Open to new members

Rowett Institute

Quarterly EDIT Meeting

25th August 2026

EDIT Attendees

Note: This is an open meeting, all staff and students from the Rowett are welcome!

EDIT Co-leads: Alasdair Leeson-Payne (AL), Karen Scott (KS)

EDIT members: Alex Johnstone (AJ), Antonio Gonzalez Sanchez (AGS), Claire Hammerton (CH), Gary Cooper (GC), Justin Rochford (JR), Jodie Park (JP), Joe Churcher (JC), Karen Taylor (KT), Nick Hayward (NH) Renata Garbellini (RG), Raffa Chianese (RC), Karen Hislop (KH) and Fabien Naneix (FN)

Apologies: Grant Rae (GR), Jules Griffin (JG), Silvia Gratz (SG)

Secretariat: Heather Mackintosh (HM)

Minutes

Note: see attached the accompanying presentation slides from the meeting.

Agenda Item		Action
1.	Previous minutes • Minutes from 2nd June: approved and will be published online. • Actions from previous minutes (see attached action list) were discussed with the main ongoing actions outlined below: ○ We need to recruit new members, especially PGR students.	CH
2.	EDIT Membership Gender balance update: 8F:7M We need to increase our members, especially amongst students. There was a discussion that we could offer the role to a one year master student or give PGR students the opportunity to rotate or share the role. AL to try and attend the next PGR session to discuss this opportunity. It was mentioned that we will all miss Susan, who has now retired, and was such an important part of our EDI team.	AL

3.	Updates: MMSN Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee (EDIC) • NEXT EDIC Meeting will be held on: TBC This meeting is currently paused, more information to follow EDI Updates with ACS • In the ACS proposal the new Faculty Executive Dean will oversee the creating of a post of a Faculty EDI Lead. • We are awaiting further updates on how this will be managed across the School and Institute level and structure.	KS
4.	EDIT Subgroup Updates **Athena SWAN (Karen S)** • Recruitment of new student (PGR) EDIT member(s) and recruitment of EDI Lead Team member. • Discuss feasibility of adding Neurodiversity Passport option to induction material and annual review. • Access or distribution of EDI information from University EDI Teams page. • Add Assistive Technology opportunities for students in student EDI induction process. • Discussing Line Management training for annual review. • Review gender balance and record of racial and ethnic diversity of seminar speakers. **Training and development (Antonio)** • Investigate and share current process on regrading and promotion. Highlight upcoming sessions. • Identify current proportion of gender balance in Rowett MSc nutrition courses, and PhD study • Identify current careers advice and support for postgraduate research students and whether this needs improvement • We will monitor and record uptake of training activities by gender • We will increase awareness of the University mentorship scheme and uptake of mentors. **Resources and support (Justin)** • Promotion of Rowett EDIT webpages in Rowett Newsletter. • Add GEST notes, Dignity in the Workplace Toolkit, and University EDI Policies and Reporting to webpages & newsletter Raise awareness of neurodivergent conditions in RI newsletter. **Social and culture (Alasdair)** • Establish a record of attendance and feedback at EDT organised events. (measure attendance, not actual names)	JC

	STEMM Lecture Organiser (Justin) Justin is working to identify a STEMM Lecture speaker to promote female career progression.	JR
5.	Social and Cultural Events Ideas for upcoming social events: • **Rowett's Got Talent & Potluck Buffet** | End September Display boards and table to exhibit talent (such as craft, art, photos of activity/event) with a potluck buffet style get together during lunch/dinner? Claire to share information on holidays so that KS can try and find a suitable date after RESAS was submitted. • **Rowett International Film Festival (RIFF26)** | October 2026? | Gary Cooper A focus on nutrition films including several documentaries. Suggestion to hold introductory talks alongside film screenings. Few people are going along to watch films that this might be the last film festival. It was agreed that the film would start earlier to try and get more people before they left work, it was also thought it might be good to have a short lecture about the documentary before it started. It was agreed the week of the 26th of October and to advertise to IMS. • **Halloween Bake & Craft Event** | Thurs 5th November | Raffa, Jodie, Louise & the Craft club organising a Halloween baking event (competition?) and Halloween craft sale. Check if Tuesday 3rd November works. It was through that it would be fun and different to make Halloween lanterns. • **Board Games/Chess Event** | TBC Suggestion to hold a chess event/evening to kick start a chess/board games club or irregular meeting. • **Christmas Quiz** | Thurs 17th December Suggestion to find alternative host/co-host to help with the Christmas Quiz provisionally scheduled for Thursday 17th December 2026. Claire to check date with the IEC Regular Clubs: • Rowett Film Club (Gary) • Rowett Craft Club (Raffa) • Yoga Club (Karen)	CH CH CH
6.	AOCB	
8.	2026 Meetings: 3 Mar ✓ 2 June ✓	

	25 Aug ✓ 17 Nov	