

MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE SOUTH WEST BRANCH OF THE BCS HELD AT THE PACKHORSE, SOUTH BRENT ON NOVEMBER 20th, 2007

Present: Prof S Furnell, Dr P Dowland, Mr K Chamberlain, Mr E Draper, Ms J Kneller, Ms S Karatzouni, Dr J Fieldsend, Dr N Clarke

Apologies: Mrs S Atkinson

MATTERS ARISING FROM MEETING 26th JUNE

Amendments: Dr J Fieldsend's title and post were corrected

- School's Competition – Plymouth University is running a workshop on IT/Security/Privacy for 16-18 year olds. Plymouth LEA is actively supporting it, but it is open to all Devon & Cornwall schools. The BCS branch decided to run a follow-up competition encouraging participants to take the messages back to their schools. Groups will comprise 4-6 people, co-ordinated for University by PD, **KC offered to assist for BCS part.**
- Student Project – No further progress, but feasible for both Exeter & Plymouth to award prizes - **SK to research further**
Also to check if BCS HQ promotional visit is possible to increase the value of BCS membership prize, or at least posters and other BCS material.

EVENTS PROGRAMME – 2007-08

- October – Webroot – was well received with 35 – 40 attendees, split approx 50/50 between students and professionals.
- Further investigation to be continued by:
 - **KC – Intel and Dr. Jon Holt (UML)**
 - **JF – IBM, TCL (Testing) and GCHQ (Hacking)**
- Committee decided that parallel events in Exeter and Plymouth needed to be considered
- Offer of a talk about Health Informatics from Max Hughes had been received. **SF to try and organise for April in Plymouth**

AUTUMN CONGRESS

KC included report to committee – Main points were a rousing call to action for Branches from new Chief Exec, David Clarke urging us to come up with novel ways to promote BCS to current and new members. SW branch is fairly typical in number of events and average attendance. Also Aberdeen branch had recorded one of their events and distributed to members unable to attend – which proved successful. All Branches were encouraged to do likewise, and HQ would provide duplication and distribution facilities if required.

PD to investigate if Plymouth Univ. could provide recording facilities

FINANCE MATTERS

This year £875 had so far been spent (including Student prizes), out of the £3988. budget.

BCS HQ MATTERS

DVD of Aberdeen event (mentioned above) has been received – **KC to find out if it can be posted on Branch website for members to view.**

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- January meeting has 17 bookings so far (out of 30 places)
- It was agreed to make better use of mailing list and articles for the website – not much has been received since the Branch stopped publishing a paper newsletter.

It was agreed that the next meeting will be on **Monday January 14th 2008, 7.30pm at Carwick Barton, St. Thomas, Exeter.**

(ED to book and confirm venue)

KSC
08/12/2007