



Academy
of Computing

Enabling the
information society

BCS Academy of Computing
<http://academy.bcs.org>

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BCS Academy Founding Partners



UK
COMPUTING
RESEARCH
COMMITTEE

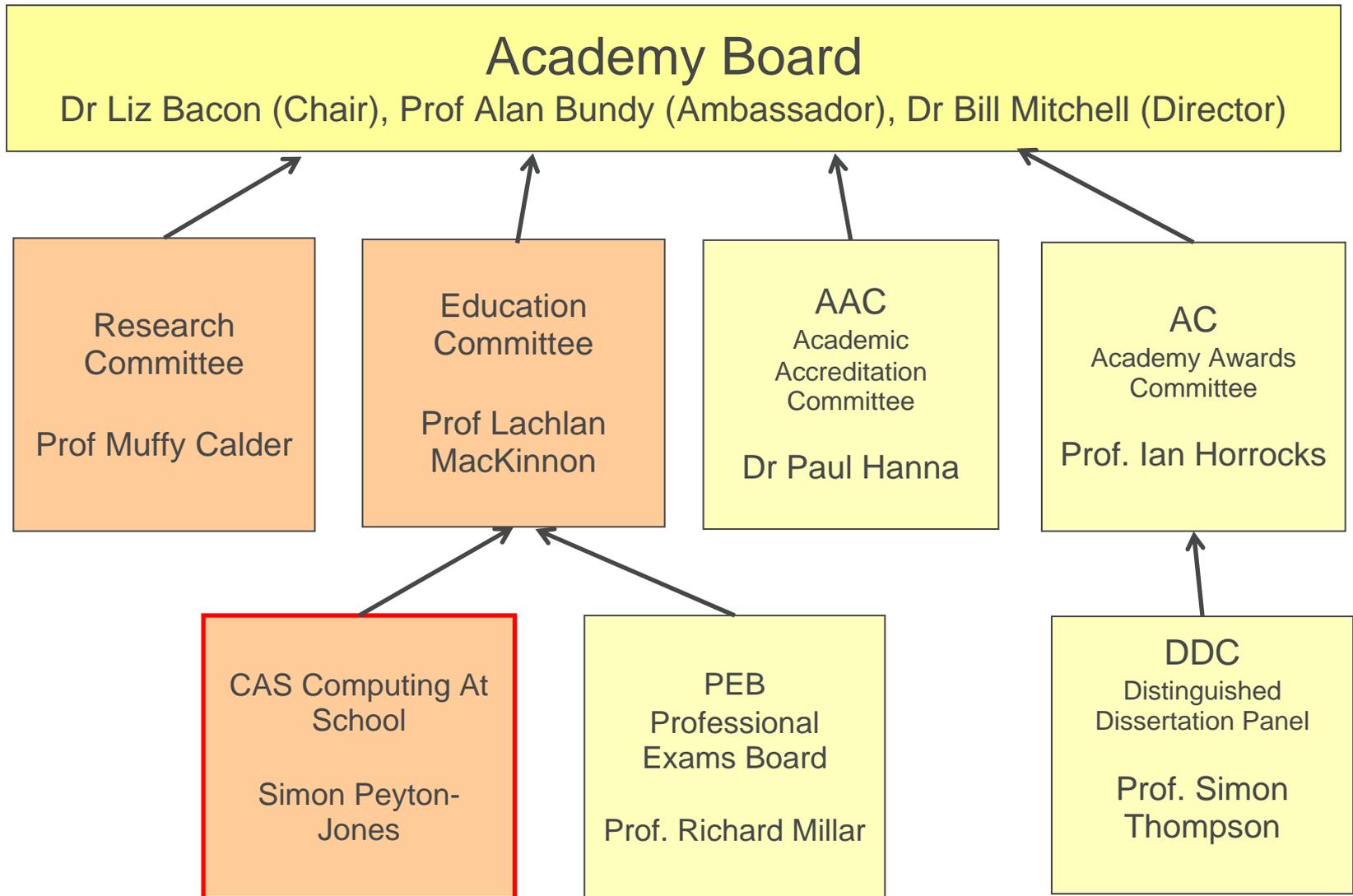
The Academy will be a membership organisation, open to anyone committed to the advancement of computing as an academic discipline.

Academy Vision and Aims (1)

- **Aim:**

- To develop a **cohesive community of scholars, researchers and professionals** with shared commitment to the advancement of the computing discipline.
- To provide a **unifying forum** to integrate education, research and business.
- As far as possible, **be the single voice** for the community of teachers, academics, researchers, industry training providers etc.

Board Structure



Activities

1. Main focus - raising the profile of Computing as a discipline in Schools, in conjunction with CAS, met with:

- Ministers
- **DfE senior officials**
- Members of House of Lords
- **Chair and members of Education Select Committee**
- Chair of National Curriculum Review Expert Panel
- **Organised letter to Michael Gove from captains of industry**
- Worked with Royal Society on their Computing in School report
- **Working with Royal Society of Edinburgh on their exemplification of computing principles for schools, with Scottish Government backing**
- Engaged with over twenty organisations to ensure a consistent concerted effort to raise the issue of teaching Computer Science with Government.

Results

- **10th Nov 2011 – David Cameron said “we're not doing enough to teach the next generation of programmers”.**
- **11th Jan 2012 Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, Secretary of State for Education, 'Harmful ICT curriculum set to be dropped this September to make way for rigorous Computer Science’.**
- **13th Jan 2012 Royal Society Report “Shut down or restart; the way forward for Computing in UK schools” says “Computer Science is a rigorous academic discipline and needs to be recognised as such in schools”**
- **Government launched a consultation into the proposal to remove ICT from the National Curriculum.**
- **Aim to provide flexibility to deliver ICT teaching in ways that are relevant and current without mandating centrally prescribed programmes of study**
- **Supported by CAS, Microsoft, e-skills UK, Google, Intellect, BCS, every head teacher of a state maintained secondary school in England has received an information pack that explains the strategic opportunities they would have from September 2012 to develop Computer Science as a rigorous academic component within a reformed ICT curriculum.**
- **Setting up Network of Teaching Excellence in Computer Science**

Activities

2. **Biennial BCS Academy Research Symposium** – first is this week!
3. **Engagement with other Learned Societies / Professional Bodies:**
 - **Lead by Alan Bundy as Academy Ambassador:**
 - **Exemplification of the Scottish School's Computing and Information Sciences Syllabus**
 - **Poster for Schools**
 - **Met with student societies so see how we can work with them**
 - **Met with various learned societies such as: Royal Academy of Engineering, Royal Society of Edinburgh Royal Society of Chemistry, London Mathematical Society (LMS), Royal Society and Institute of Physics, Edinburgh Mathematics Society.**
4. **Eqanie** (European Quality Assurance Network for Informatics Education) **application in preparation – will offer accreditation to Universities – European Quality label “Euro-Inf quality label”, will be able to apply alongside applications for CEng, CSci and CITP.**

5. Creating online services for Academy members

- **User generated content e.g. blogs, discussion forum.**
- **News**
- **Events**
- **Webinars**
- **Competitions**
- **Publications – conferences / journals, press releases**
- **Awards**
 - **Sponsorship of new national EPSRC ICT Pioneers award in association with HP, IBM, and ARM**
 - **New Karen Spärck Jones annual lecture, sponsored by IBM jointly with BCS Academy, to promote computing research careers for women. Second lecture at symposium tomorrow: **Carole Goble - Work with Scientists: Fun, Profit & the e in e-Science****
 - **Supported by Jeremy Barlow**

Activities

- **BCS certificate of innovation excellence in individual student UG and PG projects (in pilot phase) for those that meet the following:**
 1. **Make an ingenious, innovative and substantive contribution to solving a technically challenging problem that has been realised through the application, integration or creation of technology**
 2. **The problem being addressed is recognised to be of significance to society or the economy by external independent stakeholders**
 3. **It is based on a well-defined understanding of the problem domain and the requirements of the problem owners**
 4. **If the project includes a user interface, that it provides an appealing end user experience**
 5. **If the student has rigorously followed relevant software engineering best practices**
- **Sign off by an FBCS member**

- **BCS Education Bursary**
 - **Promotes the importance of computer science as an academic discipline.**
 - Schools, further education colleges and universities in the UK can apply for funds of up to £500, exceptionally £1000.
 - Aim: **help deliver training or support projects that will encourage learners to benefit from computer or computing related studies.**
 - Closing date **1 June 2012.**

Priority areas

5. **Services for early Career Academics and Researchers**

- Teaching materials
- **Mentoring**
- Sharing teaching practice
- **Tenure support for research staff**
- Links to industry – knowledge transfer opportunities, research links, guest lectures

6. **Services for students**

- Career advice
- **Membership advice**
- Starter pack from Microsoft
- **Pointers to useful websites**
- Addressing issues of computing employment

Summary

- **Major initiative with Computing at School**
- Major work on the website:
- **BCS Academy of Computing biennial Symposium**
- Karen Spärck Jones Annual Lecture – second year
- **Responses to consultations on key Academy agendas**
- Establishing links with other Learned Societies and relevant professional bodies
- **Eqanie Accreditation**
- Services for Academics, Researchers and Students
- **BCS certificate of innovation excellence in individual student projects**
- BCS Education Bursary

Holding Academy meetings around the country to provide opportunities to engage with potential membership