

GRADUATE STUDENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Thursday 10 November 2016, 2.00 pm, Bragg Committee Room

Present: Professor Haniff (Chair), Christopher Ashcroft (Mole), Tejas Guruswamy (QS), Evelyn Hamilton (BSS), Arthur Henderson (SMF), Kamrad Javid (AP), Jieyi Liu (TFM), Claire Malone (HEP), Matteo Sbroscia (AMOP), Bruno Villa (SP), Ryo Koblitiz (CSC), Professor Parker (HoD), Dr Gripaios, Ms Khan (Secretary)

Apologies: Adrien Amiguez (QM), Carmen Palacios Berraquero (NanoDTC), Sean Cormier (NP), James Hamp (TCM), Konrad Viebahn (AMOP), Leah Weiss (OE), Simon Wilkinson (CSC), Ms Dann (Graduate Office)

1. Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 October 2016 were confirmed.

2. Matters arising

- i) Information for current graduate students – the chair reported that the webpages were on hold due to workload and access issues.
- ii) Alumni Industry Day update – the chair reported that Konrad Viebahn (AMOP) had set the date for Monday 13th March. 14:00 - 17:00 in the Small Lecture Theatre in the Bragg building. Tejas Guruswamy (QS) had already provided names of potential speakers suggested from the previous event, and further speakers and careers were being identified.
- iii) First year report update – the chair reported that approximately 65 out of 78 (83%) first year PhD students had completed their viva and had assessor reports completed.
- iv) Researcher development programme – the chair reported that the researcher development booklet and log were still under development.

3. Chairman's business

- i) Graduate Student Conference 2016 – the organisers reported that Professor Dame Athene Donald had agreed to be the guest speaker, and that more student volunteers

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were needed on the organising committee in order to make further progress. Members were reminded that the condition of funding set for the conference stipulated that students should be organising the event. The chair volunteered to provide a one hour session on how to prepare talks and posters to students taking part in the event.

- ii) Welcome event for new graduate students – the chair reported that attendance at the welcome event was very good, with approximately 69 students attending and only 15 absences.
- iii) Postgraduate Open Day – the chair reported that attendance at the open day was very good, with approximately 60 students attending out of 77 registrations.
- iv) Abdus Salam Prize 2016 – the chair reported that six nominations had been submitted and that a judging panel was being organised.

4. Graduate Student Matters

There were no student matters received.

5. Any other business

- i) Graduate Lecture programme – it was noted that approximately 20-30 students had attended each session so far, and that the feedback received were that they were useful. Members were reminded that seeking more feedback from students who had attended would be helpful.
- ii) New graduate students – the chair reported that the Department of Chemistry organised an event for new graduate students to discuss their experiences approximately twelve weeks into their study. Members agreed that a similar event organised in Physics would be useful, and could serve as a platform to help prepare students for their first year report.
- iii) Research data management workshop – the chair reported that Marta Temperek, from the Research Operations Office, had been invited to host a workshop in the department on research data management for new graduate students. It was noted that attendance at the workshop was a requirement for RCUK supported students who commenced their Physics PhD studies this academic year, in order to facilitate compliance with RCUK's Policy on Open Access:

<http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/research/openaccess/policy/>

Members were reminded that research outputs could not be submitted as part of the Research Excellence Framework (REF) submission if they were not published online via a recognised route and timeframe (<http://www.hefce.ac.uk/rsrch/oa/Policy/>), and that the University had a website to accomplish this (<https://www.openaccess.cam.ac.uk/>).

6. Date of the next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the GSCC was on 19 January 2017.