

# Scottish Mathematical Sciences Training Centre – SMSTC Constitution

## Raison d'être

The Scottish Mathematical Sciences Training Centre (SMSTC) exists to provide high-quality broad training in core mathematics and statistics for beginning PhD students in the mathematical sciences in Scotland. The participating institutions are: Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Heriot–Watt, St. Andrews, Stirling and Strathclyde. Training takes place across a number of **streams**, each headed by a **Stream Leader**, and is delivered by video-conferencing during the season October–April. Supplementary modules may also take place on an ad hoc basis. There is a pan-SMSTC **symposium** annually each October.

## Academic Steering and Management Group

The SMSTC is managed by its **Academic Steering and Management Group** (ASMG) which includes the **Director of the SMSTC**, the **Deputy Director of the SMSTC** and a maximum of **ten other members** so as to provide representation of all the participating institutions and to provide representation across the main subject areas of the mathematical sciences in which training is provided. In addition:

- There shall be **up to three external members** of the ASMG to provide a broad perspective on Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics and other areas of Mathematical Sciences.
- We will seek a **student member** to represent the interests of PhD students currently taking SMSTC courses. The student member may occasionally be excluded from discussions involving confidential or personal matters.
- Any **centre for doctoral training** in mathematics formed by member departments will be invited to have a member on the committee.
- If deemed necessary, **further members** may be co-opted to provide coverage in specific areas (e.g. technical expertise).
- A representative of **EPSRC** may be invited to attend ASMG meetings.

The ASMG is serviced by ICMS, and relevant ICMS staff are in attendance at its meetings.

## Terms of Office

Terms of office on ASMG shall in general be up to three years, with the possibility of renewal for a further year by mutual agreement. Terms of office run on a calendar year to calendar year basis.

## Remit of ASMG

The remit of ASMG is to manage the SMSTC. In particular it will

- oversee and review academic activities
- organise consultations with students and other interested parties
- respond to comments by external members
- oversee operation of SMSTC website and decide on necessary changes
- plan symposia
- consider proposals for new courses
- appoint stream leaders as required
- advise stream leaders as necessary
- ensure timely communication of assessment results to students and participating institutions
- consult with stream leaders prior to May meeting of ASMG
- conduct annual Academic Review in May
- decide upon and oversee any changes deemed necessary.

### **Individual responsibilities:-**

**Director:** set agenda for and chair ASMG meetings; communicate with external bodies as necessary; represent SMSTC externally as necessary; issue invitations to new ASMG members and SLs; chair events such as symposia; solicit annual reports from streams; prepare materials for Annual Review, prepare Annual Report on SMSTC activities

**Deputy Director:** deputise for director as needed; liaison and routine communication within SMSTC and with SLs; oversee general administration; publicity and advertising

**Technical Officer:** oversee all matters concerning technical equipment

**Financial Officer:** oversee all matters concerning financial issues

**Student Liaison Officer:** assemble a body of student representatives; oversee communication with students; conduct annual student feedback exercise; prepare digest of student feedback for May ASMG meeting and for website

**All ASMG members:** actively liaise with their own departments on all matters concerning the SMSTC; give an oral report on this at May meeting

**Stream Leader:** oversee operation of an individual stream; ensure that appropriate assessment takes place and results reported to ICMS; prepare brief Annual Report for Annual Review

### **Meetings**

The ASMG shall normally meet yearly in May. Extra business will be carried out by e-mail wherever possible, and an extraordinary meeting may be called if discussion is required on important matters.

**Standing items of business at the May meeting** shall include:-

- Review of enrollment in previous session
- Review of assessment in previous session
- Departmental round-up
- Review of Annual Reports from Stream Leaders
- Review of feedback from students and other SMSTC parties
- Academic recommendations and decisions for forthcoming session (including appointment of Stream Leaders and Stream Teams)
- Planning for changes of Membership of ASMG
- Review of remit and constitutional matters
- Planning for Symposium of forthcoming session
- Dates and timetable for forthcoming session

## APPENDIX 1: ASMG members

Period of office expires at the *end* of stated calendar year.

Position	Name	Institution	Area	From-To
External	Paul Blackwell	Sheffield	Statistics	2017-19
	Christina Cobbold	Glasgow	Mathematical biology	2016-18
	Chris Dent	Edinburgh	OR and statistics	2017-19
	James Cruise	MIGSAA	Analysis	2018-18
	Raluca Eftimie	Dundee	Mathematical biology	2018-20
External	(Herbert Gangl)	(Durham)	(Algebra)	(2019-21)
	Michael Grinfeld	Strathclyde	Applied analysis	2016-18
Director	Tom Leinster	Edinburgh	Category theory	2016-18
	Ran Levi	Aberdeen	Topology, algebra and neuroscience	2017-19
	James Mitchell	St Andrews	Computational algebra	2018–20
	Rachel Norman	Stirling	Mathematical modelling and environmental science	2017-19
Deputy Director and Student Liaison	David Pritchard	Strathclyde	Fluid dynamics	2016-18
	Christian Saemann	Heriot–Watt	Mathematical physics	2015-18
External	Lucia Scardia	Bath	Applied analysis	2017-19
Technical Officer	—	—	—	—

## APPENDIX 2: Stream Leaders (Session 2017–18)

Stream	Leader	Institution	Start
Algebra	Iain Gordon	Edinburgh	2017
Applied Analysis and PDEs	Lehel Banjai	Heriot–Watt	2013
Applied Mathematics Methods	Irene Kyza	Dundee	2016
Geometry and Topology	Ivan Cheltsov	Edinburgh	2016
Mathematical Models	Peter Stewart	Glasgow	2016
Probability	Fraser Daly	Heriot–Watt	2015
Pure Analysis	Stuart White	Glasgow	2016
Statistics	Stephen Buckland	St Andrews	2016

*Updated May 2018*