

Nomination for Graham Thomas as BCS SIGiST Programme Secretary – September 2010

I would like to stand for election as BCS SIGiST Programme Secretary. The following information is in support of my nomination.

Background

I first attended the SIGiST in 1992, have frequently attended since, and from 1995 have become a regular speaker, winning the 2006 best presentation award for “7 Key Measures for Software Testing”.

I joined the BCS SIGiST Standards Working Party in 1999, working on non-functional software testing standards. Since 2001 I have served as secretary of the working party.

In 2002 I served as Treasurer of the BCS SIGiST.

Eligibility for the role

In support of my nomination for Programme Secretary, which is the role of pulling together the program for the regular seminars, I think the following information is relevant:

- I am currently an independent software testing consultant. I have worked in IT since the early 1980's, and in software testing since the early 1990s. I have worked in various testing roles, from test analyst through to test manager. In the last decade I have specialised in programme test management and testing change roles.
- In attending conferences, seminars and testing groups, and through my standards working party work, I have met and developed a strong network of local and international contacts from which I will draw to build successful seminar programmes.
- I have been attending software testing conferences, seminars and working groups, in the UK, Europe and the USA, so am familiar with the current state of the testing industry, the marketplace, services & tools, future trends, and innovations that are relevant and interesting to the BCS SIGiST audience. I have come to know who the good speakers are and what goes down well with conference audiences.
- I have helped to review conference papers for major testing conferences, i.e. EuroSTAR and expo:QA. I have been a member of the EuroSTAR programme review committee since 2006 and this has helped me to understand the range, variety and quality of presentations and presenters currently out there.
- I have worked on the Conference Programme Committee for EuroSTAR (2008) and expo:QA (2010), so am familiar with, and been responsible for; creating a balanced, informative, interesting and captivating conference schedule.
- When I have been lucky enough to see a good presentation at a conference or seminar I have recommended that the speaker also considers the BCS SIGiST, and have passed on their details to the SIGiST.

Support

The following people have expressed their support for my nomination.

<i>Isabel Evans</i> -	CITP and Fellow of the BCS, author, conference speaker and Principal Consultant at Testing Solutions Group.
<i>Geoff Thompson</i> -	Fellow of the BCS, author, conference speaker, Director of TMMi Foundation, Director and Chairman of UKTB, and current BCS SIGiST Vice Chair.

Summary

In summary, I would like to say that I view the Programme Secretary role, should I be successful, as an honour and privilege enabling me to support what I consider the spiritual home, over the last 21 years, of software testing in the UK. I view the role as an exciting challenge at this pivotal turning point in the software testing industry, the transition from traditional structured testing to a leaner and more agile future.

Graham Thomas

3rd August 2010