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Organic Division Newsletter, Winter 2016

Dear Division Colleagues,

Welcome to the latest newsletter for the Organic Division (OD). We'd like to let you know about some forthcoming activities of interest and update you with some news from OD Council. Please feel free to comment on any of the content in this message by emailing [here](#) we'd love to hear from you!

Best regards,

Alison Hulme CChem FRSC
President of the Organic Division

Grad Student Activities

Eight UK-based PhD students took part in this year's **J-NOST** meeting organised by the National Organic Symposium Trust (NOST) of India. The meeting was hosted by the Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI) in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh from the 24 to the 27 November. The 8 UK delegates are pictured with 5 PhD students who attended from Germany. The meeting was a great success, with good science & excellent hospitality.



There was a great buzz at this year's Organic Division Poster Symposium on the 5th December. The event took place in Burlington House, Piccadilly, at the London Headquarters of the Royal Society of Chemistry with 40 poster presenters giving one minute flash presentations in addition to discussing their research in more depth with members of the judging panel at their posters during the day. First prize was awarded to Maximillian Lee from UCL. An additional highlight was a visit by the UK Shadow Minister for Industrial Strategy, Chi Onwurah MP who addressed the symposium at the start of the afternoon session.



Prize and Award Winners

An impressive array of Organic Chemistry Awardees and Prize winners was announced in May this year, as part of the [RSC Prizes and Awards programme](#), some of whom will feature as keynote speakers in the forthcoming round of OD regional meetings in the New Year.

One of this year's awardees received his award at the National Natural Science Foundation of China-RSC symposium in Burlington House, London, on the 17th October. [Stephen Thomas](#) from the University of Edinburgh was presented with the 2016 Hickinbottom Award by OD President Alison Hulme at this 2 day meeting on Emerging Frontiers in Organic Synthesis.



The 2017 Prizes and Awards are now open for nominations. They close on 16th January 2017, so please consider what research and which scientists you would like to see recognised for their excellence. We are always focussed on how our prizes and awards reflect our community and we encourage everyone to be mindful of inclusion and diversity when making nominations. Details of this year's awards, together with a full list of each award committee can be found on the [webpages](#) associated with each prize or award.

OD Regional Meetings

The 2016 annual programme of our Division's regional meetings was completed on the 18th May with the North West meeting at the University of Central Lancashire in Preston and the Ireland meeting in Trinity College Dublin. Full reports of all 7 meetings can be found on the webpage [here](#). The 2017 programme is taking shape. Below are some dates and locations – don't hesitate to contact the local organisers for further information.

Scotland – 11th January, University of Dundee – organiser: Ian Gilbert
South and West – 1st February, University of Bath – organiser: Jonathan Williams
North East – 29th March, University of Durham – organiser: AnnMarie O'Donoghue
Midlands – 5th April, University of Leicester – organiser: Alison Stuart
South East – 10th April, University College London – organiser: Tom Sheppard
North West – 24th May, University of Manchester – organiser: David Procter
Ireland – date to be confirmed, National University of Ireland Galway – organiser: Patrick O'Leary

OD Council

New members took their seats at our autumn Council meeting on 12th October. We welcomed elected members Chris Willis from the University of Bristol and Joe Sweeney from the University of Huddersfield. Rob Wybrow from Syngenta joined us as a co-opted member and we are grateful to Susannah Coote from the University of Lancaster for agreeing to serve another term in her co-opted position on Council. Our sincere thanks are extended to Jonathan Williams from the University of Bath and Sarah Major from Evotec who completed their terms of office this year – we are grateful for their time and commitment over the last few years. A full list of OD Council members, together with short biographies, can be viewed [here](#).

Thanks to Past-President Ray Jones

Ray Jones, was presented with his Past-Presidents' medal at OD Council in October by current OD President Alison Hulme.



We are grateful for his dedication and leadership during the last 3 years, with invaluable contributions to our support of early career scientists in UK and India in collaboration with the NOST organisation along with his involvement in a wide range of UK events and activities including the OD Poster symposium, our travel and small grants programmes, our regional

meetings and much more. Fortunately we still have his expertise at hand for another 6 months on OD Council as immediate Past-President.

Other forthcoming meetings of interest

- [4th National Retrosynthesis Competition](#) (10 March, London)
- [Directing Biosynthesis V](#) (22-24 March, Warwick)
- [Medicinal Chemistry Residential School](#) (11-16 June, Loughborough)
- [25th International Symposium: Synthesis in Organic Chemistry](#) (17-20 July, Oxford)

Finally, to find out more about OD, its activities and strategy, please visit our [homepage](#).

With best wishes,

Alison Hulme
President of the Organic Division



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