

**BCS Bedford Branch Chair report to AGM 18 September 2013**

1. Highlight of the year - Richard Maddison received the BCS Certificate of Appreciation at the Spring Convention on 15 March.
2. Planning challenges – communication with HQ on budget led to us dropping meetings in our original year plan and other cost cutting exercises. In the end, it seems we could have run those meetings. Our approach for 2013-14 is to plan a full programme and then work out finance with HQ on a reasonable manner.
3. Successful series of joint meetings with Bedford College and other partners, sustaining high level of attendance.

Date	Meeting	Partner
4 Oct 2012	Getting your business found in the search engines – what’s new and what’s important?	Bedford College / IET
27 Nov 2012	The Way The Cookies Crumble	Bedford College
22 Jan 2013	An insight into the development of smartphone apps for business	U Buckingham/ FSB
26 Feb 2013	WiFi Networks: The Practicalities of Implementing A WiFi Network	Bedford College
27 Mar 2013	How understanding the social era can help your business	Bedford College
24 Apr 2013	Nano Enabled Integrated Structural Health Monitoring	IET
15 May 2013	Business Applications of Mobile Apps	Bedford College

4. University Student Prizes

Date	Meeting	Partner
15 Mar 2013	Michael Randall Best Performing Graduate in Applied Computing	University of Buckingham
11 Apr 2013	Mrs Michelle McGaughey Best project for The Computing and IT Project	Open University
6 Jun 2013	Madalena Moreira Best Performing student in Management and Information Systems	Cranfield University

5. LinkedIn group for branch – championed by David Briggs – beginning to gain traction.
6. Bedford Branch Survey – championed by Ian Wilson. January/February 2013, 8% membership responded. Input into programme planning.
7. Membership data analysis – championed by Chris Knight and Saverio Bongo.
8. Wider publicity engagement – championed by Saverio Bongo, connecting with local newspapers, business publications, business parks, schools and many more.
9. Continue successful partnership with Bedford College – championed by Sue Brandreth.
10. I would like to thank the committee, branch members and many other partners for their support in my first year as chair.

## **BCS Bedford Branch Treasurer's Report for AGM on 18 September 2013**

Everything is satisfactory.

In 2012/13 we spent £1108 (2011/12 £1771) on meetings and student prizes.

BCS HQ did not allocate us as much as I bid for. When we got the reduced allocation we cancelled three proposed meetings – saving about £600, and were forced to negotiate a one-off agreement with Bedford College for a substantial reduction in our share of the costs of the meetings there. Some other meetings cost less than had been estimated and allocated. No speaker claimed any expenses. One of the four universities to which we expected to give a student prize did not nominate a candidate to us. So our final expenditure was far less than we were allocated.

For 2012/13 I have bid for the total based on the Branch Committee proposed meetings and prizes, together with the cost of a special event for Computing in Schools. HQ have allocated a sum to cover the first three months, starting 1 September 2013. I don't anticipate any problem.

*Richard Maddison*