Kia Ora Koutou

Friday was the last day of teaching for the year, and recently a couple of us will have given their last ever lectures at UC, or in their career. This alludes to Emily’s announcement that she will be leaving us before the next academic year begins, and to Peter’s earlier announcement that he intends to retire at roughly that same time. We will be sad to see them both go, but we can leave most of that to farewells nearer the time. Clearly their departure will have a big effect on our teaching and research programmes, but this also represents an opportunity shape the future of the Department and its programmes in biological chemistry and related areas. Wendy has also indicated that she wants to see a collaborative approach to appointments in these areas (as Ant Poole has also announced his intention to leave UC).

Much better news also arrived late last week, as we were told that purchase of a new NMR machine has been approved. We still await more detail on this, but clearly this will have a huge effect on our productivity and in making NMR support for our research more secure.

Research Buddy Week ran recently and the feedback I have had from all of the students involved (undergrad and postgrad) was excellent. Thank you to all involved. The undergrads liked it so much that they have suggested doing one per semester – it is not yet clear whether that is practical or likely, but based on this feedback, we will do it again!

Planning for actually doing things in the RSIC is now ramping up, both inside and outside the department. Yesterday we were told of the initiation of the Operational Readiness Plan, which addresses all kinds of things in addition to details of the move itself (e.g. getting compliance/approvals, setting up IT and AV services). There will also be new induction and training sessions to settle everyone into their new environment. We also will have to prepare ourselves, and the up-coming clean-up day is a real opportunity to get rid of things that we will not actually take to the RSIC. Let’s remove the clutter and ask the tough questions as to whether you really need that much loved piece of (not quite working?) equipment.

We will also be able to look at ways to use the new building in innovative new ways, and Sarah has just secured a Teaching Development Grant to develop video resources to enhance laboratories. Well done, Sarah.

Richard
Congratulations!!

- Ian Shaw was awarded UCSA Lecturer of the Year (Science) joint with Travis Horton (Geological Sciences). Congratulations Ian, that’s spiffing!!!

- Team Dr. Alex Yip (CAPE), co-supervised PhD student Iman Hashemizadeh, and Dr. Vladimir Golovko has won the supreme UC sustainability award 2016: [http://www.sustain.canterbury.ac.nz/awards.shtml](http://www.sustain.canterbury.ac.nz/awards.shtml) for the work by Iman on making novel photocatalysts using bio-templates. We also got small funding from RSNZ Catalyst fund to work on this project in collaboration with overseas partners, which was highlighted by UC media: [http://www.comsdev.canterbury.ac.nz/rss/news/?articleId=1953](http://www.comsdev.canterbury.ac.nz/rss/news/?articleId=1953)


- Congratulations to the following academics who were successful in the Chemistry Department Contestable Funding recently:
  Antony Fairbanks, Chris Fitchett, Sally Gaw, Vladimir Golovko

Departmental and University Meetings

- CMT last met on Friday 16th September. Next meeting is on Friday 14th October.
- Academic Board last met on the Wednesday 21st September. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 19th October.
- The Faculty of Science last met on the Wednesday 5th October. The September meeting was cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 2nd November.

Safety Notes – Owen Curnow

The following points are reminders following the recent fire drill:

- If there appears to be no one on your floor doing the wardens job, please assume the role, pick up a warden’s armband from its hook and check the floor is clear.
- The gathering point for our Department is on the grass to the South of the building, NOT the road, which should be kept clear for emergency services.

Up and coming Health and Safety training

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Training</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed-Thu 19-20 Oct</td>
<td>Comprehensive First Aid</td>
<td>2 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 1 Nov</td>
<td>Field Activities</td>
<td>4 hours (9-1pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 1 Nov</td>
<td>Field Activities</td>
<td>4 hours (130-5pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue-Wed 22-23 Nov</td>
<td>Comprehensive First Aid</td>
<td>2 day</td>
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NZIC news

Trivia and Truffles

On Wednesday 5th October, the NZIC (in conjunction with ChemSoc) held the annual Trivia and Truffles quiz night at the University of Canterbury Club.

The previous weekend various members of both committees (and some smaller, louder helpers) invaded Jan and Dons house to make the truffles (and try not to eat them all). A fun time was had by all, although I think Jan is still picking coconut out of her carpet 😊

Fifteen teams entered the quiz, with a wonderful mix of undergraduate students, postgraduate students, academic staff and chemistry professionals. There were lots of rounds, all with chemistry-related answers including a music round and a "Identify the Scientist" for which there were some interesting answers…. To ease the strain on the marking team, at the end of each round peer marking was invoked, leading to some rather interesting “motivational” comments, thanks Nic and Sam...

An excellent effort by the NZIC committee saw many fantastic prizes, including vouchers for Lone Star, Joes Garage, Punky Brewster, Wholly Bagels, La Wheat, LB&Co, Café 101/Reboot and UBS bookshop. Woolfram Beta who were Nathaniel Gunby, Andrew Wallace, Chris Stinson and Chris Burn took the overall honours. The Isodopes (Andy Pratt, Jan Wikaira, Don McNickle and Sarah Masters) were second, WASABI (Antony Fairbanks, Sam Eason, Bryce Williamson, Wendy Williamson) were third, with the AJF Group Meeting Survivors (Cormac Hayes, Stewart Alexander, Jude Ayogu and Jesse Laurila) in fourth. The Periodic Table Dancers won the best team name, although sadly didn’t provide the cabaret we’d hoped for...

Many thanks to Michael Edmonds (ARA) for being our tireless quizmaster, Jimmy Whitmore (UC) for checking the marking and adding up the scores, and to Charles and his UCC crew for help setting up the room!

SLM

1st Place
Woolfram Beta

2nd Place
The Isodopes

3rd Place
WASABI

4th Place
AJF Group Meeting Survivors
**Chemsoc Update**

Hi again everyone!

We’ve got another busy few weeks ahead, with both the Chemsoc AGM coming up and the TriSci end of year BBQ as well as exam help sessions for CHEM 111 and CHEM 112.

The Chemsoc AGM is a great opportunity to give us your opinion on everything Chemsoc, as well as elect the 2017 Chemsoc Committee and run yourself if you would like to be more involved! This is being held at the UCC (Formerly Staff Club) on October 11th from 5pm and there will be FREE PIZZA so we look forward to seeing you there! If you would like more information including the committee positions available please see the Facebook event:

[https://www.facebook.com/events/304142053284752/](https://www.facebook.com/events/304142053284752/)

Also coming up is the TriSci End of Year BBQ! There will again be FREE FOOD for all Chemsoc, Physsoc and BioSoc members as well as drinks available for purchase at the bar so we look forward to seeing you for one last get together before exams! This will be held on the 13th of October, again at UCC from 5pm. [https://www.facebook.com/events/575826135935661/](https://www.facebook.com/events/575826135935661/)

And finally, the CHEM 111 and 112 Help Sessions are coming up so if you are interested in helping out please contact Nic or Chemsoc for more information.

Here’s to another productive month and best wishes for the upcoming exams!

Sarah and the Chemsoc Committee

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### Upcoming Seminars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Professor David Palmer</strong></th>
<th><strong>Wednesday 26th October, Room 531 at 12.00 p.m.</strong></th>
<th>Abstract and title to be advised</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Agriculture and Life Sciences Lincoln University</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>M.Sc. Part II Talks</strong></th>
<th><strong>Friday 28th October, Room 531 at 2.00 p.m.</strong></th>
<th>7 talks – titles to be advised</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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<tr>
<th><strong>Professor Dr Imre Toth</strong></th>
<th><strong>Wednesday 2nd November, Room 531 at 12.00 p.m.</strong></th>
<th><strong>NMR Study of Selected Metal Ion – Ligand Systems: Equilibrium, Structure and Dynamics</strong></th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Debrecen, Hungary</td>
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### Seminar Attendance

Vladimir Golovko participated in the 2016 MacDiarmid Regional Seminar Series – see below and attached.

[https://sites.google.com/site/nelsonsciencesociety/](https://sites.google.com/site/nelsonsciencesociety/)

The event was co-organized by MI and Nelson Science Society, it was well attended, including a number of younger people. A lively Q&A and demo/discussion session followed a joint presentation by two superb speakers.
Recently Seen on the Web

- Obit. Roger Y. Tsien (The Washington Post) [Link]
- The Nobel Prize in Chemistry (official site) [Link]
- Molecule-sized Motors Get the Chemistry Nobel (Ars Technica) [Link]
- Molecular Machinery: The 2016 Nobel Prize in Chemistry (In the Pipeline) [Link]
- Othmeralia [hidden treasures from the Othmer Library of Chemical History] [Link]
- New Article-Level Metric Measures the Influence of Scientific Research (EurekAlert! Science News) [Link]
- A New and Stunning Metric from NIH Reveals the Real Nature of Scientific Impact (ASCB) [Link]
- Opinion: Science in the Age of Selfies [decline of scientific innovation] (PNAS) [Link]
- The 7 Biggest Problems Facing Science, According to 270 Scientists (Vox) [Link]
- Cut-throat Academia Leads to ‘Natural Selection of Bad Science,’ Claims Study (The Guardian) [Link]
- Corporate Culture Has No Place in Academia (Nature News & Comment) [Link]
- Socio-economic Inequality in Science Is on the Rise (Nature News & Comment) [Link]
- This ‘Greaser of the Tracks’ Will Be Really Good for NZ Science [Science Exchange] (Sciblogs) [Link]
- Zero Correlation between [Lecturer] Evaluations and Learning (Inside Higher Ed) [Link]
- Research Shows That How Students Engage with Feedback Is As Important As Its Content (U Surrey) [Link]
- Young Researchers Thrive in Life after Academia (Nature News & Comment) [Link]
- When a Picture Is Not Worth 1,000 Words [popular science communication] (IFAS News, U Florida) [Link]
- Why Humanities Majors Should Take Science Courses (Sci-Ed) [Link]
- Are Universities Worth It? (Tim Harford) [Link]

On the lighter side...

- Loose Parts, Sept 6, 2016 [Link]
- Rat Pants and Goatman, the 2016 Ig Nobels Were Wacky As Ever (Discover) [Link]

Scientists Get a Little Too Honest (Reviewer 1 Is a Idiot, Imgur) [Link]

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John Arnold
Subject Librarian for Chemistry
Solution: Cryptic Crossword #17

Across
1 Inexperienced retailers - those selling fruit and veg (12)
8 In Canada man tries very hard (7)
9 Appoints fool to hold placard (7)
11 Spend time on part of the Bible (7)
12 One carrying a weapon? (7)
13 The subject being discussed is a girl (5)
14 I'm to act as middleman at once (9)
16 Control of little weight for part of car (9)
19 Money for food (5)
21 Putting an amount in a pipe started again (7)
23 Hair Eve dealt with, having more weight (7)
24 Said son gets depressed after nightfall (7)
25 Relative being beheaded causes high spirits (7)
26 During which there could be a lightning strike? (12)

Down
1 They can improve people's looks (7)
2 Issue the man at "Exeter News" keeps hidden (7)
3 Gossiping at ten, possibly on telephone (9)
4 Get to deliver a sermon, but not first (5)
5 Players, shown the way, made a chess move (7)
6 Going round at great yachting event (7)
7 Sharp chord is specially written for stringed instruments (12)
10 Giving up and showing the white flag? (12)
15 Unique game gets shorter (9)
17 Potent liquor mixed in baths (7)
18 Ridicule the French politician with nothing on (7)
19 Boasting it's almost brave to fuss (7)
20 Smile - it could lead to pride in chosen group (7)
22 Thick part of wooden seat (5)
Cryptic Crossword #18

Across
1. Driving tests for farm workers (8,6)
9. Letter opener? (9)
10. Girl studied by botanist (5)
11. Board game (5)
12. Moving that frame leads to repercussions (9)
13. Workwear generally put on second (8)
14. Station announcer’s room? (6)
17. Singer ordered to quit (6)
19. Choked as a result of stirring dust pile (6,2)
22. Scenic railway to Land’s End? (9)
24. MP losing head is found in fire (5)
25. Gain admittance in apparent error (5)
26. Newspaper boss, after public relations ruling, is affirmed (9)
27. Ground-breaking historians (14)

Down
1. Accept mistake from position that has altered (5,9)
2. Support red nose design (7)
3. Force from group of journalists (5-4)
4. It hinders one’s progress on course (8)
5. Deals with luxuries (6)
6. Suggest finer switches (5)
7. Are told to change revealing gym gear (7)
8. Where the latest uniforms go on show? (7,7)
15. Securing teeth knocked out with hoop (9)
16. Sound alarming (4,4)
18. Dish to get things moving (7)
20. Be back between appointments causing arguments (7)
21. Worn by sister or weakling, followed by the French (6)
23. Set fire to church behind hill (5)
Funnies...