

News of The Group (2014) noted by Elena

Everything goes and everything stays, but our fate is to pass making a path as we go....



We started a new year with hope, because although our application for the new financed project was submitted by the end of 2013, we had to wait several months to know about our immediate future. I particularly decided to run the laboratory with the same motivation despite the limited economical resources and I thank all the team for the positive attitude and unconditional work.

February

Two new members of the team started to work full time for their master projects. Nuria and Marc have demonstrated to be extremely enthusiastic and chemistry in their hands resulted a beautiful surprise, every day! I am indebted to you for your systematic work and "catalytic tables".



March



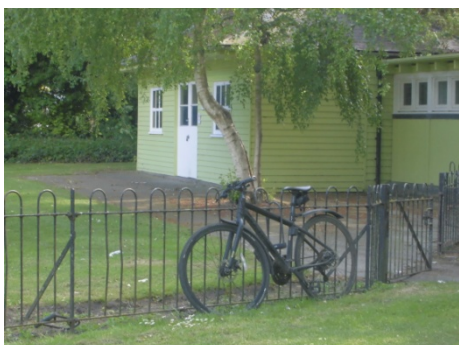
The main goals with our industrial partners were successfully accomplished by Dr. Ana's tenacity. Her talent on applied chemistry opened our eyes towards new routes and possibilities. Everybody took advantage of her experience and friendly nature, being her generosity, to help everybody in the bench, the most remarkable fact. No doubts... she came to our lab as a light of spring!!

April



It was an honour to be said that the Spanish Royal Society of Chemistry, through the Expert Group in Organometallic Chemistry, thought on me to provide the award of excellence on research. As I said before my daily motivation is to arrive at work and take full advantage of every working day, assessing all the results that go towards training a future doctor and allowing myself to be impressed by the unusual: "What you learn from working every day in the field of chemistry and from the people you work with is what makes it so fascinating".

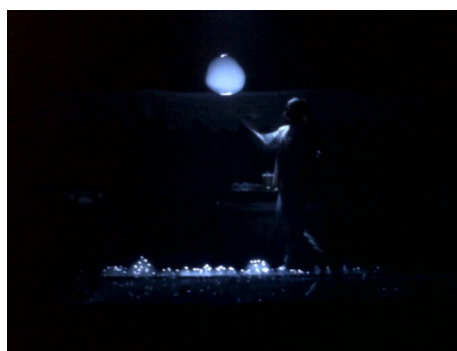
May



A concise visit to Cambridge enabled to establish new collaborations with experts on boron chemistry around Europe but also allowed to focus on common objectives with Johnson Matthew, on asymmetric induction in our current work.

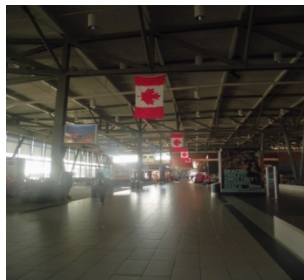
June

By the end of June and during the VII International School on Organometallic Chemistry in Barcelona, the group knew that we got the project financing for the next 3 years. That was a relief because it came as a bubble of oxygen to all of us!



July

The ISHC XIX meeting in Ottawa opened its doors to all the homogeneous catalytic chemists around the world. I will always thank the organisers the invitation and particularly the excellent organisation. The possibility to discuss about the ultimate achievements in a friendly atmosphere is always desirable but in that occasion was more than real, since it was efficient and useful.



On my return, the Master-Project defence of Marc and Nuria was excellent and we had an occasion to celebrate it canoeing at the Siurana lake in Tarragona.

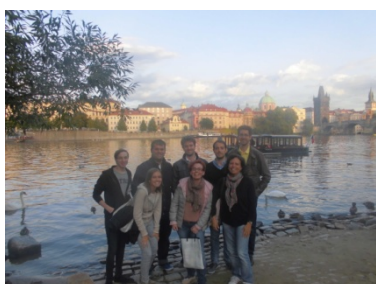
We had also a joint group meeting with Andy Whiting's group from Durham to find the common features and combine synthetic strategies from our collaborative projects.



August

I made another step to the Jacobean Way as one pilgrim more. Every single footprint added to me spiritual value as well as admiration to the inhabitants of the places through which the Jacobean Way passes.

By the end of August the whole group joined the Imeboron XV meeting in Prague. Excellent opportunity to discuss chemistry with the Japanese experts who attended the meeting. Congratulations Dr. Bonet for the Young Boron Chemist Prize!

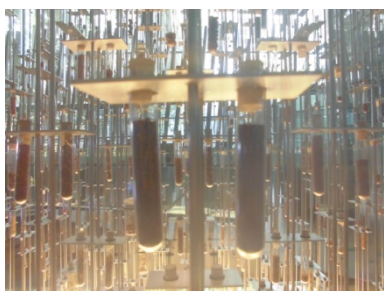


September

We worked hard on the preparation for the GEQO XXXII meeting as organizers. Busy time but every effort was worthy to guarantee a scientific meeting of high level and a comfortable stay to all the participants who came from 9 different countries. My deepest thanks to the whole group involved in this important event.



October



The Master in Synthesis, Catalysis and Molecular Design started a new academic course. Enrico completed his first doctorate year and moved to UK for the second year at Durham University, good luck! In the meanwhile Alba initiated a stay in our laboratories to complement her research studies, welcome!

November

It was my big pleasure to celebrate the National Prize with my two mentors: Prof. Sergio Castillón (PhD supervisor) and Prof. John M. Brown (postdoc supervisor at Oxford). My passion for chemistry is due to their inputs, rigor and good manners. Thank you for your legacy on my past, present and future way of thinking on chemistry...



December

We have enjoyed the visit of Dr. Webster L. Santos from Virginia-Tech (USA) to our group. We were delighted by his chemistry and common points of view.

The year is finishing and my impression is that... it can be seen the light at the end of the tunnel. THANKS to the group for the efforts and progress.

