



Student Laboratory Skills at the Transition into HE Chemistry
Department of Chemistry, University of York, Wednesday July 14th.

This half-day meeting will focus on the challenges facing HE Chemistry departments as they aim to provide undergraduates with a cost-effective, high quality training in modern practical chemistry against the background of patchy secondary-level preparation for laboratory work, increased student numbers, and limited budgets.

- 12.30 pm** Arrival/buffet lunch
- 1.30 pm** Welcome/introduction
Dr Nigel Lowe, University of York
- 1.45 pm** "Teaching practical chemistry – challenges & opportunities"
Dr Nick Wood, University of York
- 2.30 pm** "Bridging the gap in laboratories and lectures"
Dr David Read, University of Southampton
- 3.15 pm** Tea/coffee
- 3.45 pm** "Bristol ChemLabS – redesigning the laboratory experience"
Dr Paul Wyatt, University of Bristol
- 4.30 pm** Closing discussion

Dr Nick Wood is Teaching Fellow and Chair of Practical Courses Committee at York where his duties include overseeing the evolution of practical course delivery, particularly changes brought about by full modularisation and increasing numbers of students with limited pre-university laboratory experience.

Dr David Read is a former RSC School Teacher Fellow and now member of staff in Chemistry at Southampton. His main focus has been on approaches to bridge the gap between the learning styles used at secondary and tertiary levels with initiatives applicable to laboratory and classroom.

Dr Paul Wyatt is an organic chemist at Bristol and current Director of Bristol ChemLabS. This project has introduced an entirely new package of practical teaching at Bristol making full use of new, IT-rich laboratories and a holistic VLE-based approach to supporting work before, during and after laboratory sessions.

This meeting is open to all free of charge. For purposes of catering etc., we ask that external visitors register with us in advance (preferably by Friday July 9th). Registration and further details are available from Nigel Lowe (nl6@york.ac.uk or 01904-434538).