

From biology to materials, a huge variety of disciplines require a specialist knowledge of synthetic chemistry to push the boundaries of research. OxSynC is a rapidly growing resource, based in the Department of Chemistry, that provides a single point of contact for researchers to initiate and develop interdisciplinary collaborations.

Managed by a group of world leading chemistry researchers, OxSynC aims to strengthen research links between departments and make chemistry more accessible throughout the University.



Funding

OxSynC has just been awarded a 6-month PDRA grant to provide flexible manpower for new projects, ideally involving new collaborations in which a short burst of work would increase the probability of collaborative grant applications.

Grants remain available to support preliminary collaborative investigations, ideally through consumable support for short proof of concept studies. See our website for details or get in touch with us at oxsync@chem.ox.ac.uk.

Presentations

So far group members have presented at numerous departments, including Pharmacology, the BHF Centre for Research Excellence, the Weatherall Institute of Molecular Medicine and the Department of Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics. These presentations have led to new collaborations, and projects have been given seed funding for preliminary investigations and viability studies in advance of grant applications for more extensive studies.

OxSynC has forged long-term links with many departments. Following an introductory talk from OxSynC, members of the WIMM hosted a seminar presenting their work to members of the Department of Chemistry. This proved extremely popular and now OxSynC holds a monthly drop-in session at the WIMM to answer chemistry queries and direct people to the right collaborators in Chemistry.

Projects

The latest project to receive seed funding, between Tim Donohoe (Chemistry) and Mark Haworth (Biochemistry), is 'Understanding mechanical forces that affect protein-ligand interactions.' Grants have also been awarded to collaborative projects with Earth Sciences and Oncology.

The Future

Over the next year OxSynC will continue to increase accessibility to synthetic chemistry and promote collaborations throughout the University. If you have a research problem or idea that would benefit from the input of a synthetic chemist or if you would like to find out more about OxSynC please visit the website - oxsync.chem.ox.ac.uk

