

## **Organic Division: Carbohydrate Group Newsletter, December 2016**

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### **Seasons Greetings to all our members**

Welcome to the latest newsletter for the Carbohydrate Group. We would like to let you know about our news and some of the forthcoming activities for next year. Please feel free to send us your comments by e-mailing the secretary of the group. We would love to hear from you.

We have had a very exciting year, as we celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the group. A lot has happened since the group was initially created in 1966. Twenty two Group Chairs have overseen the organisation of almost 100 conferences, many of which have been run jointly with some of our partner organizations, including the Biochemical Society, Euchem, the Royal Society of Edinburgh, as well as hosting EUROCarb and International Carbohydrate Symposia. The Haworth Memorial Lecture has been delivered by 23 pre-eminent scientists since 1971 and the RSC Carbohydrate Award (previously sponsored by Tate & Lyle and more recently by Dextra Laboratories) has been awarded to 24 rising stars of the carbohydrate research community since 1970. In recent years, these awards have been administered by the RSC Carbohydrate Group. In 2012, we added another award to our portfolio in memory of former Group Chair Professor Grant Buchanan. The J G Buchanan Memorial Award has been gifted annually to the early stage researcher who delivers the best oral presentation at a Carbohydrate Group meeting. By continuously recognising and celebrating our successes at all levels in our field over the past 50 years, we have grown into the strong, diverse and collaborative community that we are today. Five decades of strong leadership from the RSC Carbohydrate Group has positioned UK glycoscience at the forefront of our field internationally and we should look forward to the next 50 years with great optimism.

### **Committee Officials:**

Bruce Turnbull (University of Leeds) and M. Carmen Galan (University of Bristol) started their terms as Chair of the Group and as Group Secretary, respectively. We thank Rob Field and Jerry Turnbull, who stepped down from the Committee at the end of 2015, for all their efforts in support of the community.

## Events in 2016:

- **2016 RSC Haworth Memorial Lectureship** was awarded to Prof. Sir Fraser Stoddart, who was also given the 2016 Nobel Prize in Chemistry. The Haworth medal was presented to Sir Fraser at the **RSC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Carbohydrate Group meeting**, where Sir Fraser delivered an engaging and humbling lecture and reminded us all that creativity, hard work, serendipity and great colleagues are key ingredients to succeed. The meeting was held at the University of Warwick and was a tremendous success with an excellent line-up of speakers which included senior academics as well as early career researchers and PhD students. The Buchanan Memorial Award for best talk by a student or postdoc was won by Alexandra Males from the University of York and The RSC book prize for best poster was won by Camille Metier of King's College London. Many thanks to Prof. Matt Gibson for leading the organisation of this very successful meeting and to all of our sponsors for their generous support.

- **IBCarb funded "How to Commercialize your Research" Workshop**, which was held at Cumberland Lodge in Windsor Great Park on the 18-20<sup>th</sup> of September, was a success. The workshop included members of industry who offered their insights and advice on different aspects of starting and maintaining a successful glyco-biotech business.

- **Glycobiotechnology 2016**, organized by IBCarb took place on the 4-5<sup>th</sup> April in Manchester. The meeting brought together over 100 professionals, academics and students working in the area of glycobiotechnology including many group and committee members.

## Upcoming Events and Awards:

The group plans to continue to run a range of meetings, with opportunities for members to present their latest research findings and meet leading figures in glycoscience nationally and internationally. We are also supporting the active programme of IBCarb Network workshops and events which complement our activities and in particular provide a strong focus on engagement with industry (for further details about IBCarb see: <http://ibcarb.com/>). Our Group meeting programmes will have slots available for oral presentations selected from abstracts, aimed particularly at giving the younger members of the community an opportunity to present their latest research. We look forward to seeing many of you at forthcoming events in 2017.

**The next RSC Carbohydrate Group Autumn Meeting** will be held in Dublin on the 7-8<sup>th</sup> of September 2017 and will be hosted by Eoin Scanlan and Eoghan McGarrigle.

A **Glycotric meeting focusing on Glycobiology** is planned for the 4<sup>th</sup> of April at Imperial College organized by Prof. Rob Field. The meeting will include earlier career speakers as well as more established ones. Further details will be posted here at their website in due course: <http://www.imperial.ac.uk/glycotric/>

## 2017 RSC Dextra Award

Nominations for the above award are now open. This award, which is sponsored by

Dextra Laboratories, was founded in 1970. It is presented to a scientist in the early/mid stage of their career for meritorious work in carbohydrate chemistry that has largely been conducted in the UK.

The award lecture, which is generally delivered at the Group's autumn meeting, may deal with any area of carbohydrate chemistry including analytical, biological, organic, physical or technological aspects. Details of previous recipients of this award can be found on the [RSC web site](#).

In order to make a nomination for this award you will need to supply:

- Your name and contact details (you must be an RSC member in order to submit a nomination)
- The candidate's name and contact details
- A supporting statement of no longer than one A4 side of 11 pt text
- A one page CV for the candidate, which should include their date of birth, website URL, summary of education and career, a list of five relevant publications and total numbers of publications and patents.

Further details can be found on the [RSC web site](#)

Nominations should be sent to Bruce Turnbull **by 15 February 2017**.

*If you have items that you would like to bring to the attention of the committee, please contact either Carmen Galan or Bruce Turnbull.*

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at future events.