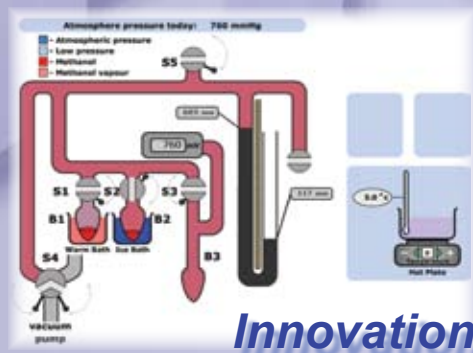


Educational innovation forms an exciting part of the Bristol ChemLabS project. The development and introduction of an entirely new integrated practical course will allow students to explore a much wider range of practical chemistry than was previously possible. An increased emphasis on pre-laboratory work and in-lab assessments will also help to ensure that students get the most out of their time in the laboratory.



Recent advances in information technology and e-learning offer new opportunities that can greatly enhance the students' experience of practical work and promote better understanding. The traditional paper-based manual that accompanied previous laboratory courses will be replaced by a new, on-line interactive laboratory manual. This Dynamic Laboratory Manual will include background material, video clips of practical techniques and virtual instruments that will allow students to practice and gain confidence in using advanced equipment before they enter the laboratory.

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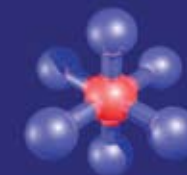


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BRISTOL ChemLabS

A CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AND LEARNING





Overview

Bristol ChemLabS is the UK's only Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, CETL, that is devoted solely to Chemistry. The creation of the Centre for Excellence by the Higher Education Funding Council for England, HEFCE, is intended to reward the already excellent teaching within the School of Chemistry at the University of Bristol, allowing it to increase its impact across the wider teaching and learning community. The project, which is scheduled to run from 2005 to 2010, is supported by a grant of almost £6 million from HEFCE, together with significant additional investment from the University of Bristol.

Bristol ChemLabS will set a new standard for the teaching of experimental science. Our aim is to revolutionise the way students of all ages and all levels of experience study practical chemistry, giving them access to the best laboratory facilities and educational resources possible.

The benefits of the project will extend far beyond just the School of Chemistry at Bristol, with stakeholders and partners in all areas of education, industry and the wider community. The success of the project will ensure that the study of chemistry continues to evolve as an exciting and stimulating discipline, central to the quality of modern life.



Teaching Laboratories

Central to the Bristol ChemLabS project is the creation of state-of-the-art teaching laboratories, equipped to the highest standards.

The laboratories will have space for 200 students with ample fume cupboard provisions and computer work stations at each bench. Considerable investment in up-to-date instrumentation and equipment will ensure that students gain first-hand experience of the sort of facilities they would encounter in a professional research laboratory and allow them to develop a wide range of practical skills across all areas of chemistry.

The facilities will be available for use by both undergraduate students and by participants in some of our many outreach activities.



Outreach

Bristol ChemLabS has already developed an impressive reputation for its work in promoting chemistry throughout the community. Our ever expanding programme of activities includes lectures, workshops, demonstrations and summer schools for both primary and secondary school students as well as continuing professional development courses for teachers and industrialists.

We have established a growing network of partner school and college contacts that now extends far beyond the South West of England and are collaborating with other institutions and professional bodies both nationally and internationally to maximise the impact of our activities.

The events are coordinated by the Bristol ChemLabS School Teacher Fellow and are supported by staff, postgraduate students and undergraduate students from across the School of Chemistry.