RSC Organic Division Scottish Regional Meeting, University of Strathclyde, 17th December 2018

Over 200 delegates from Universities across Scotland gathered at the University of Strathclyde for the annual RSC Scottish Organic Division Regional Meeting. We are grateful for support from the following organisations: the RSC Organic Division; our exhibitors, Advion and Biotage; and Fluorochem for sponsoring the poster prize.

Speakers at the meeting included representatives from seven Universities around Scotland, three early career researchers, and an RSC prize winner. This was complemented by over forty posters, making for a lively and busy poster session during the break.

The talks covered a range of chemistry, highlighting the broad and inclusive nature of organic chemistry research in Scotland. Graeme Barker (Heriot-Watt) was our first speaker, and opened with some career tips for the aspiring academics in the audience, before sharing his work on the metalation of heterocycles. Wael Houssen (Aberdeen) shared his work on the chemoenzymatic prenylation of peptides, while Amanda Jarvis (Edinburgh) presented work on the design and use of artificial metalloenzymes. Craig Jamieson (Strathclyde) represented the home team, demonstrating the diverse synthetic chemistry that can stem from nitrile imines, before Nick Westwood (St Andrews) presented his work on the depolymerisation of lignin. Andrea Testa represented Dundee, and shared some work on the design of PROTACs. Our final institutional speaker was Lee Cronin (Glasgow) who talked us through the design and applications of his ‘Chemputer’, complete with a video of the kit in action.

Our early career speakers comprised Valerijs Korotkovs (Glasgow, with R. Liskamp) who presented work on the synthesis of sulphonamide antisense oligonucleotides, Adele Queen (Strathclyde, with W. Kerr) who talked about her work on iridium-catalysed hydrogen isotope exchange, and Nicola Bell (St Andrews, with A. Watson) who delivered a presentation on some of her previous work on f-block chemistry.

Our poster judges found it challenging to choose their favourite of the forty-two posters that were presented at the meeting, but decided upon a poster on the direct, regioselective, and organocatalytic alkylation of triazoles by Harvey Dale (Edinburgh, with G. Lloyd-Jones).

The meeting concluded with a fantastic talk by the 2018 Tilden Prize Winner, Professor Jonathan Clayden (Bristol), on the control of molecular conformation to overcome some challenges in synthesis and the construction of functional molecules.

A copy of the programme follows, along with some photographs from the event (taken by Neil Keddie, St Andrews).
RSC Scottish Organic Division Meeting
University of Strathclyde
Monday 17th December 2018

John Anderson Building, 107 Rottenrow East, Glasgow, G4 0NG
Talks in JA325. Tea/Coffee in JA326/JA327

Programme

0930  Tea/Coffee

Session 1  Chair:  Professor Nick Tomkinson
0100  Opening Remarks
1030  Dr Graeme Barker  Heriot-Watt University  I1
1100  Dr Wael Houssen  University of Aberdeen  I2
1125  Valerijs Korotkovs  University of Glasgow  S1
1140  Adele Queen  University of Strathclyde  S2
1155  Dr Amanda Jarvis  University of Edinburgh  I3
1220  Break

Session 2  Chair:  Dr David Nelson
1400  Dr Nicola Bell  University of St Andrews  S3
1415  Dr Craig Jamieson  University of Strathclyde  I4
1440  Professor Nicholas Westwood  University of St Andrews  I5
1505  Dr Andrea Testa  University of Dundee  I6
1530  Professor Leroy Cronin  University of Glasgow  I7
1555  Tea/Coffee

Session 3  Chair:  Professor John Murphy
1640  Professor Jonathan Clayden  University of Bristol  P
(2018 RSC Tilden Prize Winner)
1725  Closing Remarks: Professor John Murphy  University of Strathclyde
Award of Poster Prizes

1730  Wine/Soft Drinks

- Plenary Talk is 45 minutes (40 min presentation + 5 min questions)  (P)
- Academic Talks are 25 minutes (20 min presentation + 5 min questions)  (I1 – I7)
- Short Talks are 15 minutes (12 min presentation + 3 min questions)  (S1 – S3)

Tea and Coffee will be provided in rooms JA326 and JA327. Lunch is not provided, but there is a variety of food available nearby, on George Street (Madison’s, One Stop, Sainsbury, Joanna Goodbite, Tim Hortons, Greggs, Pizza Hut, Yippon, OAKA), and in the city centre (e.g. Bar 91, Cranberry’s, Paesano, Bar Burrito, McDonalds, etc.).
Alison Hulme, RSC Organic Division President, presents Jonathan Clayden with his 2018 RSC Tilden Prize and certificate

Jonathan Clayden delivers his prize lecture

Exploiting molecular conformation: relays and reactivity

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