Minutes of the sixth meeting of the 2006 Session of the
Committee of the South Wales Branch
6.00 pm Thursday, 7th Sept 2006
County Hall
Cardiff

140.6.0 PRESENT

Paul Bulmer (Chair)	Richard David	Ieuan Johns
Ralph Miller (sec)	Jeremy White	Daniel Cunliffe
John Hall	Beti Williams	Nigel Davies

Apologies

Derek Smith	Jason Mullins
Steve Harvey	
Eric Llewellyn	

140.6.2 REPORTS FROM ABSENT MEMBERS   **Actions**
There were no reports from absent members

140.6.3 WELCOME
There were no guests at this meeting. However, Paul welcomed all present.

140.6.4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
The draft of the meeting of 14th June 2006 was approved for placing on the web.   **IJ**

140.6.5 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES
JM to follow up on BCS Working Party for IT – Ongoing   **JM**
RD agreed that he would take up the role of schools liaison for the Branch. PB thanked Richard on
behalf of the committee.
Invoices from Swansea and Glamorgan had been received.
RD had not been able to get details from Bridgend College of possible contact - Ongoing.   **RD**
Paul still to try to contact Frank Bott of Aber. U – Ongoing.
Paul had not been able contact possible Ted Stuart Award Winner to confirm. PB to contact RRM   **PB**
asap to order Trophy, etc
All other items closed

140.6.6 CORRESPONDENCE

Jeremy introduced an announcement for the A* award in October. Nigel to see if he could attend
this year. Any others wishing to attend, contact Nigel or Jeremy.

Ralph had received an email from HQ with their list of committee members and their "duties". To
be passed to Ieuan for the web, with corrections.

140.6.7 BRANCH REPORTS
Membership Secretary's Report:
Nothing to report

Web master's Report
The Website had shown little or no activity during the Summer. Links had been created as

Treasurer's Report:
Nothing further to report.
Chairman's Report:
Nothing further to add

Branches Board/Council Reports:
Jeremy and Ralph had attended Branches Congress. Ralph reported on his breakout session, a description of Career Builder and Career Builder plus, as successors of CPD and PDS products, and built on Standard Industry Structure Model, from SFIA. Jeremy had attended the Session on next year's Jublee celebrations. There was still time to create/nominate our event(s), all to consider.   **ALL**
Nigel Shadbolt, Deputy President, had reported on the need to show professionalism and connection with Society
John Orton the HQ Membership and Products Director had presented on the views of what success really meant. Items on succesful events as viewed by committees were described (1, SECON, 2 Glasgow on bringing in everyone and using flexibility and individul initiatives, and 3)The Schools challenge from West Yorkshire.
The final session from Iain Thompson reiterated the financial position as sound, that Branches were still underspending. If they had put in a budget it had been agreed. Those who had not had been given a calculate Budget. Any further funding would normally be available upon asking.

Ralph is now on Branches Management Committee.

YPG:
 Ralph reported on the Skills Centres, (sessions for development of "soft skills") which had been referred to by Chris Moxon, the YPG chair, at BMC and Branches congress. Ralph suggested that   **RRM**
we could perhaps join with the Young Directors Group of IoD and arrange one in Cardiff. Paul suggested that Max Davis should be brought in first and Ralph to contact him.
Ralph also reported on YPG idea of Computing clubs in University Students unions being branded as Student Chapters .
Schools:
Ralph highlighted the Schools Challenge, a form of University Challenge, which had been so   **RRM**
successful in W Yorkshire, which we might start.   **RD**

140.6.8 2005/2006 Events Programme
Please see the events planner attached to these minutes:

140.6.9 WELSH LANGUAGE AND RELATED ISSUES
   Daniel reported that, following clearance from all concerned, he would be providing (with the help of his wife) translated and Welsh items for the Website
140.6.10 COMMITTEE GUIDANCE NOTES
   Members of commitee should check out the Guidance notes and let Paul know of any amendments required

140.6.11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS
   Daniel raised the matter of professional assessors. He had not heard from Mike Underwood since   **RRM**
offering to become an assessor. RRM to contact Mike Underwood
Beti raised the issue of Prof. John Tucker wishing to become a member of the Committee. Through Beti, Paul invited John to attend our meeting as a co-opted member, for election at the next AGM in May 2007. If John agreed to this, Ralph would add his name to the list for agenda and minutes, etc.
Beti to confirm with RRM.   **BW**
Ralph raised the matter of the Branch representative on Swansea University Court. Paul reported that he had asked David Silver to pass on to the colleague whom he had mentioned, an invitation to join the Commitee and subsequently succede Beti if that was agreed by Committee at the take over point in three years time. It was agreed that Beti should continue to be the representative on the Swansea University Court.
140.6.12 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

   Tuesday, October 3rd at Swansea University. In the Thos. Recorde Room, Beti to arrange   **ALL**
refreshments etc.

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Appendix 1
Current Events Planner

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Date	Event Manager	Event	Comment
2006			
Wed May 24th 2006	Nigel Davies	**Title:** Providing inspiration & creativity in website design + AGM **Speaker:** Adrian Garcia-Sierra **From:** Brazil Design, Cardiff **Venue:** Room 3.07, New Building, Computer Science Department, Cardiff University **Synopsis:** Dr Adrian Garcia-Sierra is a Director of Brazil Design Ltd, one of the region's leading marketing and communications agencies formed in 1994. Adrian joined Brazil almost 5 years ago having gained one of the world's first doctorates in e-commerce from Cardiff University (during which time he addressed the BCS South Wales Branch) and thereafter having been an e business Consultant. Adrian will discuss the huge importance websites have come to play in many walks of life, and how design is thus crucial for interaction. He will consider business-oriented, consumer-oriented and other sites, female/male perspectives, W3C and RNIB initiatives, all aimed at improving our lives.	ND some ideas for this on website design for business Speaker would be Adrian Garcia-Sierra (former S Wales branch YPG rep). All details confirmed at the May Committee meeting.
Tues September 19th 2006	John Hall	**Title:** Informing Health Care **Speaker:** Dr Gwyn Thomas **From:** Director Informing Health Care **Venue:** Room 3.07, New Building, Computer Science Department, Cardiff University **Synopsis:**	John has asked Glyn to give a presentation about Informing Health Care to our branch based on a presentation to the North Wales branch last year. JH to ask for a synopsis.
Wed October 11th 2006	Ralph Miller	**Title:** Visit to BT Cardiff **Speaker:** **From:** **Venue:** **Synopsis:**	Ralph will see what can be done for a party of 20. Contact is Lyndon Evans Jeremy will act as a contact in the assembly if this is required. Jeremy has a plan B if required.
Thur November 9th 2006	Ralph Miller	**Title:** The politics of strategic decision-making: a case study **Speaker:** Joe Omahoney **From:** Cardiff Business School **Venue:** Cardiff Business School **Synopsis:** This talk will critique the planned and rational model of decision-making that many businesses and academics assume. Through the use of evidence drawn from a major case-study it emphasises the way that business strategy is often influenced by political, social and personal factors and argues	RRM now has a new contact to follow up. Joe Omahoney to make presentation on "strategic decision making – A case study of industrial decision making on 3G

that these factors cannot be eliminated but need to be managed by organisations.

3G, or third-generation technology, was billed as one of the biggest technological innovations this decade. It promised to revolutionise telecommunications, raised over £100bn for governments around the world and spawned some of the largest start-ups in business history. 3G is a licence for mobile operators to operate on a new part of the spectrum band-width, enabling higher download rates and thus the wireless transfer of music, video and games. It enables broadband style access to and from mobile phones. In 2001, the UK government sold 5 3G licences to operators raising £35bn and ostensibly enabling a new form of business: multi-media telecoms. The speaker was involved in this process from the start, both advising companies on the suitability of bidding for the licences and then helping start-up Three, an international start-up focused on using the licences to launch a new type of mobile service. The company is owned by Li Ka-Shing, one of the world's richest men, and known as *superman* in his native Hong Kong, primarily for his consistent business success.

However, five years in, and £30bn later Three is looking weak. It has posted consecutive losses amounting to £XXbn and analysts believe it is unlikely to ever recoup the expense it has incurred. This talk asks the question 'why?' and suggests the answer is because the 3G strategy was neither as rational nor planned as many believed. Instead a number of social and political influences created a context for poor decision-making. These factors included:

1. The media climate: the decision was taken at the peak of the dot-com boom in an environment where it seemed that any business connected with digital media could not fail.

2. The advice industry: consultants (including myself) advised companies to buy into 3G when the business case was dubious at best. Consultancies stood to make millions out of organisations agreeing to start-up new companies and therefore provided biased advice.

3. Decision-making: many decision-

		makers, including Li Ka-Shing himself, did very well out of 3G. Clever financial strategies combined with golden hellos and farewells meant that most of the directors of Three had a vested interest in making the project as complex and expensive as possible. The talk will conclude that the current climate of decision-making by strategists, investors, governments, consultants and organisations is heavily biased in favour of expenditure and risk. More widely it asks if current analyses focusing on financial and organisational levels of decision-making would do better to focus on individual stakeholders and personal gains.	
Tue 5th December 2006	Derek / Betti	**Title:** Future Interactive Technologies **Speaker:** Kevin Warwick? **From:** **Venue:** Waterfront Museum, Swansea **Synopsis:**	Consider using Swansea in place of Techniquest for a change of venue? We thought of the topic 'Future Interactive Technologies'. We are waiting to hear if Kevin Warwick is available on either of these dates. This will determine the programme. Derek and Beti to plan ASAP
Wed 10th January 2007	Jeremy	**Title:** Formula 1 racing **Speaker:** Chris Laws **From:** McLaren formula one **Venue:** Room 3.07, New Building, Computer Science Department, Cardiff University **Synopsis:**	Not now appropriate for December. Could move to Jan? BW to consider options for December.
Thur 8th Feb 2007	DC	**Title:** Community networking **Speaker:** **From:** **Venue:** J Block, University of Glamorgan **Synopsis:**	Community networking
Tue 6th Mar 2007	Richard David	**Title:** Open source, Sun / MS convergence **Speaker:** E Jones, **From:** CGram Software, **Venue:** **Synopsis:**	Open source, Sun / MS convergence? Emrice? Jones Won a prize in western mail for innovative software design. E Jones, CGram Software, Derwen House, Swansea SA20HY Tel No 01792 518000
Wed 4th Apr 2007	JH / ELl	**Title:** Computer Forensics **Speaker:** **From:** **Venue:** Newport	Computer Forensics

		Synopsis:	
Thur 17th May 2007	PB	**Title:** Photography **Speaker:** Mr David Lewis, **From:** Bridgend College **Venue:** Faraday Lecture Theatre (Formerly Esso Theatre), University of Wales Swansea **Synopsis:**	Joint presentation with IET
Thur 24th May 2007	ND	**Title:** Identity cards, biometrics, pass ports and personal freedom. **Speaker:** **From:** **Venue:** **Synopsis:**	PB to ask ND if he would be interested in fronting this? ND agreed to this at the May committee meeting and will now progress this event.
Tue 11th Sept 2007	Stephen Wood	**Title:** **Speaker:** **From:** **Venue:** **Synopsis:**	Sky, pod casting, Skype other? PB contact SW?
Joint presentation		**Title:** **Speaker:** **From:** **Venue:** **Synopsis:** Consider teaming up with other branches	ND / DC has some ideas and contacts. [One of these was to share the April '06 speaker – who is speaking at another branch in Feb '06] What about making this the Newport Event? JH.
Oct 2007	Beti Williams	**Title:** **Speaker:** **From:** **Venue:** **Synopsis:** BCS event at Swansea?	Beti would like to develop a high profile event that would become a regular BCS event at Swansea. This would be the first of these. Beti is currently considering a number of possible topics for this.
	Jeremy White	**Title:** **Speaker:** **From:** **Venue:** **Synopsis:**	Repeat the IT in extreme environments presentation Could this be an extra one in the west of the branch.