

**Minutes of the Seventh meeting of the 2006 Session of the  
Committee of the South Wales Branch  
6.00 pm October 4th 2006  
Robert Recorde Room  
Swansea University**

DRAFT

**141.7.0 PRESENT**

Paul Bulmer (Chair)	Richard David	Ieuan Johns
Ralph Miller (sec)	Jeremy White	Betti Williams

Professor J Tucker was welcomed to the meeting. He agreed to be co-opted onto the committee

**114.1.Apologies**

Derek Smith	Jason Mullins	Nigel Davies
Steve Harvey	Max Davis	Daniel Cunliffe
Eric Llewellyn		

**141.7.2 REPORTS FROM ABSENT MEMBERS**

There were no reports from absent members

**Actions**

**141.7.3 WELCOME**

**11** There were no guests at this meeting. However, Paul welcomed all present.  
**4.**  
**1.**

**114.1.**

**141.7.4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The draft of the meeting of Sept 4<sup>th</sup> 2006 was approved for placing on the web.

**IJ**

**141.7.5 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

JM to follow up on BCS Working Party for IT – Ongoing  
RD Had not received the item on the Schools challenge from RM. RM to send Invoices from Swansea and Glamorgan had been received. Which would come from this years allocation.  
RD had not been able to get details from Bridgend College of possible contact - Ongoing.  
Paul had contacted Frank Bott of Aber. U – Ongoing.  
It had been decided that this years Ted Stuart Award Winner was Jeremy White. The Trophy had been ordered from BCS HQ and would be presented at the Dec Event  
All other items closed

**JM  
RM**

**RD  
PB  
PB**

**141.7.6 CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no further correspondence.

**141.7.7 BRANCH REPORTS**

**Membership Secretary's Report:**  
Nothing to report

**Web master's Report**

The Website had returned to normal activity following the end of Summer recess. The contacts were significant, rather than casual hits.

**All**

IJ suggested that feedback material on the Events would keep the website showing current material

**Treasurer's Report:**

Nothing further to report.

**Chairman's Report:**

Nothing further to add

**Branches Board/Council Reports:**

Nothing further to report. However, Betti suggested that we write "officially" to BCS HQ to offer Cardiff as a host to a branches congress

**PB****YPG:**

Ralph had contacted Max Davis and he had agreed with the idea of trying a skills centre in Cardiff.

Ralph had asked him to speak to John Moxon, chairman of YPG to see what arrangements for a Skill Centre programme.

**MD****Schools:**

Ralph highlighted is to send details of the Schools Challenge, a form of University Challenge, which had been so successful in W Yorkshire, to Richard David. To send a copy to Betti Williams

**RRM  
RD****141.7.8 2005/2006 Events Programme**

Please see the events planner attached to these minutes: Particular actions were:

**PB**

PB to contact JW re: a slide display of future events at the October 11<sup>th</sup> Event at BT

DS Offered "Brain" display for the Christmas event

**BW**

PB to contact ND re Dec Event

**PB****141.7.9 WELSH LANGUAGE AND RELATED ISSUES**

Frank Bott had offered Welsh translation facilities if they were needed

**DC****141.7.10 COMMITTEE GUIDANCE NOTES**

Members of committee should check out the Guidance notes and let Paul know of any amendments required.

**All****141.7.11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Mike Underwood was no longer involved in assesment. Ralph had sent details from Jeanette Miller to Daniel and Jason

Beti reported that she was a finalist in the technology Woman of the Year award.

A lecturer at Swansea U had been voted it Woman of the year.

Ralph suggested that Paul should develop guidelines for Spokes people to the media. He would contact HQ to see what was material available

**PB****141.7.12 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

6.00pm. Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at Cardiff County Hall

**ALL**

## Appendix 1 Current Events Planner

Date	Event Manager	Event	Comment
<b>2006</b>			
Wed May 24th 2006	Nigel Davies	<p><b>Title:</b> Providing inspiration &amp; creativity in website design + AGM  <b>Speaker:</b> Adrian Garcia-Sierra  <b>From:</b> Brazil Design, Cardiff  <b>Venue:</b> Room 3.07, New Building, Computer Science Department, Cardiff University  <b>Synopsis:</b> 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.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">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.</p>	<p>ND some ideas for this on website design for business  Speaker would be Adrian Garcia-Sierra (former S Wales branch YPG rep).</p> <p>All details confirmed at the May Committee meeting.</p>
Tues September 19 <sup>th</sup> 2006	John Hall	<p><b>Title:</b> Informing Health Care  <b>Speaker:</b> Dr Gwyn Thomas  <b>From:</b> Director Informing Health Care  <b>Venue:</b> Room 3.07, New Building, Computer Science Department, Cardiff University  <b>Synopsis:</b></p>	<p>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.</p> <p>JH to ask for a synopsis.</p>
Wed October 11 <sup>th</sup> 2006	Ralph Miller	<p><b>Title:</b> Visit to BT Cardiff  <b>Speaker:</b>  <b>From:</b>  <b>Venue:</b>  <b>Synopsis:</b></p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Jeremy has a plan B if required.</p>
Thur November 9 <sup>th</sup> 2006	Ralph Miller	<p><b>Title:</b> The politics of strategic decision-making: a case study  <b>Speaker:</b> Joe Omahoney  <b>From:</b> Cardiff Business School  <b>Venue:</b> Cardiff Business School  <b>Synopsis:</b>  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</p>	<p>RRM now has a new contact to follow up.</p> <p>Joe Omahoney to make presentation on "strategic decision making – A case study of industrial decision making on 3G</p>

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 bandwidth, 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-

		<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	
Tue 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2006	Derek / Betti	<p><b>Title:</b> Future Interactive Technologies  <b>Speaker:</b> Kevin Warwick?  <b>From:</b>  <b>Venue:</b> Waterfront Museum, Swansea  <b>Synopsis:</b></p>	<p>Consider using Swansea in place of Techniquet for a change of venue?</p> <p>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 Betti to plan ASAP</p>
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> January 2007	Jeremy	<p><b>Title:</b> Formula 1 racing  <b>Speaker:</b> Chris Laws  <b>From:</b> McLaren formula one  <b>Venue:</b> Room 3.07, New Building, Computer Science Department, Cardiff University  <b>Synopsis:</b></p>	<p>Not now appropriate for December. Could move to Jan?</p> <p>BW to consider options for December.</p>
Thur 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2007	DC	<p><b>Title:</b> Community networking  <b>Speaker:</b>  <b>From:</b>  <b>Venue:</b> J Block, University of Glamorgan  <b>Synopsis:</b></p>	<p>Community networking</p>
Tue 6 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2007	Richard David	<p><b>Title:</b> Open source, Sun / MS convergence  <b>Speaker:</b> E Jones,  <b>From:</b> CGram Software,  <b>Venue:</b>  <b>Synopsis:</b></p>	<p>Open source, Sun / MS convergence? Emrice? Jones Won a prize in western mail for innovative software design.</p> <p>E Jones,  CGram Software,  Derwen House,  Swansea  SA20HY  Tel No 01792 518000</p>
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> Apr 2007	JH / ELI	<p><b>Title:</b> Computer Forensics  <b>Speaker:</b>  <b>From:</b>  <b>Venue:</b> Newport</p>	<p>Computer Forensics</p>

		<b>Synopsis:</b>	
Thur 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2007	PB	<b>Title:</b> Photography <b>Speaker:</b> Mr David Lewis, <b>From:</b> Bridgend College <b>Venue:</b> Faraday Lecture Theatre (Formerly Esso Theatre), University of Wales Swansea <b>Synopsis:</b>	Joint presentation with IET
Thur 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2007	ND	<b>Title:</b> Identity cards, biometrics, pass ports and personal freedom. <b>Speaker:</b> <b>From:</b> <b>Venue:</b> <b>Synopsis:</b>	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 11 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2007	Stephen Wood	<b>Title:</b> <b>Speaker:</b> <b>From:</b> <b>Venue:</b> <b>Synopsis:</b>	Sky, pod casting, Skype other?  PB contact SW?
Joint presentation		<b>Title:</b> <b>Speaker:</b> <b>From:</b> <b>Venue:</b> <b>Synopsis:</b> 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	<b>Title:</b> <b>Speaker:</b> <b>From:</b> <b>Venue:</b> <b>Synopsis:</b> 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	<b>Title:</b> <b>Speaker:</b> <b>From:</b> <b>Venue:</b> <b>Synopsis:</b>	Repeat the IT in extreme environments presentation Could this be an extra one in the west of the branch.