



FLUOR21 ITN Bulletin No.4 February 2016

Dear *FLUOR21 ITN* members,

We hope that you are all good and that winter is treating you well!

This is the fourth of our Bulletins, and the first of 2016, to keep you informed of upcoming events and the progress of the Network. We will also update the website (<http://www.fluor21.eu/>) with Network information and news so please send any news highlights for inclusion on the FLUOR21 webpage to Beth Corcoran (beth.corcoran@ucd.ie).

FLUOR21 Reporting

Since our last bulletin, the Network has had its Midterm Review. This was one of the major reporting milestones in the Network's schedule and we received constructive and positive feedback from our EUPO, Francisca Cuesta Sanchez.

We are currently preparing for our next reporting milestone – the Periodic Review - which takes place half way through the project lifecycle (M24). The coordinating team are currently busy collating all the data that is required for this report.

FLUOR21 ITN 4th Scientific Research Workshop 20th – 22nd April, Dublin and Belfast.

The last of our Scientific Research Workshops will take place in Dublin at the end of April. The material covered in this set of workshops will include lectures from academic and industry experts on Biosynthesis and ¹⁹F NMR techniques in Chemical Biology. We are delighted that this event will also include a site visit to Almac in Northern Ireland.

FLUOR21 ITN 4th Scientific Research Training Meeting 20th – 22nd April, 2016, Dublin, Ireland

Workshop details to follow soon.

All ESRs and ERs are contractually obliged to participate in this event.

Upcoming events are also highlighted on the webpage - <http://www.fluor21.eu/newsandevents.html>

Secondments

I know that ESRs/ERs are looking forward to their secondments which will take place in 2016. These secondments will give participants meaningful exposure to complementary research techniques and different research environments, approaches, and styles. Plans for these placements are currently way and our admin office is finalising dates with each of the ESRs/ERs.

Network Events : Review

FLUOR21 ITN 3rd Scientific Research Workshop & Network Midterm Review 23rd – 25th November 2015, Muenster, Germany

3rd Scientific Research Workshop

Our 3rd Scientific Research Workshop took place in November in Muenster, Germany just as the city's Christmas Markets opened!

This workshop explored the ***Stereo-electronic effects of fluorine***. ESRs received lectures on the Control of structure and function by fluorination, the use of fluorine to control stereoelectronic parameters, gauche effects, long range effects, applications to asymmetric synthesis, molecular design, structural effects, control of self-assembly and regio-selectivity from academics in the field.



ESRs were also given an opportunity to participate in some peer to peer teaching. This exercise saw ESRs present a scientific paper to their peers and, indeed, it was another opportunity to practise their communication and presentation skills.

Fluor21 Midterm Review

The Network's Midterm Review also took place in Muenster at this time. Our EUPO, Francisca Cuesta Sanchez, reviewed our project progress to date and spoke to ESRs and ERs about their expectations of the Network.



FLUOR21 ITN 2nd Transferable Skills Workshop & Network AGM 23rd – 25th September, 2015, Dublin, Ireland

The Network gathered in Dublin in September for our 2nd Transferable Skills Workshop and our 1st Network AGM. All our ESRs engaged in a two day communication skills workshop that was presented by Claire O'Connell and Shaun O'Boyle. ESRs were assisted in improving their written communication skills. The presenters also advised ESRs on how to improve their oral presentations and how to disseminate their work effectively. During the event, ESRs also had the opportunity to discuss and update their Career Development Plans individually with Dr Cormac Murphy, Dr Steven Cobb or Prof Graham Sandford.



The workshops were followed by the Network's 1st AGM. We were delighted that most of our partners were represented at it.

Network administration

Beth Corcoran (beth.corcoran@ucd.ie), our research administrator, is based in University College Dublin. If you have any queries regarding the project, please feel free to contact her.

Best wishes
Professor Graham Sandford
(Fluor21 ITN Coordinator)