Department of Chemistry

Minutes of PG Staff - Student Committee Meeting held on
Friday 17 March 2017 in Conference Room 237A

Present:

- Dr Rob Davies – PG Tutor – Chair
- Professor Keith Willison – Deputy PG Tutor
- Dr Matthew Fuchter – Director of PG Studies
- Professor Oscar Ces – Director of CDT
- Dr James Wilton-Ely – Director of MRes Studies
- Professor Sue Gibson – Director of the Graduate School
- Dr Mike Ray – MRes Programme Coordinator
- Doris Pappoe – PG Administrator
- Yusrah Al-Gharebawi – First Year PhD
- Luke Demas – Second Year PhD
- Emma Coakley – Third Year PhD
- Noemi Perujo Holland – MRes in Bioimaging
- Yijun Chen – MRes in Catalysis
- Ryan Howard – MRes in Chemical Biology of Health
- James Duncan – MRes in Drug Discovery
- James Frost – MRes in Green Chemistry
- Yu Lin Lee – MRes Nanomaterials

1. The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

2. Matters Arising

**Emma Coakley** – third year PhD reported for a second time that the PhD students have no allocated space to have their lunch. She said the PG Common is always occupied by the undergraduate students and there is no space for the PhD students.

**Luke Demas** – second year PhD informed the meeting that the problem they had with the washing of the lab coats has been sorted and the external service with White Rose Laundry is now up and running. He reported that commonly-used solvents (e.g. THF) in the towers sometimes runs out unexpectedly. The question of whether there was a way to gauge the level of the solvent in the keg was asked. He suggested that perhaps a review of the usage could be carried out to determine how frequently it should be refilled and if there are any infrequently used solvents which could be considered to be replaced with a second reserve of commonly used ones.

Luke ask if some of the academic staff could give lectures to PhD students on some of their research topics as part of the lecture series. DPS replied that the academic staff time is stretched so it has to be evaluated. If their research is relevant to the students they would be more than happy to give a lecture.

Oscar Ces mentioned that some of the CDT MRes activities might be useful to the PhD students.

**James Frost – MRes in Green Chemistry** – reported that they are happy.

PG Admin to discuss with Tim Jefferson
PG Admin to discuss with Natalia Goehring
James Frost – MRes in Green Chemistry – reported that they are happy. He sent e-mail to his course group but no one responded.

Noemi Perujo Holland – MRes in Bioimaging Sciences reported that they are happy. Their essay deadline was extended and they received detailed feedback which was useful. Their expectation was that the title of the research proposal would be agreed well in advance so that they can plan their research proposal before they start to write. They had only a month to plan and write their research proposal.

Yijun Chen – MRes in Catalysis reported that everyone is getting on with their research projects and no problems have been reported. There was an issue with the journal club feedback but that has now been resolved.

James Duncan – MRes in Drug Discovery reported that the Case Study deadline was extended to accommodate students concerns. They are getting on with their work.

Yu Lin Lee – MRes in Nanomaterials – reported that they have no issues.

Ryan Howard - MRes in Chemical Biology and MRes in Plant Chemical Biology – reported that one student had an issue with the area of their research changing just before the research proposal was due in. Can there be more notice given for trips and course content? Mike Ray explained that with the industrial visits we are beholden to the goodwill and availability of our industry partners.

3  Any Other Business
   As there were no other business to discuss the meeting closed at 13.00.

4  Date of Next Meeting
   A date for the next meeting will be set in the Spring term.