69th Irish Universities Chemistry Research Colloquium

The School of Chemical Sciences hosted the 69th Irish Universities Chemistry Research Colloquium on the 21st and 22nd June this year. This annual conference is run under the auspices of the Institute of Chemistry of Ireland, ICI, and brings together postgraduate researchers in chemistry from across the island of Ireland. The format of the meeting was changed from previous years in order to try to foster a stronger community spirit amongst our national chemistry postgraduate students.

There were over 180 registered delegates at this meeting and it was deemed a huge success. Exceptionally high quality presentations were given with representation from all around the country. There were 19 oral presentations and 11 flash presentations from postgraduate students, as well as 49 poster presentations. Exciting plenary sessions were given by Prof Nicholas Farrell (University of Virginia), Prof. Henry Curran (NUIG), Prof. Fiona Regan (DCU) and Prof. Patrick Guiry (UCD). These talks served to open up sessions related to bioinorganic chemistry, energy, organic chemistry and environmental and analytical science.

Prizes for oral presentations were awarded to Eolann Kitteringham, RCSI (Eli Lilly presentation award), Aoife Lucid, TCD (Eli Lilly runner-up presentation award), Mark Kelada, NUIM, (Eli Lilly flash presentation award) and Killian Stokes (UL) (Microscopy Society of Ireland award). Three poster prizes were sponsored by Evonik, in association with the European Young Chemist Network, EYCN, and these were awarded to Vuslat Buk (UCC), Aisling Dunne (DCU) and Daria Firsova (NUIG). Following a very interactive poster session, sponsored by BOC Gases, on the first evening, there was the *Biotage AB and Life Scientific BBQ* in a local watering hole (The Whitworth) to encourage the continuation of the great scientific conversations, and to unwind and socialise. Other sponsors included Fluorochem, Advion, Labquip and Merck Life Science.

Certainly a memorable Colloquium. Best of luck to Queens University who are hosting the 70th meeting in this series next year.

Images from the Prize Giving Ceremony:







