

Bradford ChemBio

What's been going on in our school for the past three months...
March – May 2019



Welcome!

Welcome from your Newsletter Editors...

Welcome to our final newsletter of the academic year. We are very proud of all the hard work that our students (and staff!) have put in over the two semesters, and hope that students get the grades they deserve. Graduation is just around the corner, so look out for our new prizewinners in the next edition!

We have had some 'people' changes over the last quarter, with **Dean Harrington** leaving the University. He will be sorely missed and we wish him all the best in his future endeavours. **Dr Will Martin** has stepped up to replace Dean as Associate Dean for Learning and Teaching, with **Dr Clare Towse** replacing Will as the programme lead for MChem Chemistry and **Dr Philip Drake** taking over the MSc. We would like to congratulate them all on their new roles and you can read more about Clare and Philip on page 10.

Dr Julie Thornton has been appointed as the Director of the Centre for Skin Sciences. This is a fantastic opportunity for Julie to drive forward CSS, and she is looking forward to building more collaborations and exciting research, as well as charity fundraising. You can read more about Julie's path to directorship on page 3.

One of the things that has stood out in putting this edition together has been the fantastic outreach work that our staff are doing. From **Dr Nic Barry** and Will merging music and Chemistry, to Julie talking about acid attacks, to **Dr Gisela Helfer** presenting at Café Scientifique, our staff are really promoting the best that the university has to offer to as wide an audience as possible. Related to this, we're excited to cheer on our staff and students in the Saltaire Dragon Boat Festival this weekend!

As always, thank you to all who continue to support this newsletter, we really do look forward to celebrating all your achievements.

Dr Kirsten Riches-Suman and Dr Andrew Tedder



Athena SWAN

News from the EDOC

The EDOC has worked closely with the Faculty Equality and Diversity Team and we are happy to report that we now have a dedicated breastfeeding room in the Richmond building. The room is in K1 and signposted throughout the building.

The Faculty team has also set up a dedicated facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2022535777878477/>). The page promotes and champions equality, diversity and inclusion for all and allows an informal open discussion and is a place for social networking, organising and sharing events. Go have a look, all members of staff (including postdoctoral researchers) are very welcome to join!

In the staff survey, some staff have commented that the School structure is not clear to everyone. In this newsletter (page 2), we have included a diagram of the School structure that explains the committees and the leads. Feel free to get in contact with the leads if you have questions about the committees.

Athena SWAN seminar

We hosted the second Athena SWAN seminar on the 3rd of April. Prof Lynda Williams from the University of Aberdeen gave a fantastic talk about her research in nutrition research. Lynda also included some insights into her career and how she overcame barriers. The seminar was followed by a workshop and we had an engaging discussion around strategies to overcome barriers to progression. Lynda shared some of her own ideas – it is all about assertiveness and persistence! The workshop was well attended from staff members of all genders and career levels across the University but also (very well-behaved and gorgeous) little visitors! The next Athena SWAN will be help in the next term. If you have any suggestions for a speaker, please get in touch.

Dr Gisela Helfer, Chair of Equality, Diversity and Opportunities Committee



Head of School

Centre for
Skin
Sciences

Director: Julie
Thornton

New
Appointees

Chair: Kirsten
Riches-Suman
(currently
Rianne Lord)

**Executive
Committee**

Chair: Head of School

Teaching Lead
Facilities Lead
Admission Lead
Research Lead
EDOC Lead
Representative of
early stage academic
staff

Infrastructure
and
Equipment

Chair: Richard
Telford

Equality,
Diversity and
Opportunities

Chair: Gisela
Helfer

Research
Sections

Chair: Martin
Brinkworth

- ChemBioPhys
- MatChem
- Molecular,
Cells,
Development
- Micro and
Biotech
- Physiology
and
Metabolism
- Cancer

Examinations
and Delivery

Chair: Steve
Picksley

- All programme
leads

Admissions

Chair: Andrew
Tedder

- Program lead
for Chemistry
- Program lead
for Biomed
- Representative
from Marketing
- PGT Tutor

People

By now I think I have met everyone (or at least most of you) in the School. As a reminder I replaced Dr Jim Boyne. My first semester has been rather busy and enjoyable. I have worked closely with **Dr Picklesley** changing the Molecular Genetics module to TBL format. This in itself has been very interesting compared to normal lectures and allowed a greater interaction with the students, hopefully to their benefit (only the results will tell). Saying that we had close to 100% class attendance over the full module. Thank you to all the staff (no names mentioned in case I miss someone off the list) who have been on hand to help answer all my numerous questions, especially relating to the everyday administrative processes (Canvas, working with tutees, etc, etc, etc.).

In my biography I stated that when not at work you are more than likely to see him either out running or cycling. Well over the Easter period I managed to squeeze both of these in. On 13th April I went to the north of France to cycle the 100 mile infamous Paris-Roubaix sportive, it contains 19 sections of cobbles totalling about 25 miles. The ride has the nickname The Hell of the North due to the cobbles. Then on the bank holiday weekend I flew to Prague (a beautiful city and would highly recommend a visit) to run the Prague Marathon. Luckily the Easter heat wave had passed and conditions were perfect for running. I completed the marathon in a new PB time of 3 hr 27 min 16 sec, my first sub 3 hr 30 min marathon.

Now after the recreation it is back to marking exams and preparing lectures for the new academic year. Happy summer holidays.

Regards **Mark Sutherland**



Dean Harrington



Dr Dean Harrington has left the University after 18 years and his contributions to teaching, administration and research will be sorely missed. Dean was a key member of the microbiology team teaching on the Biomedical Science undergraduate and postgraduate degrees, and in more recent times became increasingly involved in administration within the University as the Associate Dean for Learning and Teaching in the Faculty of Life Sciences. We will all miss his kind, articulate and

matter of fact nature and the massive contributions he made to staff, students and the University as a whole. Instead of having a leaving gift, staff sponsored him and his daughter for the charity Campaign Against Living Miserably (CALM), which campaigns to prevent male suicide. Donations from his colleagues contributed towards £3000 which Dean was very grateful for, and it is a mark of how highly regarded he was to all at the University. We wish him all the best.

Fawibe Kehinde Babatunde



The Barry group said goodbye and farewell to **Fawibe Kehinde Babatunde**. Fawibe is a third year PhD student under the supervision of Prof. Uche B. Eke in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria, and he visited the group for six months to develop his knowledge and skills in inorganic chemistry.

New Director for the Centre for Skin Sciences

Dr Julie Thornton was recently appointed as the **Director of the Centre for Skin Sciences (CSS)**, the first female to lead a research centre in the Faculty. Julie has a BSc (Joint hons) in biochemistry from the University of East Anglia, but her interest in skin biology was sparked by her PhD studies on the role of androgens in human hair growth. This was followed by a postdoctoral position in collaboration with London Zoo on the role of androgens in the regulation of the mane of the red deer, and she later was also awarded a grant from National Geographic in collaboration with zoologists in Chicago to investigate the role of androgens in maneless lions, better known as the man-eaters of Tsavo. With this she also had the opportunity to visit Kenya to collect samples, and yes apparently this did involve camping!



Julie was awarded her PhD in 1990, this was also the year she got married, although she retained her name since she already had publications. Two years later saw the arrival of Thomas, and then James two years after that. Following a part-time, 12-month fixed-term lectureship in Biomedical Sciences at Bradford, Julie was appointed to a full-time post in 1997, although with two pre-school children she admits this was very challenging. She was appointed to senior lecturer five years later. Julie's academic skills have been passed on to her sons, who have now graduated from university. Thomas got his degree from Bangor University (Wales) in Biomedical Sciences and is now working at

Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge after a stint at the Wellcome Sanger Institute in Cambridge. James graduated last year from the University of St Andrews, Scotland with a degree in history and is currently teaching English in Taiwan.

While her research interests started in endocrinology, she has continued her interest in this field using human skin as an accessible model. In recent years her research interests have been heavily focussed around wound healing, and she is deeply engaged in further developing the **Plastic Surgery and Burns Research Unit (PSBRU)**. With this she is also heavily involved in associated fund raising activities. She also has significant experience working with industry, for example international companies such as Estee Lauder, who alone have provided funding of over £800,000 to date. Julie has supervised 17 PhD students from a range of backgrounds including both home and international students, in addition to the medics supported by the Burns Unit. She was recently nominated by the University for the Times Higher Outstanding Research Supervisor of the Year.

Julie has exciting plans for the redevelopment of CSS since its staff has reduced over recent years, including developing new collaborations both within and beyond Bradford, highlighting the use of skin as an accessible and tractable model for a wide range of studies around tissue regeneration, disease and ageing. She would really like to start with some exciting new collaborations within the School, so do please come and have a chat with her over the summer.



Julie with her two sons when she was starting out as a lecturer, and more recently at their graduations

Trip to Bangladesh

Prof Anne Graham attended a meeting with clinical staff and public health officials at **Surawardy Medical College** where they discussed development of the IDF PhD project which has been funded by UoB to develop a telemedicine tool for patient self care in gestational diabetes.

Anne presented a scientific keynote talk at **Bangladesh Pediatric Association International Meeting** where she met the Health and Well-being government minister.

Anne also spent a day at **Dhaka University**, largest and most prestigious university in Bangladesh presenting a research seminar and discussing the MoU between the 2 universities and opportunities for PhD exchanges in biological sciences and chemistry/ materials

Dr Zak Hughes was successful in his grant application for computer time through the **EPSRC Resource Allocation Panel** (nominal worth £7,300).

Dr Joan Soldevila-Barreda has been awarded a Travel Grant by the Royal Society of Chemistry to present his latest results at the 15th **International Symposium on Applied Bioinorganic Chemistry** in Nara, Japan, in June.

Wound Healing Sandpit

In March there was a 2 day wound healing sandpit funded by **RDF** where industry and health services staff got together to share knowledge and then work on development of project ideas for external funders. Day 2's session was facilitated by Kieran Perkins, Grow Med Tech business innovation manager and the organisers (**Dr Julie Thornton**, **Prof Steve Rimmer** and **Prof Anne Graham**) were tasked with developing funding proposals in the areas of wound infection, wound monitoring and material innovations in wound care.

BNA 2019

Dr Gisela Helfer presented the latest work of the Helferlab at the **British Neuroscience Association Meeting** in Dublin, Ireland in March. Her poster on the central effects of the adipokine chemerin was well received by the attendees. Gisela's poster was picked for an oral presentation amongst over 600 posters, but due to some unfortunate travel delays she never made it to Dublin in time. However, she had some very good and fruitful discussions during the poster session, which made up for the missed opportunity.

Papers in Press...

Bailey CS, Tutt JZ, Agbo MO, Gao H, Diego-Taboada A, Gan M, **Hamed RB**, Abraham E, Mackenzie G, Evans PA, Goss RJM. **A natural solution to photoprotection and isolation of the potent polyene antibiotic.** *Chemical Sciences* 2019

Debnath S, Roy S, Abul-Haija YM, Frederix PWJM, Ramalhete SM, Hirst AR, **Javid N**, Hunt NT, Kelly SM, Angulo J, Khimyak YZ, Ulijn RV. **Tunable supramolecular gel properties by varying thermal history.** *Chemistry* 2019

Habas K, Brinkworth MH, Anderson D. Chapter 8: The effect of chemotherapy treatment on male reproductive functions. In: *An essential guide to toxic substances.* Nova publishers 2019

Knaapila M, **Stewart B**, Garamus VM, Ramos ML, Cruz PF, Brito RMM, Justino LLG, Fausto R, Napierala C, Forster M, Burrows HD, Scherf U. **Poly(9-undecyl-9-methyl-fluorene) and poly(9-pentadecyl-9-methyl-fluorene): Synthesis, solution structure, and effect of side chain asymmetry on aggregation behavior.** *Polym Sci. B* 2019

Lord RM, Zegke M, Henderson IR, Pask CM, Shepherd HJ, McGowan PC. **β -Ketoiminato iridium(III) organometallic complexes: Selective cytotoxicity towards colorectal cancer cells HCT116 p53-/-.** *CChem Eur J.* 2019;25:495-500

Pitto-Barry A, Barry NPE. Influence of boron doping on the dynamics of formation of Os metal nanoclusters on graphitic surfaces. *Chemical Communications* 2019;55:6038-6041

Published abstracts...

Helfer G, Kantamneni S, Pors K, Wu Q-F. **Inhibition of chemerin/CMKLR1 axis in the hypothalamus reduces body weight and food intake.** *Journal of Physiology* 2019

Helfer G, McLean SL. **The effect of photoperiod and high fat diet on the cognitive response in photoperiod-sensitive F344 rats.** *Journal of Physiology* 2019

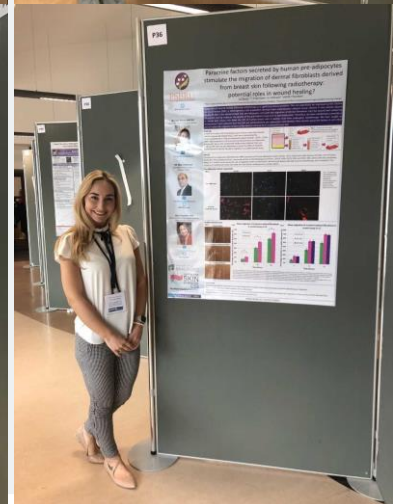
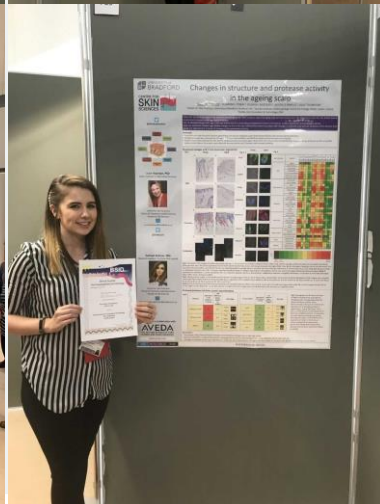
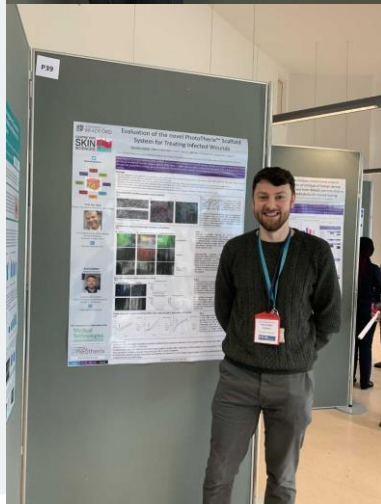
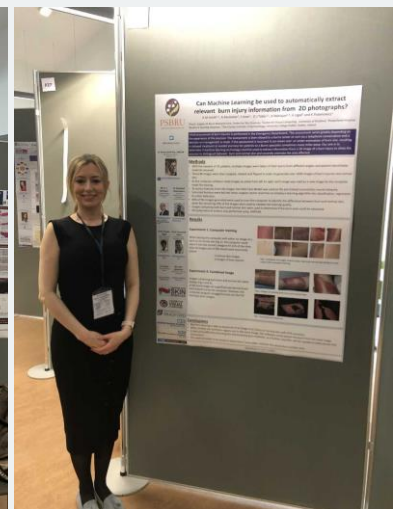
Women in Chemistry Conference

Maria Azmanova and **Dr Anaïs Pitto-Barry** attended the **Women in Chemistry** conference and careers event held on the 8th of March at the University of Nottingham. Both presented a poster and enjoyed the program of invited speakers who shared their journey to their current positions in academia, industry, or media communications,

British Society for Investigative Dermatology

The University and the Centre for Skin Sciences hosted the **British Society for Investigative Dermatology** on 1-3 April and welcomed 180 delegates presenting their latest research in both clinical and basic sciences. This is the first time it has been held in Bradford since it was established in 1982. **Dr Julie Thornton** was the Chair of the local organising committee, supported by other members of CSS, including **Dr Gill Westgate**, **Prof Vladimir Botchkarev** and **Prof Kevin McElwee**. **Dr Andrei Mardaryev** and **Dr Krzysztof Poterłowicz** led a workshop on Epigenetics of Skin -analysts of high throughput bioinformatics data on the first morning, and **Carl Kellet** gave a talk.

The meeting was a great success and delegates particularly enjoyed the conference dinner which was held at Victoria Hallie Saltaire complete with Bollywood dancing. CSS and the PSBRU were well represented with chairing of sessions and giving talks and poster presentations, with **Rachael Sedman** winning one of the awards for best poster presentation.



World Congress for Hair Research



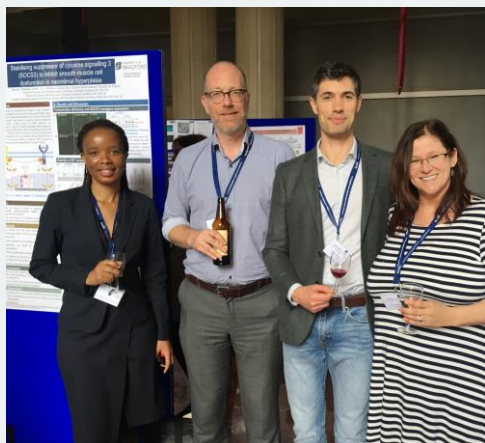
A large delegation from the Centre for Skin Sciences (CSS), both past and present (see photo), attended the **11th World Congress for Hair Research** in Sitges, near Barcelona, 24-27th April 2019, which brought together hair biologists from all over the world. This was a special occasion because **Prof Valerie Randall**, emeritus Professor in CSS, was the recipient of the prestigious John Ebling Lecture award. Val was the PhD student of John Ebling, a renowned zoologist and polymath who in later years was fascinated by the hormonal control of hair growth in mammals and humans. Notably, John Ebling was also the external examiner for both **Dr Julie Thornton** and **Prof Des Tobin** (also a past recipient of the Ebling award) when they defended their PhD theses at different institutions. Val studied many aspects of hair biology in her research career and her talk, 'Sex, Drugs and Human Hair Growth' presented a wonderful reflection on a great career as well as bringing the science right up to date with her most recent studies on the latest hair growth drugs based on prostaglandins. With talks from current CSS members **Prof Kevin McElwee**, **Rachael Sedman**, **Dr Gill Westgate**, **Dr Andrei Mardaryev**, **Prof Vladimir Botchkarev** and **Dr Mike Fessing** - this reflects a huge success for CSS and confirms we continue to be a leading international centre for hair-related research,

Northern Bioinformatics User Group Meeting

On 26 April, **Dr Krzysztof Poterłowicz** and **Dr Amber Leckenby** hosted the **Northern Bioinformatics** user group meeting in Bradford. This follows on the idea that was set up about a year ago by Krzysztof and colleagues from York, Sheffield and other northern universities. The meeting welcomed a range of delegates from Sheffield, York, Hull, Leeds, Huddersfield and Manchester. Our team has received very positive feedback from attendees who praised the large number of academic staff, PhD researchers, NHS members and industry collaborators who presented as well as the friendly atmosphere i.e "great to catch up in Bradford, it was a really excellent meeting, thank you for organising it. Our students were very inspired by it all"



Northern Cardiovascular Research Group

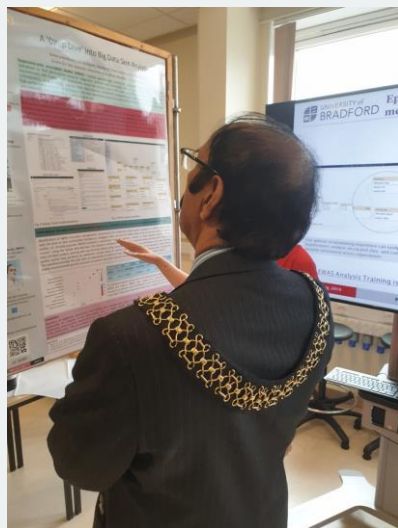


At the end of April 2019, **Dr Kirsten Riches-Suman** and **Dr Munir Hussain** attended the **Northern Cardiovascular Research Group** conference in Leeds. This was a celebration of the career of Prof Clive Orchard (whom Munir previously worked in the lab with) and also had selected talks from early career researchers. **Flora Moshapa** (supervised by Kirsten) presented her PhD research. It was also a pleasure to catch up with previous Biomedical Science student **Amy Feather** – Amy graduated last year with a 1st class honours degree and the Biochemistry prize, and has now started her research career with an MPhil at the University of Manchester.



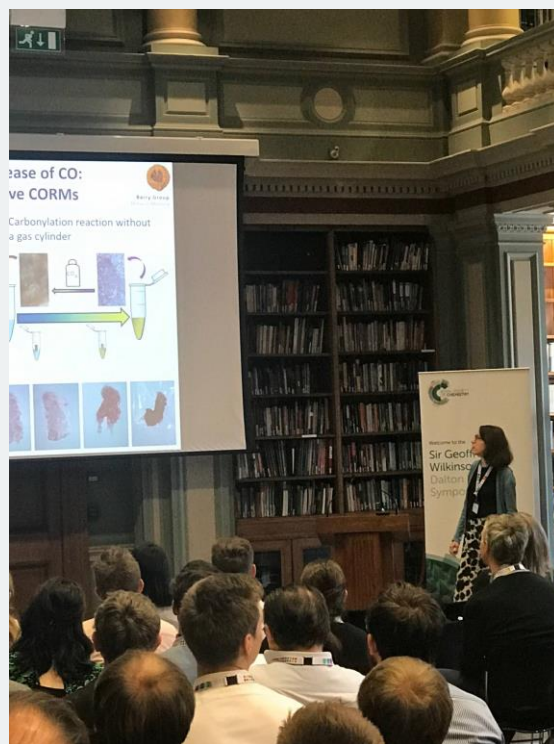
High-Performance Computing (HPC) and Visualization Event

Poterłowicz lab took a part in **High-Performance Computing and Visualisation** event on 7 May 2019. HPC technology aims to promote the links between vast range of data sets across disciplines, computer users, developers and researchers across faculties and universities. We have applied this solution in our bioinformatics software development and analysis pipeline. The team has a great day and exciting time showing off some of our work to University Senior team and Lord Mayor of Bradford Zafar Ali (below a photo of Krzysztof's PhD student **Kasia Murat** presenting research to him).



Dalton Symposium

Dr Anaïs Pitto-Barry presented her latest work on Carbon Monoxide Releasing Molecules at the Royal Society of Chemistry **Sir Geoffrey Wilkinson Dalton Symposium** at Burlington House in April. The Symposium allows talented young inorganic chemists to present their work to the wider community and senior representatives from industry and academia, alongside Warren Piers, University of Calgary, the Winner of the 2018 Ludwig Mond Award.



Research

Communicating science

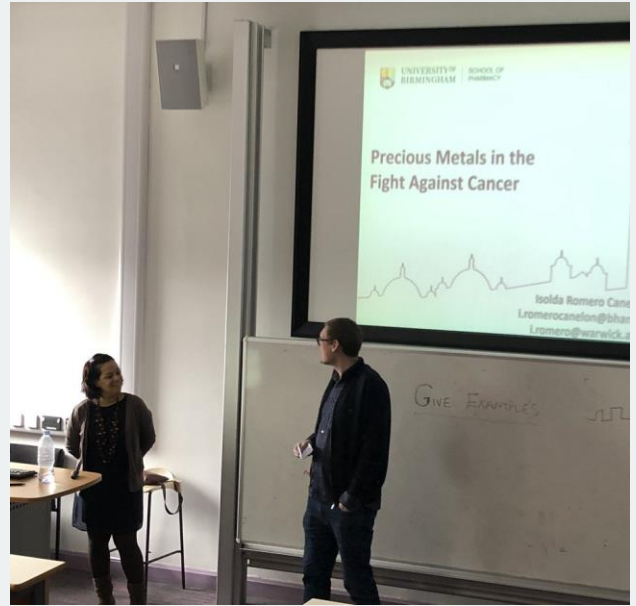
EURAPS

In May the Plastic Surgery and Burns Research Unit (PBSRU) was well represented at the **European Association for Plastic Surgeons** in Helsinki. **Lucy Trevor** and **Jing Tay** both gave talks on their research in wound healing and were accompanied by their supervisor **Julie Thornton** and the clinical Director **Ajay Mahajan**. Selection for oral presentation of basic science is particularly difficult in this forum, which reflects the quality of the work coming out of the Unit.



Hosting Speakers

Dr Nicolas Barry hosted two collaborators who both took the opportunity to give an invited lecture to the School: Dr Isolda Romero-Canelon, lecturer at the University of Birmingham, gave a talk on "Precious Metals in the Fight Against Cancer" and Dr Jonathan Cox, lecturer at Aston University, gave a talk on "Sensitizing mycobacteria to amoxicillin: Finding new treatments from old drugs".

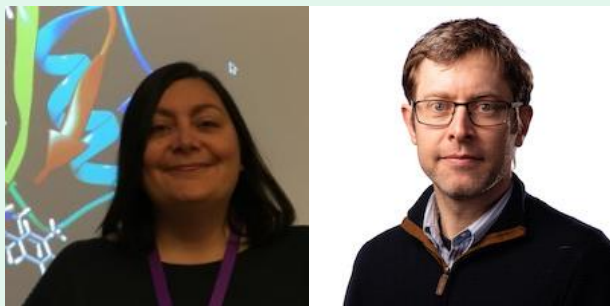


Teaching

Apprenticeships, new courses, and where your degree can take you

New Chemistry Leads!

Dr Clare Towse was appointed as our new Programme Leader for the **BSc and MChem chemistry programmes** this April following **Dr William Martin's** step up to be our Associate Dean of Learning and Teaching. Clare has a PhD in chemistry from the University of Nottingham and joined Bradford in late 2016 after a 6-year postdoc spent in the prestigious Bioengineering department at the University of Washington in Seattle. Clare is passionate about pedagogical advancement and the use of innovative technologies to teach chemistry and biochemistry. Clare is now building on the sound foundations created by William Martin and together they are working towards securing Royal Society of Chemistry accreditation for the BSc and MChem programmes in 2020.



Dr Philip Drake takes over as Programme Lead of the **MSc Materials Chemistry** degree programme and will be leading a rationalisation of our MSc programmes this year. Philip has a PhD in chemical sensors and polymer chemistry from the University of Bath and joined Bradford in the summer of 2014 after spending 12 years working in the area of medical diagnostics, pathogen detection and cancer therapy in the Industrial Technology Research Institute, Taiwan.

Subject Librarian

We would like to pass on our immense gratitude for **Anne Costigan** and **Maureen Pinder** for all their help and hard work as our Specialist Subject Librarians over the past few years. Anne left the university last month and the library have reshuffled their subject responsibilities slightly. Maureen will still be in the library but has taken over responsibility for Pharmacy, and **Sarah George** is now the subject librarian for Biomedical Sciences as well as Chemistry, Archaeology and Forensic Science. Sarah can be contacted here:

J.B. Priestley Library room 0.13
Tel: 01274 233415
Email: s.george@bradford.ac.uk.

We look forward to working with Sarah over the coming months!



Healthcare Science Degree Apprenticeships

The application for the university to be included on the **Register of Apprentice Assessment Organisation for Healthcare Science** has been accepted. The level 6, degree apprenticeship in Healthcare Science (Life Sciences) was introduced in September 2017. This is a 5-year part-time BSc programme and learners attend university one day per week. The programmes have a strong specialist work-based training element in each year of study which is integrated with the academic content allowing registration with the HCPC as a Biomedical Scientist at graduation. All apprenticeships must include an Endpoint Assessment (EPA). The EPA for Healthcare Science was agreed for delivery in 2017 and will include a Readiness for Practice Test, Professional discussion and a research project presentation with review. The BSc Hons Healthcare Science (Life Sciences) degree apprenticeship has an integrated end-point assessment, which means we will not outsource any element of the assessment. Instead we will train a team of assessors who will act on behalf of the University but will have no connection with the University or the apprentice. This will maintain objectivity. The EPA will act as the crowning achievement of the programme and will confirm that a candidate has been assessed in the workplace and has met the level of competence required. This assessment MUST be passed to allow an apprentice to graduate from the programme. Only organisations on the Register of End-point Assessment Organisations are eligible to conduct the independent end-point assessment of apprentices. Therefore, the rigorous process of applying to the register began some months ago with submission taking place at the end of March.

It is with great pride that we have now been accepted on to the register and assessor training can begin in anticipation of our first graduates in June 2020.

Teaching

Apprenticeships, new courses, and where your degree can take you

Laboratory Feedback from Chemistry Students

Our first, second and third year Chemistry students have given some feedback to J floor regarding their practical sessions, and we're delighted that the hard work that goes into running laboratory practicals has been recognised!

Practical's have been good overall and allowed me to develop a range of skills. Technician and Demonstrators support has been very great across the year. very helpful and supportive.

Technician support was good; wherever I had a question they would always give me an answer or help me to understand it. **Maria** helped me with calculations and **Tariq** help more with the actual experimental.

The technician support is absolutely amazing; they go beyond their duties by teaching and helping understand practicals.

The technicians have been brilliant and amazing, best part of the course. They have been super supportive especially **Nigel**!!

Practicals have been very useful in learning about synthesis and measurement. The technicians are amazing, helpful and make labs more enjoyable.

The technicians are very supportive and kind. They make laboratories less stressful. **Maria** was just amazing, I wouldn't survive without her.

Technicians and demonstrators are useful and provide a source of entertainment during long wait times.

Tariq and **Maria** are nice. Tariq is better at explaining the practical's and amazing at fixing something if it goes wrong during the

I have found it extremely useful and have felt comfortable asking for help when needed. Thank you to all the technician support.

Practical's have been less stressful than usual. The demonstrators and technicians were amazing and very helpful.

We also received some rather lovely messages from our third year students regarding their projects:

Some of our chemicals had to be provided by our supervisor as they hadn't arrived. Massive thanks to **Heather** for further support and help, when supervisor was not around to help. Also **Nigel** who always helped providing glassware when missing and for his support throughout. Thank you all.
Marta Kusch

All chemicals were provided as I needed them even if they were odd/weird solutions. The technicians were always helpful, especially **Ed** when I couldn't talk fully due to illness. Thanks- it couldn't have been easy.
Nathan

The layout for the projects were really well organised with all of the material provided. Technicians were always available but seemed a touch stretched.
Rafic Sukar

I really enjoyed it, I feel as if I gained so much more experience during the project, especially when changes to the original script had to be made. Definitely more beneficial than just completing a literature review. There was so much support from the technicians which made it possible couldn't have done it without them! *Christina*

Admissions and Outreach

Admissions

It has been another bumper period for admissions and outreach events. Applicant experience days (AEDs) have finished now for the 2019/2020 cycle, and while not as well attended as last year, have been very well received. I'd like to thank all members of staff, and our student ambassadors that have helped out with these events. Particularly to **Dr Amber Leckenby** and **Dr Jon Fletcher** who always steal the show with their hands on lab practical.

The end of the AED cycle marks the start of the new open day cycle, and our first open day aimed at 2020/2021 students (both UG and PG) is **Saturday 22nd June** (9.00 – 15.30). Thanks to all of those who have volunteered to give up part of their weekend to come and discuss our courses, career prospects and run activities. This event also coincides with Biomedical Science Day 2019. If you are tweeting about the event, please remember to use the tags: #BiomedicalScienceDay2019 #AtTheHeartOfHealthcare and of course, @UoBBio.

As most of you will know, we are also approaching perhaps the busiest time of the year for all things 'recruitment', clearing. The system this year will be very similar to the one employed successfully last year. Academics from our school will be involved in talking to offer holders, and applicants about our courses.

If you haven't signed up for one of the training sessions, please complete the following [sign up sheet](#). Also if you could fill in the doodle poll with you availability (prior to **25th June**), that would also be great – [Clearing sign up](#).

Finally, I have been asked to mention that the call handling teams for clearing (i.e. taking initial applicant details) are still critically low on numbers for the 15th and 16th August. If you feel you can also help with this, please do let the team know!

[Clearing support volunteering](#).

Silver for Team Tan in the Team Bradford Tournament 2019

The **Team Bradford Tournament 2019** took place on the 22nd of May 2019. This was the biggest event so far with over 400 students and staff competing. Our lecturers **Drs Andrew Tedder**, **Amber Leckenby** and **Gisela Helfer** teamed up with colleagues from the School of Pharmacy and Medical Sciences and students from across campus and they absolutely smashed it! #TeamTan showed incredible team spirit and competed in many different activities including netball shooting, memory game, lasertag, wheelchair rally and many more. Their strongest performance was the cycling event, with Dr Tedder & Co cycling 7k in just 10 min! #TeamTan won second prize and were only 3 points behind the winners, Vegas Gold. We are looking forward to challenging Vegas Gold for first place next year, hopefully with students from ChemBio joining in the fun.

Photos courtesy of Mohammad Isreb.



Admissions and Outreach

Royal Society Summer Science Exhibition

The **Barry group**, **Dr William Martin** and Ilkley Grammar School are involved in the **Royal Society Summer Science Exhibition** taking place at 6-9 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG from Monday 1 to Sunday 7th of July. The Summer Science Exhibition is an annual display of the most cutting-edge science and technology in the UK. This free, week-long festival features 22 exhibits and a series of inspiring talks and activities for all ages. Meet the scientists, discover the exciting research and technology they work on and have fun with exciting hands-on activities. The exhibition is suitable for all ages, is free, and no advance registration is required.

The team have designed an exhibit "Molecular music: the sound of chemistry". If you want to experience how to convert chemical reactions into musical masterpieces, join us there for a lot of fun.

Nicolas Barry and William Martin were interviewed on BCB on the 4th of April to share some insights about the work they will be showcasing with Ilkley Grammar School at the Royal Society Summer Science Exhibition in London in July (free to attend).



Café Scientifique

On the 14th of March 2019, **Dr Gisela Helfer** talked at the **Café Scientifique** series at the National Media Museum. Café Scientifique series are events open to the public to hear about and discuss new discoveries in science and healthcare. Gisela's talk took place during the Museum Lates, a free, adults-only night at the museum. The audience enjoyed some drinks and a bite to eat while Gisela explained her latest results in obesity research and their importance to society. She explored how the brain controls what we eat and what our pet hamsters can teach us about obesity. Her talk was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience and they learned that dieting is difficult, because our brain hates it when we lose weight.



Media Skills Training

Dr Anaís Pitto-Barry attended a **Media skills training** at the Royal Society on the 16th of May to develop skills in working with television, radio, newspapers and other media. Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock MBE (presenter of the BBC's "Sky at Night", along with a voice coach and the Screenhouse producers and journalists gave us insights into how media works, how to communicate effectively with the audience. And the last part of the day was spent practicing radio and on-camera interviews

Admissions and Outreach

Plastic Surgery and Burns Research Unit

PSBRU have also been involved with a number of fund raising events to mark the anniversary of the fire disaster at the football ground.

The Bantam Rooters organised a **charity football match** with the West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue who arrived in a fire engine because they were on call. The score was five all, but they did not get the chance to go into extra time because they were called out just as the final whistle blew! The family fun day raised an amazing

On the last match of the season there was a **bucket collection** at the football ground which raised money for the Unit. Georgina has been making and selling ribbons on behalf of the Unit and has raised an incredible £1,900.



Admissions and Outreach

Chase the Dragon!

The University has two teams competing at the **Dragon Boat Festival** on Saturday 22 June, who are fundraising for the Lord Mayor's charities 'Sue Ryder Manorlands Hospice' and 'Nightstop Bradford'. **Prof Anne Graham, Dr Gisela Helfer, Dr Martin Brinkworth, Dr Amber Leckenby** and **Dr Sarah Pike** from our School have joined forces with colleagues across the Faculty of Life Sciences' and we need your support! Please help us reach our target of £500.00 to support these great charities.

If you would to make a donation, please visit our localgiving page: <https://localgiving.org/fundraising/uni-of-bradford-rowing-for-charity/>

We hope to see many of you at the Saltaire festival and cheer us on!



Leeds International Festival

Julie Thornton was invited to speak at a lively panel discussion entitled "Facing Brave: Women take on the acid throwers" at the Leeds International Festival in May, which examined the rise in these attacks and the resulting devastating burns and permanent scars that these victims are left with.



Student Employee of the Year Awards

Sue O'Donnell won Student Employee of the Year for her step up to leadership in her role as a Recruitment support assistant within the recruitment department at the University.

The reason Sue was chosen as the winner, was for the in-depth role she had in Clearing 2018. Sue worked 4 months full time and participated in everything from testing the new software, training staff and students and acting as a call centre Supervisor.

Sue really enjoyed working with the external affairs team, particularly Recruitment support and the CRM team. "I enjoyed speaking with potential applicants about the University, especially the Biomedical Science BSc course 😊 and look forward to doing it again this year... but this time (spoiler) as a full fledged member of staff".

Eva Tsigarida also received a Highly Commended Award in the same awards ceremony for her work in the library as a Student Learning Champion. Congratulations to both our Biomed students!



PhD Successes



Aaiad Al-Rikabi (supervisors **Dr Julie Thornton** and **Dr Kirsten Riches-Suman**) successfully defended her PhD thesis entitled 'Impaired wound healing and inflammation: The role of the dermal fibroblast'. The examiners were Prof Carrie Ambler from Durham University and **Dr Martin Brinkworth**. Many congratulations!

