

# **BCS Swiss Section**

## **Chairperson's Annual Report 2013-2014**

The BCS Swiss Section was started in 2004 and since then has attracted a small core of members who regularly attend meetings. There have usually been about 6 per year but this year we have only managed to have 3 meetings including the AGM. Many Swiss based members of the BCS have shown no interest in joining our events or even responding to invitations.

The 2012-2013 Annual General Meeting was held on 31.10.13 at Swisscom, Müllerstrasse 16, Zürich. The committee was elected as follows:

- |                                  |                  |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| • Chairman:                      | Mike Bellhouse   |
| • Secretary                      | Jeff Hunter      |
| • Treasurer                      | Peter Hurst      |
| • E-mail coordinator & Webmaster | Mike Lewis       |
| • Membership Secretary           | Paul Hicks       |
| • Committee Member               | Calvert Marshall |
| • Committee Member               | Stefano Onofri   |
| • Committee Member               | Joel Schur       |

The chairman regrets that for business reasons he has not been able to participate in organizing events this year. I will step down if another more active chairperson can be found but I am prepared to stand again otherwise. Special thanks go to Jeff Hunter who has worked hard to keep the section running.

All of the meetings last year were held in Zurich based on the location and activity of members. We did not try to arrange a meeting in other parts of Switzerland. We offer budget and support to anyone willing to organise a meeting elsewhere.

Although the Swiss Section was invited to meetings in London we could not find volunteers to attend because of business and other commitments. Information and support from HQ has continued to be good.

On 11.06.2014 there was a committee meeting and information sharing event at King's Curry in Zurich which attracted 6 attendees. Jeff organised a committee meeting using Skype on 11.09.2014 which worked quite well. On 25.09.2014 the committee hosted a networking event at the James Joyce pub in Zurich and 7 people attended. Possibilities for events have been discussed at the AGM and by the committee during the year. Difficulties in finding and coordinating suitable speakers, locations and funding together with a lack of participation at the events led us to restricting ourselves to the more easily organised information and networking events.

Our website continued to run smoothly and thanks go to Mike Lewis for keeping it up to date, setting up Doodles and sending emails prior to the meetings.

I would like to thank the committee for the work they have put in over the year. Jeff Hunter has recorded the minutes of our committee meetings and looked after reports for HQ. Peter Hurst has monitored our funding which requires additional time following the changes mentioned in the minutes of the 2012-2013 AGM. Paul Hicks has kept our membership list in order. All the committee members are prepared to stand again.

Mike Bellhouse 16.10.2014