

Minutes of the School of Engineering and Materials Science (SEMS) Industrial Advisory Board (IAB) Materials Division – Autumn 2017

Date: Wednesday 22nd November 2017

Location: G27 LAB

Start: 1pm

1a. Attendance

Internal (SEMS) members:

Prof. James Busfield (JB), Dr. Remzi Becer, Dr. Emiliano Bilotti, Prof. Magda Titirici (MT), Prof Ton Peijs (TP).

External members:

Last Name	First Name	Initials	Company	Role
Beken*	Sally	SB	Innovate UK	
Bennett	Martyn	MB	ARTIS	Chief Scientist
Dowden	Tom	TD	Sugru	Principal Researcher
Hallett	Joe	JH	Fenner Precision	Senior Development
Kinsella	Tony	TK	Lucideon Ltd	Chief Executive
Prabaharan*	Ravi	RP	Advanced Healthcare Ltd	R&T Manager
Roohpour	Nima	NR	GSK	Principal Scientist
Small	Carolyn	CS	Arconic	Development Manager
Stevens	Chris	CS	NGF Europe	Technical Manager
Whear	Roly	RW	Jaguar & Land Rover	Principal Technical Specialist

* New appointment since the previous meeting

1b. Apologies

Last name	First Name	Company	Role
Cain	Markys	Electrosiences Ltd.	Director
Thornton	Matthew	Haydale Composite Solutions	Senior Manager
Poon *	Thomas	Rolls Royce Submarines	

* New appointment since the previous meeting

1c. Membership

Since the last meeting there had been two resignations from the Materials IAB. Liam McElroy and Alan Wood (The Polymer Society). Membership is open to any organisation which is willing to engage in teaching led or research led activities within the school. JB welcomed Sally Beken (Innovate UK), Ravi Prabaharan (Advanced Healthcare Ltd) and Nima Roohpour (GSK) to their first meeting.

2. Review the Role of the IAB and the company benefits

JB reminded the membership of the role of IAB. He also explained that priority for the small number of half funded PhD student projects would be given to IAB partners. This might attract new partners to the IAB and it might provide a real incentive for broader QMUL / Industrial collaboration.

3. Review and Approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting from the 22nd November 2017

The minutes were approved. The following matters from the minutes were arising:

New programme updates

It was reported that the two new Joint Programmes with NPU in Xian (China) had recruited nearly 250 students. New staff have been appointed to teach on the programme and three admin support staff have also been recruited.

JB reported that the new programmes in Chemical Engineering in SEMS had recruited well with more than 40 very well qualified students recruited into year 1. Three new staff were in post.

Accreditation Update

JB reported that the IOM3 accreditation visit had taken place from the 7th – 8th March 2017. The overall outcome of the visit had been entirely positive. JB thanked CS for her support during the visit.

5. Review of Existing Collaborations

Arconic – CS reported that she was offering a case study for MAT602 this semester. She also reported that she had recruited two “with Industrial Experience” students this year. She emphasised that it was a shame that not enough materials students had applied and that she had been forced to offer the position to engineering students this year. Arconic sponsor a student prize each year.

GSK – Currently support 2 CASE studentships at QMUL and have had 2 PDRA funded positions as well. They were providing a field trip and supporting a Meng project and had a track record of employing graduates.

ARTIS – They had part funded a PhD project that had just completed and were supporting a case study in MAT602. Joint papers had been produced from the collaboration.

NGF – Currently supporting a CSC studentship that was ongoing and had supplied a case study for MAT602 in 2016.

JLR – Currently fully funding a PhD studentship. Have run a UG project on creep for the last 5 years continuously. Supported MEng projects on at least 4 occasions in the last 7 years.

Fenner – Supporting a BEng project this year having supplied all the materials for evaluation. Interested in supporting Meng projects and would look into Year in industry opportunities.

Sugru – Collaborative KTP project just started that is employing a former sponsored PhD student. A new PhD was also running concurrently. Several projects have been supported in the past at PhD, MSc, Meng and UG levels and they have employed several graduate and a range of interns over the years.

Lucideon – Several staff are QMUL alumni, two interns have started this year. Looking to secure a number of summer placement opportunities as well.

6. Doctoral training Centres

TP explained the value of securing an EPSRC funded DTC in the materials theme area in 2018. Two potential DTCs were discussed. A DTC in Future Fabrics (with the London College of Fashion) and another in Polymer Engineering (with Warwick). Both were introduced by TP. Both CDT bids were endorsed by the IAB. The college will only be able to support 4 CDT bids from QMUL as a consequence of the size of our EPSRC portfolio. Clearly an internal vetting process will help choose the best 4 bids to promote further in March 2018.

7. Institute of Technology

JB briefly explained the bidding process for a new Institute of Technology where we are likely to partner with Newham college as an FE provider to deliver degree apprenticeships. It is not clear yet what programmes of study we plan to deliver but they would be broadly in the area of transport engineering. Clearly we need to identify key large businesses that will make use of the training that such a scheme will offer.

CS encouraged us to consider degree apprenticeship opportunities in Materials Technology that will be trailblazed through for delivery in early 2018. JB said that he would investigate this opportunity further.

8. Any other business.

None

9. Date of next meeting

JB circulated a table of timescales for industrial actions over the next year. This included the dates for the next IAB meeting as being 7th March 2018.

Summary of Action plan

Action	By
Explore possibilities for co-funded Doctoral Research Projects	All externals
Examine potential opportunities for Guest Lectures (JB with JH and NR)	All externals
Review existing opportunities for degree apprenticeships in the Materials discipline.	JB

Meeting finished: 2:30pm

Minutes Recorded by: Prof James Busfield