

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 Imbrasaitė (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 L^AT_EX 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.