

Meeting 3/24

30 August 2024

For general publication

**ACTION**

**Present:** Andrea Quispe Soto (Chair), Mr Nerya Ashri, A/Prof Marloes Nitert Dekker, Ms Annalise Kerr, Mr Gaofenngwe Khutswane, Miss Rebecca Leonard, Ms Isabella McLeod, Miss Catherine Mungkaje, Miss Mr Jacob Stead, Mr Ben Smith (Minutes), Dr Simon Worrall

**Apologies:** Ms Jefita Franklin, Ms Raghavi Shankara, Mr Daniel Valles

**Absent:** Nil.

**1. Welcome and apologies:**

Ben Smith opened the meeting and asked members who would like to chair the meeting. Andrea Quispe Soto volunteered to chair and presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Andrea noted the apologies for the meeting.

**2. Recognition:**

An Acknowledgment of Country was spoken by the Chairperson, in recognition of the traditional owners of the land on which the meeting was taking place.

**4. Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held 3 May 2024:**

The minutes of the meeting held 3 May 2024, having been circulated to group members were taken as read and were confirmed by those who had been present.

**5. Art of Science Competition:**

Ben Smith confirmed that marketing materials for the 2024 Art of Science competition had been prepared and would be distributed with the coursework student advisory group minutes.

**6. Honours and Postgraduate Information Session**

Marloes Nitert Dekker shared that the Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences Honours and Postgraduate Information Session would be held on the Chemistry building podium from 12:30pm – 2pm Friday 6 September.

Marloes noted that this event was open to anyone interested in Honours and Postgraduate studies and may also be useful for postgraduate coursework students looking to undertake research projects. Representatives from different research groups and institutes would be present at the event.

Nerya Ashri added that this event would be a good opportunity to identify possible Summer research projects.

**7. 2025 Summer Research Program**

Ben Smith noted that a 2025 Summer Research Information Session would be held 12:00pm – 1pm Thursday 5 September. Applications for the 2025 Summer Research Program would open from 23 September – 11 October 2024.

Rebecca Leonard added that volunteering opportunities may be available for students who are unsuccessful in securing Summer Research Program scholarships.

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**7. Other business/open discussion**

Rebecca Leonard noted a trend towards in-semester examinations being held during regularly scheduled class times.

Marloes Nitert Dekker commented that there were specific criteria for courses to be eligible for centrally scheduled Saturday in-semester examinations.

Nerya Ashri asked if there have been any changes to how class timetables were prepared, noting that he had numerous issues with the semester 2 2024 class allocations.

Ben Smith responded that some of some timetabling duties that had previously been undertaken within the School were now being completed by a Faculty of Science timetabling officer. Ben resolved to relay this feedback to the School timetabling officer to raise at the next Faculty of Science Timetable Community of Practice meeting.

Ben

Nerya stated that students had been experiencing some technical issues with Learn.UQ CHEM Lab Hub integration.

Ben asked if any group members had experience with courses using Blackboard Ultra for their Learn.UQ sites, noting that adoption of this new version of Blackboard would become more widespread.

Jacob Stead responded that there were some difficulties navigating the CHEM1XXX sites utilising Blackboard Ultra.

Annalise Kerr added that it took some time to adjust to the layout for BIOL2200 but the overall experience was positive.

Andrea Quispe Soto stated that she had been looking for opportunities to present her research.

Jacob added that early year undergraduate students would find research presentations from later year undergraduate students interesting and potentially make research pathways seem more approachable than high level presentations.

Simon Worrall identified SCIE3260 which is focused around research project poster presentations as an ideal course for undergraduate students interested in research presentation.

Marloes Nitert Dekker resolved to share the feedback that undergraduate students were interested in research presentations from other students at the next Teaching and Learning Committee meeting.

Marloes

**9. Next meeting:**

Ben Smith would contact members regarding availability for a meeting in week 11 of semester 2.

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