

Dial-a-Molecule Annual Meeting Report

9-10 July 2014

The second edition of the **Dial-a-Molecule Annual Meeting** was held at the University of Birmingham on the 9th and 10th of July, 2014. A total of 121 delegates attended the two day event which also included an exhibition with technology developers from both academia and the commercial sector showcasing their products and services.

Day 1 began with a Plenary Lecture from **Dr Jonathan Goodman** (University of Cambridge) on "*Computationally-Enhanced Synthesis*", which was followed by presentations from each of the PI's involved in the three Dial-a-Molecule projects funded under the **EPSRC Manufacturing the Future** themes. **Prof Asterios Gavriilidis** (UCL) began by speaking about "*Sustainable Manufacturing in Multiphase Continuous Reactors: Aerobic Oxidations*", and was followed by **Prof. Richard Whitby** (University of Southampton) who presented aspects of the "*Closed Loop Optimisation for Sustainable Manufacture*" project. The session concluded with **Prof Kevin Booker-Milburn** (University of Bristol) speaking on the "*Factory in a Fume Cupboard: Reagentless flow reactors as enabling techniques for manufacture*" project.

The afternoon session included Plenary lectures from both **Prof Floris Rutjes** (Radboud University Nijmegen, Netherlands) and **Dr Jonathan Moseley** (CatSci) speaking on: '*New directions in organic synthesis: from flow chemistry to multi-functional nanoreactors*' and '*Smarter synthesis: Tools for Efficiency and Effectiveness*' respectively. **Dr Simon Coles** (University of Southampton), **Dr Steve Christie** (Loughborough University), **Dr Duncan Gill** (University of Huddersfield) and **XX** (Brunel University) each spoke about work stemming from their **Dial-a-Molecule Proof of Concept** funded projects. **Dr Laura Broad** (University of Bristol) spoke about the National Compound Collection initiative and **Andy Howlett** (Unilever Centre, University of Cambridge) introduced AMI2 – a high throughput program with the ability to extract semantic chemistry from the scientific literature.

Day 1 concluded with a lively session of Flash Poster presentations, including some entertaining time-keeping. A poster session and buffet dinner concluded the evening. Congratulations to the **winners of the Poster session: 1st Richard Bourne, 2nd Graham Rance, 3rd Robert Phipps.**

Day 2 was split into two sessions with an Early Career Researcher Meeting and a Technology Showcase running in parallel. The ECR meeting had 21 short presentations where delegates had the opportunity to introduce their own research interests. This was followed in the afternoon by a productive networking and discussion session aimed at developing proposals under the Proof of Concepts funding scheme. The Technology Showcase included informative presentations from **Gilson UK, Microsaic, HEL Group, Vapourtec, JMP, Advion, Cambridge Reactor Design, Almac, Mycozyme**, the **Bristol Synthesis CDT** and **Chemistry Central Journal**. ELN providers **Dotmatics, ACD/Labs** and **LabTrove** also demonstrated their products and the latest innovations to their software. Running across both sessions were presentations from potential funding sources (**EPSRC, The KTN & TSB, H2020, the Grand Challenges, NSCCS**, and the **UK Catalysis Hub**) and the **Intellectual Property Office**.