

Our Ref: GSCC16-17/A7/28.07.2017

GRADUATE STUDENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Friday 28 July 2017, 2.00 pm, Bragg Committee Room

Present: Professor Haniff (Chair), Sean Cormier (NP), Tejas Guruswamy (QS), Evelyn Hamilton (BSS), Jieyi Liu (TFM), Claire Malone (HEP), Bruno Villa (SP), Simon Wilkinson (CSC), Ms Khan (Secretary),

Apologies: Adrien Amiguez (QM), Christopher Ashcroft (Mole), Alice Allen (TCM), Arthur Henderson (SMF), Kamrad Javid (AP), Konrad Viebahn (AMOP), Leah Weiss (OE), Professor Parker (HoD), Ms Dann (Graduate Office), Dr Gripaios

1. Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 22 June 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.
- iii) Athena Swan – members were informed 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.
- iv) Research Group Administration Update – the chair reported that interviews were being conducted for the new administrative Hub posts.
- v) Graduate Student Conference 2017 – members were informed that four volunteers had been recruited to the organising committee so far, and that a handover would be organised within the next week. It was noted that a keynote speaker had yet to be identified.

ACTION: Chair to contact the Head of Department for suggestions for a keynote speaker.

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3. Chairman's business

- i) Researcher development programme – members were informed that the Researcher Development Programme bid for 2017-18 had been submitted to the School of Physical Sciences.
- ii) EPSRC DTP Doctoral Prize 2017/18 – the chair reported that two physics applicants out of a total of five had been successfully awarded an EPSRC doctoral prize. It was noted that there were six awards, out of a total of fifteen applicants, given across the School of Physical Sciences.
- iii) PhD submission rates update – members were informed that the current submission rate was currently 62% for the Department of Physics, and that other comparable departments had submission rates of 63%, 65% and 77%. It was noted that there was variation in practice between research groups as to whether students submitted within 3.5 years to 4.5 years.
- iv) GSCC membership 2017/18 – student members were reminded to either confirm their ongoing membership, or to seek a replacement from within their own research group. It was noted that new GSCC members would be invited to attend GSCC meetings from the 5th October 2017 onwards.

ACTION: Student members to confirm their membership, or send nominations for replacements, to the Secretary.

4. Graduate Student Matters

There were no items to report.

5. Any other business

- i) Graduate training programme – the chair reported that the graduate training programme for new students was being drafted, and that the Graduate Student Conference would be included as a compulsory event for new graduate students. It was noted that the Alumni Industry Day would be included also, but as an optional event. Members requested that LaTeX workshops be included in the training programme, and that assistance with templates would be welcome.

6. Date of the next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the GSCC was on the 7th September 2017, and that the dates of meetings for 2017-18 were:

5th October 2017, 2pm, Bragg Committee Room (213)
9th November 2017, 2pm, Bragg Committee Room (213)
18th January 2018, 2pm, Bragg Committee Room (213)
15th February 2018, 2pm, Bragg Committee Room (213)
15th March 2018, 2pm, Bragg Committee Room (213)
10th May 2018, 2pm, Bragg Committee Room (213)
19th July 2018, 2pm, Bragg Committee Room (213)