

School of Chemistry & Molecular Biosciences Research Student Advisory Group

DATE: Tuesday 13th June 2023

TIME: 12-1:00 pm

PLACE: Room 306-68, Chemistry Building

Present: Jody Peters, Quinn Zhao, Sean Riek, Anthony Bengochea, Gabriel Foley, Samuel Davis, Qi Zhao, Chendi Yu, Mitchell Sorbello, Yichi Zhang, Jiahui Zhang, Yastika Banerjee, Zoe Ingram, Zannati Zaoti, Shaun McAnally

Apologies: Tuan Tran.

1 Acknowledgement of Country

An Acknowledgement of Country was spoken by Sean (the Chair), in recognition of the traditional owners of the land on which the meeting was taking place.

2 Welcome

The Chair, Sean Riek, welcomed all members to the 4th meeting of RSAG for 2023.

3. Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th May 2023 were circulated in advance, read, and confirmed.

4. Business arising out of the minutes (not elsewhere listed):

4.1 Membership

Jiahui Zhang was nominated as the new treasurer, replacing Basil Kaniewski, who stepped down from the group.

5. RSAG Committee reports:

5.1 Research Student Social Committee Report

Sam Davis reported that the drinks run by the social committee were proceeding as normal.

5.2 SCMB Research Committee

The committee has not held a meeting since the last RSAG meeting.

5.3 SCMB HDR Committee

There are 5 SCMB Travel Awards available for interested PhD students. The committee received a total of 11 applications and nominated 6 students for these travel awards.

The SCMB HDR Committee will hold a Q&A session for HDR students on 16 June 2023, in Building 63 Room 348.

5.4 SCMB EDIC Committee

No report was given.

5.5 SCMB EAC Committee

The TGH Jones Memorial Chemistry Lecture will take place on Tuesday 25 July at QBI from 2-3 pm with hospitality to follow from 3-4 pm. Professor Elizabeth New will also be available to meet with interested staff and students on 25th and 26th July.

5.6 HDR Student Representative Forum

No report was given.

6. Topics of relevance to SCMB research students

6.1 HDR: The mentoring program for newly commencing SCMB HDR students will proceed, offering coffee vouchers. The Graduate School will confirm the date for the first session. The Faculty of Science 3MT final will be held on Thursday 15th June at 9 am.

6.2 Honours: In the upcoming round (2024 Round 1), no Graduate School scholarships will be offered to international students, making it challenging for international honours students to secure PhD positions next year. However, it was noted that other scholarships such as the Earmarked scholarship will still continue.

7. Annual SCMB Research Students Symposium:

7.1 Confirmation of symposium date:

The date for the symposium was unable to be confirmed due to rooms in Hawken being unavailable during November for facade work.

7.2 Advertising and promotion:

Yastika Banerjee agreed to take on the advertising and promotion role. Sean will inquire about using SciArt/Art of Science submissions in advertising material at the next EAC meeting.

7.3 Venue:

Hawken has been ruled out as an option due to facade work. Sean and Quinn will investigate options in QBP and Steele buildings.

7.4 Sponsorship:

Jiahui has prepared emails ready to send to potential sponsors, pending confirmation of the symposium date.

7.5 Plenary Speakers:

David Ascher and Lucia Zacchi will be contacted as potential plenary speakers, pending confirmation of the symposium date.

7.6 Catering:

Qi and Tuan will contact catering options to gather quotes. Potential options include Subway (Hawken Village), Bagel Boys, GYG, St. Leos, and Pizza Café.

7.7 Post-symposium function:

Sam will contact the SCMB Social Committee regarding a function to follow the research symposium.

7.8 Timeline:

(The table shows the assigned jobs, progress, and next steps)

7.9 Other event logistics:

Ideas to increase engagement at the symposium, including a treasure hunt or QR codes for attendees to scan and win prizes, were discussed. These ideas could be incorporated into slides as well.

8. Additional item: None

9. Next Meeting: 11th July 2023, from 12 pm to 1:30 pm in 68-306

Appendix for the timeline:

Job	Assigned	Progress	Next Steps
Venue	HLO	Hawken unavailable	Investigate QBP/Steele
Finance and sponsorship	Jiahui Zhang Mitchell Sorbello	Emails ready to go	Contact sponsors following the date of confirmation
Plenary speaker	Sean Riek	Potential speakers decided upon	Contact speakers following date confirmation
Opening and closing speakers	Sean Riek	Potential speakers decided upon	Contact speakers following date confirmation
Advertising/Promotion	Yastika Banerjee	n/a	n/a
Sourcing of judges	Zannati Zaoti Samuel Davis	n/a	n/a
Catering	Qi Zhao Tuan Tran		Gather quotes for the next meeting
Booklet production	Chendi Yu Mitchell Sorbello		Prepare a draft for next meeting
Receipt of abstracts, speaker selection	Yastika Banerjee Anthony Bengochea Yichi Zhang	n/a	n/a
General event logistics	Zoe Ingram Samuel Davis (All members closer to the event)	n/a	n/a
Collecting feedback on the event	Anthony Bengochea	n/a	n/a
Prizes and Award certificates	Tuan Tran	n/a	n/a
Timetable	Zannati Zaoti Zoe Ingram		Prepare a draft for next meeting
Printing: e.g. nametags, feedback sheets, marking sheets, etc	Chendi Yu Mitchell Sorbello	n/a	n/a