

## GYC CHAIR UPDATE

### ISSUE 1

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The GAMBICA Young Council (GYC) is an initiative from GAMBICA board members to bring a different perspective to the industry sectors represented by member companies. Council members are in the first 10 years of their careers; the GYC contains a wide range of opinions, strengths and attitudes. The Council aims to be representative of a younger, diverse viewpoint that plans to tackle the big issues and questions from a different angle, bringing a new perspective into our industries.



As the young professionals involved are located all over the country, we meet every month virtually, and termly in-person. Our Introductory video call allowed us to ascertain a meeting structure and break the ice. With GAMBICA's own Scott Pepper and Nimesh Mistry leading the charge, we started designing a constitution of rules to define the purpose of the Council moving forward and the criteria and status of members.

During the first in-person meeting, we met in Manchester at PrintCity MMU and became acquainted with one another, as well as designing the GYC's purpose, plan of action and priorities. We were lucky enough to be shown around the site and gained insight into the value that being a GAMBICA member company can have to the students at the Manchester Metropolitan University.

I am proud to be the first chair of the GAMBICA Young Council and share our findings and plan for the coming years, I hope this Council will be a hugely successful and exciting new prospect for our industries. By surveying our GYC Associates, we have been able to ascertain the areas that are of most concern to the industry sector we represent.

We were able to determine that the most important global issues affecting the market could be assigned to 6 categories:



Education



Development



Sustainability



Innovation



Diversity, Equality  
& Inclusion



Wellbeing

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Dulan Liyanage  
GYC Chair

By far the most popular topic of discussion was education, it was agreed across the group that the majority of the other issues could be solved by positively developing the next generation to be the change we want to see in the world and help create it.

For example, we can teach our next generation of young adults and students to be more environmentally conscious to target sustainability, better LGBTQ+ allies to build a more inclusive workplace and be more mental health aware to produce a work environment with wellbeing as a priority.



We also created a consultancy group of the applicants that applied but were not selected to be part of the council and of prospective members that we can keep in the loop of our activities so that they can reach out and/or get involved themselves.

Our second in-person meeting was at the end of my Chair Term and was held at GAMBICA HQ in London. Jack O'Grady from My Green Lab came to attend our meeting to share the ways in which MGL contributes to sustainability in the lab sciences industry. He explained how we could all get involved, no matter where we worked. We also discussed our plan to start Youth Outreach projects in universities and began the process of voting in a new member of the Council from the university sector.

As you can see, we have been busy and will be for many more years to come. The GYC will be a huge part of the development of GAMBICA and the industry sectors moving forward, we encourage you to watch this space as we have many more plans to come. I hand off now to Emma Sanderson from Scientific Laboratory Supplies, who will continue to chair the meeting and return next term with the following edition of the GYC Newsletter.