

**Minutes of the Sixth Meeting of the 2008/09 Session of the
Committee of the South Wales Branch
6.00 pm, 16th April, 2009
Committee Room 3
County Hall, Cardiff**

DRAFT

162.6.0 PRESENT		
Paul Bulmer (Chair)	Carl Allan	Max Davis
Ralph Miller (Sec)	Jeremy White	Richard David
Rosemary Dale	Margaret Ross	Geoff Staples
162.6.1 APOLOGIES		
Steve Harvey	Daniel Cunliffe	Gareth O’Gorman
Daniel Cunliffe	Mikhaila Burgess	Ieuan John
Jason Mullins	Fred Long	Derek Smith
Stillianos Vidalis	Beti Williams	John Tucker

162.6.2 Welcome	Actions
<p>The Chair welcomed Prof. Margaret Ross and Geoff Staples, her husband. Margaret is from Southampton Branch and is the designated BMC Mentor for the South Wales Branch.</p> <p>The Chair welcomed Rosemary Dale, from the Open University In Wales. Rosemary had tried to attend earlier meetings with a view to joining the Committee.</p> <p>The committee was sorry to hear that Mikhaila Burgess had injured her leg badly and sent their good wishes for a speedy recovery.</p>	All
162.6.3 Reports from Absent Members	
<p>Fred reported on progress in Aberystwyth with setting up a local Sub Branch and with details of recent meetings held: one in November and in March a joint Departmental/BCS seminar.</p> <p>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</p> <p>Please send apologies to the Sec, copy to the chair, if possible in good time, as we can then adjust the refreshment numbers and even the date of the meeting if necessary following large numbers of apologies</p>	
162.6.4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING	
<p>The draft minutes of the last meeting were approved, for placing on the Web.</p>	CA
162.6.5 Matters arising from the Minutes	
<p>Paul and Jeremy would attend Branches Congress (Member Groups Convention) this year.</p> <p>There was no response yet from Committee as to attendance at a summer event and a meeting in Aberystwyth. Please let Paul know if you are interested.</p> <p>Mind map – ongoing.</p>	All All All
162.6.6 CORRESPONDENCE	
<p>There was no further correspondence</p>	
162.6.7 BRANCH REPORTS	
<p>Membership Secretary’s Report: No further report</p>	
<p>Webmaster’s Report: Carl Allen had agreed with Ieuan to take over as Web Master</p>	

Treasurer's Report	PB explained that part of the reason for Margaret Ross's visit was to explain the difficulties he had experienced in getting agreement for our budget extension. Margaret accepted that it was sometimes a complex balancing process between diminishing overall budgets and demands from sections and other groups. This year's budget was not yet announced but showed again a restricted total. There would be change to August 31st for the date for the end of the Financial year in 2009/10, but a pro-rata system in the interim period would enable matters to proceed relatively smoothly	PB
Chair's Report:	This topic was not discussed at this meeting.	
Branches Board/Council Reports:	There was no further report at this meeting. However, RRM reminded the group that this year's Member Groups Convention in May, over two days, was to be very significant. Paul and Jeremy were to attend.	PB, JW
Universities:	The next meeting was confirmed as being on 22 nd April 2009 in Bangor.	RRM
Schools:	RRM asked Daniel to contact his Schools liaison with details of Computer games from BCS - ongoing. Paul announced that Richard David is to retire due to ill health immediately following this year's AGM. The Committee expressed their sincere thanks for his work on their behalf over such a long time. A heartfelt round of applause was given.	DC RD
YPG/ Student Chapters:	Max reported that the progress was very slow on the Skill Centre proposal for Wales. It was likely to be some time before it happened. The black tie boat cruise evening idea was also not likely to proceed. He had been keeping in touch with SUCS, and intended to follow up with Mikhaila the possibility of a Cardiff U Student Chapter. He had attended a very successful dinner meeting of an organisation called Bright Futures, a Swansea based student placement scheme.	
162.6.8 2008/2009 Events Programme		
	There was much discussion on the future events incorporated into the Programme maintained by Jeremy. He issued an updated Programme. He asked that committee members consider the events listed, suggest extra topics and offer to run specific events. The committee's goal was to have a complete autumn programme by the AGM. Jeremy had prepared and circulated by eMail a short note on how he saw programme planning being influenced by the member survey. He agreed to meet Max, Carl and Mikhaila – the survey team – to discuss giving a presentation at the AGM. Mikhaila had reported that the Terry Matthews lecture at Cardiff U the following evening had been cancelled due to his ill health. Note AGM on 21st May at BT IDC, Cardiff	ALL JW
162.6.9 Welsh Language Website and BCS in Wales		
	RRM reported that he had gained agreement to set up a Cross Party Committee on IT and Communications in the National Assembly. Together with Beti's appointment on to the Cross Party Committee on Science and Technology the BCS in Wales had the opportunity to influence policy at a high level in Wales. The first meeting of the Women at BCS in Wales Group had been held A very positive response had been gained from a Branch email on setting up a specialist health Group in Wales. A response is awaited from the North Wales and Chester Branch to a request to survey their members. Fred Long was seeking local interest in setting up a sub Branch in West Wales. There is no update on the Welsh Language version of our web site.	RRM BW JW RRM FWL DC
162.6.10 Guidance Notes		

	Not discussed at this Meeting. See Website for these Notes.	
162.6.11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS		
	<p>Margaret Ross provided a leaflet relating to the start up of a Green Computing Special Interest Group. Any one interested should contact Margaret at the BCS. The Chair reported on Ieuan's work, showing that efficient processes, governed by computer technology, were at least as important in this respect as the efficiency of the computers themselves.</p> <p>She was very complimentary on our work, especially the events programme, including the Christmas event.</p> <p>ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING The Committee discussed the election arrangements sought at the AGM on 21st May:</p> <p>It was agreed that all the existing officers (Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer) would stand again, nominated by the Committee. This was unanimously resolved by the Committee.</p> <p>All the existing Committee members would stand again en bloc. However, Richard David would retire. Prof. Grey from Cardiff University had also retired. This was unanimously resolved by the Committee.</p> <p>Previously co-opted members of the Committee (Mikhaila Burgess, Carl Allan, and Rosemary Dale) would stand for election, nominated and endorsed en bloc by the Committee. This was unanimously resolved by the Committee</p> <p>Any other accepted nominations received as a result of the formal AGM Notice would be notified to the existing Committee immediately.</p>	
162.6.12 DATE(S) OF FUTURE MEETING(S)		
	<p>Next meeting would be on 12th May, with a video conference link to Aberystwyth from Cardiff U, subject to approval. The meeting Room will be the Access Grid Room, the same room in the new Block at the Computer Science Dept., Cardiff U. Start time 6.00 pm.</p> <p>NB AGM on 21st May at BT IDC, Cardiff</p>	<p>MB ALL</p>