

# Dial-a-Molecule

An EPSRC Grand Challenge Network

May 2015

Welcome to the May 2015 Edition of the Dial-a-Molecule Newsletter. The last few months have been quite busy for the Network – read on to find out about meetings that we have held and those that we have planned for the remainder of 2015!.

## In this edition...

### Dates for your Diaries: Upcoming Meetings:

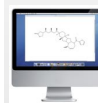
- Chemical Synthesis in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century – The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dial-a-Molecule Meeting, 30 June & 1 July
- Lead-Oriented Synthesis: Exploring Drug-Relevant Chemical Diversity, 25 September
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**Meeting Report:** Making Molecules to Make Materials

### Funding Opportunities:

- Dial-a-Molecule Mobility Grants
- ECR Travel Bursaries

## Connect



[www.dial-a-molecule.org](http://www.dial-a-molecule.org)



@DaM\_Challenge



Dial-a-Molecule EPSRC  
Grand Challenge

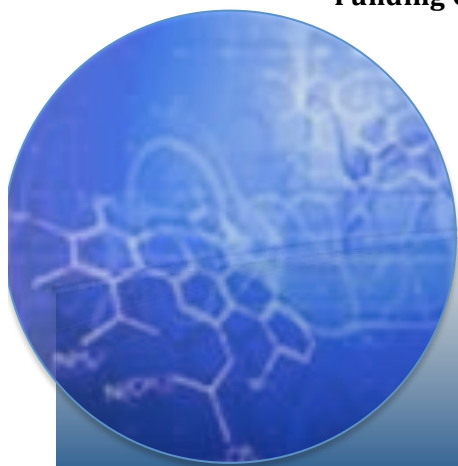
## Contact

Dr Kelly Kilpin

Network Coordinator

[K.J.Kilpin@soton.ac.uk](mailto:K.J.Kilpin@soton.ac.uk)

Tel: +44 (0) 2380 597314



*The Grand Challenge is owned by the community and we value your input and feedback, so if there is anything you think the Network should support or get involved in, please get in touch*

# Chemical Synthesis in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

*The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dial-a-Molecule Meeting*

**30 June & 1 July, University of Warwick**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dial-a-Molecule Meeting will be held this summer on the 30 June & 1 July 2015. Join us for our yearly showcase of all things Dial-a-Molecule related!

We have an exciting and varied two days planned including:

- **Keynote** lectures from **David Procter** (University of Manchester) and **Rebecca Goss** (University of St Andrews)
- **Presentations** on work relevant to the Grand Challenge: **Asterios Gavriilidis** (UCL), **Kevin Booker-Milburn** (University of Bristol), **Natalie Fey** (University of Bristol), **Bao Nguyen** (University of Leeds) and **Richard Bourne** (University of Leeds)
- **Poster Session**
- **Exhibition** demonstrating technology developed within the Network

## Discussion & Collaboration Building Sessions:

- Big Data and Predicting Reaction Outcomes
- Towards a National Catalyst Collection
- Using Biology and Synthetic Biology to Dial-a-Molecule
- Lab of the Future: Low Cost Automation
- New Reactions with Impact
- Challenges in Materials Chemistry
- ELN's: Adoption and Data Standards
- Enabling New Chemistry with Flow
- Statistical Methods in Chemistry Research

The meeting is open to all, including Academics (PI's and PDRA's), Industrialists and Technology Developers.

Both days are free to attend, and you can choose to attend both or either days. Meals will be provided, so please register at

**[www.dial-a-molecule.org](http://www.dial-a-molecule.org)**

*Bursaries for Early Career Researchers are available and should be applied for upon registration*



## Mobility Funding

The activity aims to promote inter-disciplinary and academic-industry collaborations by funding travel and accommodation for short term visits and exchanges. These may involve several people and more than one visit. We expect a typical award to be £1-2000 and we aim to fund up to 40 exchanges over 3 yrs. Applications may be made at any time and we aim to turn-around in < 1 month.

For an application form, please visit the resources tab at [www.dial-a-molecule.org](http://www.dial-a-molecule.org)

# Event Report: Making Molecules to Make Materials

*Weetwood Hall Conference Centre & Hotel, Leeds, 19-20 May 2015*

Making Molecules to Make Materials was a two-day event jointly organised by the ESPRC **Dial-a-Molecule** and **Directed Assembly** Grand Challenge Networks. The event was designed to bring together Early Career Researchers from across the two Networks to discuss research, learn about funding opportunities and form research collaborations in areas relevant to the Grand Challenges.

Day One began with an entertaining lecture from *Prof Chick Wilson (University of Bath)* who described the path his research had taken, *“From structure to crystallisation and manufacturing: A journey from fundamentals to flow”*. This was followed by the highlight of the meeting for most, 3 minute flash presentations where the delegates had the chance to tell each other about the research they are currently involved in, and their 5-year outlook, or DREAMS for the future.

*Dr John Leonard (Royal Society of Chemistry Industry Associate)* began the afternoon Industry Session, speaking on *“Industry/Academia Partnerships: Opportunities to collaborate in a rapidly changing world”*. He was followed by representatives from *Lilly, Dr Reddy’s Laboratories, Syngenta, GSK, AstraZeneca, Pfizer* and *Domainex* who each described the activities their companies are involved with, and detailed specific



Industry Representatives contributing to a panel Q & A session

collaborative opportunities.

*Prof Ian Fairlamb (University of York)* kicked off Day Two by explaining *“Why fundamental mechanistic studies in catalysis matter: a perspective on Pd-catalysed cross-coupling”* and was

followed by *Dr Sarah McLusky (Royal Society of Chemistry)* who gave a very insightful and thought provoking talk on *“Public Engagement: Why? Who? How?”* The formal program was concluded by presentations from *Gary Townley (Intellectual Property Office)* who described *“The value of intellectual property”*, and *Dr Stuart Cantrill (Nature Chemistry)* who gave a lively account of *“The Nature of chemistry publishing”*.

The meeting was attended by 34 Early Career Researchers from 24 different research institutes around the UK. The combined interests of the delegates showcased the diverse and multidisciplinary areas needed to contribute towards realising both Grand Challenges. The enthusiasm shown by the delegates throughout the meeting, coupled with the high quality research and overall positive outlook bodes well for future of UK research directed towards problems identified by the Grand Challenges!



Hard at work discussing the Grand Challenges!

# Upcoming Events!

## Lead Oriented Synthesis: Exploring Drug Relevant Chemical Diversity

25<sup>th</sup> September 2015, GSK Stevenage

Dial-a-Molecule is pleased to announce the one day symposium "Lead Oriented Synthesis: Exploring Drug Relevant Chemical Diversity" will take place at GSK Stevenage on 25<sup>th</sup> September.

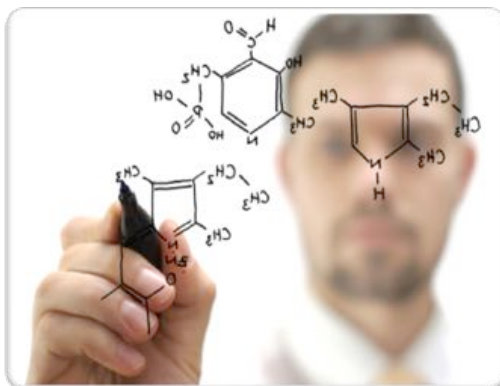
### Confirmed Plenary

**Speaker:** Prof Jeffrey Bode  
(ETH Zurich)

Registration will open soon  
so watch this space!

### Organising Committee:

Prof Steve Marsden & Prof  
Adam Nelson



## Dial-a-Molecule Steering Group

**PI:** Prof Richard Whitby  
(University of Southampton)

**Co-I:** Prof Steve Marsden  
(University of Leeds)

**Co-I:** Prof David Harrowven  
(University of Southampton)

Dr Robin Attrill (GSK)

Dr John Clough (Syngenta)

Prof Asterios Gavriilidis (UCL)

Dr Iain Gladwell (Pfizer)

Dr Mimi Hii  
(Imperial College London)

Dr David Hollinshead  
(STB Associates)

Prof John Leonard  
(RSC/AstraZeneca)

Dr Harris Makatsoris  
(Brunel University)

Dr Andrew Russell  
(University of Reading)

Ms Natasha Richardson (EPSRC)

Dr Gillian Smith  
(Gillian Smith Associates)

Prof Joe Sweeney  
(University of Huddersfield)

Dr Matt Tozer (Peakdale Molecular Ltd)

## Smart Materials: Efficiency, Complexity & Design

21<sup>st</sup> October 2015, University of Warwick

A one-day meeting designed to bring Synthetic and Polymer chemists together to discuss the creativity and availability of monomers, specifically:

- Improved efficiency
- Accessing complexity
- Tailoring function

**Organising Committee:** Prof Joe Sweeney & Prof Rachel O'Reilly

## Early Career Researcher Travel Bursaries

Dial-a-Molecule have bursaries available to help ECR's attend our meetings. These cover travel expenses and accommodation costs and can be applied for on meeting application forms.

*Note: ECR's are defined as post-doctoral research fellows and academic staff in the first three years of their first academic appointment.*