

Buscombe, Karen

From: cheminternalcomms@warwick.ac.uk
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To: Buscombe, Karen
Subject: Chemistry Staff Newsletter November 2024



Hello Karen,

Your November newsletter

Our research in Chemistry has many facets, as can be seen in many recent news stories from the department. This includes publication of high-profile papers, hosting of significant international conferences, such as this summer's MACRO World Polymer Congress, the largest single event hosted by Warwick campus, and awards of fellowships to our postgraduates to further their research careers. Spin-out companies from the department are going from strength to strength with external recognition of their impact for work in drug delivery, and in polymer additives for practical application.

Collaboration in research has always been important for Chemistry at Warwick and, looking forward, the university is soon to launch the Centre for Experimental Fuel Technologies, with significant funding to cement collaborations between science departments at Warwick. This initiative will be led by Chemistry and will allow recruitment of fellows and PhD students in collaborative projects that span our subject from experiment to theory and its interfaces with physics and engineering. This is aligned with the STEM-Connect initiative, which is now physically taking shape with the first steps of construction of new buildings now underway, as you cannot fail to notice.

Our research profile continues to evolve to meet global challenges spanning life sciences, the environment, and energy. These important areas of our research also inform our undergraduate teaching, and so I wanted to take the opportunity to highlight our department's 'Research Showcase' event that will take place on November 27th 2-4pm: this is a chance for our students to learn about our research in a role-reversal poster session where academic staff present their

group's recent work. All are welcome to attend this event to learn about diversity of research that goes on in the department, and after last year's successful event, we look forward to a lively few hours of discussion.

Richard Walton, Deputy Head of Department (Research)

Staffing Updates

New Starters

Welcome to our new starters in Chemistry!

Cecilia Sarquis Alvares - Research Assistant with Gabriele Sosso

Vishvas Punja - Technical Assistant (Research Labs) with Kevin Murphy

Callum Rosenberg - Research Assistant with Seb Pike

Prashik Gaikwad - Research Fellow with Bora Karasulu

Fredrik Schaufelberger - Assistant Professor with Pat Unwin

Rafael Cavalieri Marchi - Research Fellow with Peter Sadler

Daniel MacKinnon - Research Assistant with Remzi Becer

Leavers

We say a fond farewell to Chris Easthope and Svenja Janke.

Conference Support Award

Just a reminder about the [Conference Support Award](#) introduced as part of the University's Athena Swan action plan, and which provides a contribution of up to £200 to cover extra care costs that a staff member may incur to attend an essential conference or training event.

November News



Careers Showcase

Thanks to colleagues who contributed to October's pilot SLS, Chemistry and WMS Careers Showcase, which was a well-attended successful collaboration. There was good representation from Chemistry students from all year groups and this is sure to translate positively in terms of student employability.



LEAF Awards

Congratulations to those labs who took part in LEAF (Laboratory Efficiency Assessment Framework) We have handed out the most gold awards this year than any other, which is a great achievement, but we still need more labs to join!

The award aims to facilitate and drive improvements in laboratory efficiency. LEAF is open to and can be submitted by both staff and students (Postdoc/PhD/Master's) working in labs, including research or teaching facilities. Additionally, LEAF is recognised across the country and can now provide an advantage in grants/funding applications as we shift our focus more toward sustainability.

Here are the lab groups in Chemistry which took part this year:

(Gold) Becer Group, CBRF, Macpherson Group, Mass Spectrometry Facility, Perrier Group, Pike & Brinkert Group, Scott Group, Ward Group

(Silver) Fox Group, Haddleton & Wilson Group, Polymer RTP

(Bronze) Baker Group

We now have submissions running most of the year, for those who want more information or want to take part please email [Anish Mistry](#). Additional information can be found [here](#)

News in brief

Warwick Wins Gold at iGEM Jamboree

Congratulations to the team which included a Chemistry undergraduate student who delivered a gold winning performance at this year's World Expo of Synthetic Biology. Read more [here](#)!

Sustainability Strategy Refresh

Sustainability is a multi-faceted issue which is more than just the environmental. It encompasses social, economic and environmental issues. Our sustainability strategy, the Way to Sustainable, was developed in 2022 and it's time for a refresh. We want to set more ambitious targets which encompass all of sustainability and incorporate views across the University, including education, research, operations. We have designed several tailored workshops for both staff and students, [join us to let your voice be heard](#). Various slots available across campus, secure your position now!

Christmas in Chemistry

As well as our Christmas meal on the 12th December (there is still time to sign up [here](#)) we will be raising money for Save the Children by donning our Christmas attire for **Christmas**

Jumper Day 2024. Please de-lint your festive woolly apparel, dust off your santa hats and tinsel deelyboppers, and most importantly donate [here](#)!

Chemistry Governance

Please remember to check the [Governance pages](#) on Chem-Intra for agendas and minutes of the formal Chemistry Committees. The latest minutes from the last all staff meeting can be found [here](#) and the latest minutes from the last Steering Committee can be found [here](#).

Global Light Procession 13th November

Are you ready to light up the night and celebrate the vibrant cultures that make our campus a global community? We're calling all staff and students to take part in the [Global Light Procession](#), a dazzling event that will parade across central campus, showcasing beautiful lanterns and props and accompanied by student musicians.

If you have any news you would like to share in future newsletters, please email Cheminternalcomms@warwick.ac.uk with your idea.

Best wishes,

Karen

Chemistry Internal Comms

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