

Our Ref: GSCC16-17/A6/22.06.2017

GRADUATE STUDENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Thursday 22 June 2017, 2.00 pm, Bragg Committee Room

Present: Professor Haniff (Chair), Alice Allen (TCM), Sean Cormier (NP), Tejas Guruswamy (QS), Kamrad Javid (AP), Jieyi Liu (TFM), Claire Malone (HEP), Konrad Viebahn (AMOP), Gulzat Jaliel (SP), Simon Wilkinson (CSC), Evelyn Hamilton (BSS), Ms Gillian Weale, Professor Parker (HoD), Ms Aust (Secretary)

Apologies: Arthur Henderson (SMF), Bruno Villa (SP), Leah Weiss (OE), Ms Dann (Graduate Office), Ms Khan (Secretary), Carmen Palacios Berraquero (NanoDTC), Dr Gripaios

1. Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 11 May 2017 were confirmed.

2. Matters arising

- i) Information for current graduate students – the chair reported that staff were being trained on Moodle, which will be used as the hosting platform.
- ii) First year report update – members were informed that there were a couple of students outstanding, from the 2015/16 cohort, that needed to complete and be formally registered for the PhD. It was noted that the deadline for submitting first year reports for MT2016 starters was the 7th July 2017, and that the slides from the Q&A events had been sent to all first year PhD probationary students.
- iii) Researcher development programme – the chair reported that the researcher development booklet and log were still under development, and that an email would be sent to all graduate students requesting that they log their training.
- iv) Athena Swan – members were informed that that a consultation event for graduate students would be organised during August - September, and that the event would be informed by the results of a survey which was yet to be sent out to graduate students.
- v) PRES survey 2017 - the chair reported that the survey ended on the 18th May, with an approximate 31% response rate for the Department of Physics.
- vi) PTES survey 2017 - the chair reported that the survey ended on the 16th June and that a 80% response rate target had been set for every programme. It was noted that the current response rates were:MASt - 90%, MPhil CSC - 44%, and Physics Part III - 36%.

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- vii) Research Group Administration Update - Mrs Gillian Weale, Departmental Administrator, reported that on the 4th June the Research Group administrative consultation period had come to an end and that several group administrators had chosen to leave. Temporary administrators were filling these current posts until the recruitment campaign for new staff had been completed. It was envisaged that the new structure would be in place by Michaelmas Term 2017, and that up until that point any information provided to staff and students would be generic, rather than detailed, as there would be changes happening over the Summer as staff undergo training and take up new posts. Members were reminded that it was right and proper that, as part of a formal staff restructure, the formal consultation stage was conducted primarily with staff directly affected, as that was the University's policy on organisational change. Research groups, as collections of academic staff, would not be affected by the administrative review.

3. Chairman's business

- i) Researcher Development Programme 2017-18 – the chair reported that the budget for next year's Researcher Development Programme had been drafted and was about to be submitted to the School of Physical Sciences. It was noted that the draft programme was very similar to the previous year, except that more budget was being requested for hiring external consultants for workshop events. Student members were invited to make suggestions on any activities that they would like to include, but noted that the deadline for this year's submission was the 30th June and that in future they would need to be consulted earlier.

ACTION: Members to send suggestions for events or activities to be included in the Researcher Development Programme to the Secretary.

4. Graduate Student Matters

There were no items to report.

5. Any other business

- i) Strategic Research Review Panel – the chair thanked student members who attended the graduate student session with the panel on the afternoon of Tuesday 23rd May. It was noted that the formal outcome report had not yet been received by the Department.
- ii) Cavendish III – members were informed that John Richer could not attend the GSCC meeting but would be invited to a subsequent meeting to update members on the student experience and the teaching aspects of the future Cavendish III design.

6. Date of the next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the GSCC was on 20 July 2017.

[Secretary's note: the next meeting of the GSCC was rescheduled to 28 July 2017 due to staff absence.]