Chemistry

TS
SR

Letter from the Editor

The multidisciplinary nature of Chemistry is something that is frequently commented on - encompassing all areas from medicinal chemistry, to environmental, nanoscience, biochemistry and much more. The second publication of the TSSR encompasses this perfectly, as well as showcasing the incredible scientific knowledge, ability, and creativity of Trinity students. The relevance of Chemistry in the lives of all, especially that of future generations, is undeniable. However one thing that always struck my interest in the TSSR publication, and is reflected again this year, is the contemporary nature of the research. Our goal as a review journal is to provide a picture of how Chemistry is evolving in the present day and to ignite students' passion for the possibilities of tomorrow.

The search for new drugs and drug delivery systems is naturally always one of high relevance and profile. With the potential of 4-aminoquinolines in the ongoing quest to combat malaria - a problem that affects 3.2 billion people in the world today - along with the emerging possibility of cell-SELEX procedures and aptamers for cancer cell treatment (as recent as 2015), it is clear that the way forward in treating human disease is through multidisciplinary, collaboratory and, most of all, creative research into all the facets that Chemistry encompasses. Moving from personal to collective issues, climate change is set to be one of the greatest challenges yet to face our generation and the generations to come. Environmental chemistry could provide an effective method to combat rising CO_2 emissions - one of the recent routes discovered through metal organic frameworks. It is inspiring to see the intense focus of Trinity students not only on their scientific discipline and knowledge, but in applying this knowledge and creativity to tackle real world situations and problems facing us all. Possibly one of the papers that epitomised most the direct interconnection of humans and Chemistry is that which discussed us - the very origins of life on this planet, and the building blocks of who we are today.

I have no doubt, with this focus and drive, that our generation will go far in finding solutions to these problems and more, and the TSSR provides an important outlet to build the skills of these scientists of the future. However, it could not go ahead without the help of some very important people that I would like to extend a sincere thanks to. Firstly Dr. Mike Southern, without whom none of this could have gone ahead, always available and generous with his time, feedback, and support of the TSSR. Secondly, all of the staff in the Chemistry department who gave up their time and effort to editing - Prof. Isabel Rozas, Dr. Wolfgang Schmitt and Dr. Rachel Evans - the students and publication are really appreciative of your input.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the students who submitted pieces and put in their own time and effort to investigate beyond their coursework. Whether successful or not, it is an exercise that showcases scientific passion and insight, and one that encompasses what science is all about - curiosity and knowledge. All submissions were of an incredible quality and I have no doubt that everyone who submitted will have fruitful scientific careers ahead of them. I leave you now in the capable hands of Chemistry's recent advances and some extremely talented Trinity undergraduate authors.

Kate Reidy
Chemistry Editor
Trinity Student Scientific Review 2016