



Who Are We?

C1net is the new BBSRC NIBB dedicated to the development and scalable production of C1 gas fermentation for the whole IB community. C1net provides a cross-sector forum with the goals to foster and enhance collaboration between industry and academia; develop skills and expertise; share best practice; define common research priorities; and target funding opportunities in C1 gas fermentation. The management board is currently 12 strong, with Professor Nigel Minton (University of Nottingham) as PI and Professor Davis Fell (Oxford Brookes) as Col.



Progress

Membership currently stands at 206. We have recently widened our net to welcome members from Europe, India and the USA and we can now boast 151 followers on Twitter. Three POC awards of £50,000 have now been made.

C1net Partnering Event – Nottingham, 23-24 June 2015

Hosted by C1net, supported by Metals in Biology Network and facilitated by the KTN, this **FREE** two-day, partnering meeting will bring together academic and industrial partners to identify and address key challenges in the metabolism and enzymology of C1 organisms and commercially exploit them as platforms for chemical manufacture. The programme includes expert talks from world leaders, project generation and networking. This event precedes a call for Proof-of-Concept funds of £150K (3 x £50K) for “Projects to promote a better understanding of the Metabolism and Enzymology of C1 organisms”.

Confirmed expert speakers so far:

Josh Silverman (Calysta, USA), Rolf Thauer (Max Planck Institute), Volker Mueller (Goethe-Universität), Stephen Ragsdale (University of Michigan), Michelle Gradley (Biosyntha), Reuben Carr (Ingenza), Frank Sargent (University of Dundee) and Thomas Smith (Sheffield Hallam).

Application:

Attendance will be on successful application only.
<http://www.c1net.co.uk/Events-partnering-meeting-2.html>



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CALENDER (C1net Other)

IB Catalyst Round 3

Feasibility studies

Registration deadline: 13 May 2015

Application deadline: 20 May 2015

<https://interact.innovateuk.org/>

<http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/business/collaborative-research/tsb-competitions/ib-catalyst.aspx>

25-26 March 2015

ACI Gasification Conference, Prague, Czech Rep.

<http://www.wplgroup.com/aci/conferences/eu-ecq4.asp>

18-19 May 2015

International Biomanufacturing Conference, Sheffield

<http://www.sheffieldbiomanufacturing.org/index.php/news-events/event/advanced-biomanufacturing-conference/>

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5-9 July 2015

Synthetic and Systems Biology Summer School, Sicily, Italy

<http://www.taosciences.it/ssbss2015/>

15-17 July 2015

3rd International Workshop on Prokaryotic Genomics & Bioinformatics Göttingen, Germany [Flyer](#)

http://www.nzmq.de/en/index_en.php?sec=ws

27-29 October 2015

European Forum for Industrial Biotechnology, Brussels, Belgium www.efibforum.com

28-30 October 2015

BioMicroWorld, Barcelona, Spain <http://www.biomicroworld2015.org/>



The Hilton Hotel Nottingham

C1net – CHEMICALS FROM C1 GAS CONFERENCE 14 - 16 January 2015

The first C1net conference took place in the Hilton Hotel, Nottingham. The event was dovetailed with a preceding launch event for the BBSRC/ESPRC SynBio Centre held at the University of Nottingham, which gave all delegates the opportunity to visit research laboratories as well as attend talks from prestigious launch speakers.

Formally starting with an evening reception event, there followed 2 full days of talks and a poster session. The conference attracted 95 delegates, 25 of whom came from industry. Delegates were mainly from the UK, with 9 from Europe and 1 from the USA. A total of 25 talks were presented, 8 were invited; the rest were selected from abstracts. 3 PhD students gained oral presentation experience by giving a short “taster” talk as part of University of Nottingham “Special” led by post-doc Anne Henstra. A total of 17 academic posters were presented, along with a poster presenting the Outreach activities coordinated by SBRC Outreach Officer, Louise Dynes.

Delegates gave good feedback for the conference. They appreciated the high calibre of invited speakers, the mix of academia and industry, the PhD student presentations, and the ample opportunity to network. Many new relationships were forged which we are hopeful will initiate new collaborations.

**“One of the strengths was the mixture of academic and industrial talks. It was also very nice to leave time for some of the graduate students to present their work”
said Alex Toftgaard Nielson, Biosustain, Denmark**

OUTREACH



SCIENCE IN THE PARK – Wollaton Park, Nottingham, 21 March 2015

Thankfully a sunny day welcomed visitors to “Science in the Park” at Wollaton Park, on Saturday 21st March. This annual event, organised by Nottinghamshire British Science Association was free to enter and allowed the whole family to enjoy interactive activities and live demonstrations from all branches of Science. About 3000 attended the event, and at least 300 were engaged by the SBRC/C1net stand. C1net network manager Jacque Minton reported, “Younger children enjoyed making model bacteria from plasticine and went away with an “I ♥ Microbes” sticker, and the message that not all microbes are bad. Older children enjoyed using “Molymods” to turn simple carbon molecules into more complicated ones”

<http://nottsbsa.org/science-in-the-park-2015/>

Public Lecture, Nottingham – 19 March 2015

Members of the public were engaged and educated by C1net member and PhD student Florence Annan, when she explained “How to make Jet Fuel (and other useful things) from Greenhouse Gases”. Organised by the Science Outreach team at the University of Nottingham, Florence, supported by fellow PhD students Ronja Breitkopf and Pete Rowe attracted an audience of 65 students, staff and members of the general public.

**“We are using up waste to create something useful”
said Florence** (centre, left)



Nottingham University Academy of Science and Technology Open Evenings

C1net has now attended 4 open evenings at NUASt since November 2014. NUASt is a new type of academy offering a specialist curriculum at KS4 and KS5 for students with an interest in science, engineering or computing. The academy has various links with industry and both Nottingham Universities.

Prospective Year 10 and Year 11 students and their parents got to hear straight from the young scientist’s themselves about how and why they got into science. It provided a great opportunity to engage and educate both pupils and parents on research going on in the biofuels.

More details about the academy and what they offer can be found here: <http://www.nuast.org.uk/index.php>



CHAIN Biotech Ltd – Most Promising SME

At the recent Industrial Biotechnology Leadership Forum (IBLF) showcase, C1net member **CHAIN** Biotech won the IBLF's '**Most Promising SME**' category award. The IBLF, an industry led and Government sponsored initiative driving a bio-economy in the UK, organized its second IB Showcase, **11-12th February 2015** in London, focusing on innovative companies and new technologies.

CHAIN Biotech, an IB product development company based at Imperial College, offers a platform for production of high value renewable specialty & fine chemicals, organic acids, enzymes and secondary metabolites by applying cutting edge research expertise in synthetic biology and metabolic engineering to industrially relevant 'non-conventional' microbial hosts (chassis) including Clostridium, Bacillus and Methanotrophs. Targeting advanced materials, nutraceuticals, food additives, healthcare and pharmaceuticals.

"We were delighted to win this prize" said CEO and co-founder of CHAIN Biotech, Dr. Edward Green. "Coming from members of the IBLF is a fantastic endorsement to our start-up, its technology and business model". "We are actively seeking new project partners, so please get in touch to find out more".

www.chainbiotech.com



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@C1Net_NIBB



IB Catalyst Assessors Wanted

In order to ensure a robust peer review of the IB Catalyst applications the BBSRC are seeking to widen the pool of assessors **both academic and industrial**.

If you are interested in being an assessor for the IB Catalyst please send an email to ibcatalyst@bbsrc.ac.uk with your details and a brief description of your areas of expertise. At each round of the IB Catalyst the pool of assessors is contacted by Innovate UK to check availability so by signing up as an assessor this does not commit you to assessing each round. Innovate UK contract and pay assessors (£60/EOI, £100/ full stage application).