



RDM Graduate Student Forum – Meeting Notes

Thursday 12 March 2026

At the March 2026 meeting, Forum members discussed several topics relevant to the graduate student community.

Student-led pre-interview sessions, held in January, for 2026 DPhil/MSc by Research candidates were reviewed. These sessions were reported to be well attended, and feedback from both organisers and attendees was generally positive. The Forum reflected on the types of questions raised by candidates and discussed potential changes to the format of future sessions to help ensure they remain accessible and useful.

The Forum also discussed how the Student Forum would be promoted at RDM Day. Graduate representatives attending RDM Day will be identifiable and available to answer questions about the Student Forum and to signpost students to further information. In addition, the RDM Researcher Association will provide information about the Student Forum at their stand during the event.

Updates were shared from the Researcher Association, including event plans and consideration of previous student activities. The Forum also discussed recent social events, including the HT26 student social darts event, held at Flight Club Oxford, earlier in the term. The darts event was well attended and received positive feedback. Ideas for future student social events were explored, with accessibility and venue location noted as key considerations.

Suggestions for student wellbeing activities were reviewed. The Forum considered the feasibility of organising exercise-based activities, such as yoga classes, noting challenges around venue availability and uncertainty about student demand. It was suggested that seeking feedback directly from students could help inform future planning. Student coffee mornings were also discussed, with Forum members noting continued interest in these, particularly when held in local café's/coffee shops.

The Forum also discussed ways to raise awareness of opportunities for student involvement in the RDM graduate student community, including the RDM Graduate Citizenship Award and Student Forum representation. Updates were shared on RDM divisional representation at Forum meetings and ongoing equality, diversity and inclusion activity within the department.

The Graduate Studies Team and RDM leadership would like to thank Student Forum members for their continued engagement and for their contributions in supporting the graduate student community.