financial services industry, large enterprises, the judiciary, etc. The question to be debated is whether there is an important role here for the BCS, e.g. as a certification body, a whistle blowing contact, or other, and what the benefits would be.
 - 6.3. Strategy and architecture – joint with enterprise architecture group? This was a suggestion from Mike Broomhead at the Symposium. Clarification is needed from Mike as to what he sees as the opportunity here for a joint event. It is widely accepted that these go together and that methods may change but what would attract IT leaders to join the debate?
 - 6.4. Is Agile tech driven or business driven? A further argument for changing the way we work (IT Management Methods – see 5.6 above)? A likely topic for an event but Matt to work on

a compelling title and theme probably based on his suggestion around the notion of “Digital Maturity” with input from Karl.

- 6.5. ESG, us or offer as a conference topic? The committee thought this would probably be included in an ITLF event based on a list of ‘Hot Topics’ where the audience would be asked to vote on the topics they would most like developed further (see below).
7. Discussion on how best to gauge membership preferences once we have agreed on the topics. Addressed in 6.5 above.
8. Summary of the CBF X BCS report launch event attended on our behalf by Norman King. Norman described the findings of the research upon which the event was based. The conclusion was that black women were under-represented at senior levels in IT and the report identified steps to improve the situation. Norman was asked to place the report into the ‘For Governance’ folder of Basecamp so that the contents could be discussed at the next committee meeting.
9. Any Other Business
 - 9.1. Matt suggested that the reason that we had all had trouble logging into Teams tonight was caused by the link being set up needing someone with a bcs.org email address to start the meeting. This does not need to be the case and we should discuss with Mandy the set-up of the meeting. Once someone has logged in with the correct email address it was accessible by all
 - 9.2. For noting: Sonia Patel (The Chair of the new Fellowship Committee) to be invited to attend the next meeting as a guest. A possible question for Sonia that arose today, “Should all members on becoming Fellows be automatically enrolled as a member of the IT Leaders Forum?”
 - 9.3. Future meetings
 - 7 Mar
 - 9 May
 - 04 Jul
 - 5 Sept
 - 10 Oct
 - 28 Nov AGM
 - 9.4. The meeting closed at 1800.