Minutes of the Fourth meeting of the 2007/88 Session of the Committee of the South Wales Branch
6.00 pm, 6th February, 2008
Cardiff County Hall

DRAFT

152.4.0 PRESENT

Paul Bulmer (Chair)	John Tucker	Beti Williams
Ralph Miller (Sec)	Ieuan Johns	Jeremy White
Jason Mullins	Richard David	Derek Smith

152.4.1 APOLOGIES

Steve Harvey	Max Davis	Gareth O'Gorman
Fred Long	Tony Corner	Eric LLewellyn
C Allen		

	Actions
152.4.2 REPORTS FROM ABSENT MEMBERS	
Unfortunately, arrangements to have contact for this meeting with Fred Long by telephone were still not possible. We would seek to arrange for the next meeting, at Swansea U. However Fred confirmed he had no further report for this meeting	
Max submitted the following report from the YPG: All is quite quiet on the YPG front at the moment, but I have been planning for a social networking event in April at Swansea University, with Ben and IT Wales - a rerun and augmentation of the career networking event we ran at Tiger Tiger in the Autumn. I hope this is ok to go ahead with, as it proved very popular last time and will be good to ensure YPG interest outside of Cardiff.	
Gareth wrote: It was great to be part of the BCS Christmas event and I 'm confident that the YPG exposure was beneficial. I've been in initial contact with Fred Long's students about the BCS Students Chapters, but I'm yet to have a proper conversation on what we can offer each other. I'm still keen for us to hold an event in/around Swansea University, following on from the enthusiasm shown by the student society there late last year. Max and I will link in as soon as possible in order for us to refocus our energies for the coming year.	
Steve sent in the Treasurer's report, see below	
Such reports from absent members are welcome. Please send them to the Sec., as we can then incorporate them in the minutes and the Committee is kept up to date	
152.4.3 WELCOME	
There were no guests at the meeting	
152.4.4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING	
The draft minutes of the last meeting were approved, for placing on the Web.	**IJ**
152.4.5 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES	
A meeting with the Newport Statisticians and Operations researchers will be included in the Events. Programme.	**JW**
The Branches resource project has been re-introduced at BCS. Ongoing	**RRM**
MBCS at Graduations, Richard French to provide info on other Universities. Ongoing	**RF**
152.4.6 CORRESPONDENCE	
DS had sent a letter to BMA Specialist Group for a joint meeting. Waiting for response from their next meeting	**DS**
RRM to respond to HQ Query on communications sent from Branch.	**RM**

PB to respond to Kerry Earl on request for attendance figures for 07/08	**PB**
152.4.7 BRANCH REPORTS	
Membership Secretary's Report: JM showed membership statistics, copies of the slides would be sent to Committee and IJ will post them on the Web site.	**JM** **IJ**
Webmaster's Report: IJ requested any suggestions for further items for the Website	**All**
Treasurer's Report: From the £4010 annual budget, approximately £1000 remained. This would be used on future events, but Committee were asked to consider if there were any other requirements.	**All**
Chairman's Report: There was no further report	
Branches Board/Council Reports: RRM had been voted as Council rep on the Nominations Committee. PB reported that he and JW would attend Branches Congress. He had been asked by Richard French to arrange a presentation on our activities. Any one else who could do this would also attend	
YPG: See correspondence item	
Schools: Richard David reported that he had been looking at schools websites and considered that there might be an opportunity to coach schools in design, or run a competition. He was asked to make proposals at the next meeting	**RD**
Universities: Next meeting April 30th at the OU in Wales. Mike Rodd to attend. NEWI (North East Wales Institute) had been contacted and would join the network. RRM reported that his recent attendance at Swansea U Court was most useful. BW reported that Swansea Institute was now Swansea Metropolitan University (SMU). JW would pursue the suggestions of a special prize to SMU from his McLaren F1 contact.	**JW**
152.4.8 2007/2008 Events Programme	
The Committee discussed the upcoming events: See attached list JW reported on the Techniquest meeting- very favourable outcomes. He also reported on his recent presentations, which were well received, but in Llanelli a very low audience was disappointing. At Newport, there were few Students present. The topic of student attendance requirements would be discussed at the Universities/IHE conference in April.	**RRM**
The Ted Stuart Award had been presented by JW on Trivan Mountain - Pictures on the Web	
IJ suggested an email list of those to whom posters for events could be sent (eg Cardiff City and County, UWIC)	**All**
The Annual Business meeting at Swansea on sustainability was excellent, but again a poor turnout. Slides had been requested through BW	**BW**
May - History of Computing event. Video recording arrangements to be investigated.	**JT**
Beti confirmed that the Christmas meeting for 2008 could be held in Swansea	**ALL**
Suggestions for future meetings were requested by the Chair.	
152.4.9 Welsh Language Website and Welsh Matters	
DC had reported progress on Welsh language website.	**DC**

Following discussion , the Committee agreed RRM would produce a short report which would form the proposal for forming the BCS in Wales. The Working party would then discuss and finalise arrangements with North Wales and Chester Branch and formal agreement sought from BCS. PB would circulate the earlier (unsuccessful) Scottish proposal to BMC.		**RRM** **PB**

152.4.10 COMMITTEE GUIDANCE NOTES

No further action at this meeting		

152.4.11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

RRM repeated his request to increase our activities to encourage Women to join the BCS. It was not immediately necessary to be a Member to attend Committee. Female (males as well of course) school students should be actively encouraged to take interest in ICT. Beti would arrange for us to engage with WIT in Wales, and also get links started with Schools. All Committee were asked to encourage female colleagues to join the Committee, or at least partake with this work. The situation with regard to the lack of girls taking ICT at School and then at University was at a point where a serious lack of national resources in this field could affect the economy		**All**
RRM asked again for invitations to non-Members to be more vigorous in our Event announcements on the web, in the email, and on Notices. Members should be encouraged to bring colleagues and non-Members with temporary access should be clearly encouraged. We should then pick up their details at the meetings.		**ALL**
RRM suggested that either an Events Secretary post or Events Sub-Committee be formed, instead of the Chair having the responsibility of administering the Events Programme. This would have the advantages: that the Chair could be given more time for more strategic issues. The meetings would be greatly shortened. Much meeting time was currently taken up with amending or updating the programme during meetings. If this were done off line, no restriction need arise for discussion of ideas and suggestions for meetings, or feedback discussion, but the Committee Meetings might be shortened. It was agreed that this suggestion would be activated for the AGM, where filling a post or posts would be sought		**PB**
It was suggested that Adam Price, Plaid MP for Carmarthen East would be invited to the proposed launch of the BCS in Wales, in the light of his winning the BCS competition for the best MPs Website. (It was also suggested that we might consider having a competition for the best AMs Website.) PB to write to see if he was interested		**PB**

152.4.12 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

4th March, at Swansea University		

Appendix 1
Current Events Planner

Date	Event Manager	Event	Comment
2007			
21st February	DS	**Title:** Freud as Real-Time Programmer (Joint Event With The British Psychological Society) **Speaker:** D Smith **From:** **Venue:** T207 School of computer science **Synopsis:**	Full details now on web site.
Thursday 20th March 2008	RD & BW	**Title:** Entertaining a second life **Speaker:** Dr Robert Gittins **From:** ITWales Regional Manager, Bangor **Venue:** Swansea **Synopsis:**	Initial synopsis had been obtained but BW to discuss with presenter to see if more emphasis can be made to slant this towards the role that computers play in providing entertainment as this was the original outline given by the IET in their publicity.
April	JW	**Title:** British Ports **Speaker:** **From:** TBC **Venue:** Swansea **Synopsis:** Collision avoidance. Goods tracking logistics. Site visit to Cardiff Bay.	Need a full synopsis and post this on the web.
May 2008	JT	**Title:** AGM and 50th anniversary event Something historical? **Speaker:** John Tucker **From:** Swansea **Venue:** Swansea **Synopsis:**	JT to send outline of plans and input to date to IJ and JW to publicise and stimulate further interest and input.
Sept 2008			
Oct 2008			
Nov 2008			
Dec 2008			
This event, originally proposed for September will now be organised for later in the year. A date is still to be agreed.	DC	**Title:** Computer Forensics **Speaker:** **From:** **Venue:** Glamorgan **Synopsis:**	ND has secured an offer from the Information Security Research group (Uni of Glamorgan) to provide the basis for a half day on computer forensics, possibly to include some trade stands. To follow up on input from Prof Neil Barrett. With ND departure from the committee, can DC help with this? DS offered to help in August if required.
		Microsoft Sharepoint?	These topics were requested via feedback
	IJ	IT, Computers and the environment	IJ had ideas on the topic that he wished to explore