

**School of Chemistry & Molecular Biosciences
Research Student Advisory Group**

DATE: 11 Oct 22

TIME: 12 pm

PLACE: 68-306

Present: Pelin Durali, Alicia Kirk, Shahla Asgharzadeh Kangchar, Samuel Davis, Dean O'Brien, Summa Bibby, Khristine Vadellon, Tom Li, Connor Scott, Luke Guddat, Apoorva Prabhu, Shannon Hoe Min Qua, Dylan Bowman, Natalee Newton,

Absent: Timothy Muusse, Sanjana Tule, Forhad Karim Saikot, Athyah Alenzi.

1. Acknowledgement of Country

An Acknowledgement of Country was spoken by the Chair, Alicia, in recognition of the traditional owners, the Jagera and Turrbal people, of the land on which the meeting was taking place.

2. Welcome and confirmation of minutes held 20th September 2022

The Chair, Alicia, welcomed members to the meeting, noting the apologies given prior to the meeting. Minutes of last meeting were confirmed by Sam.

3. Business arising from previous meeting (not elsewhere listed):

i. Update on Joint initiative with EDIC and student leader's forum- SCMB mentor initiative:

1. Shahla provided update saying that the initial mentor-mentee plan will not go ahead in full, instead one session of volunteers and newcomers will occur.
2. Luke provided feedback that having meetings every two weeks is not sustainable to be organised by the school. Suggested that subsequent meetings are more ad hoc and self-sustained.
3. There is concern that there is no structure to the sessions, it is more of an initial mingling event with new students allowing those who need more help to meet and interact with more experienced students.
4. Volunteers for session need to be notified for the event on the 7th of November at 10am on the chemistry podium. Four senior students and other members of the school will be there to float around.

ii. Posters for RSAG

1. Summa to put up around the school and send out in email.
- 2.

4. Reports from the RSAG representatives on the SCMB Research Committee and the SCMB Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee (EDIC) and HDR representative for Student Leaders forum

- a. No updates

5. Annual SCMB Research Students Symposium

- **Abstracts:**
 - Offers sent out on the 24th of October with 20 talks and 57 posters offered.
 - Chemistry numbers were low again
 - 6 chemistry double blind and 3 chemistry talks
 - Some chemistry academics discouraged students from registering and submitting an abstract as it is an “MBS event”. This will need to be addressed for future symposiums.
- **Timetable.**
 - Timetable is being drafted by Alicia
 - 9am start was decided with a 4:30pm finish time.
- **Treasurers update:**
 - Tom needs to provide information about how many sponsors need tables to Alicia
 - Prizes:
 - a. \$1500 for prizes, organised by Summa
 - b. Summa is to work with Tom and finance to organise gift cards from Prezzy
- **Judges:**
 - So far 16 judges have registered.
 - Will need at least two judges per oral session and 2 judges per poster.
- **Speakers**
 - Bios and abstracts of speakers are still required
 - Change in Plenary to have Dr Natalee Newton speak instead of Jeremy.
- **Catering:**
 - Order for subway will be placed approximately 2 weeks in advance.

- Lunch will be at midday so food should be delivered between 11:30 and 12.
- All catering forms have been approved by HoS.
- Morning tea: may have budget to provide biscuits. Dylan will look into coffee catering for this morning tea session.
- Registration:
 - Last advertising push to take place before registration closes on November 4th.
 - To be done by Connor
- Speed Networking:
 - Concurrent start with the social mixer
 - Tall tables at the back of the chemistry podium to be used
- Printing:
 - Name tag will be stickers and will have ~+5% printed blank for anyone showing up on the day.
- Photography:
 - Will require payment. We can also look for a volunteer in the school.

7. Other business

No other business

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting was set for Tuesday the 8th of November at 12pm 69-306