

**3rd AGM OF THE SCIENCE & ENTERPRISE GROUP (SEG) COMMITTEE
MEETING AT SCI
AT 14.30 ON THURSDAY 8 DECEMBER 2011
M I N U T E S**

Attendees: Peter Reineck (PR) (Programme Coordinator), Richard Bahu (RB) (Hon Sec), Christopher Drew (CD), Patrick Kitt (PK), Lambros Antoniou (LA), Clive Thompson (CT), Carlos Harrison (CH), Derek Heywood (DH), Martin Elliott (ME), Stuart Jordan (SJ), Mathew Lennon (ML), Joanne Lyall (JL).

In attendance: Monica Ugalde (MU) (SCI) stood in for Jacqui Colgate.

Apologies: Rob Andrew (RA) (Chairman), Simon Conway (SC) (Treasurer), Bernard Carey (BC) (Communications Officer), Alan Baylis (AB), Kirsty Hewitson (KH), Thomas Moore (TM), Jacqui Colgate (JC).

1. Welcome

Peter Reineck welcomed everyone to the AGM in the absence of RA, Chairman of SEG, who was unable to attend for personal reasons. The whole committee was sad that he was unable to attend his last AGM as Chairman. All acknowledged his invaluable contribution over the past three years since SEG was formed. His leadership had played a key part in SEG's success and in positioning SEG at the heart of SCI's mission.

PR introduced Joanne Lyall, who gave an update on her vision for SCI and where her focus has been. She highlighted four challenges:

- Less time to commit from business
- Several organisation in the chemistry-using sector that compete / collaborate
- New media – need to be at forefront on delivery
- Fewer resources (£ and people) – need to work smarter

SCI Journals generate good income. Move to Wiley was proving to be successful with electronic versions for new journals and books in fields such as, energy. Next year C&I will be monthly with a bi-weekly e-newsletter. SEG should see increased involvement of editors in the future.

Considering new technology webinars.

SEG is a significant connection to industry and JL should be encouraged to meet with CEO. The idea of in-company lunchtime talks by SCI members was raised and this could even be offered as a series throughout one week.

ACTION: *JL would send SEG the most up-to-date strategic priorities document SCI PP078. (see attached).*

2. Chairman's Report for 2010-11

Rob Andrew's report was as follows:

“In the third year of operation for the Science and Enterprise Group we have continued to promote and run events of topical interest to the scientific and business community. A highly successful event on Opportunities for Commercialising Drug Discovery was held early in 2011, followed by well supported events on digestate use and management, processing lignocellulosics, bioplastic processing, funding agri innovation and process engineering innovation. A couple of other events are being held before the date of the AGM, including one on the chemistry of textiles. A significant disappointment occurred when the SEG flagship event of 2011 on Innovation to Transform the Chemical Industry, linked with IYC 2011 and co-badged with key chemical industry stakeholders, failed to gain adequate registrations and had to be cancelled. SEG also hosted a joint meeting with CICA in mid-year, allowing an interesting exchange of views and opinions on chemical industry developments.

It has become even clearer that the marketing and promotion of SCI events remains a major challenge. The energy and network of the event organising team is critical but SCI needs to find ways of converting potential participant interest into firm registrations. We can assure a high quality programme of speakers through the contacts and capabilities of SEG members but can we sell it? It is perhaps significant that the most successful events have tended to be 'niche' events which address the exploitation of science in business. With the failure of the mainstream IYC event, the SEG needs to look closely at the positioning and target audience of all future events, but more importantly gauge whether the SCI and SEG brand is adequate yet in commanding attention from the core of UK Chemicals plc. SEG should operate at the focal point for SCI, namely 'where science meets business'. Our failure to date to generate full traction in this regard prompts some interesting questions on the future focus of SEG.

SEG has also contributed in other ways to the society, including the provision of a paper on Mid-Career Support Needs and Opportunities. This was submitted to MDAC for their overall consideration of future services for SCI members. At a recent SEG committee meeting we were pleased to hear from Brian Iddon, retired MP and SCI member, regarding the opportunities for SCI engagement in the political arena. We have also attempted to broaden the engagement of SEG with other SCI members through a variety of mailings. In the current environment, this has proven to be quite challenging although our core of SEG members have worked diligently on furthering the SEH ethos. Hopefully, we can be more successful in future in stimulating SCI members to get involved.

After three years as Chair of SEG I have decided to step down. My replacement will be elected at the SEG AGM on 8 December 2011. I will continue to be involved with SEG matters and the SEG Committee, and be available to support SEG initiatives as needed. At this time I would like to thank and acknowledge the main committee members of SEG for their hard work and support.”

3. Honorary Treasurer’s Report for 2010-11

Simon Conway’s report was as follows:

“The 2011 budget allocated to SEG was £1,830 (vs 2010 £2,500). I am pleased to report that SEG activities for 2011 appear to be within budget. Expenses to date have been £998 (vs CY10 £876).

SEG has submitted a budget of £2,500 for 2012. This includes provision for two poster awards during the year of £250 each.”

Motion to approve budget report (DH 1st, CT 2nd) passed.

ACTION: *JC to ask for events breakdown from finance.*

4. Officers of the Committee

Richard Bahu was duly elected as Chairman unopposed (RA 1st, PR 2nd).
Chris Crew was duly elected as Secretary unopposed (RA 1st, RB 2nd)

Members co-opted were RA (RB 1st, DH 2nd), SJ (CH 1st, CT 2nd), PK, CT, AB (Note: AB has indicated that he does not want to be a formal member of the committee and just wishes to be informed when items are relevant to his SCI activities), ME, CH, KH, DH, Brian Iddon, Pete Moores, TM, MP.

5. Presentation “Importance of the Chemical Industry to our Lives” by Lambros Antoniou

Postponed to next SEG Committee meeting on 15 March 2012 (rescheduled to 14th to enable Ann McRea to participate in presentation.

LA highlighted the excellent UKTI chemicals brochure pdf as a very informative document, see

6. Date of Next AGM

Thursday 6 Dec 2012 @ SCI.

ACTION: *JC to confirm room booking.*