

PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY KOLKATA



COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AND CHEMQUIZ-2024

- FRONTIERS IN CHEMISTRY: FUNDAMENTALS TO APPLICATION (FCFA-2023)
 - POST GRADUATE STUDENTS' SEMINAR COMPETITION
 - CONTEMPORARY IDEAS, INNOVATIONS & INITIATIVES IN CHEMICAL SCIENCES-2023 (CI3CS-2023)
 - CHEM CAREERS INDIA 2023
 - 10TH REUNION AND RAJARSHI BHATTACHARYA MEMORIAL LECTURE
 - 27TH ALL BENGAL CHEMIQUIZ AND SEMINARS 2024
-

ONE DAY NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON “FRONTIERS IN CHEMISTRY: FUNDAMENTALS TO APPLICATION (FCFA-2023)”



Department of Chemistry, Presidency University, Kolkata in association with the American Chemical Society organized a One day National Symposium on “Frontiers in Chemistry: Fundamentals to Application (FCFA-2023)” on March 28, 2023, as a part of 150 years celebration of Presi-Chemistry. The program started with an inaugural song and lighting up the lamp by honors of

guests and HOD, Department of Chemistry followed by a welcome address by Prof. Arnab Halder, President of FCFA – 2023. After the presidential address the guest of honors Prof. M.D. Gupta, Prof. P.K. Ganguly, Prof. S. Gosh, and Dr. S. Bhattacharyya (COE, PU) presented the 150 years of historical contribution to the society and legacy of the Department of Chemistry, Presidency University. The first technical session was chaired by Prof. Bijan Das, Department of Chemistry, PU. Prof. Sanjib Bagchi, Emeritus Professor of Chemistry, RKMVC College delivered a lecture “Spectroscopy: A chemical approach”. The second lecture of the technical session-1 delivered by Prof. Tapan Kanti Paine, School of Chemical Sciences, Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, Kolkata on the topic of “Establishing Physical Oxidation States in Metal Complexes of Ligands with Open-Shell Electron Configuration”. The second technical session was chaired by Dr. P. K. Ghosh, Department of Chemistry, PU. Prof. Saptarshi Mukherjee, Department of Chemistry, IISER Bhopal delivered a lecture entitled “Spectroscopy of Small Molecule Templated Luminescent Metal Nanoclusters” After that, the poster session was started and around 48 (including internal research scholars) posters were presented by several young teachers and research scholars of various teaching and research institutes like IISER, IIT, JNCAR, IEST, IACS, Calcutta University, etc.

POST GRADUATE STUDENTS' SEMINAR COMPETITION



The Department of Chemistry organized a Post graduate students' seminar competition on 29th March, 2023 with Centenary CUPG Teaching in Chemistry Celebration Committee. The programme further progressed with a brief introduction by Prof. Dulal Chandra Mukherjee, President of Centenary CUPG Teaching in Chemistry Celebration Committee. Inspiring speech was delivered at the inauguration of this Seminar competition by the honourable chief guest Prof. Tapas Chakraborty, Director of Indian Association for Cultivation of Science, Kolkata and Prof. Shankar Bose, the Dean of Science, Presidency University. Prof. Ashutosh Ghosh, secretary Centenary CUPG Teaching in Chemistry Celebration Committee finally ended the introductory session with valuable information and a few announcements. Around 90 participants were registered for this event which included M.Sc. students, research scholars and faculties of different colleges and Universities. A total of 14 students from the different colleges (delivered their talk on "Recent Development in Chemical Sciences" through a power point presentation of 10 minutes duration into a framework of two sessions. The oral presentation was adjudged by a panel of judges.

CONTEMPORARY IDEAS, INNOVATIONS & INITIATIVES IN CHEMICAL SCIENCES-2023 (CI3CS-2023).



The Department of Chemistry, Presidency University organized a two day P. C. Ray memorial International Conference on “Contemporary Ideas, Innovations & Initiatives in Chemical Sciences-2023 (CI3CS-2023)” on the occasion of 150 years of the Department of Chemistry, during August 23-24, 2023. In the inaugural session, Chief guest of honour, Prof. Tanushree Saha Dasgupta, Director,

S. N. Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences, lighted the lamp followed by few words about the Department and the University. Other dignitaries in the inaugural programme were Dr. Debajyoti Konar, Register PU, Prof. Debasis Das, Register CU, Prof. Sankar Bose, dean of Natural and Mathematical sciences, PU, Prof. Partha Ray, Ex-Professor, CU. On first day, the Plenary lecture was delivered by Professor Dwaipayana Chakrabarti, University of Birmingham, UK, (Title: “Programming Self-Assembly of Colloidal Photonic Crystals”). Professor Manas K. Ghorai, IIT Kanpur, (Title: “Asymmetric Synthesis of Biologically Significant Compounds via Memory of Chirality (MOC)/Chiral Pool (ROC/DROC)”), Professor Abhishek Dey, IACS, Kolkata (Title: “Selectivity in CO₂ Reduction”), Professor Suhrit Ghosh, IACS Kolkata, (Title: “Chain-folding Regulated Hierarchical Assembly of Amphiphilic Polymers and Functional Nanomaterials”) delivered three keynote lectures in Late Amita Ray and Suresh Prasanna Ray Memorial Session. The post-lunch session was initiated by P. C. Ray memorial lecture delivered Professor Jitendra K Bera, IIT Kanpur, (Title: “Cooperativity Driven Catalysis for Sustainable Processes and Products”). The next two special invited lectures delivered by Prof. Dibyendu Das, IISER Kolkata, (Title: “Adaptive Life Inspired Objects via Systems Chemistry”) and Prof. Indu Bhusan Deb, CSIR-IICB Kolkata, (Title: Electrosynthesis and Spiro-annulations: Direct Access to Functionalized N-Heterocycles). 84 posters were presented from various institutes across country. An industry session was arranged to enlighten the students about the career opportunities at the industry level. The representative from ‘ChemBioTech’ highlighted various facets of industrial applications in Chemistry. On the second day, the academic session began with Professor Kankan Bhattacharyya memorial lecture, delivered by Prof. Anunay Samanta, University of Hyderabad, (Title: “Charge Carrier Relaxation Dynamics in Perovskite Nanocrystals”). Then a key lecture was delivered by Professor Jyotirmayee Dash, IACS Kolkata, (Title: “Bioorthogonal Synthesis Using Nucleic Acid Templates”). In the next session, three keynote lectures were delivered by Professor Alakesh Bisai, IISER Kolkata, (Title: “Architecturally Complex Bioactive Natural Products as the Inspiration for the Development of New Strategy/Methodology”), Professor Anindya Datta, IIT Bombay ,

(Title: "Strategies and challenges in the design of brightly fluorescent Schiff base derivatives") and Professor Shantanu Mukherjee, IISc Bangalore, (Title: "Breaking Symmetry: Challenges & Opportunities"). In the post-lunch session two special invited lectures were delivered by Prof. Modhu Sudan Maji, IIT Kharagpur, (Title: "Functionalization of π -Excessive Nitrogen Heterocycles and their Application in the Total Synthesis of Alkaloids") and Dr. Anjan Banerjee, Presidency University (Title: "Low Cost Aqueous Na-Ion Batteries: Promising Alternative for Solar Energy Storage"). The program was further included invited lectures by ten young faculty members and oral presentations by nineteen research scholars/post-docs/young faculty members from various colleges, universities and institutes all over India. In the valedictory session, five oral presentation prizes and five poster presentation prizes were awarded to ten winners funded by ACS and RSC.

CHEMCAREERS INDIA 2023



The Royal Society of Chemistry and Department of Chemistry, Presidency University jointly organized a one day career opportunity program, "ChemCareers India 2023" on 22nd August, 2023, as a part of their initiatives to expose the young minds towards the wide range of career opportunities in chemical sciences and receive expert opinions on writing a resume, career mapping and interview techniques as well as seeking jobs effectively and planning their career. After a brief inaugural session, Dr. Kaustav Chakraborty, Laboratory of Advanced Polymer & Organic Chemistry, India has given a nice overview about the various aspects of chemistry in which industry job

openings are available. This followed by a panel discussion with three resource persons, Dr. Arun Ghosh, Lead Scientist, SABIC India, Dr. Swapan Ghosh, Director, Nova Surface Care Private Limited, India and Dr. Dipankar Chattopadhyay, Professor of Department of Polymer Science and Technology, University of Calcutta, India. In the first part of the post lunch session, Dr. Debasish Chakraborty, Visiting Professor at IIT BHU and IEST, has conducted a workshop involving five students to show different techniques the students must adopt while facing job interviews and group discussion. This is followed by an online session by Ms. Laura Woodward, Career and Professional Development Adviser RSC, United Kingdom, who has spoken about how to write a resume and also discuss about career mapping and interview techniques. The final session was also a panel discussion in which Dr. Mukut Chakraborty from WBSU, India and Dr. Tamal Raha, IBPS, India interacted with the students to clarify their doubts in pursuing careers in industry and academia. 165 students from 15 colleges and universities nearby Kolkata actively participated in this program to make this event a grand success. The participants have engaged in engrossing discussion with resource persons

10TH REUNION AND RAJARSHI BHATTACHARYA MEMORIAL LECTURE



On 1st April, 2023 the day of the much-awaited 10th Reunion started with the lighting of the lamp in front of Derozio Hall by Professors and Alumnus of the department. The programme started with an onstage inaugural performance. After the lunch, Department of Chemistry organized Rajarshi Bhattacharya memorial lecture with the help of endowment fund given by his parents on 1st April, 2023. Professor Uday Maitra (alumni of the department, Professor, IISc Bangalore) delivered the first lecture of the series (will be conducted once in a year). Professor Chanda Mukherjee (alumni of the department, Professor, Rajabazar Science College) chaired the session. Then, the Grand Photo session witness the presence of more than 150 students, professors and alumnus on Presi green. The reminiscence part of the program continued for more than one hour where all our alumnus shared memories related to the department and the prestigious University (then college before 2011). Cultural programme had the participation of professors, non-teaching staffs along with the students of the Department. Dance performance, drama had entertained the crowd for the rest of that evening. The day had ended with a Grand Dinner. The department witnessed the presence of about 111 alumni from different regions of India and world throughout the day.

27TH ALL BENGAL CHEMIQUIZ, SEMINAR AND RAJARSHI BHATTACHARYA MEMORIAL LECTURE 2024



The Department of Chemistry of Presidency University proudly promulgates its legacy in the field of organizing seminars and quizzes as a part of its outreach programs. On 20th March a seminar was organized where Prof. Souvik Chattopadhyay and Dr. Arunabha Thakur delivered their lectures. The first session was

chaired by Dr. Biplab Biswas and Prof. Souvik Chattopadhyay (JU) delivered a lecture on "Presenting Chemistry to the New Generation". The second session was chaired by Dr. Dhruva Prosad Chatterjee where Dr. Arunabha Thakur (JU) presented his talk on "Dithienylethene based photochromic organic materials: Applications in security technology and controlled singlet oxygen generation". In the Afternoon, Rajarshi Bhattacharya memorial lecture was organized, which is held every year to commemorate the brilliant alumnus of this department, Mr. Rajarshi Bhattacharya. This technical session was chaired by Prof. Bijan Das and Prof Ankan Pal from IACS, Kolkata delivered a lecture on "A Perplexing Debate on Chemical Bonding of C₂: Revelations, Realizations and Other curious Findings". After this thought provoking lecture, the day ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. Dibyendu Mallick. On 21st March, 27th All Bengal Chemiquiz was organized by the undergraduate students of the department. This year, 23 colleges had sent their teams to Chemiquiz out of which, 6 teams were selected for participation in the final round, after prelims. The final round had begun with lighting of a lamp and inaugural address by Prof. Arnab Halder, HOD, Chemistry. The 3rd issue of the annual wall magazine of the Chemistry department, "PROBE" was also issued on that day. After the nail biting final round, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous) , Kolkata emerged as the winner followed by Serampore college (1st Runners up) and Ramakrishna Mission Vidyamandira, Belur (2nd Runners up).