



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

Department
Of
Computer
Science.

Minutes Meeting of Industrial Liaison Board

Date: 08 May 2013

Present:

Fabio Ciravegna	[FC]	Chair of Industrial Liaison
John Brown	[JB]	Ask4 and External Chair of Industrial Liaison
Stephen Blower	[SB]	Wandisco
Joe Chacko	[JC]	IBM
Sam Chapman	[SC]	K-Now
Mandy Chessell	[MC]	IBM
Daley Chetwynd	[DC]	Thoughtworks
Richard Clayton	[RHC]	Projects Officer
Neale Daniel	[ND]	Sheffield Engineering Gateway
John Derrick	[JD]	Head of Department
Mark Dundon	[MD]	Plusnet
David Forrester	[DF]	Lightwork Design
James Gilbert	[JG]	Abstract Void
Stuart Green	[SG]	ZOO Digital Group
Jim Hardisty	[JH]	HP
Mark Hepple	[MRH]	Director of MSc Courses
Tony Kennick	[TK]	Technophobia
Olivia Marsden	[OM]	Thoughtworks
Phil McMinn	[PSM]	Director of Enterprise Computing Course
Roger Moore	[RKM]	Placements Officer
Chris Murray	[CM]	Genesys Business Manager
Paul Ridgway	[PR]	Abstract Void
Dean Sadler	[DS]	TribePad
Andrew Southon	[AS]	Undergraduate Student Representative
Lucia Specia	[LS]	Lecturer
Mark Stevenson	[RMS]	Director of Teaching
Charlotte Wilson	[CW]	K-Now
Kathryn Roden	[KMR]	Minutes

Apologies Mike Annett (Tribal Group), Rodrigo Carvalho (K-Now), Jon Collett (IBM), Tony Cowling (Accreditation and BCS contact), Michael Dimelow (ARM), Anthony Fretwell-Downing (Fretwell Downing Group), Alison McKinna (Tribal Group), Mark Shackleton (BT), Andrew Sithers (Microsoft), Charlotte Swain (Industry Liaison Manager - Sheffield Engineering Gateway), Chris Wicks (Accenture).

1. Welcome and apologies

Noted: JB welcomed the committee and acknowledged the apologies.

2. Minutes of last meeting

Noted: It was agreed that the minutes of the last meeting were a fair and accurate record.

3. HoD Presentation

JD outlined some of the changes which have affected undergraduate admissions. This was the first year of students (current first years) paying the new higher fees. For this admissions cycle the ABB quota has been removed and there can be unlimited recruitment of ABB+ students. However there is now a very small quota for students getting less than ABB, or those students who are doing non-standard qualifications.

Construction work of the new engineering building is expected to start within the next six weeks and will be used for undergraduate teaching in the Faculty. The building is expected to open in 2016. The Department of Computer Science will remain in Regent Court, but the consequence of teaching moving to the new building will allow for research expansion. A new Engineering Graduate School is also being built and will include robotics and INSIGNIO. The Faculty is also being refurbished.

Research income is on the rise. MC asked what the secret to our success is. JD explained that we hire bright people.

The department has an accreditation visit from the BCS which it passed.

Undergraduate employment statistics continue to be high for the department. Nationally Computer Science has poor statistics for employment but The Department of Computer Science had above average results. Currently the statistics show we have 96% of students are in a graduate level job or further education six months after graduation.

The Department has two new members of staff: Matthias Harders and Paul Watton. There were two successful candidates, from the Department, for the VC fellowship. There were 16 positions in total and more than 800 applications were received.

JB asked where graduates are going to work. SC about 30% of Sheffield graduates stay in Sheffield.

The split of home and overseas applicants is staying the same.

4. Presentations

Degrees with Employment Experience

Roger Moore introduced himself as the Placements Officer

Students can take a 1 year work placement. The Careers Service deal with all the administration for [Degrees with Employment Experience](#).

ND explained that in most large companies 80% of positions available go to those who have done a year in industry.

Students can also do a summer placement (normally 6-8 weeks)

Some students this year have set up their own company after getting investment (you can read about it [here](#))

If anyone is interested in offering a placement year to our students then send the job spec through to either Roger Moore or Kathryn Roden and they will forward onto students.

Any student can take a year out and it is normally done in their penultimate year. They apply for the year out after they have started studying. There are a few students from the Department who have signed up for a year in industry for the next academic year, but we are still receiving requests. Last year we processed a request at the start of term!

Computer Science Society

Tom Walsh introduced himself as the President of the Computer Science Society.

He explained that they are hoping to arrange more tech talks next academic year.

This year they ran a coding competition for staff and students; this was part of a range of activities they arranged over the academic year. They hope to run more events in the future.

The Computer Science Society are sponsored by ARM and they use the sponsorship money for academic events.

Student Sponsorship

If any members of the board are interested in the different levels of sponsorship then please contact Fabio directly.

5. Best Poster

Noted: James Ridgway won the best poster for his project 'Video Steganography'

Noted: Four runner-up prizes were awarded to:

Linus Cash 'An exploration of site interaction and site rendering'

Karl Barker 'The application of robot swarms for urban search and rescue'

Adam Petterson 'PacMan Playing Robot'

Michael Goddard 'An Agent Based Approach Simulated Evolution of Virtual Braitenberg like Vehicles'