**BLCS ANNUAL TRAINING WORKSHOP 2020**

**University of Birmingham**

**Final Programme**

Please note that the venue for the lectures is Murray Learning Centre (room UG 05). Lunch will be served in the atrium of the Collaborative Teaching Laboratory (CTL). The practical training sessions will be held in the CTL.

**Wednesday 8th January 2020**

12:00 – 13:15 Registration & Lunch (CTL Atrium)

13:15 – 13:30 *Welcome Note*

Dr Dwaipayan Chakrabarti, University of Birmingham

13:30 – 14:30 *An* *Introduction to Liquid Crystals*

Dr Stephen Cowling, University of York

14:30 – 15:30 *Variational Approaches to Nematic Liquid Crystals and their Applications*

Prof. Apala Majumdar, University of Strathclyde

15.30 to 16.00 Tea/Coffee and Networking

16.00 – 17:00 *Computer Simulations of Liquid Crystals*

Prof. Mark R. Wilson, Durham University

17:00 – 18.00 *Synthesis of Liquid Crystals &* *Liquid Crystal Polymers*

Prof. Georg Mehl, University of Hull

18:30 – 19.30 Dinner (Michael Tippet Room, Staff House)

19.30 – 20.30 Poster Session (Adrian Boult Room, Staff House)

**Thursday 9th January 2020**

09.00 – 10.00 *Physical Properties of Nematic Liquid Crystals*

Prof. Cliff Jones, University of Leeds

10.00 – 11:00 *Polarised Optical Microscopy*

Dr Stephen Cowling, University of York

11:00 – 11.30 Tea/Coffee and Networking

11.30 – 12.30 *Liquid Crystal Devices*

Prof. Cliff Jones, University of Leeds

12.30 – 13:30 Lunch (CTL Atrium)

13:30 – 15:00 Practical Session I (CTL)

15:00 – 15.30 Tea/Coffee and Networking

15:30 – 17:00 Practical Session II (CTL)

18:30 – 19.30 Dinner (Michael Tippet Room, Staff House)

19.30 – 20:15 Entrepreneurship Lecture (Michael Tippet Room, Staff House)

*Spinning Discs: Tales of the Unexpected*

Prof. Jon Preece, University of Birmingham

**Friday 10th January 2020**

09:00 – 10:00 *Active Nematics*

Prof. Julia Yeomans, University of Oxford

10:00 – 11:00 *Applied Modelling of Liquid Crystals*

Prof. Nigel Mottram, University of Strathclyde

11:00 – 11.30 Tea/Coffee and Networking

11:30 – 12:30 *Soft Matter: United by Liquid Crystals*

Dr Dwaipayan Chakrabarti, University of Birmingham

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch (CTL Atrium)

13:30 – 16:00 *Mini-Symposium*: **Liquid-Crystal Research in the 2020s**

13:30 – 14:00 *Lyotropic Liquid Crystals - Soft Soap and a Piece of Cake*

Prof. Gordon Tiddy, University of Manchester

14:00 – 14:30 *New Applications of Liquid Crystals*

Dr Benjamin Snow, Merck Chemicals Ltd.

14:30 – 15:00 Tea/Coffee and Networking

15:00 – 15:30 *Display Technology Trends and the Challenge of Low Power*

Dr Guy Bryan-Brown, New Vision Display

15:30 – 16:00 *Making 50 the new 30 with LC lenses*

Dr James Bailey, Dynamic Vision Systems

16:00 – 16:15 *Closing Remarks*

Prof. Jon Preece, University of Birmingham