

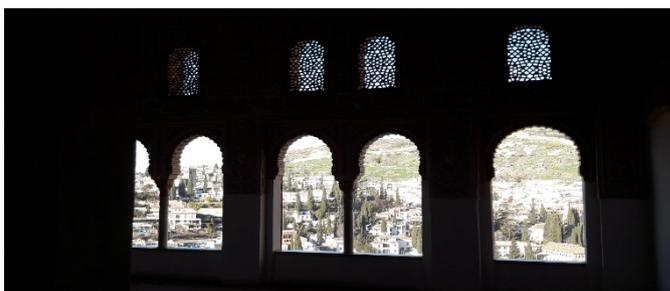
News of The Group (2018) noted by Elena.



The simple observation of my lemon tree along the year which ends up with excellent fruits by January, encourage me to do my best at the start of each natural year to assist the researches of the group and look for promising fruits.

They have all the knowledge and talent as the lemon tree has the power to produce leaves and fruits, so my job is only observe them and add some motivation/energy to get the greatest fruits, as the water and sun do.

Privileged enough I was invited to deliver a talk on our catalytic boron chemistry tools at the Granada Symposium in January and I found there interesting interdisciplinary lectures that inspired me for fruitful applications as new windows!. The Granada tree appeared impressive providing valuable fruits as well.



One of those excellent fruits in our group was Nuria Miralles who defended the thesis in February under the title: "catalytic access to (poly)borylated compounds by coupling unsaturated substrates and diboron or methylidiboron reagents" She became a Doctor with CUM LAUDE merits!!

Congratulations and thanks for the great job in the group. We joined Augusto emperor for celebration under the best gastronomic lunch in Tarragona.





The group celebrated the Ricardo's birthday with a gastronomic group meeting although Malaga wine was not allowed this time..... Nice to see how people progress and contribute to the nice atmosphere in the group balancing experimental and theoretical calculations.



Ricardo and Elliot faced the monoborylation and triborylation on 1,3-dienes respectively without any transition-metal complex as catalyst. Challenging issues but they like the non-standard protocols even when they chose to seat in a non-traditional chair.

We all attended the Girona Seminar and chemistry was really amazing as well as social life. Dr. Riccardo Gava was again the tallest in the group even in the selfie. Did you like the fuet?





I was invited to give a talk in Amsterdam about our recent ring opening and ring closing borylations procedures, at the International Symposium of Homogeneous Catalysis. Curiously, in 1993 I went to my first international Symposium during my PhD and it was the same ISHC and the same city, what a coincidence!



Sadly enough we had to say good bye to Elliot and Jana as they continued their research projects in Edinburgh and Bilbao, respectively. They showed to be very talented people that made the best of themselves every single day. No matter the difficulties or the obstacles, they maintained the motivation and the strength that characterise a good researcher.

Jana defended the Master Thesis with excellent marks, and as a consequence his work, in collaboration with the organic team in Bilbao (Txelu Vicario and Lorena García) as well as Jordi Carbó looking for the insights in the mechanism, was very well received by the international community and published in *Chemistry: a European Journal*, 2018, 24, 14059, under the title: "Transition-metal-free stereoselective borylation of allenamides"

Congratulations Elliot for your work that allowed to get the maximum qualifications in Edinburgh as Research Thesis, but also because it was elegantly published as "Transition-metal-free synthesis of vicinal triborated compounds and selective functionalisation of the internal C-B bond" in *Chemical Communications*, 2018, 54, 10104.

WE MISS YOU BOTH!



Summer time arrived on time to get lost in the nature and completing steps in the Jacobeo walk..... the group also made a deserved break!!!



But September arrived with more inputs and Jordi Royes returned from his year off at Janssen in order to complete his Thesis. In parallel Nuria found a job and move to initiate a professional life as a super doctor!

We were delighted to have Oriol Salvado initiating his Master thesis in the group. He is a brave student and works with passion. It seems that he and the Boron atom will be very good friends in the near future!

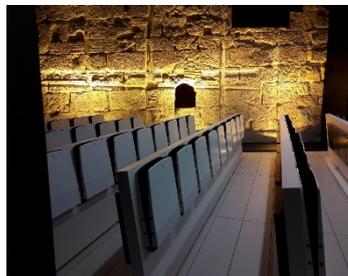
Good luck with the elusive C-B bond!



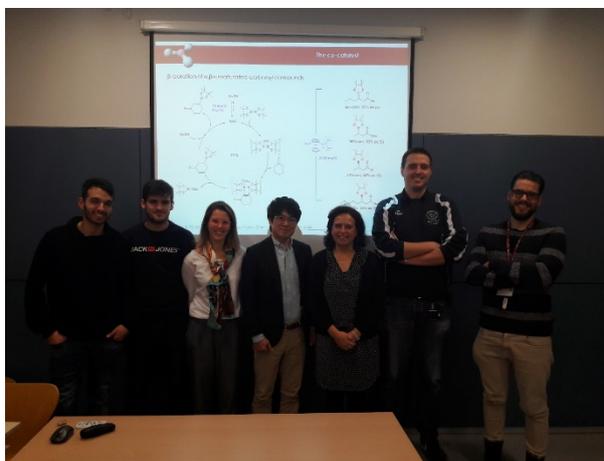
I was invited to attend the ACS Forum at Heidelberg, with a lot of interest from my part. Lovely experience.



Some of us attended the TripCat and the Symposium in Honour of Prof. Ernesto Carmona in Sevilla. The last one represented the deserved tribute to a great chemist and a super great person.



In December Prof. Sawamura from Hokkaido University in Japan, visit us. It was an honour to be his host and we became delighted for his proximity with each the member of the group discussing chemistry and sharing Mediterranean food.





Every moment I shared with my group along this year, making new chemistry, involved passion, respect and love from my part.

Thanks to all of you for being incredible researchers and persons.

