Graduate Students’ Forum
Minutes: 7 March 2013

Attending: LG Lise Gough
KS Kumar Sharad (Security)
IT Ivo Timoteo (AI&B) [Secretary]
DT Daniel Thomas (DTG)
AR Andrew Rice (GEC) [Chair]
RK Ramana Kumar (PLS)
MZ Meng Zhang (MPhil)
GS George Sarbu

1 Apologies
Vaiva Imbrasaite (Rainbow), Sando Bauer (NLIP), Jon Crowcroft and Matthew Grosvenor (SRG).

2 Minutes of last meeting
Approved.

3 Matters arising
i. Unofficial PhD guide (VI, SMB)
   Both VI and SMB were not present.

ii. Pictures from pizza lunch (VI)
   VI was not present.

iii. Lab credit card limit (AR)
   We can consider this matter closed as Caroline is now responsible for it.

iv. Food preparation training (MG, VI)
   VI book a course. DT has suggested the possibility of organizing a pancake day for the department for around 60 people.
v. *CL BE\TeX\* bootcamp (*DT*)
   Postponed to next meeting.

vi. *Sponsored beer glasses (VI)*
   VI was not present. However we already have some which have been used in the
   Happy Hour events.

vii. *MRSS budget*
   Postponed.

viii. *Bicycle security*
   MG was not present. Postponed.

ix. *RT ticket software update*
   GS to provide feedback on the next meeting.

x. *Franking machine (AR)*
   It is apparently not possible to have scales and a printer due to PO constrains. AR
   will do the follow up.

xi. *4th year PhD resources page (LG)*
   We now have a page with 4th year PhD resources. Let LG know if anything should
   be added.

xii. *GSF supervising hours survey*
   The collection of data will continue and hopefully we will have results on the next
   meeting.

4 Sys-Admin Feedback

AR suggested that we talked with Andy Hopper to recognise Brian’s contribution to the
energy efficiency of the building.
MZ: some of the computers in the practical room have been down.

5 Departmental announcements

LG: some points from PRES and PTES reports were briefly discussed.
Slightly off-topic, other concerns were expressed such as: i) research students paying
extra college bills, e.g. kitchen charges, even if they do not use the facilities; ii) MPhil
students with courses in the engineering department have trouble getting their work
marked.
6 Staff Student Consultative Forum

Staff will hopefully in the future be paid their expenses by bank transfer. The librarian is happy to buy a book you need if he knows about it.

7 Researcher development

Think about the creation of a post-doc forum. Ponder on the need for training on the use of library resources and literature research.

8 Student feedback

DT: Multiple emails about the same events in the department — a departmental iCal would be of greater use. Not all talks at the department have abstracts or titles making it very hard to assess whether to go.
LG: VI should be commended for her role at the 1st Oxbridge Women in Computer Science Conference.

9 Date of next meeting

Second week of Easter term.

10 Any other business

IT: Ponder on the possibility of organizing a bicycle maintenance course.