

SIAM UQ 2026 Business Meeting Minutes

Leadership suggestions for SIAM UQ SIAG are open for the next term!

Recognized several SIAG/UQ Fellows. Nominations are until Mid-October.

Conference attendance history shows that SIAM UQ attendance is higher in Europe in general. There was a question about whether SIAM tracks the location of the hosting institutions for attendees to the conference, and what representation from South America was like, for example.

Discussion on Future SIAM UQ Conference: It is customary that a SIAG co-locates with the SIAM Annual Meeting every so often, and UQ is grossly overdue. It was mentioned that co-location has been flexible before. Also, it was mentioned that large SIAGs are generally not co-located with Annual Meeting because they're so much larger conferences than SIAM Annual. Significant pushback to co-locating with SIAM Annual Meeting was expressed. There is a plausible host location in Europe that will be considered more heavily. It was mentioned that Life Science and Optimization SIAGs have never collocated with Annual Meeting, and the membership numbers of UQ SIAG are close to those.

Membership numbers

- Over time it shows that membership is declining.
- There is significant room for growth of membership in South America, Australia/NZ. An attendee from Brazil spoke thought it might be helpful to create a section. Another thought was to establish student chapters at universities. They get \$500/year to organize events. Mentioned IMPA at Brazil, might be a good intermediary. For a student chapter you need to have 2 faculty who are SIAM Members who will sponsor them. SB MAC? Sister society of SIAM in Brazil. There are SIAM Student Chapters, so could start trying to drive up UQ engagement.
- It was asked whether this decline in membership is shared by SIAM overall, or if it's particular to UQ.
- It was mentioned that conference fee discounts from SIAM membership are a benefit driving registration. But it was also mentioned that the discount comes from the SIAM membership, not SIAG, so it is difficult to justify reimbursement by employer for SIAG memberships. It would be easier actually if the SIAM membership cost went up \$15, but you got one SIAG membership included.
- Membership by Gender: people identifying as Female are heavily underrepresented in the membership. An additional event was added to the Trieste UQ conference that aimed at driving up engagement. This may be a problem for conference

organization moving forward. It was mentioned about minisymposium organization. Possibly could co-organize conference with AWM/EWM.

- SIAG leadership put out a survey about future directions of the SIAG, with 41 respondents. Questions and responses:
 - *What three activities would help you most right now?* Top pick was technical short courses, e.g., AI/SciML. How to execute? Would have to be online, but would need to be a good format, because people don't engage with online presentations very much. Possibly a SIAG UQ "winter/summer school". Could ask the minitutorial people from SIAM UQ conference to do them again online.
 - *Top scientific priorities for UQ in the next 5 years?* Top pick was UQ for AI/foundation models; data assimilation & inverse problems; and SciML. Comment that there was no "AI in UQ" topic really.
 - *What is the most important way SIAG UQ can position ourselves with respect to AI?* Was roughly equally split between "foundational mathematical leader", "reliability layer for AI systems", "core component of SciML", and "Collaborative but independent field". Comment from the audience was like "how do we consider ourselves with respect to linear algebra"? It's a complementary field. Mentioned there's an urgent need to act now to get embedded in the AI field.
 - *Proposals for SIAG UQ initiatives over the next 3-5 years.* There were several, will share slides after.
 - *Where should we invest the most organizational energy?* Favorite: scientific leadership initiatives: figuring out the role of UQ moving forward. Perhaps organizing a white paper on future of UQ. Also proposal matching/information on how to write a proposal. Could do something like that with submissions for a white paper.