

## Election to BCS Council (2019-2022) – Nomination Statement

### **Paula Clarendon MBCS**

Supporters: Sarah J Swanson MBCS CITP  
Jonathan Bryon MBCS CITP

Statement:

#### EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DETAILS

PRINCE2 Project Management Practitioner  
Postgraduate Certificate in Online Tutoring  
BSc Hons Software Engineering  
OU Professional Certificate in Management  
CIPD Certificate in Training and Development  
IITT Certificate of IT Training  
BTEC HNC Business Information Technology

Paula has 20+ years of customer focused experience across multiple IT disciplines. E.g. Project management, software product management and marketing, learning and development, and technical support.

Her strategic management, organisational, and commercial awareness skills were developed and utilised in enterprise and small business roles spanning the not-for-profit, public and private sectors.

She joined the Institute at the start of her IT career and has been an active member throughout. She currently serves as a volunteer on the following BCS committees:-  
Project Management Specialist Group (PROMS-G)  
Community Board Policy Committee  
BCS Council

Paula was first elected to Council as a Specialist Group Representative in 2016. Since then she has proactively engaged with member groups to gather their views and to openly advocate their needs, issues and interests at Council.

As a naturally curious lifelong learner, Paula has wide-ranging interests outside of IT. She often discovers new ideas and perspectives by attending various networking and learning events. She has effectively utilised her wide-ranging knowledge and experience to bring a broader context to Council discussions and to challenge and influence strategic ideas.

Paula is standing for re-election to Council because she is keen to contribute to the strategic development of the Institute for the benefit of all, especially its members.

E.g. one way to “make IT good for society” could be to utilise innovative on-demand learning tools to help members continuously develop professional skills and ethics. Another could be to facilitate knowledge and skills sharing to educate the community and the public, particularly the digitally disadvantaged.

## Election to BCS Council (2019-2022) – Nomination Statement



**Shakeeb Niazi FBCS CITP**

Supporters: Ian Golding FBCS CITP  
Jonathan Exell MBCS CITP

Statement:  
Candidate

Shakeeb Niazi created the BCS Entrepreneurs Mentorship Programme to foster the next generation of technology entrepreneurs through transfer of knowledge, expertise and ideas between BCS Mentors, Startup & Scaleup communities. His leadership of the BCS Entrepreneurs Specialist Group (SG) is receiving interest and praise from external bodies including accelerators and universities.

Shakeeb is active in the London Tech scene, through a decade of mentoring hundreds of Startups and training mentors in his Alchemy “active mentoring” methodology’, involvement in Tech London Advocates and many Entrepreneurship and Mentoring events and initiatives.

Shakeeb’s support of entrepreneurs through programmes with Universities, Incubators and Accelerators takes early stage Startups through to Scaleups, applying technological innovation and business skills to create positive Social Impact.

Diversity & Inclusion is at the core of all his activities to ensure the widest-possible benefit across demographics, business models and sectors. An “everyman mentor”, he is willing to give an hour of his time to any person that would like his help.

Current Leadership Roles

- ? Chair - BCS Entrepreneurs Specialist Group
- ? Founder and Chair - The Society for Entrepreneurial Education and Development (Registered Charity)
- ? Founder and Chair - Bilquis Foundation (Charity Registration pending)
- ? Entrepreneur-in-Residence - Kingston University

## Influence & Repute

- BCS ELITE & DevSecOps Committee Member -
- FBCS CITP Chartered Fellow of BCS
- FIOEE Institute of Enterprise and Entrepreneurs
- MIET Member Institution of Engineering and Technology
- Mass Challenge Judge & Mentor.
- BCS Awards Judge
- STEM Ambassador
- Business Mentor - Prince's Trust

“Thank you for supporting my election on to the BCS Council”

– Shakeeb Niazi

## Election to BCS Council (2019-2022) – Nomination Statement



**Adrian Williamson CEng FBCS CITP**

Supporters: Howard Gerlis FBCS CITP  
Robert Cowham CEng MBCS CITP

Statement:  
CEng CITP FBCS MIET ACMI

Interaction Specialist Group Committee member  
BCS in Scotland Committee member  
Elected Council member (Specialist Groups constituency)  
Past Council-elected Chair of Council

I am a senior manager with wide IT experience. I am based in Edinburgh, working across the UK as a Senior IT Analyst in Research and Development Tax Relief for Jumpstart UK.

I seek election to progress the establishment of SGs and other member groups within the Institute, support them with adequate flexibility and funding, and ensure that the organisation appreciates their contribution to our aim of making IT good for society. With BCS finances strained once more, we must work harder to enable groups to earn and retain credit for their contributions. I believe we must further champion member group strengths and ownership, for the benefit of all in BCS.

My second theme is our need to encourage focus on meaningful contributions to strategic topics supporting UK and worldwide engagement across our practitioner and academic communities. We must continue our adoption of suitable technology, although results remain mixed, guide effective operation, and ensure that members and member groups benefit appropriately from this welcome continuing investment.

As a Specialist Group Committee member with over ten years experience, I believe I am well placed to carry forward the expertise and wisdom present in our groups to the Institute's Council. I actively contribute to all Council Institute strategy events and also Member Group Conventions, keeping up to date with SG activity and issues. I have experience of representing our groups within Council and senior levels of BCS, ensuring that our contribution and needs are properly recognised. If re-elected, then I will work to ensure that Council's best interests of BCS discussions adequately encompass Member Group views, expertise and needs.