Further to our two previous National Meetings to discuss teaching of practical chemistry, we are looking to host another one-day meeting on Wednesday 8th January 2020.

This meeting will look to expand discussion on the development of a Skills List for practical laboratory teaching, examining the physical sciences more generally.

Topics for discussion will include:

- What are the core practical and transferable skills for physical scientists?
- How do people learn skills,?
- What methods/technologies are available to teach skills? What makes these effective, and how you assess students' effectiveness in learning skills?
- What skills do employers look for in physical science graduates?
- What skills are covered in Secondary Education, and do these marry well with universities' expectations of arriving students?
- What can the Higher Education sector do to smooth the transition between Secondary and Higher Education?
- What skills will future students will come to university with, and how will we develop these skills further?
- What skills should we be looking to develop for future generations of graduates?

This meeting will include presentations from researchers in chemistry and physics education, and a panel discussion from recent physical science graduates, industry representatives and educators.

Please could you indicate your interest in attending the meeting using the Doodle Poll below:

https://doodle.com/poll/s2izwfrk74wqymhm

We invite anyone would like to present their research at this event (15-20 min talk) to submit a short abstract (one A4 page) to us by Sunday, 08 December 2019 to craig.campbell@chem.ox.ac.uk

For any enquiries, applications and dietary requirements, please contact:
craig.campbell@chem.ox.ac.uk

Thanks to:

Dr Jenny Burnham

#RSCfunCHEM @DrLinneaSoler @UofGCHERPS
PROGRAMME

14:00  Welcome - Dr Linnea Soler & Dr Smita Odedra

14:05  Finding the Fun in Chemistry
Dr Linnea Soler & Dr Smita Odedra (University of Glasgow)

14:30  Academic Identity On-Screen
Dr Peter Henderson (University of Aberdeen)

15:00  The Art of Online Labs - An Approach to Teaching Laboratories Virtually
Dr Sweta Ladwa (University of Loughborough)

15:30  Getting Back to Earth (Materials) to Challenge and Engage
Dr Jane Essex (University of Strathclyde)

16:00  Social
• (optional) “fun” Chemistry-related quiz, courtesy of Dr Beth Paschke, School of Chemistry, UofG
• access to other games & activities and, most importantly,
• an opportunity to socialise and just “relax”.
YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

We have two Padlet boards you can add to:
Finding the Fun in Chemistry
Dr Linnea Soler & Dr Smita Odedra

Two areas where we have harnessed this concept of “finding the fun in chemistry”

1) To build student community

2) To create resources to support student learning
Using Fun to Build Student Learning Communities

Previous work: Chemistry in the Movies

Dodgeball: The Chemistry of Lycra & Hairgel

Elf on a Shelf
Harry Potter Scavenger Hunt

- Harry Potter Scavenger Hunt (Padlet)
Halloween Fun

- What We Do in the Shadows (Watch Party, Box of Broadcasts & Zoom)
- Halloween Costume Competition (Padlet)
- Spooky Quiz (Zoom)

What are ghosts in NMR spectroscopy?
1. A source of transverse relaxation
2. An artefact from quadrature detection
3. Transparent sample vessels
4. Invisible peaks in the spectrum
Safety quiz

- Watch Party (Box of Broadcasts & Zoom) & Discussion (Zoom)
Lockdown Launch:
Movie & Quiz Night

What is the only letter that doesn’t appear in the periodic table?
(I’m sure you all have one to hand but try not to cheat!!)

What is a common propellant in hairspray?

A - Isobutene
B - CFCs
C - CO2
D - Baked beans
Other Routes to Finding the Fun

Channeling the Fun (with MS TEAMS)
- Edible Chemistry (recipes)
- Movie Madness
- Pet Pics
- Halloween photos
- Gamers’R’Us Gaming Nights
  - Among Us
  - Scribbl.io
  - Spymaster

Capturing the Fun (Padlet)
- Zoom Transcription Fails
  - Chemistry Bad Lipreading

Gathering the Fun (Gathertown)
- Holding pen for students
- Poster & Social Session
- Games Night
- Meetings

The powerhouse behind so much of the fun...... The GIF
Finding the Fun:
Student co-creation of Teaching Resources

QUIZ
Question 5

*Which part of the meniscus should line up with the volume markings to obtain an accurate volume?*

The top  The middle  The bottom
The approach of these labs always make me laugh and I feel I actually learn more as a result since I’m much more engaged.

The layout was fun and the gifs were a good addition! i was having a bad day but this cheered me up

Very enjoyable and engaging, especially liked the use of gifs.
Finding the Fun in the Everyday
Impact of Fun - our students’ perspectives

These **social interactions** you have both organised throughout the year - the HP challenge, movie nights, games nights etc. on zoom have really been **appreciated** by so many on the course.

I'm not usually one for organised fun but this year they have really **kept me sane**.

It's an intense course and **coming together as a year group helps** us all a lot, but this year that was made so much harder.

You both made it a little less hard and I really appreciate it. It's really nice to know **somebody actually cares about our mental health** and understands this has been incredibly hard on us.

You two both deserve **medals**, I really mean that.