BCS Member Group Chair's Report

Report submissions must be sent to groups@bcs.uk or your Community Coordinator.

Member Group Name:	BCS Hertfordshire
Year:	2021 -2022
Report Completed By:	Peter Klein

Group Chair:	Peter Klein
Group Treasurer:	Paul Moggridge
Group Secretary:	David Hubbard
Group Inclusion Officer:	Vacant
Other Committee Members:	Kes Browne, Ronald Edema, Anil Jagota, Malcolm Newman, Tripsy Pranesh, Algirdas Pakstas, Chris Tilley

The Chair's Report is a vital communication tool for the BCS Community Team to understand and support your activity as a group. The Programme, Practice, and Policy (PPP) Committee will review your submitted report and suitable action points fed into the Community Board for strategic planning. As one of the critical communication points with our members, your completion of this report supports not only your group but ongoing support and development of other member groups and the BCS itself

Successes

Please list the top three successes the group has achieved in the past year.

Success	**Additional Comments**
1. 1. Our YouTube Channel of events https://www.youtube.com/c/BCSHerts	Between 1st September 2021 and 30th August 2022 we had 1500 views representing 146.3 hours of watch time and gained 27 subscribers. This is down on last year as we only had 3 lives streams, released 2 from the archive videos and published two interview videos. 50.9% of views were for live streams with the remaining 49.1% being video or archived content views.
2. Our continuing relationship with the University of Hertfordshire through student prizes and other events including a YouTube Project Showcase	Our strong relationship with the university continues. We made two student awards for Innovation. The BSc award went to Nicolás Martín Obesio for his Greenhouse Gas Reporting Too and the MSc award went to Peter Johnson for his Web Accessibility Evaluation Tool
3. Our continued survival	As things return to the “new” normal we hope to be able to recruit new members to the committee. As commented last year, the fact that we did not ‘throw in the towel’ as so many other branches have done over the last three years is a testament to the hard work and efforts of our core team.

BCS Member Group Chair's Report

Plans

Please list the top three activities the group is planning for next year.

Planned Activity	Additional Comments
1. Programme of events on YouTube	
2. Programme of physical events including some smaller more localised	
3. Maintain the link with the University of Hertfordshire and wider community	

Impediments

Please list and describe the top three impediments stopping you from succeeding in your group's ambition and support the BCS vision of "Making IT Good for Society."

Impediment	Description
1. Lack of vision, engagement and encouragement from HQ	We feel ignored and unsupported. We never received a response to our report last year and the awards were not followed up. Following a hardware failure, we requested permission to use our budget to fund a replacement graphics card. This was refused on the basis that HQ already provided the facility. When we tried this out, it took groups, ten days to respond to an initial request and the response stressed that they did not have the resources to provide what we needed in the timescale that we normally operate to. The graphics card has been replaced at considerable personal expense to one of our members and our budget is seriously underspent. This makes no sense.
2. Engagement by our membership has been limited	Online meetings do not lend themselves to interaction and engagement with our members. We did reach out to members in the neighbouring Cambridge area with zero response.
3. Two years ago we surveyed our membership and asked how we could better serve them. They asked for online access to events with the option to catch-up. Our YouTube channel was a response to this but many of our viewers are not based in Hertfordshire.	With the lack of face to face meetings, we have continue to struggle to find committed, engaged and energised members to bring onto the committee – particularly from the younger cohorts of the BCS membership

Additional Facts and Figures

Please provide any facts and figures you think would be useful to the Community Team for further analysis and future activity planning.

Please see last year's report as to date no response has been received.

Further Comments

If you have any further comments you wish to provide the Community Team; please give them below.

Please see last year's report as to date no response has been received.

Nominations for Awards and Recognition

It is important that the BCS recognise deserving voluntary service. If you are aware of someone who warrants one of these awards, then please nominate them. It is easy to nominate someone, but, if you are unsure about completing the form, the Community team and your liaison in the Programme, Practice and Policy Committee can help. Please email groups@bcs.uk.

There are three levels of Recognition of Appreciation award:

- Certificate of Appreciation – going beyond the normal expectations of a single voluntary role by directly contributing to significant involvements, achievements or benefits to BCS.
- Meritorious Certificate – going beyond the normal expectations of two or more voluntary roles in different areas of BCS by directly contributing to tangible involvements, achievements or benefits to BCS.
- John Ivinson Award – significantly furthering the BCS's strategic aims and mission on a wide scope of BCS's areas of endeavour by directly contributing significant achievements and benefits to BCS. Typically, the BCS will present this prestigious award to 1-3 volunteers per year.

There are long-service awards for 5, 10, 25, and 30 years of contribution to the BCS.

BCS Member Group Chair's Report

Volunteer Recognition

Please complete the table below and indicate if you wish to nominate a member of your team for an award of recognition. A member of the Community Team will get in touch to help you complete the process.

Group/Branch Member	Years of BCS Volunteering	Nomination
Chris Tilley	10	Certificate of Appreciation for design, development and implementation of our YouTube platform
David Hubbard	10	10 years long service
Peter Klein	11	10 years long service
Two of these nominations were made last year but were not followed up by the Community Team.		

Honorary Fellowship

Nominees will have made an outstanding contribution to the charitable objectives of the BCS over an extended period.

The BCS award Honorary Fellowship under Byelaw 8 of the BCS's Royal Charter and Trustee Board Regulation 1.3 specifies that the BCS award may also make the award to non-members who may not be eligible for any other class of membership.

Community Board and Trustee Board will consider a candidate for Honorary Fellowship against the following criteria:

- At any time, both the contribution to BCS's work and the stature of the individual nominated should be commensurate with the standards set by previous recipients. There is no overall limit to the number of Honorary Fellows although it is unlikely that there will be more than two Honorary Fellows elected in any one year.
- To be elected, the nomination must be on the Trustee Board Agenda, and at least 3/4 of those present must resolve in favour.

If you are aware of a nominee for Honorary Fellowship; please add their details below and a member of the Community Team will raise this at the next appropriate meeting of the Community Board.