

RSC Organic Community North East Regional Meeting

Department of Chemistry, Northumbria University Newcastle, Wednesday 29th March 2023

The 2023 Royal Society of Chemistry Organic Community North East Regional Meeting ran very successfully on 29th March 2023 at Northumbria University in Newcastle. Northumbria University hosted 89 attendees from seven Universities across the region in a day which showcased the excellent science taking place at these institutions. The meeting was generously supported by the RSC Organic Community and sponsored by eight exhibitors (Apollo Scientific, Asynt, Dixon Science, Fluorochem, IKA, Radleys, Scientific Laboratory Supplies and Teledyne ISCO), who displayed a range of engaging stands. The early career researcher's poster competition attracted 23 entries and was won by a joint entry from Islam Araar and Yuran Wang from the University of York. The runner-up prize was awarded to Charles Mikan of Northumbria University. Judging for the poster sessions was excellently coordinated by expert poster judges from York, Durham and Northumbria. The overall quality of the posters was exceptionally high, and congratulations go to all the students and PDRAs who presented their excellent work.

The speaker programme kicked off with an exciting opening talk by Dr Matt Unthank on new developments in polymer chemistry. Talks by Dr Matthew Kitching (ammonium cations) and Prof Mike Waring (DNA-encoded libraries) completed a fantastic and varied first session. Session two was similarly varied in content, with three more fantastic talks from Dr Lianne Willems (synthesis of phosphosugars), Dr Karl Hemming (synthesis of small rings) and Dr Sanjit Nayak (metal-organic frameworks). The final session was opened by Dr Bao Nguyen who spoke on sustainable organic processes in water and the keynote lecture was given by Dr Paul McGonigal. Paul was presented with the Harrison Meldola Memorial Prize at the meeting by Organic Community member Dr William Unsworth 'for innovative studies of dynamic processes in organic functional materials' and gave a brilliant talk covering the fascinating research that led to this well-deserved award. The sessions were chaired by Dr Jon Knowles, Dr Frank Lewis and Dr Valery Kozhevnikov (all Northumbria). Overall, the day appeared to be enjoyed by everyone, with many overdue informal conversations taking place after such a long break from in-person meetings.



Photos: (left) Dr Paul McGonigal being presented with his Harrison Meldola Memorial Prize by Dr William Unsworth, and (right) Paul and William with the meeting organizers Jonathan Knowles and Frank Lewis.

RSC Organic Community North East Regional Meeting 2023

Department of Chemistry, City Campus East Building 1, Northumbria University, Weds 29th March

9.30–10.15 **Registration, coffee.**

Session 1: Chaired by Dr Jon Knowles (Northumbria University)

10.15–10.30. **Welcome, housekeeping etc.**

10.30–11.00 **Dr Matt Unthank** (Northumbria University)

New Developments in Epoxy-Network Polymers and Routes to Recycling of High-Performance Plastics

11.00–11.30 **Dr Matthew Kitching** (Durham University)

Enantioselective Synthesis of Ammonium Cations

11.30–12.00 **Prof. Mike Waring** (Newcastle University)

Micellar approaches to the synthesis of DNA-encoded libraries

12.00–13.00. **Lunch.** Poster judging from 12.30

Session 2: Chaired by Dr Frank Lewis (Northumbria University)

13.00–13.30 **Dr Lianne Willems** (University of York)

A new approach for the synthesis of SATE-protected phosphosugars

13.30–14.00 **Dr Karl Hemming** (University of Huddersfield)

Organic Synthesis Using Small Rings

14.00–14.30 **Dr Sanjit Nayak** (University of Bradford)

Metal-organic frameworks and their emerging applications in agriculture

14.30–15.00 **Coffee/posters**

Session 3: Chaired by Dr Valery Kozhevnikov (Northumbria University)

15.00–15.30 **Dr Bao Nguyen** (University of Leeds)

Sustainable organic processes in water

Harrison-Meldola Memorial Prize Lecture

15.30–16.30 **Dr Paul McGonigal** (University of York)

Molecular Mis-Shapes, Mistakes and Misfits

16.30 **Poster session** (including judging) and drinks reception.

17.15 Poster prize winners announced.

18.00 Close

We are very grateful to all our meeting sponsors:



fluorochem.



IKA

designed for scientists

Asynt

