I am Dr Marcia Philbin and I am delighted to be the Chair of The Management Interest Group (MIG) which is one of the many Interest Groups of the Royal Society of Chemistry.

Each year we run a programme of events on personal development and business related topics. In 2023, the MIG launched the Management for Success series to support new and established chemists who aspire to or who are working in management positions. The MIG launched also the Beyond the Lab series of webinars to showcase careers of chemists who have moved beyond the laboratory setting. If you would like to be involved with either of these programmes please get in touch at rscmig23@outlook.com.

In 2024, the MIG is launching the “Shifting your mindset” programme which is funded by the RSC’s Socioeconomic Fund. The programme is targeted at chemistry students, postgraduates, or those in the early stage of their careers who come from a socially disadvantaged background.

Research has shown that those from a poorer background face more structural, social and financial barriers to overcome when entering higher education or professions which were not traditionally open to them. The objective of the “Shifting your mindset” programme is to provide tools to help participants to speak more confidently, project credibility and to cultivate a can-do mindset so they move from thinking, ‘I can't' to "why not!"

The Management Interest Group has engaged Mr Winston Brown FCMI PCQI, who is a continuous improvement consultant and executive coach who will guide the participants through the programme. The workshops will be held on the afternoon of 19 and 20 March 2024 and will be delivered via zoom. The duration of each workshop is three hours.

So, if you are a chemist who is an undergraduate, postgraduate or in early stages of your career and are from a lower socioeconomic background, or you know someone who would be interested in participating in the programme, please get in touch at rscmig23@outlook.com.