Attendees

Adrian Steel
Olusegun Akintola
Paul Booth
Gary Bradshaw
Bruce Nicholls
Christos Stavroulakis
CMLV
Phil Crewe
David Miller
Eddie Uren
Essie
Gill Ringland
Hans Bathija
Ian Golding
Jacqui Hogan
Jeremy Acklam
Jon Hall
Jonathan Leeson
Matthew Taylor
Norman King
Paul Chung
Sandra Woolley
Mike Sauderson
Shakeeb Niazi
Sian Elin Perry
Stephen Castell
Stephen Louise
Wael Elrifai
Wendy Dearing

Committee roles during 2021

Chair – Phil Crewe
Vice Chair – Dr David Miller
Inclusion Officer – Jacqui Hogan
Secretary – Ian Golding
Treasurer – Jeremy Acklam
Events Coordinator and Communications Lead – Shakeeb Niazi and Jonathan Leeson
White Paper Coordinator – Dr John McCarthy

The other committee members were Dr Jon Hall, Algirdas Pakstas and Haiyan Wu.

Dalim Basu and Ibukun Emmanuel were both committee members for part of the year but stood down during 2021. The committee thanks them for their contribution.

Election report

This month we had eight vacancies due including people coming to the end of their term, and eight nominations to join the committee. Therefore, no formal election was needed.

I'm pleased to confirm the following people were elected for a three-year term: Phil Crewe (re-elected), David Miller (re-elected), Haiyan Wu (re-elected), Christos Stavroulakis, Matthew Taylor, Norman King, Prof. Paul Chung, Adrian Steel.

Welcome to all.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Jeremy Acklam for his work over the past years on the committee, and I hope to continue working closely with him in the future.

We will confirm specific committee roles at the next committee meeting.

As you know, this will be my last AGM as Chair, and I will be handing over to Dr David Miller at the close of this meeting. I will continue as part of the committee so look forward to working with you all.

The year in review

This has been an extremely positive year for the IT Leaders Forum, and I look forward to the team continuing to build on it during the coming year.

With the continuing Covid restrictions, it was a pity that we couldn't get together in person during the year, but hopefully in the coming year we will be able to. We still managed to run virtual events, and we look forward to continuing with that this year. Also, as the BCS offices re-open more fully we hope to run some hybrid face-to-face and virtual meetings. Stephen Castell noted that hybrid meetings would be a good option for inclusion.

When we started the year, we had renamed to the IT Leaders Forum and were starting to re-launch. Overall, the feedback we were getting was positive, and attendees at the events were up, mainly due to the fact that it was easier to join a virtual meeting than travel to London (or other venues) for physical ones.

We had a very good start to the year with our first Annual IT Leaders Forum Conference. 677 people signed up to the event, with nearly half of those attending for a significant part of the programme. BCS had just over 170 requests for more information, which I hope has converted to new members of the BCS.

The IT Leaders Forum itself had very few new enquiries which was slightly disappointing but was balanced out by existing members being more engaged with the programme and getting involved with ongoing activities.

One of those activities has been to create Symposia for members to discuss topics of interest and to form working groups to develop those ideas. We have held two this year, and three specific topics have been discussed and will be the subject of further debate at our Second Annual IT Leaders Forum Conference, which will take place in February this year.

I know Jonathan will want to talk about some of the events from 2021, and we have dedicated time after I close the AGM to start discussions about the 2022 events programme.

Membership

The latest figures are summarised as follows:

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

Other than the LinkedIn membership, these figures are taken from SalesForce and so as we understand it the fluctuation in the numbers is driven by membership renewal cycles. However, it can be seen that membership of the BCS IT Leaders Forum has been maintained throughout 2020 as representing approximately 40% of all Fellows and 5% of the BCS membership overall. The LinkedIn Group for the BCS IT Leaders Forum meanwhile continues to grow steadily as retiring members are not removed and can continue to be active. What this suggests is that, with the exception of the LinkedIn Group, whilst we could lose members if we fail to provide them with what they want, we can probably only grow if the BCS itself grows.

Engagement

One of the challenges we have had recently is engagement with membership to provide an event programme and environment that is useful. The members-only symposia and working groups seem to have started to improve that, with strong engagement on some topics of interest. Also, it is extremely good to report the number of people who want to join the committee has also shown a marked rise, with others indicating they may want to take part in the future. This puts the group in a good position for the coming year.

Treasurers Report

Since no events were run in the financial year the budget had zero expenditure and zero income.

Events Report

The year started with our inaugural IT Leaders conference; a collaboration with the BCS and the IT Leaders Forum committee in February

March saw a joint event with BCS North London branch on IT heads - Dancing with the Red Queen - IT Leadership in a changing world!

We had four events pencilled in for 2021 but with the continual disruptions to people's work life we got the support to run one event plus the symposium.

Event 1 – What will the new Normal look like?
Event 2 – Blockchain, beyond cryptocurrency
Event 3 – Artificial intelligence and Service Management, the next level
Event 4 – You suggest …

A joint event with the BCS North London branch on the 5 epic fails of the cyber security industry was held in May.

Event 1 was a joint event with OU run in June, with the focus still very much in discussion today. What are we missing with virtual/home working, how should we bring people to together physically and what opportunities will it bring, all questions we are starting to ask?

In July Shakeeb requested to stand down from his role organising events and Jonathan agreed to take over for 3Q21 as we plan for 2022. We'd like to thank Shakeeb for his leadership and continual support.

The BCS IT Leaders Forum Summer Symposium took place in September

As we move into 2022, we are very much looking to our members to assist with future events and will discuss this later today.

AOB

Closing Remarks

Before closing, as this is my last meeting as Chair, I want to thank everyone who has been on the committee over the last two years for their help, advice, encouragement, and activity. The IT Leaders Forum is poised ready for the next step, and it is due to their activities that we are in this position.

It is though with great pleasure that I hand the reigns of Chair over to David Miller.

Dr David Miller thanked Philip on behalf of the group for all his work over the past two years, the changes he had introduced, and for what had been achieved. He also said that he felt honoured to be invited to become the group's new Chair. He went on to say that he believed that the BCS IT Leaders Forum had a lot to offer group members, the BCS as a whole, and the wider profession and IT leaders in general. As a result of what has been achieved over the last year or so, we enjoy a much higher profile and so he would like us now to consolidate and build from this position. He proposed three themes: Professionalism, Member Engagement, and Industry Leadership. He will set this out for the committee and how it might translate into actions so that it can be discussed at the next meeting and, when agreed, circulated more widely. David emphasised that we will continue to engage effectively with BCS HQ which has been very supportive of the changes we have introduced so far.

Post-AGM discussion led by Jonathan
15th Feb, BCS conference in partnership with the IT Leaders Forum

6th April, a hybrid event with attendees and speakers present physically at the London office along with remote participation.

Aim of 2022 will be to run an event per quarter with a deeper dive on key topics that come out of the Feb conference.

Today is also an opportunity to raise any topics you'd like to see addressed in 2022.

Some topics we including the Feb conference.

- Resource demands and needs, how to retain talent
- IT management methods for the future
- How to inform your board members on what they need to know on cyber security

Events can be short for virtual meetings.
Expect the hybrid and physical meetings to make the most of seeing people

Communications – make the most of the LinkedIn Site, use of it to raise topics and develop

Areas of interested raised
Gill Ringland
- Software Failure – Working group or event? Ed Stinmuller, establish current position on cost impacts of software failure – 30 min briefing. – Build up the focus of the activity. Half day event in March. Add Stephen Castell, Christos Stavoulakis.

  Action Gill to take lead, Jonathan to assist with promotion.

Matthew Taylor – Listed a number of opportunities.
- Cybersecurity (confirmed will be covered in Feb BCS conference)
- AI and trends – example service management – analytics
- 5G take up. Decline of 2G and 3G
- ESG (see action below)

Adrian Steel
- Would like to take part in the return to the office event. Action Jonathan to include as part of planning team for April event.
- Burn-out – implications of skills drain in the remainders. – (covered in Feb BCS conference, but we could have a deeper diver event)
- Cloud – what is happening as more and more going to large companies – "house of cards". What does this mean for your business in the future? Combine with the Importance of BCP, resilience and risk management
- Less is more – whilst recognising the achievements of agile during the pandemic it is not sustainable. We struggle with prioritisation, we can't work on everything at once, and we have leadership issues. It was recognised that this touches on management methods and David Miller offered to involve Adrian in that working group. (to be featured at the Feb BCS conference, under Re-setting our management methods)

Shakeeb Niazi
- ESG – Digital Divide with BCS, digital poverty alliance. Action Jonathan/Shakeeb to see if we can run an event of ESG. Incorporate government stance as raised by Jon Hall, below.

Jon Hall
- Digital Policy in the UK, lots of government. ITLF, DPA. Maybe a need to educate policy makers, also the failures of government IT.

Gill Ringland

- Structural changes in industry, the risks and resilience associated with new methods of working, example given on a failure of a staff scheduling system at a major supermarket and the consequences on everyday tasks.

Stephen Castell
- Tie some of the events together and bring in government advisors to get their views. Legislation impacts. Expertise in government, what exists. AI in particular.
- Rise of Digital Capitalism by the few what does this mean for the global economy and society, e.g. the news that Apple capitalisation now stands at $3Tr and the effect on London trading.

Outcome of the discussion, initial ideas consolidated from the discussion.

Review the following proposal and plan to develop the agenda for each event using sub-teams.

Event 1 – March – Co-Sponsor Software Development close group event. Gill, David
Event 2 – April – Return to office protocols, what have organisations focused on. How are people responding to longevity of home/hybrid working? Mathew
Event 3 – July – The migration to SaaS, Cloud and external services what do businesses need to consider when managing IT risk/availability. Adrian
Event 4 – Sept – The Digital divide, ESG, government digital policy. Look to co-sponsor with other groups. – Shakeeb, Stephen, Jon
Event 5 – Dec – Round of the years key issues, focus for 2023. Jonathan
In addition, look to sponsor some of the events with other groups such as CIONET, IoD,

Expand the round table discussion at the 2022 conference to cover ideas for government policy change as well as suggestions for new legislation.