I was first introduced to RISCS when I was kindly invited to the 2022 conference, held in London. I was unsure of what to expect but I knew it would be of interest as there were a couple of names associated with it that I recognised from lectures I attended as part of the CDT Cybersecurity programme at the University of Bristol. I was particularly keen due to the concepts of Futures and Narratology that I had been introduced to. Coming from an orthodox cybersecurity environment within the banking industry (before re-entering academia), I had never heard of these concepts being used in a cybersecurity setting. I was more used to risks, controls, operational effectiveness, cyber threats, regulatory assurance, data integrity and accountability.

One thing that struck me from the London conference was that the number of attendees was not as vast like at other conferences. I think this works perfectly for RISCS, and I was glad to see the same from this year's conference at Bristol. The main reason for this is that you have a larger chance of meeting everyone there. It was nice to see familiar faces as well as new faces this year, and the fact that I was recognised by a couple of people indicated a proper network forming unlike superficial ones that I normally associated with conferences.

I was glad to have been on the table that I was allocated to; the fellow attendees who sat there were varied and genuinely interested in trying to make changes for the better. The 'socio' part of sociotechnical was very strong on my table. It was also refreshing to learn about the different backgrounds of my table group and feel this is what corporations should strive for instead of hiring the same kind of people; how else will change happen if we keep hearing the same sermons? There is always different perspectives which are also educational. Working in cyber for twenty years already (but not as a researcher) naturally equips someone with industrial experience which is going to differ from an academic or policy maker perspective. It is how these views can be merged to make sustainable and worthwhile changes for future generations.

I was privately pleased of the apparent interest in my particular thesis which is always a good sign (I would have been worried that I am researching the wrong thing otherwise)! In fact, the main workshop kicked off on my table with my research idea by a table member which was a relief and boost for me personally. I appreciated the cordial and fruitful group discussion; everyone respectfully allowed time for those who wanted to voice their views and I absorbed so much positivity from the experience. There were many other ideas that I had not considered and this shows the depth and breadth of the knowledge which I guess existed on all the tables.

What struck me was the overlap of some of the views when we all reported back (perhaps it proves that great minds do indeed think alike). There were of course unique points made at each table which I'm sure was food for thought for RISCS. Overall, I was glad to have been invited again this year as it was just great to meet new people who are working on the same problem, or aspects of it, but in various ways. As I progress with my own journey, I am looking forward to seeing how RISCS can benefit me, and also how I can help RISCS in future when I'm a more experienced researcher. I look forward to the next RISCS event and have already promoted the organisation to many of my colleagues.

Khadiza Laskor, University of Bristol