

## PROGRAMME

**9.00 – 9.45** Registration Eureka Centre, Kane Building, UCC.  
Tea/coffee

**9.45 – 10.00** Welcome and Official Opening  
Professor Paul Ross, Head of College of Science,  
Engineering and Food Science. UCC.

**10.00 – 10.45** Teaching Atomic Structure in the Leaving Certificate  
Chemistry Syllabus.

- Dr Fiona Desmond, State Examinations Commission.  
In this talk Fiona will consider various approaches to teaching  
the Atomic Structure of the Leaving Certificate Chemistry syllabus  
and will give an overview of the role that this section of the  
syllabus plays in the overall syllabus.

**10.45– 11.15** Tea / Coffee

**11.15 – 12.00** A tour of Whitegate Oil Refinery.

- Michael King, Commercial Manager, Phillips66 Ireland.  
In this talk Michael will bring us on a tour of Whitegate Oil  
Refinery by means of a Powerpoint presentation showing the  
various areas of the refinery that are relevant to the Leaving  
Certificate Chemistry syllabus and explaining what happens at  
each stage of the process. A CD containing a copy of the  
Powerpoint presentation will be given to every teacher in the  
audience!

**12.00 – 12.45** Teaching Instrumentation in the Leaving  
Certificate Chemistry Syllabus

Dr Mila Pravda, Department of Chemistry, UCC.  
In this talk Mila will discuss the key principles of Gas Chromatography  
(GC), High- Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC), Infra-Red  
Spectrometry (IR) and Ultraviolet Spectrometry (UV) as applicable to the  
Leaving Certificate Chemistry syllabus. He will also introduce four videos  
which have recently been specifically produced on the above topics to  
help teachers of Leaving Certificate chemistry bring these techniques to  
life in the classroom.

**12.45 – 2.30** Lunch and Workshops

*During lunch participants are invited to participate in a number of activities as follows:*

- Launching of videos on Instrumentation

- Mr Conor Walker, Folens.

Attend the launching of the new videos that have been specifically  
made for the Leaving Certificate Chemistry syllabus and obtain a free  
DVD of these videos sponsored by Folens.

- Key practical skills developed by the Mandatory Experiments  
on the Leaving Certificate Chemistry syllabus

- Dr Declan Kennedy UCC and team.,

A wide range of the Mandatory Experiments experiments will be set up to enable  
teachers to discuss the key practical skills that could be assessed if assessment of  
practical work is introduced at Leaving Certificate level. In addition, some  
demonstration experiments relevant to the syllabus will be on display as well as  
apparatus such as the bomb calorimeter.

- Visit to Liquid Nitrogen plant.

- Dr Donnacha O'Connell, Department of Chemistry, UCC.

Enhance your understanding of the liquefaction of air in the Atmospheric Chemistry  
section of the Leaving Certificate chemistry syllabus by visiting the liquid nitrogen plant in UCC.

- Spectroscopy in a Suitcase.

- Dr Trevor Carey, Department of Chemistry, UCC

Learn about this free resource available from the Royal Society of Chemistry, see it in action and  
discuss how to organise a visit to your Leaving Cert Chemistry students by an RSC representative.

**2.30– 3.15**

**Ideas and Experiments for teaching Thermochemistry**

- Dr Marc Stuckey, IGS Wilhelmshaven Secondary School, Germany.

In this talk Marc will discuss various approaches to teaching topics on the Leaving Certificate  
Thermochemistry section of the syllabus and will suggest some interesting experiments to help  
students understand various concepts.

**3.15 – 4.00**

**Marking of the 2015 Leaving Certificate Higher Level  
Chemistry Examination – The Chief Examiner's Observations**

Dr Fiona Desmond, State Examinations Commission, Athlone.

In this talk Fiona will give an overview of student performance in various areas of the Leaving  
Certificate syllabus. She will review the types of questions to which students have responded  
well over the years, the question types which students found more challenging and describe  
other recent trends as reflected in the 2015 Leaving Certificate Chemistry paper.

**3.15 – 4.00**

**Open Forum. Close of conference.**

Tea/coffee

