

Royal College of Science Union

Minutes of the 1st meeting of the Clubs and Activities Committee

Held at 18:00 on 19th October 2016 at the RCSU Office (Sherfield 214D)

PRESENT:

- Lloyd James – RCSU President (LJ)
- Michael Edwards – RCSU Honorary Secretary (ME)
- Jonathan Rislely – BioChemSoc President (HM)
- Iram Cook-Monie – BioSoc President (ICM)
- Cat Saunders – ChemSoc President (CS)
- Harrison Zhu – MathSoc President (HZ)
- Thomas Waite – PhySoc Chair (TW)
- Fraser Goldsworth – PhySoc Treasurer (FG)
- David Todd-Jones - SynBIC Vice Chair (DTJ)

APOLOGIES:

- Stephen Davies – BioChemSoc Treasurer (JC)
- Tessa Caussyram – BioSoc Treasurer (TC)
- Min-Woo Hong – ChemSoc Treasurer (MWH)
- Abhishek Mukherjee – MathSoc Treasurer (AM)

ABSENT:

OBSERVERS:

Meeting opened at 18:00

A. Money Available

RECEIVED: LJ delivered this agenda item.

NOTED:

1. The specifics of Tour funding and available funding through the Activity Development Fund and Harlington were covered for the benefit of the DepSoc Chairs.
2. Given that application processes vary, LJ is to send round the deadlines and the specific processes for the three funding sources.
3. HZ raised whether social events such as a Christmas dinner would be covered by the ADF - LJ ruled that social events would be seen unfavourably through the ADF process given the Union's stance on subsidising social events.

RESOLVED:

- a. LJ to circulate information regarding the funding sources available from the Union, including processes and deadlines.

B. Chemistry Report

RECEIVED: CS delivered this verbally - there is no written report available.

NOTED:

4. ChemSoc has delivered a number of successful events and parts of the Freshers' provision, including: the Induction Day; Mums and Dads; Freshers Fair; Freshers Seminar; and a Buddies Bar Night. Events coming up include: Pizza and Quiz in the department; seminars; and the Christmas Dinner. Payments were reported to be late, but not a matter of concern at the moment.
5. In terms of sponsorship, the DepSoc has received £1000 from GSK, £200 from the RSC, £500 from Procter and Gamble, and a pending amount from Sigma-Aldrich. Further drives for sponsorship will press a future seminar, delivered by a Nobel Prize winning biochemist.

RESOLVED:

- b. To accept the report

C. Biology Report

RECEIVED: ICM delivered this item - as per her report in Appendix One.

NOTED:

6. Issues with publicity were voiced - there has been low turnout for some Freshers' events. ICM plans to use the newly elected year representatives to reach out to first and second year students. The rest of the committee also reiterated that emails are a poor form of communication.
7. No sponsors have been confirmed for BioSoc, and lower grant has meant more use of SGI.

RESOLVED:

- c. To accept the report

D. Physics Report

RECEIVED: TW and FG delivered this item - as per the report in Appendix Two.

NOTED:

8. Departmental funding is being sought for a Christmas event (dinner). The date for the RAG-RCSU winter ball needs to be confirmed as soon as possible to minimise clashing with the DepSoc Christmas dinners.
9. Sponsorship for PhySoc is largely positive - some pending transactions, but largely everyone has agreed to pay.

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RESOLVED:

- d. To accept the report

E. SynBIC Report

RECEIVED: DTJ delivered this item verbally - no written report.

NOTED:

- 10. SynBIC are linked to the synthetic biology incubator on campus. Due to committee issues there has been a slow start to activities, but co-ordination is taking place to fully start in the next two weeks. Planned events include - a lecture series, a dinner, UROP opportunity signposting and coaching, and Outreach.

RESOLVED:

- e. To accept the report

F. Biochemistry Report

RECEIVED: JR delivered this item - as per his report in Appendix Three.

NOTED:

- 11. JR advises independent Mums and Dads schemes over the centralised Union system. More to follow in AOB.

RESOLVED:

- f. To accept the report

G. Maths Report

RECEIVED: HZ delivered this item - as per his report in Appendix Four.

NOTED:

- 12. HZ raised an issue with the placement of DepSocs in Freshers' Fair (Upper Dalby Court), which was not suitable for purpose and was a significant change from previous years. LJ apologised for this, and stressed that the Union were unaware the traditional location was available - next year should return to normal.
- 13. MathSoc is suffering a funding crisis in that sponsors payments are pending, and the department support financially is low. This will be monitored and followed up next meeting.

RESOLVED:

- g. To accept the report

G. Websites

RECEIVED: LJ and ME delivered this item.

NOTED:

14. As part of the RCSU's drive to make ourselves a coherently branded structure, the implementation of a website template has been suggested, based upon the PhySoc coding template. Convenience in handover of usage needs to be stressed - if the PhySoc template is simple to handle and manipulate, then the plan is to roll it out across the RCSU DepSocs and to sue it for the central website as well.
15. TW stated that the creator would need to be contacted and attributed in any future use of the code.
16. ChemSoc is planning a redesign of their website soon and so would be happy to work this in.

RESOLVED:

- h. To seek the approval of the PhySoc website coder for more widespread use of his work.

H. AOB

NOTED:

17. Concerns with the implementation of the Mums and Dads scheme this year were raised by the committee. The lateness of the information arriving and the quality of the matching algorithm were two points where the Union system was seen to be lacking.
 - o Since CS and JR each ran their own M+D system, their opinions were sought regarding what would make them buy back in to the Union's process. Addressing the points in NOTED 17 would make inroads for both, but an independent process has been significantly better in the past than the Union.
18. Issues with management of the room booking process were raised - the time the process takes, along with a lack of visibility of the available spaces, was the primary issue. Potential issues with departmental administrators 'kicking out' external bookings were also raised. The process to co-ordinate the Union room booking process with College to make this work more efficiently was deemed 'difficult' by Union staff, and as such the situation is unlikely to change soon.
19. ME reminded the DepSoc chairs that they are welcome to come along to the General Committee meeting next Wednesday at 6:30 pm in RSM LT 1.31, and to invite their committee members so they can feed into the discussion. This is a measure to make the input of lay DepSoc committee members more accessible to the committee and to make the committee more accessible to ordinary members of the RCSU.

RESOLVED:

- i. To raise the issue of the Mums and Dads process higher - CSPB or Union Council.

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- j. LJ and ME to raise the issue of room bookings with the Activities team and report back to C&A.
- k. ME to publicise the RCSU General Committee meeting along the same lines as a Union Council meeting.

Meeting closed at 19:00.

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Appendix One - BioSoc report

RCSU BioSoc Report

Meeting 19th October

Past events:

Olympic Pub Crawl

Pub crawl from union to Fulham Oyster Rooms and the Slug with sports day games played along the way (such as three legged race). Originally was going to be sports day event at Hyde Park.

Unsuccessful event with low attendance: approximately 10 freshers attended.

Unsuccessful due last minute changes to event which may have caused confusion, lack of advertisement (need more direct methods such as lecture shout outs), clash with other major event (Professor Green at Ministry).

Upcoming events:

Bubble Football

20th October 7pm, PlayFootball at Shepherds bush. Up to 40 people. Only 16 tickets sold.

Low attendance attributed to lack of advertising to freshers.

Noah's Ark Pubcrawl

Annual event, to be held during Biology reading week (7-11th November). Pub crawl through Fulham dressed as animals.

Funding (Code)	Total Amount (£)
Grant (0)	127.56
SGI (1)	1,930.66
College (4)	481.72
2,539.94	

Budget 2016/17

We plan to spend our budget in its entirety on event subsidy. We aim to spend £250 per event, enabling us to subsidise 8 events. In addition, we hope to host the first annual Biology leavers ball, with £500 being put aside to subsidise it.

Physoc Activities Report: 19th October 2016

Activities already run:

1. Mums and Dads Meet and Greet,

When: Monday 3rd October

Description: Physics Mums and Dads met up with their kids on the level 3 foyer in Blackett. They then took them for lunch.

Success: Overall yes. It was a bit chaotic at first when parents were trying to find their children

Improvements: Book a larger room for the initial meet up – level 8 common room would be ideal. We tried to book this time, but there was no availability. Probably needs booking in summer.

1. Meet Physoc,

When: Wednesday 5th October

Description: This was a chance for freshers to get to know the Physoc committee and to ask any questions they had about Physoc. Booked a tutorial room in Blackett, invited the freshers to come along and provided free pizza.

Success: Massive success. A large number of freshers turned up (~80). Most stayed for longer than the pizza lasted, some staying for the whole 2hrs that the room was booked for.

Improvements: More pizza! We underestimated how many would turn up, and so most only got one slice of pizza. Could have done with twice as much

1. Welcome Dinner

When: Thursday 13th October

Description: A welcome dinner at Byron, South Kensington. We booked 50 places for Physics students to have a meal, socialise, get to know Physoc etc. Free to attend, everyone paid for their own meal, 3 free milkshakes awarded for the best Physics jokes.

Success: Yes, it was very popular - almost all the tickets were sold. Only negative was that someone left without paying for their meal, so Physoc had to cover the cost.

Improvements: Make sure nobody leaves early without covering their meal cost.

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1. Physoc Pub Golf

When: Friday 14th October

Description: A pub crawl around South Kensington pubs, but with golf like drinking rules twist for those who wanted to take part.

Success: Moderately successful. Turnout was ~40, which is lower than in previous years. This is probably because the event had to be rescheduled due to a lack of venue (the post grad mingle was in the union on the same night)

Improvements: More thoroughly check availability of venues. Perhaps make the pub gold rules less assertive, this might have put a few people off

Planned Activities

1. **Research Frontier Lecture** – Thurs 20th Oct
2. **Cold Matter Lab Tour** – Mon 24th Oct
3. **Joint ICL/UCL Physoc Social** – Science Museum Lates, Wednesday 26th Oct
4. **Blackett Film Night**
5. **Christmas Dinner** – early December
6. **Joint ICL/UCL Undergraduate Conference** – January
7. **NPL Tour** – early February
8. **International Tour** – second Term

Income

Sponsorship – min £1700

Department - ~£1500 for Christmas dinner (not guaranteed, dependent on the proposal we put forward)

IOP Association - £100

Union Grant - £300

What we plan to spend it on

- Christmas Dinner - ~£3000
- Freshers - ~£100
- Free pizza (for stress busting lab report deadline events) - ~£200

BioChemSoc

October report

Activities thus far – 19/10/2016

1. BiochemSoc Scavenger Hunt and Pub Crawl
 - This was a Mum's and Dad's orientated event on the first Monday of Term (Mon 3rd Oct). Through the app 'Actionbound' we arranged a series of questions which enabled the teams to explore campus and send in their answers.
 - It was a great success in terms to the number of teams that took part (around 150 students) and the initial pairing up of parents worked very well – considering we didn't use the Unions pairing system, as this enabled us to send out the pairings much earlier
 - We also organized mini games for the students to come back to at certain intervals, which were also very well received
 - The app had a comment response section, which were all very positive
 - The mini pub crawl of south ken saw 30 students join us, but we believe this is largely because Tiger Tiger was the Fresher's event going on that evening.
 - Advise for next year: definitely have the pairings taking part in a large space like SAF mezzanine – worked very well
1. Fresher's Fair
 - Very successful signup, with 120 extra students joining the society, due to our incentive of 2 free tickets to the Oxygen Free Trampolining event.
 - Mailing list size is important for future sponsorship
2. BioChemSoc Support Sessions:
 - New initiative this year, where every Thursday, students can come along and ask questions about the course and older years can help answer them
 - We had 20 people turn up for the first session
3. Biochem Buddies Picnic
 - Tue 11th October – we supplied food enough for 100 students, ideally aimed at Fresher's with their parents. The Tesco order worked fantastically well. However, we had in fact 120 students turn up, which meant that we had to reimburse 20 of them £2 as we had run out of food by that point.
4. BioChem Fifa Tournament:
 - We had 6 teams enter the competition that lasted approx. 2hours. It was a great night for those involved, however as there were only 15 students present in total it was a very low key event. This would largely be because it was the day before the RCSU autumn ball and we advertised quite late.

Activities Planned:

1. Biochem 10 pin-bowling – 25/10/2016
2. Biochem Trip to Mexican Restaurant – 28/10/2016
3. Joint Biochem, ChemSoc, DocSoc Zero Gravity Trampolining Event – 19/11/2016
4. BiochemSoc Games Evening – 1/11/2016
5. BioChemSoc Poker Evening – 22/11/2016
6. Bristows Academic Event – 24/11/2016
7. BiochemSoc Pub Crawl - Nov

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8. BiochemSoc Film Evening – 13/12/2016
9. KPMG Academic Event
10. KCL Academic Event
11. BiochemSoc Ice Skating – Dec
12. BiochemSoc Boat Party – Dec

Sponsorship:

1. KPMG – Contract Signed - £1240
2. TeachFirst – Contract and Invoice completed - £300
3. OliverWyman – Contract and Invoice completed - £100
4. JobLab – Contract and Invoice completed - £100
 - The Majority of this money will be spent on social events for our members, with the largest proportion going towards the Annual Dinner as well as the Ice Skating and Christmas Boat Party which will be our 'largest' events of the year.
 - Money will be set aside for the catering of both KPMG events. Extra income for catering is supplied by Teachfirst for the events
 - Is the RCSU sponsored by KPMG this year, and if so shall we do another joint event?

Grant:

1. Consumables - £3.05
2. Hospitality - £180
3. Printing Costs - £7.50
4. Speakers - £72.32
5. Travel Expenditure - £332.04

Total = £594.91

- Can a boat party be classed as Travel Expenditure, because technically it is a form of travel...
- Can we get more printing credits from the Union, as last year Ben Howitt just gave it to us for free?

College

- Membership Funds = £1,149.04
- What can this money actually be spent on?

Department:

- £100

If we were to get additional funding it would go towards:

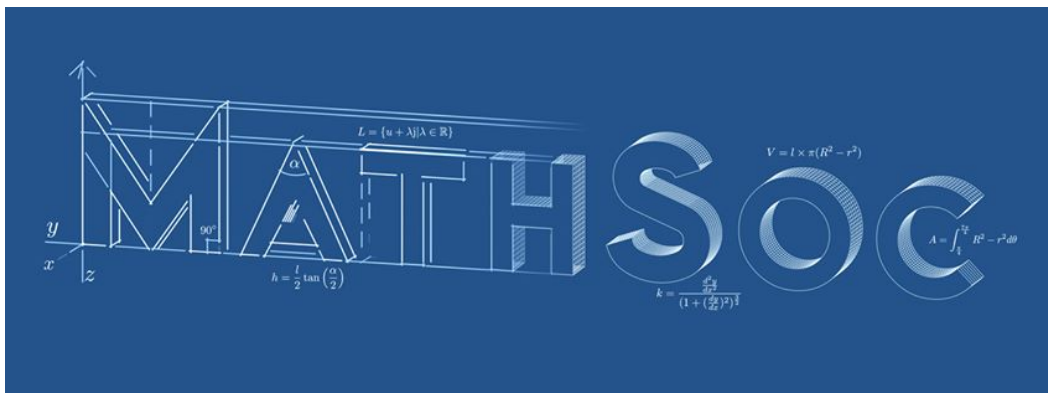
1. More Buddies Events which would enable the Mum's and Dad's initiative to have a greater longevity throughout the year, rather than being just a first term thing.
2. The long term equipment could go towards the Biochemistry Roller poster which we purchased over the summer, which we use for advertising and increasing the professional nature of our events.

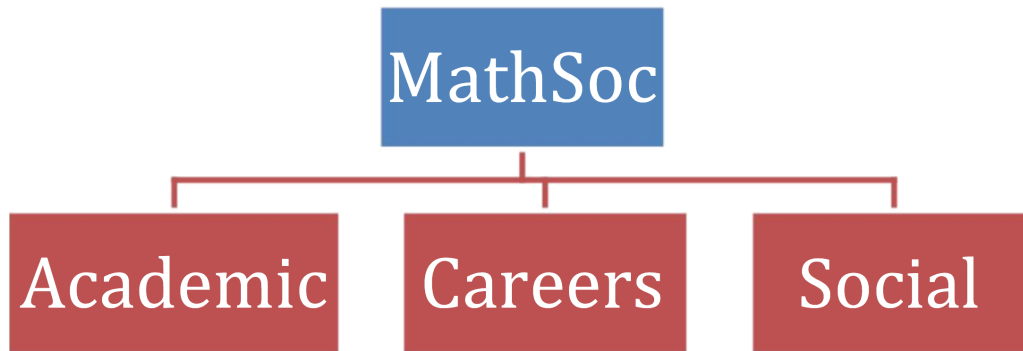
Biochem next meeting – Friday 5pm

Imperial College London
Mathematics Society
RCSU Meeting Report 19/10/16

President: Harrison Zhu

October 19, 2016





Club Activity Up To 19/10/16

We are currently 3 weeks into the Autumn Term. MathSoc is planning to deliver to mathematicians academic, social and careers events in the academic year 2016/2017, with a clear vision of encouraging mingling between mathematicians and at the same time provide useful external opportunities.

We are run by a committee of 6: three from 2^{nd} year and three from 3^{rd} year. This will hopefully expand to 9 after the Leadership Elections this year.

Academic Events

The Colloquium this year is run independently of MathSoc, solely by students who express their interests towards it. Although, we helped raise travel subsidies for conferences such as the Warwick Imperial Autumn Meeting(WIMP) last academic year. This year, we are hoping to increase our ties with Colloquium and thus enhance and emphasise the academic aspect of our society. So far this cooperation has happened via publicity support for Colloquium.

Last year, we invited speakers from our very own department to give talks to our students. These lectures took place during lunch, where we and the department also provided drinks and refreshments, and aimed to give students a feel for what research mathematics is about. Notably, some of the speakers were Fields Medallist Sir Professor Simon Donaldson, Professor Martin Liebeck and Professor Richard Thomas, with talks ranging from Topological Manifolds to Issues in Causal Inference. These were usually

well-attended and a stronger emphasis next year would be imperative. We are planning to organise more talks and also invite external speakers to our department.

On 19th October some students will be travelling to Warwick University to participate in an Ada Lovelace day with the theme of Women in Maths. Emma McCracken has organised Imperial's visit and hopes to learn more about the Women in Maths society at Warwick, and to see if this is something which could be implemented within MathSoc. One of Imperial's postgraduate students Elana Kalshnikov will give a talk and be a member of the panel discussion about the situation for Women in Maths today.

Careers Events

So far we have had 1 careers talk by 3 guest actuaries the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries, on Monday 17/10/16. This was a presentation and networking evening; the presentation was attended by roughly 50-60 people and then the networking by around 40. This was a highly successful event in general and helped people gain a lot of insight into the field of Actuarial Sciences. On the logistics side, it was well-organised, however on the contrary, the catering was a little rushed in the end. Earlier preparation would be an obvious thing to work on for our next events. The venue booked was too ambitious and so the lecture hall appeared quite empty. Perhaps a smaller lecture hall next time would be more suitable.

We currently don't have any immediate plans for careers talks but we have Morgan Stanley as our sponsor and strategic partnerships with Imperial Finance Society and Citigroup. Our other non-sponsorship partners are Team Up and Credit Suisse and we will aim to deliver more talks, networking evenings and workshops with the support of our partners.

We also work with ICAH Community, or Hackspace, which is a group based in Imperial College London that promotes innovative thinking through 'hackathons'. Their theme revolves around solving real world problems and are able to get sponsorship for winning hack-teams to develop their ideas. They are currently planning, and also working with PhysSoc, Imperial Entrepreneur Society and various other societies, for a Hackathon this term and this will be a great opportunity for our members to engage

in innovation.

Social Events

We started off the year with the Freshers' Fair where people from every department came and learnt a bit about MathSoc. There were boardgames, a maths quiz challenge for freebies, free sodukus and posters and leaflets at our stall. The use of engaging things such as board games and the quiz really earned us a lot of attention and this certainly was one of the highlights. In the contrary, there wasn't much interaction for us in general and more preparation and work next time would certainly help.

The Mums & Dads Scheme this year was run with much success. We assigned 9 freshers to a pair of senior undergraduates, and that they then had the opportunity to get to know each other during freshers' week during an exciting treasure hunt around South Kensington, followed by a pizza party. This was a successful event and families really got to mingle on a Thursday afternoon. The fact that people got the chance to explore South Kensington was particularly good. However, there was a little issue with the distribution of pizzas as some people took too many and as a result there were people who didn't get any. Next time, it would be better if we limited people's portions.

Last year, we held a grand Mums & Dads quiz night, with a lot of pizzas and drinks, during the Spring term and was well-received. In addition, we also had a special bar night at the end of term as well to allow 'families' to catch up before the summer holidays. We will work around this framework in the future for the Mums & Dads Scheme.

In addition, Harrison is in contact with maths societies of LSE, UCL, King's and QM and is planning to do an inter-collegiate pubcrawl in November. We have mentioned about organising a Senior-Maths-Team-Challenge-esque competition between universities to them and Harrison will be contacting them about this. We also have contacted The Archimedean, or the Cambridge Mathematics Society, and Trinity College Maths Society to organise either some joint events or online competitions. Potentially, we will also need a lot of funding for this if this were to be well-organised.

Income and Budget

This year we received £567.49 of Grant and began the year with roughly £2,400. This summer we contacted firms for sponsorship and have successfully got sponsorships from Morgan Stanley, Institute and Faculty of Actuaries and Institute of Mathematics. We have had the money from IMA but have yet to have gotten the money from the other 2. Our department has also promised to give us subsidy for our events.

We've so far spent most of the SGI's on careers events and the freshers' mingle. We hope to try and raise as many funds for the Christmas Dinner as possible since this will be our headline event of the year. In addition, we will also use our remaining balance to fund the academic and careers talks that we need to organise later on in the year. The budget is currently a problem and so we'll definitely have to get our department subsidy, and also urge our sponsors to transfer the funds as soon as possible.