



Sarah (right) receiving her prize from Marjan Oudemann, Managing Director of Corus Strip Products (UK/Holland)

Success for Bangor Student at the 2008 Engineering Doctorate Annual Seminar.

Sarah Rugen-Hankey, a 3rd Year EngD student, won first prize for her talk on "Unsymmetrical Phthalocyanines for Dye Sensitized Solar Cells".

Sarah has been working for 3 years in the School of Chemistry with Dr Peter Holliman. The project is the EPSRC Engineering Doctorate scheme run in conjunction with the Materials Research Centre at Swansea University and she is co-supervised with Dr Dave Worsley. Sarah is co-sponsored by Corus Colors and grateful thanks go to Corus and to Paul Jones and Dr Maarten Wijdekop from Corus for their help and support.

2nd Year Chemistry Student Wins Prestigious Award

Ian Fazakerley is studying Environmental Chemistry with Industrial Experience and has recently been awarded the Queen's Badge through the Boys Brigade.

The Boy's Brigade works with over 60,000 children & young people in the UK & Republic of Ireland. The Boys' Brigade provides a balanced programme of activities for children and young people from 5 to 18 years old. These resources have been developed to help volunteer youth leaders work in a relevant and creative way. Ian's award is an extremely prestigious one as it is the highest award that can be achieved. Many congratulations Ian.



Ian Fazakerley with his award. Picture by Mr John Fazakerley

Chemistry Staff Travel the World to Publicise Bangor's Research.

During the course of the year members of staff visited many different countries to collaborate with other experts and publicise their latest findings. Professor Kalaji, Head of the School of Chemistry visited Libya earlier on in the year to discuss collaboration with Libyan Universities and has presented his research on security at conferences in Hong Kong, Singapore and Hawaii as well as Japan and the USA.

● Dr Mike Beckett has visited Spain with 2nd year PhD student James Timmis. Dr Beckett gave a lecture based on the undergraduate research project work of David Knox. ● Dr Anna Croft has visited Australia in order to present at two international conferences and also to collaborate with Jason Harper at the University

of New South Wales. ● Dr Vera Thoss visited India earlier on in the year to collaborate on environmental research projects.

● Professor Geoff Ashwell presented his work in Brazil, and Singapore and his group have travelled to Australia on collaboration agreements.



Head of the School of Chemistry, Professor Kalaji with the British Ambassador in Libya, Sir Vincent Fearn.

Crazy Hat and Hair Day for Children in Need

This year staff and students were asked to wear crazy hats and hair to raise money for Children in Need. The School raised over £357 through a variety of events. Please send suggestions for next year to ch-news@bangor.ac.uk



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Chemistry Matters at Bangor

ISSUE 3 Autumn 08 - Winter 2009



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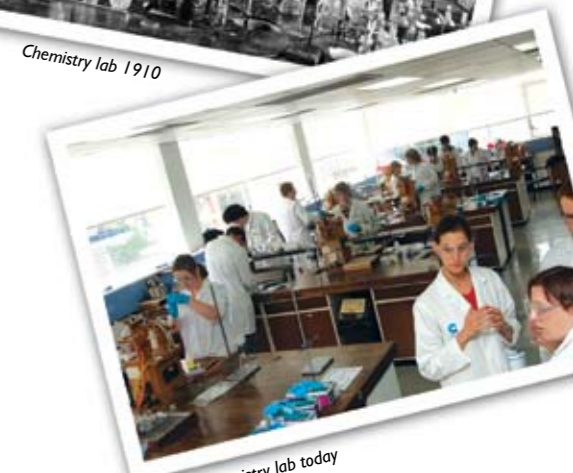
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Chemistry Celebrates 125 years of Excellence

2009 sees the 125th anniversary of the School of Chemistry at Bangor University. As a founding department of the University, the School will be celebrating in style with an ambitious programme of events. There will be something for everyone, from School pupils to Alumni and the general public. The events at Chemistry will tie in with the year of events that the University is planning for 2009. Further information will be available on the web site. To be put on our mailing list for events please contact ch-news@bangor.ac.uk.



Chemistry lab 1910



Chemistry lab today

News item Chemistry UCAS Days

This year's UCAS days for the School of Chemistry are as follows:

Monday	8th	December	2008
Friday	30th	January	2009
Monday	9th	February	2009
Saturday	14th	February	2009
Friday	20th	February	2009
Monday	9th	March	2009

To register or for further information please contact Tracey Parry on chem.ucas@bangor.ac.uk or 01248 388433.

£500 Bursaries for all 2009 Chemistry Students

This year we are pleased to announce that we will again be offering £500 to each student entering in 2009. The money will be given to every student for each year of their study with us. For further information on our bursaries and scholarships please visit <http://www.chemistry.bangor.ac.uk>.

Students in their Element...

'Chemical Secrets' / 'Cyfrinachau Cemegol' is a bilingual chemistry event for A level students in Wales. The day-long workshops at Bangor University's School of Chemistry attracted pupils from 11 schools across North Wales. Over 200 pupils experienced hands-on access to state of the art techniques and instrumentation.



St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School pupils, Jonathan Cooper, Ben Williams, Ryan Evans and Paul Rhodes

"This is a joint initiative between Bangor's School of Chemistry, Cardiff University and Techniquest. The aim is to ensure that chemistry A level students can be enthused by all that chemistry has to offer and, by visiting the University Chemistry labs, can experience at first hand, what lies ahead in further study or a career in chemistry," said Professor Maher Kalaji, Head of the School of Chemistry at Bangor University.

"We are committed to assisting students studying chemistry in schools so that they remain interested in the subject. We feel it's equally important that we support Welsh medium chemistry teaching," he added.

As well as isolating and identifying natural substances that are important in determining taste and smell in fruits and flowers, the pupils utilise techniques that illustrated how practical experiments are combined with analytical and theoretical methods to aid chemical investigation. The School of Chemistry also ran a competition to win a micro hi fi system with ipod dock; the winner of the competition was Ryan Evans of St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School.



Dr. Florian Kargl, Aberystwyth University and Dr. Gregory Chass (Right) removing their super cooled catalyst sample from the cryostat on the IN13 instrument.

Dr Greg Chass Visits the Institut Laue Langevin, Grenoble, France - the Premiere Source of Neutrons on the Planet.

First Year Student Experience

One of our first year students Jamie Lynn Hawkins is studying for a BSc in Chemistry here she tells us about her first experiences of University and life at Bangor.

Why did you decide to study Chemistry?

I loved the department when I came up to visit. The tutors were a lot of help when I was looking around the school. They answered all my questions and sat for a long time just making me feel relaxed and welcome and that made me feel that Bangor was the choice for me.

What attracted you to Bangor University?

The surrounding area caught my eye as soon as I drove up the A55 for the first time. I stayed in a hotel watching the sun set over the mountains and it was just beautiful. All I could think about was looking out onto Snowdonia from my laboratory window and from my halls and how relaxing it would be.

How was your first week here, what did you get up to?

There was all sorts going on - you didn't get a chance to get bored and always got a good nights sleep. Every night there was some kind of activity going on with the peer guides who were great fun. The day saw us in the Chemistry Tower or around town with people from our course. The night saw us out and about in Bangor exploring the many pubs, clubs and other things to do. Overall welcome week was great.



How have you found living away from home for the first time?

Living away from home was hard work to begin with but it is getting easier. The term flies so quickly - it feels like you only moved in yesterday and you are already 8 weeks into term having completed your first assessments and assignments.

How would you say academic work at University differs from learning at School?

It is a million miles away from school and college. At University the learning is your responsibility. No one will check you have done your homework. No one will bug you to do your assignments. On your own head be it if you don't. I really like the way we are taught and each lecturer has a different style which makes the variation in the week so much greater.

Have you any advice for students who are starting the UCAS process at the moment?

Don't worry about anything but yourself or the choice you want to make. It is you who has to live in the place you get into for 3/4/5 years. Choose somewhere you will think you will be happy and then the rest will follow.

Freshers Week

This year the School of Chemistry fresher's week went off with a bang as first years were treated to a whole host of events. Students attended everything from barbeques and social evenings to chemistry challenges and competitions, as well as making ice cream with liquid nitrogen. Dr Lorrie Murphy who organised the busy programme of events said "At the School of Chemistry we like to get our first years working together from the outset and these activities were designed to build student confidence by underpinning key chemical concepts that would be more fully explored in the rest of semester one."

The First Year in the lecture theatre



Making ice cream!

Schools Events

As well as the annual events we are pleased to announce that as part of the HEFCW funded RSC 'Chemistry for our Future' initiative, we will be running a series of extra events aimed at key stages 2 - 5. The activities, which will be run by Bangor, Cardiff and Glamorgan Universities will range from Chemistry Shows to workshops in schools and Chemistry competitions. Events that are being run at Bangor include Chemistry Club for Primary Schools, Sioe Cemeg as well as events focussing on the pharmaceutical and textile industries. Our extensive events timetable will be available on our schools events web site.

For further information please contact ch-news@bangor.ac.uk

Some of our events...

Salters Festival of Chemistry
Tuesday 24th March 2009

Schools Analyst Competition
Tuesday 31st March 2009

Sioe Cemeg - free show for year 6 and 7 (ages 10-12)
Galeri Caernarfon
Monday 9th March 2009
Tuesday 10th March 2009

National Eisteddfod of Wales
1-8 Aug 2009 Bala,
School of Chemistry at the
Science Pavilion

Science and Energy Lectures
8-10 June 2009

Dr. Gregory Chass, was awarded a prestigious allocation of neutron-beam time for his project at the Institut Laue Langevin (ILL), Grenoble, France to characterise the molecular motions of the highly-active Pd-IPr catalyst, using Neutron Spectroscopy. The work, in close-collaboration with Dr. Florian Kargl of Aberystwyth University was designated a 'highlight project of 2008' at the facility and will be featured in the annual report. Professor De-Cai Fang, Beijing Normal

University also joined the team, lending his expertise in characterising the electronic structures of the catalysts. Professor Michael Organ, York University, Canada, synthesised and tested the catalysts under investigation - a truly international, tri-continental team!

