BCS Member Group Chair's Report

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

Member Group Name:	ICT Ethics specialist group
Year:	2023-2024
Report Completed By:	Professor Neil Gordon (Chair)

Group Chair:	Neil Gordon
Group Treasurer:	Gillian Arnold
Group Secretary:	Paul Rowley
Group Inclusion Officer:	Chris Mercer
Early Careers Advocate	Meng Wu Tunde Akindele
Other Committee Members:	Adem Certel Darren Dalcher Don Gotterbarn Marina Jirotka Bernd Stahl Anna Varpetiance Luke Halpin Maria Marenco Jonathan Smoes Motassim Thupsee

The Chair's Report is a vital communication tool for the BCS Community Team to understand and support your activity as a group. The Community Support Committee (CSC) 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, completing this report supports not only your group but the 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. Continued work by the committee as an effective working group	The committee has developed with several colleagues being particularly pro-active. This has enabled the group to engage with a variety of BCS and other activities.
2. A report was published and had significant impact based on the BCS Members survey on AI and Ethics.	See Living with AI and emerging technologies: Meeting ethical challenges through professional standards	BCS This was also the basis for a talk at the BCS 2024 INSPIRE eLearning conference in October 2024.
Physics (hybrid) workshop held on Ethics and the Horizon Scandal	This was a significant workshop with a face-to-face meeting in the London HQ [60 people registered online], alongside a lot of people online [over 100]. This included a presentation

	from Lee Castleton on his experiences as a former postmaster impacted by the Horizon software, and with Karl Flinders of Computing Weekly
4, Community Site	The ethics group worked with Jon Jeffrey of BCS to set up our community site: https://community.bcs.org/ Latest Ethics Specialist Group topics - BCS Community

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

Planned Activity	Additional Comments
1. Online members focussed meetings on ethics topics	
2. Physical (possibly hybrid) events on ethics, and possibly run a competition.	
3.improved visibility of group	e.g. stilling planning on article for IT now on ethics and AI developing some of the. Several committee members are collaborating on a book on getting started with tech ethics. We are presenting a session for teachers on ethics and the computing curriculum in Jan 2025
4 Developing links with other groups	For 2025 there is scope to work with some of the IFIP working groups to develop our international profile and impact.

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

Impediment	Description
1. Time of committee members	Whilst there is a lot of commitment, we all have limited time. Sadly our secretary passed away in March 2024, so we have had a vacancy there since which has also limited some of our planning.
2. Lack of a events coordinater	Organsiging events takes some time, and whilst the BCS groups/central team are really helpful, it would be good to have someone to lead on this.

3. lack of a communications officer	Similar to (2)

Additional Facts and Figures

Please provide any facts and figures that would be helpful to the Community Team and the CSC for further analysis and future activity planning.

The committee had 16 members in 2024, though turnout at meetings is usually around 1/3 of that.
We have 485 on the SG general members list.

Further Comments

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

Thanks to the support from the BCS groups team, for our comms and are workshops.

Nominations for Awards and Recognition

The BCS recognises deserving voluntary service. If you know someone who warrants one of these awards, please nominate them. It is easy to nominate someone, but, if you need clarification on completing the form, the Community team can help. Please email groups@bcs.uk.

There are three levels to the 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 annually.

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

Volunteer Recognition

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

Group/Branch Member	Years of BCS Volunteering	Nomination

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.