Present: Miss Rose Trappes (in the chair), Dr Denise Adams (minutes), Mr James Hill (representing Alex Booy who is on the Study Abroad program), Prof James de Voss (Deputy Head of School, representing Prof Paul Young), Ms Tammie Fair, Dr Gwen Lawrie (Deputy Head of Teaching and Learning representing Dr Susan Rowland) Ms Mariska Marnane, Mr Ashish Moraes, Ms Maany Ramanan (via Skype) and Mr Alan Zhang.

Apology: Ms Farah Azme, Ms Paige Erpf, Ms Anna Kretowicz, Dr Susan Rowland and Prof Paul Young.

Minutes: Minutes of the meeting 3 June 2014, having been circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

1. Business Arising out of the minutes:

1.1 Molecular Image Design contest

Members noted that the molecular image design contest had been widened to include students enrolled in CHEM3004 and CHEM3016. The contest closed on the 1st August and eight excellent, high quality entries had been received. The committee was impressed by the high standard of posters. Rose Trappes commented that it would be good if all posters could be displayed, and not just the winner’s poster. Judging was underway and Denise Adams noted that one judge’s report had been received. Denise undertook to ask Mark Starkey how the entries could be displayed and the winning entry celebrated and promoted.

Members discussed the idea of including Honours students next year and James de Voss suggested that there could be two separate prizes. Members agreed that a decision on this issue could be made when the time came.

1.3 Seminar Attendance for SCMB Postgraduate Students

Maany Ramanan reported that she had been attending the general seminar for AIBN staff and students for the past couple of months. Maany distributed a copy of the latest AIBN seminar notice to the advisory group and members agreed that it would be worthwhile to email this notice to post graduate SCMB coursework students who were interested.

Maany Ramanan and Ashish Moraes had been sent the school email titled ‘The Week Ahead’, which contains the SCMB seminar announcements and other school information. Maany and Ashish reported that they would like to continue to receive ‘The Week Ahead’. Maany and Ashish thought that the postgraduate course work students would like to receive this information.

Denise undertook to investigate the best way to distribute these notices to postgraduate coursework students who were interested.

2. Coursework material overlap:

James Hill reported that students enrolled in CHEM2052 who have already completed CHEM2050 and BIOC2000 have some overlap of course material. James noted that there seems to be significant overlap on enzyme kinetics, which could be reduced if the majority of students had already covered it. James asked what proportion of CHEM2052 students would have completed BIOC2000. A comparison of the 2014 enrolment for the two subjects showed that 70 of the 127 students enrolled in CHEM2052 had completed BIOC2000 last semester.

Gwen Lawrie noted that CHEM2052 will always have students who have not completed BIOC2000 or CHEM2050, so this could not be avoided.

3. Discipline mixer events:

Undergraduate discipline events had been held in August on the Chemistry podium.
Members reported that they had received the invitation and Rose Trappes, James Hill, Alan Zhang and Mariska Marnane had all attended one or more of the events.

Rose attended the Molecular Biology and the Biotechnology mixer and noted that the participation rate seemed to have increased. Rose reported that she enjoyed the ‘speed dating’ and that she had joined some of the Facebook pages that were being promoted. She was also pleased to see the Stradbroke Island trip promotional information.

James attended the Chemistry and Biotechnology events and enjoyed meeting students from the different disciplines.

Members thought that it would be a good idea to combine the events as this had the advantage of meeting students from outside your own discipline.

Members agreed that it would be a good idea to call for volunteers to run the single event. They suggested that a club could be formed. Rose noted that expressions of interest should be sent out early so that the key working time to organize the event could be in the holidays when student workloads were lower. It was agreed that the mixer event should be held in Week 3 of second semester.

4. Next meeting:

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 8th October at 1.00 pm.