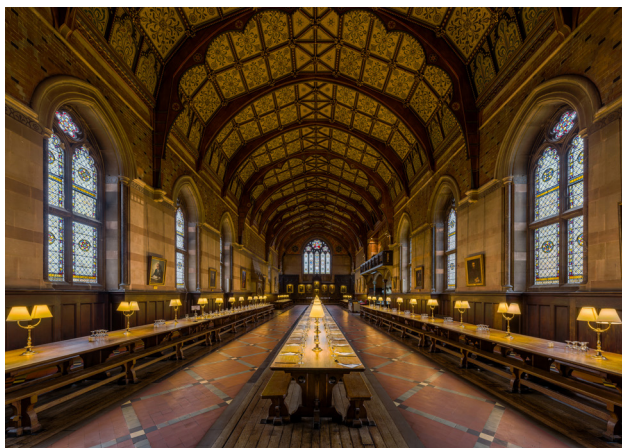


The 50th Jubilee Annual International Meeting of the RSC ESR Group was held in April 2017 at the Keble College of the University of Oxford. The conference has set two records in the history of the Group: by the total attendance (over 170 people from 16 countries) and the total sponsor participation (19 companies and institutions).



Since 1986, Bruker Corporation has generously sponsored an annual lectureship and prize, given to a scientist who has made a major contribution to the application of ESR spectroscopy in chemical or biological systems.



After thorough deliberation and consultation within the academic and industrial ESR community, the ESR Group of the Royal Society of Chemistry informed Bruker that the outstanding scientist whose seminal contributions the Group would like to recognise is, in fact, currently working at Bruker – we were very pleased to award the 2017 Bruker Prize Lecture to **Dr Peter Höfer**, the inventor of 2D HY-

SCORE spectroscopy who has also made major contributions to the development of pulsed ENDOR techniques.



The other annual EPR prize sponsored by Bruker is the Thesis Prize, set up to recognise outstanding work by PhD students in the field of ESR Spectroscopy. The Committee received seven applications from the students who had submitted their thesis in the previous two years. By reading the summaries and the support letters from supervisors and examiners, the Committee narrowed the field down to three submissions and then went through the considerable job of reading each thesis in depth. It was abundantly clear that the extraordinary scientific work by **Dr Andrin Doll** of ETH Zurich, supervised by Professor Gunnar Jeschke, was the winner.



In the long history of the RSC ESR Group, one of the best predictors of an excellent scientific career is the JEOL medal: many past winners are currently holding faculty posts at universities across the world. All student abstracts were considered for the short-list, the authors of the best five were invited to give a talk. It was very clear to the committee that the masterpiece of microwave engineering presented by



Jason Sidabras, of the Max Planck Institute in Mülheim, was the winner. A representative of the JEOL Corporation presented the medal during the drinks reception, also sponsored by JEOL and much appreciated by the attending students.

This year there were 77 posters. As per the long-running tradition, the International EPR Society presented two poster prizes during the Conference Dinner: **Claudia Tait** was recognised for her work on ENDOR with band-selective shaped inversion pulses, and **Maria Giulia Dal Farra** was awarded the other prize for her poster on light-induced porphyrin-based spectroscopic ruler for nanometre distance measurements.

Plenary lectures were presented by Stefan Stoll (*"New Insights from AWG-based Pulse EPR"*), Andreas Heinrich (*"Electron Spin Resonance of single atoms on a surface"*), Olav Schiemann (*"EPR-based distance measurements to metal ions in vitro and within cells"*), and Eric McInnes (*"Pulsed EPR Studies of Actinides"*).



Monday morning was a particular highlight, with a very insightful talk from Stefan Stoll about pulse coherence effects in DEER spectroscopy and a

stunning wavelet-based data de-noising method described by Jack Freed – because wavelets are a natural basis for many types of ESR signals, the improvements were impressive indeed.

The principal organisers were Prof Arzhang Ardevan (Oxford Physics) and Prof Christiane Timmel (Oxford Chemistry). Throughout the organisation and the smooth running of the conference, able assistance was provided by Dr William Myers, Dr Sabine Richert, Dr Alice Bowen, and numerous other members of the Oxford ESR community. The location was splendid, the food delicious, the program interesting and intense, and the organ recital in the College Chapel by Matthew Golesworthy – a member of Professor Timmel's research group – very memorable.

Committee

Graham Smith has retired from the Chair position after the statutory three years at the helm and received a warm laudation during the dinner speech by Eric McInnes, the current Chair. Dima Svislunenko, the organiser of the excellent Colchester conference in 2016, has also rotated off. David Norman, a very experienced past ESR Group officer, was persuaded by the Committee into first weighing the possibility of succeeding Fraser MacMillan as Treasurer in 2018, then into considering it in principle, and finally into accepting the very demanding and paper-intensive job.

Next conference

Maxie Roessler and Enrico Salvatori are organising the next conference at Queen Mary University of London between 8th and 12th April 2018. Travel bursaries will be available to RSC student members, as well as discounts for IES student members - see the conference web site for further details.

INTERNATIONAL ESR SOCIETY (IES)

Further information on the IES, as well as the list of the upcoming meetings, can be found on the Society web site (<http://www.ieprs.org>). IES newsletters are at <http://www.epr-newsletter.ethz.ch>

IES Awards Schedule 2017-2021

2017 - Gold + Instrumentation + IES Young Investigator + Fellowship

2018 - Biology/Medicine + Chemistry + JW Young Investigator + Fellowship

2019 - Physics/Materials + IES Young Investigator + Fellowship

2020 - Gold + Instrumentation + IES Young Investigator + Fellowship

2021 - Biology/Medicine + Chemistry + JW Young Investigator + Fellowship

ESR GROUP COMMITTEE

Chairman	Prof	Eric	McInnes	University of Manchester	2016-19
Secretary	Prof	Ilya	Kuprov	University of Southampton	2016-21
Treasurer	Dr	Fraser	MacMillan	University of East Anglia	2014-18
Deputy Treasurer	Dr	David	Norman	University of Dundee	2017-18
International Rep	Prof	Gunnar	Jeschke	ETH Zürich	2015-18
Web Master	Dr	Chris	Wedge	University of Huddersfield	2016-18
Industry Rep	Dr	Andrew	Gibbs	Bruker UK Limited	2015-18
Committee Member	Dr	Emma	Richards	University of Cardiff	2015-18
Committee Member	Dr	Alice	Bowen	University of Oxford	2016-19
Committee Member	Dr	Bela	Bode	University of St Andrews	2016-19
2017 Conference	Prof	Christiane	Timmel	University of Oxford	2016-18
2017 Conference	Prof	Arzhang	Ardavan	University of Oxford	2016-18
2018 Conference	Dr	Maxie	Roessler	Queen Mary Uni of London	2017-19

51st Annual International Meeting of the RSC ESR Group

**51st Annual
International Meeting**
ESR Spectroscopy Group
of the
Royal Society of Chemistry



London, 8-12 April 2017 - <http://www.esr-group.org>