

School of Chemistry & Molecular Biosciences Research Student Advisory Group

DATE: Monday 23 Oct 2023

TIME: 12-1:00 pm

PLACE: Room 306-68, Chemistry Building

Present: Jody Peters, Sean Riek, Anthony Bengochea, Jiahui Zhang, Mitchell Sorbello, Chendi Yu, Yichi Zhang, Zannati Zaoti, Gabriel Foley, Amanda Carozzi

Apologies: Quinn Zhao, Samuel Davis, Yastika Banerjee, Zoe Ingram, Shaun McAnally, Qi Zhao, Tuan Anh 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 8th meeting of RSAG for 2023.

3. Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th September 2023 were circulated in advance, read, and confirmed.

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

5. RSAG Committee reports:

5.1 Research Student Social Committee Report

No updates.

5.2 SCMB Research Committee

No updates.

5.3 SCMB HDR Committee

No updates.

5.4 SCMB EDIC Committee

No updates.

5.5 SCMB EAC Committee

No updates.

5.6 HDR Student Representative Forum

No updates.

6. Topics of relevance to SCMB research students

6.1 HDR:

6.2 Honours:

7. Annual SCMB Research Students Symposium:

7.1. Plenary Speakers

Plenary speakers have been contacted about providing a biography and headshot. Sean will follow up with them to confirm if they are comfortable with using the provided biography on their UQ Researchers page

Additionally, we have received commitments from 12 EMCAs to participate as judges. Gabe will make efforts to recruit more judges during the upcoming EMCA meeting.

7.2. Sponsorship

- Paid funds = \$5,136.38
- Pending funds = \$1,590.92
- Total Funds = \$6,727.30.

7.3. Catering

There have been no updates regarding the availability of Halal options from Subway.

Given our substantial budget, alternative catering options were explored, and Schonell has been selected. Sean will compile a quote for discussion in the next meeting.

7.4. Abstracts and Registrations

A total of 20 individuals have applied for talks, and all applicants will be offered a slot. The talks can be broadly categorized into four major themes: Microbiology, Chemistry/Biochemistry, Genetics/Genomics, and Computational Biology/Biotechnology. These talks will be organized into the corresponding student presentation sessions.

We have received only 13 abstracts for poster presentations. To encourage more submissions, we will now open up poster submissions without requiring an abstract. Jody will email SCIE3260/3261 students, as they are presenting posters and this provides an additional opportunity for them to get another presentation out of their posters. Anthony will promote this at the Social Mixer on Friday, October 20. Additionally, Sean will send another email to call for poster submissions.

7.5. Symposium Jobs

Sean will create a poll in the Slack channel calling for people to volunteer for the following symposium jobs:

- o MC
- o Speaker session chairs x 4
- o Speaker session A/V x 4
- o Registration desk x 2
- o Judges registration x 1
- o Photography x 1
- o Morning Tea x 2
- o Lunch x 4

7.6. Timeline:

We discussed the draft timetable for the symposium outlined below:

Time	Program	Location
8:00 am	Sponsor arrival and setup	Classrooms 314 + 315
8:00 am	Registration opens	Classroom 320
9:00 am	Welcome and acknowledgements	Lecture theatre 206
9:10 am	Plenary 1	Lecture theatre 206
10:00 – 10:45 am	Poster session + morning tea	Classrooms 314+315
10:45 – 12:00 pm	Student presentations 1	Lecture theatres 206 + 309
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Lunch	Classrooms 314+315
1:00 – 2:15 pm	Student presentations 2	Lecture theatres 206 + 309
2:20 pm	Double blind challenge	Lecture theatre 206
2:50 pm	Plenary 2	Lecture theatre 206
3:40 pm	Closing address and awards	Lecture theatre 206
4:00 pm	Networking and social mixer	Chemistry podium (building 68)

8. Others

9. Next Meeting: 31 Oct 2023, from 12 pm to 1:30 pm in 68-30