EARLY CAREER NETWORK

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date: Thursday 12th February 2026 (12:30)
Location: via Microsoft Teams

Present:	Dan Hope (Chair), Rachael Sims (Vice-Chair), Ellen Mullarkey (Secretary), Courtney Garbutt (Regional Group Liaison), Jean-Jacques Ferguson, Ellie Smith, Lucy Colleran
Apologies:	Carlisle Vyphuis (Specialist Group Liaison), Alex Christopher, Ayesha Landon-Browne, Awei Mabi, Jocelyn Barker, River Adler Smith, Will Downes (Treasurer),

1) MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING – Actions Arising

Item	Actionee	Target Date	Progress
Collate feedback to provide to GSL on careers day	RAS/EM?	December 2025	Outstanding
GSL Early Career Focus Group – emails to be found and reviewed	RS	December 2025	EM could not locate. RS to locate on personal email
London Field Trip – Follow up	DH	January 2026	Suggested by DH to hold in April following cleap up.
Send AAPG event calendar and agree collab	RS	February 2026	Outstanding
South Wales RG collaboration/sponsorship	CG	February 2026	In progress
Plymouth Uni careers day 25th Feb	RS	February 2026	RS to email GSL to confirm that ECN cannot support.
2026 Budget review - Send Mohammed request for extra funds if required	WD	March 2026	No issues
Send Mohammed 2027 Budget request breakdown	WD/RS	June 2026	Outstanding

CHAIR UPDATE (DH/RS)

1. Committee recruitment update
    a. Low number of applicants so far. No pressure to recruit two committee member.
    b. Anonymise applicants for vote (DH)
2. Comms policy and brand kit
    a. ECN Communications has been strong under JB lead. Handover package to be compiled (JB)
    b. Requirement to ensure adherence to GSL communications policy (RS)

AtkinsRéalis - Baseline / Référence

3. AAPG collab update
    a. AAPG are keen to collaborate with GSL. ECN can promote AAPG events in ECN Newsletter. AAPG have similar financial position to us. CG to join Cardiff Uni careers day with AAPG in March 2026.

TREASURER UPDATE (WD)

1) Budget update
    a) Sponsorship required
    b) Cost reduction ideas for EC Award.
        i) Own refreshments (not City Dining)
        ii) Alternative venue to Burlington House – general disagreement from committee due to ease of access to London and the opportunity for early careers to present work in Burlington House.
        iii) Council Room in Burlington House – Save on AV costs, DIY setup. High risk of technical difficulties. Does not give Early Careers the opportunity to present in the main lecture theatre.

EXTERNAL COMMITTEE UPDATES

1. Professional and chartership committee – DH
    a. No update
2. Regional Groups meeting – CG
    a. CG has joined the Contaminated Land Group committee.
    b. SERG not hosting an EC Award heat.
3. Science committee – ALB
    a. Science committee impressed by variety of entrants for EC Award. Suggest to reach out to Science Committee for EC Award Judge.
4. Specialist Groups – CV
    a. No update

EVENTS

1. Early Career Award Updates
    a. Sponsorship Lead – ALB
        i. LinkedIn Post and bigger drive from all committee members (ALL)
    b. Regional Group Lead - CG
    c. Wildcard/semi final - JJF/EM
        i. Advert is ready
        ii. Agreed time after work (5pm BST)
        iii. Contact Alisha to see if Zoom is free. Also confirm if zoom account if free for final.
    d. Final Lead - ES/LC
        i. RS - Update from chat with Mohammed around cost saving strategy for final - covered in Treasurer Update
        ii. Quotes for City Dining, Sainsburys (ES)
        iii. Trophy (ES)
        iv. Reach out to pub. Same location as 2025 (ES)

AtkinsRéalis - Baseline / Référence

v. Judges – JB has asked Sarah Gordon (Satarla), Suggest asking current GSL president.
vi. Confirm 1 yr free fellowship for finalists (RS)

e. In person availability for final – update in tracker (ALL)

2. Any other events to add to the calendar

NEWSLETTER CONTENT - JB

1. Call for Content
2. Add sponsorship advert
3. Wildcard advert
4. Advertise Cardiff Uni careers event that CB is attending

2) DATE OF NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY 12TH MARCH 2026

2026 Event Tracker

Month	Event/Description	Lead
January		
February		
March	3rd - Cardiff careers event collab AAPG 19th - Geolsoc Parliamentary Event	 EM/JB
April	23rd - Wildcard round ECGA 30th - Potential Semi Final round London clean up	EM/JJF EM/JJF
May	27th - ECGA Final & AGM	ALL/RS
June		
July		
August		
September	Public Lecture	TBD
October		
November	Careers day	TBD
December		

AtkinsRéalis - Baseline / Référence

Actions

Item	Actionee	Target Date
Collate feedback to provide to GSL on careers day	RAS/EM?	March 2026
GSL Early Career Focus Group – emails to be found and reviewed	RS	March 2026
London Field Trip – Follow up	DH	March 2026
Send AAPG event calendar and agree collab	RS	March 2026
South Wales RG collaboration/sponsorship	CG	March 2026
Plymouth Uni careers day 25th Feb	RS	February 2026
2026 Budget review - Send Mohammed request for extra funds if required	WD	March 2026
Send Mohammed 2027 Budget request breakdown	WD/RS	June 2026
Committee applications vote	DH	February 2026
Communications handover package	JB	April 2026
Requirement to ensure adherence to GSL communications policy	RS	April 2026
EC Award Judge suggestions	All	March 2026
Sponsorship promotion	All	March 2026
Wildcard – contact Alisha to book zoom	JJF/EM	February 2026
Quotes for City Dining, Sainsburys	ES	February 2026
Trophy	ES	February 2026
Organise pub	ES	February 2026

AtkinsRéalis - Baseline / Référence