

CSCT Newsletter

Issue 5, April 2018

Spring '18 editorial

By Lelia Bridgeland-Stephens



Spring has arrived... And so have our new members of the CSCT team, Francesca and Moira!

Francesca Guiso Gallisai is our new CSCT Centre Manager and will be delivering the CSCT's long term goals as well as running the Centre on a daily basis. Francesca says, "It's an exciting time for the Centre and I am pleased to be getting on board with the team to tackle the latest challenges in research and training".

Moira Vu is our newest CSCT Co-ordinator and will be job sharing with me in administrating the Centre. Moira will be in on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, so come and introduce yourself next time you're passing by the office!



NEWSFEED

Jan '18 The University of Bath's Water Innovation & Research Centre has collaborated with the CSCT to produce a microbial-based paper sensor which can detect toxic compounds in water. The sensor is biodegradable, weighing less than 1g and costing around £1. The CSCT's Mirella di Lorenzo, who took the lead on the project, says:



"This type of research will have a significant positive impact... This device is a small step in helping the world realise the United Nations call to ensure access to safe drinking water and sanitation as a human right."

Resolutions for a Sustainable 2018

Megan Stalker

Many of us want to live more sustainable lives but find sustainability overwhelming. The good news is you don't have to become a completely self-sufficient off-the-grid hermit to be more sustainable in 2018. The CSCT students have put together 12 monthly resolutions to help you live a more sustainable 2018.

Click on the images to find out more.

1. AVOID MICROPLASTICS



100,000 microbeads are washed down the sink with a single application of some products, ending up in the sea and the food chain

TIP
Try exfoliating with renewable products such as kernels or sugar

2. REDUCE FOOD WASTE



Industrialized countries will waste some 222 millions tonnes of food every year and 30% of food produce doesn't even reach the table

TIP
Buy ugly produce and look out for seasonal or local food

3. CONSERVE WATER



The average person in the UK uses 150 litres each day

TIP
Take shorter showers and turn off the tap when brushing your teeth



10th ANNIVERSARY SUMMER SHOWCASE

25 & 26 June, The Chancellors' Building. **Registration now open!**

Confirmed Speakers:

Prof Phil Andrews, Monash University
Prof Jong Hak Kim, Yonsei University
Prof Igor Polikarpov, University of São Paulo

Dr Hannah Shafaat, The Ohio State University
Prof Roger Sheldon, Delft University of Technology
Prof Sir Mark Walport, UK Research and Innovation
Prof Sir Robert Winston, Imperial College London

CONGRATULATIONS!



Congratulations to our Training Director, Janet Scott, who was appointed a professorship on 1st February. Chris Frost, the Head of the Department of Chemistry, said:

"Please join me in congratulating Janet for this well-deserved recognition of her high impact research and leadership of the CDT in Sustainable Chemical Technologies."

Coming up...

June	9-10:	Festival of Nature (Bristol)
	25-26:	CSCT Summer Showcase 2018
July	10-13:	Summer Graduation

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Bath Taps into Science 2018

Cohort '17 spreads the word about ocean plastics

On 16 and 17 March, Cohort '17 brought their message about ocean plastics to school children and families across Bath. With stalls at the Bath Taps School and Family Science Fairs, our CSCT students put together a variety of activities focusing on ocean plastics and where they come from, covering four areas: 'Microplastics' was inspired by Professor Janet Scott's research based on biodegradable microbeads from cellulose, 'Fate of plastic' raised awareness of the need to recycle and the CSCT's research into biodegradable bio-based plastics, 'Ocean clean up' was about ongoing research in the centre to remove toxins such as BPA from water, and the biodegradable coffee cup stand opened conversation about Dr Chris Chuck's research into deriving value-added products from waste coffee grounds. *"After a hectic two days and over 600 visitors to each stand, everybody came away with a sense of accomplishment. ...It was extremely rewarding to see how well people engaged with our activities."* - Jasmine Lightfoot



STEM for Britain 2018

Blog coming soon...



Sustainable Chem Retweeted



Bethan Charles @BethCharlesPhys
Had a great time at the #STEM4Brit18 competition yesterday representing @csctbath @UniofBathSci at #housesofparliament and happy to have found time to see inspiring #votesforwomen exhibition at #nationalportraitgallery after #WomenInScience



The story about GSK, robots and PhD students

Hasia Smug



"On 22 January, six students from the CSCT had the great pleasure of visiting GlaxoSmithKline's Research & Development sites in Stevenage. For many of us it was our first visit to an industrial R&D facility...all of us were excited to see how the working environment in industry compares to academia.

"We started in the Catalysis Screening Facilities, the first thing we noticed – so much equipment! **The density of equipment in this lab was comparable to the density of pubs in Bath...**"
 "...The next stop was in the Synthetic Biochemistry Facilities. After a quick introduction to enzymatic reactions we got to see the lab, all associated equipment and... more robots! We also learnt how many people are needed to screen up to 2000 enzymatic reactions at once – the answer is one!"
 "This trip was a chance to talk to current scientists working at GSK to discuss their varied careers, as well as seek help and advice in furthering our own. We also had the opportunity to talk about green chemistry in the pharmaceutical industry and challenges associated with it."



Find out a bit more about our newest cohort! Click here to read about their backgrounds, research interests and some - unusual - facts!

