

## Minutes of the Open General Meeting of the BCTCS BCTCS 41, University of Strathclyde, 14 April 2025

The meeting took place at the University of Strathclyde and opened at 17:20.

The meeting was recognised as quorate, there being present the President, the Treasurer, the Secretary, the local organiser, and at least ten other members of the BCTCS.

### Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the Open General Meeting held at BCTCS 40 (University of Bath, 4 April 2024) were approved without modification.

### In Memoriam

The meeting paused to acknowledge with sadness the loss of two distinguished contributors to the BCTCS community.

- **Chris Tofts** (1964–2024). Passed away in September 2024. Chris served as the President of the BCTCS from 2001 to 2004, following five years as Treasurer. He also organised BCTCS11 (Swansea, 1995) and BCTCS18 (HP Labs Bristol, 2002).
- **Michele Zito**. Passed away in October 2024. Michele served as Secretary of BCTCS from 2020 to 2023, and previously as a Committee Member from 2013 to 2019. He also organised BCTCS37 (Liverpool, 2021).

The meeting expressed its gratitude and remembrance for their outstanding service and commitment to the BCTCS.

### Matters Arising

The principal matter arising concerned the adoption of a **Code of Conduct**, modelled on the framework provided by the SafeToC initiative (<https://safetoc.org>). This discussion addressed both the practical and ethical motivations for such a policy:

- Having a Code of Conduct is increasingly a requirement for organisations wishing to nominate members to REF sub-panels and is considered best practice in academic communities.
- More importantly, it reflects a commitment to ensuring a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment for all participants in BCTCS events.

The meeting agreed that Barnaby Martin (President) and Oana Andrei (Secretary) would investigate the adoption of a policy based on SafeToC's model. Discussion included the possibility of appointing a ToC (Theory of Computation) Advocate, and whether a single lead advocate would suffice, or a team might be preferable. A final proposal will be presented to the community in due course.

## **President's Report**

The President, Barnaby Martin, had no report to present and deferred to other agenda items.

## **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer, Olga Petrovska, submitted a written report and presented it during the meeting:

*Financial position of BCTCS is strong. As of 14 April 2025, BCTCS has £11,991.99 across 3 accounts, which is £191 more compared to the last year's report. The only expense incurred last year was £100 for bouquet and hamper for Chris Toft's widow.*

*University of Bath has not claimed any expenses. BCTCS 2024 ran under budget and expenses were covered through registration fees, British Logic Colloquium sponsorship and Bath CS Department balancing payment. There are no outstanding claims to date.*

*We are grateful to SICSA's for sponsoring the Theory and Modelling theme (£500) and the Education theme (£490). We are also grateful to Heilbronn Institute for contributing £1000 towards the bursaries.*

*There has not yet been any financial activity with respect to BCTCS 2026.*

## **Elections of Committee Members**

### **President**

- Nominee: Barnaby Martin
- Nominated by: Olga Petrovska
- Seconded by: Fredrik Nordvall Forsberg
- Supported by: Oana Andrei
- The vote was unanimous in favour. Barnaby Martin was duly re-elected as President.

### **Postgraduate Student Representative**

- Nominee: [Justus Becker](#), University of Birmingham
- Nominated by: Barnaby Martin
- Seconded by: Jess Enright
- Supported by: Paola Bruscoli
- The vote was unanimous in favour. Justus Becker was duly elected as the new Postgraduate Student Representative.

The meeting recorded a vote of thanks to Sean Watters, the outgoing Postgraduate Student Representative, for his contributions to the committee.

## **Additional Member**

There was initial consideration of holding an election for a new Additional Member. However, upon reviewing the BCTCS Constitution, it was confirmed that the Committee currently has two serving Additional Members, as required. Therefore, no election was deemed necessary at this time.

## **Report on Arrangements for BCTCS 42 (2026)**

[Jakub Opršal](#) gave a presentation outlining the preliminary arrangements for BCTCS 42, to be held at the University of Birmingham.

- The organising team includes Paul Levy, Todd Waugh Ambridge, and Jakub Opršal.
- The event will take place from 30 March to 1 April 2026 (dates to be confirmed).
- The University of Birmingham has a strong track record in hosting TCS-related events, including CSL 2018, Tableaux 2021, and the forthcoming FSCD 2025.

The meeting expressed appreciation for the upcoming organisers' enthusiasm and readiness.

## **Any Other Business**

There was no further business.  
The meeting closed at 17:50.

**Oana Andrei**  
Secretary, BCTCS