SCHOOL OF CHEMISTRY & MOLECULAR BIOSCIENCES
COURSEWORK STUDENTS ADVISORY GROUP

Meeting 4/14 15 October 2014 For general publication

Present: Miss Rose Trappes (in the chair), Dr Denise Adams (minutes), Ms Paige Erpf, Ms Tammie Fair, Mr James Hill (representing Alex Booy who is on the Study Abroad program), Ms Mariska Marnane, Mr Ashish Moraes, Dr Susan Rowland (Chair, Teaching and Learning Committee), Prof Paul Young (Head of School) and Mr Alan Zhang.

Apology: Ms Farah Azmee, Ms Anna Kretowicz, and Ms Maany Ramanan.

Minutes: Minutes of the meeting 27 August 2014, having been circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

1. Business Arising out of the minutes:

1.1 Molecular Image Design contest

Melinda Ashcroft from the UQ Molecular Biotechnology Students Club presented the prizes and certificates to Vivek Narotam (1st prize), and Nicholas Deerain (3rd prize) at the start of the meeting. Lilong (Hugo) Dong (2nd prize) was unable to attend.

Denise Adams reported that posters of all the Molecular Image Design entries had been prepared by the Science Engagement Unit (SEU) and were now being displayed on the Chemistry podium. Paul Young stated that he would like to see the posters during the SCMB End of Semester staff awards ceremony on the 31st October. Members noted that the SEU had written a story about Vivek Narotam’s design and this link could be found on the SCMB home page http://www.scmb.uq.edu.au/index.html?page=215585

Members made several recommendations for changes should the competition be run next year. Rose Trappes recommended that the competition should be more widely advertised to students and course coordinators and that follow-up emails should be sent after the end of semester exams. Rose, Nicholas and Vivek also thought it was good that the competition ran over the break between semester one and two, which gave students more time to produce designs. Nicholas agreed that he was encouraged to enter the competition as he could add this to his Curriculum vitae. Members agreed that the chemistry students should be included in the competition again next year (they were invited to enter after the competition had started).

Paige Erpf told the meeting that during BIOC3000, about 4 weeks had been spent on molecular image design programs. Paige noted that it would be beneficial if the competition could commence at the beginning of the semester. This would mean that when students had down time during BIOC3000 coursework, they could work on their image designs.

Ashish Moraes suggested that images could be accompanied by a figure legend in the same manner that images were published in journals such as Nature. Paul Young recommended that students could be given the option of choosing whether they would like to do a figure legend and/or a write-up.

Paige thought that it was important to let students know that their work would be displayed on a poster within the School.

Susan Rowland suggested that a photo spread could be published in UQ SURJ (the UQ Science Undergraduate Research Journal).

Vivek would like to see a 2nd and 3rd prize offered as well.

James Hill recommended that one of the prizes could be a tutorial with an expert structural biologist or chemist who could give one-on-one training on the use of PyMol or CCP4mg.

1.2 Seminar Attendance for SCMB Postgraduate Students

Ashish Moraes reported that he and his fellow postgraduate coursework students would like to receive the AIBN seminar notice and the SCMB school email titled ‘The Week Ahead’, which contains the SCMB seminar announcements and other school information. Tammie Fair and Denise Adams recommended that a new community Blackboard site could be created and that these notices could be

Denise

ACTION

Denise
added as announcements each week. Ashish thought this would be a suitable solution for the distribution of this information.

2. **SCMB T-shirts / Hoodies:**

   Members noted that the Research Students Advisory Group (RSAG) was planning to design a School Hoodie that would be available for purchase. RSAG members agreed that text should be positioned higher on the polo shirt, printed in gold and split onto 3 lines (as follows):

   
   Chemistry &
   Molecular
   Biosciences

   RSAG members had agreed that merchandise would be sold for a fixed price of $60 for hoodies and $50 for polo shirts. A “first round” of orders would be advertised via email (with the final design attached) when the RSAG is in a position to begin collecting payments. Members from the RSAG will liaise with Canterbury to finalise the design and draft advertising emails. A suggestion to have a Google docs link set up for people to pre-order and select sizes had been made.

   CSAG members made a number of suggestions and comments regarding the idea. Paige Erpf and Rose Trappes thought the Canterbury hoodies were expensive and recommended that most students could afford $40 for a school hoodie and $15 for a t-shirt. Paige and Rose noted that the hoodies and t-shirts would need to be of a high quality to encourage students to purchase them.

   James Hill, Ashish Moraes and Rose Trappes recommended that the design should only contain the initials SCMB and UQ and a logo should appear on the sleeve. Susan Rowland thought that the design should be minimalist and funny if possible. Rose and Paige reported the UQ Philosophy School and UQ Mining School had excellent designs. Paige also thought that blue was a good colour that both males and females would enjoy wearing. Susan suggested that a number of designs could be submitted to the student body, and that the most voted for design could be adopted.

   Denise Adams undertook to pass this information to RSAG.

3. **Membership of Group 2015:**

   This was the final meeting of the group for 2014, so the chairperson, Rose Trappes, thanked the retiring members for their contributions and asked if other representatives were happy to continue their membership, provided they remain eligible as they move on in their programs.

   Retiring members were Alan Zhang, Paige Erpf, and Rose Trappes. James Hill (depending on whether Alex Booy would like to continue), Mariska Marnane, Ashish Moraes and Maany Ramanan all indicated that they would like to continue as representatives in 2015.

   Denise Adams undertook to make contact with willing continuing members prior to the start of the 2015 academic year, and call for nominations for vacancies from eligible students.

   * * * * *

   Denise