

SCHOOL OF CHEMISTRY
STAFF/STUDENT LIAISON COMMITTEE
1 pm, Wednesday 2 August, 2006
Tutorial Room, School of Chemistry

MINUTES

Present: Dr. Uta Wille, A/Prof David McFadyen, Dr. Brendan Abrahams, Gerard Prokop (142 afternoon class), Steve Danczak, Pauline Mihaylova, Benjamin Harris, Shalitha Lokuliyana, Sorabh Tomar, Tony Luong, Christine Callahan (Minutes)

Apologies: Chloe Miller (122), Michelle Kovacevic (142 morning class)

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair, Dr Wille welcomed all members of the SSLC.

There was an apology from Chloe Miller (122), Michelle Kovacevic (142 am).

There are now 4 Third Year student representatives instead of just 2.

Tony Luong provided his email address so that Dr Wille can add him to her mailing list – *t.luong2@ugrad.unimelb.edu.au*

2. Matters arising from last meeting's minutes

The minutes from the last meeting (3/2006) were accepted.

3. Matters relating to First, Second, Third and Fourth Year Teaching Program

Representatives from each subject were asked to outline any issues/queries they had encountered so far during the semester. Comments are outlined below:

142 (morning class)

No student representative was present to report but an email was sent to Dr Wille indicating that there has been no complains.

142 (afternoon class)

The student representative reported that students are requesting a better way to deal with timetable clashes. They said that they would prefer if they could see someone personally (face-to-face contact) to deal with the clash.

A/Prof McFadyen said that this was already being done. There are certain timeslots allocated for students to sort out their clashes both in the CAL lab (10am to 12pm) as well as at the Mathematics Building (2pm to 4pm) this week, i.e Week 2 of Semester 2.

Students have also brought up concerns about the inorganic section of subject 142. They are requesting that lecturers try to reduce the number of power points as well as reduce the availability of these notes so that students will not take it for granted that they need not attend lectures and take their own notes. Dr Wille said that if there were less power points,

there would be complains too. Dr Abrahams also added that for the inorganic section, with the amount structures and the complexity of it all, students would be overwhelmed if the lecture was delivered without sufficient power point or notes.

Biomedical Science (First Year)

The student representative reported that there has been no complains and that they were very grateful for the room.

122

The student representative reported that there have been no complains about the lectures or tutorials and were very happy with Dr Spencer Williams' lectures.

Second Year

The student representative reported that the inorganic classes are too full. There are even people sitting on the steps. Dr. Abrahams will speak to A/Prof Charles Young about getting students to fill the middle seats so as to prevent students sitting on the steps. This is a fire hazard.

Third Year

The student representative provided feedback that students are requesting to have analytical tutorials. Students are also unhappy about having to photocopy lecture notes from the library. They would much prefer to have an online source. Dr Wille will speak to Prof. Richard O'Hair about this.

360

The student representative reported that students are finding inconsistency in marking amongst the demonstrators for the analytical pracs (260 & 360). Students are very frustrated by this as they seem to be losing marks because they are not writing their reports based on the way the demonstrators prefer it to be written. Students are requesting for some sort of standardisation. Dr Wille will speak to Dr Spas Kolev about this.

4. Any other business

Dr Abrahams brought up that students are concerned about placement of exams in first semester. He emphasised that the Chemistry department has no control over this.

Dr Wille discussed the 3rd year dinner with the 3rd year students.

Meeting ended at 1.40pm for everybody, except U.W. and the 3rd year students. The entire meeting was over at 2 pm.

Date of next meeting – 13 September 2006, 1pm at the Conference Room.

(Chair of the SSLC)

School of Chemistry/Bio21 Molecular Science and Biotechnology Institute

30 Flemington Rd, Parkville, VIC 3010

Ph: 8344 2425

F: 9347 8189