

## [British Liquid Crystal Society Annual Training Workshops](#)

We are pleased to announce that a series of [British Liquid Crystal Society](#) (BLCS) Annual Training Workshops will be organised at the University of Birmingham, being funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) of the UK. The workshops are intended to provide education and training for the next generation of researchers in the highly interdisciplinary area of liquid-crystal research, highlighting its recent advances in the wider context of soft and biological matter.

The BLCS Winter Workshop was initiated more than 25 years ago and has been held successfully at the University of Hull since 1994 under the leadership of Dr Mike Hird. This long-running series of workshops is being reinvigorated with the inclusion of a mini-symposium “Liquid-Crystal Research in the 2020s”, which will discuss emerging questions and open problems in liquid-crystals research and at its interfaces.

The [next workshop](#) in this series will be held at the University of Birmingham from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2020. The three-day event will start at noon on the 8<sup>th</sup> and finish in the late afternoon of the 10<sup>th</sup>, and will include lectures, practical training sessions and the mini-symposium. The workshop is intended for early-stage researchers (primarily PhD students, but also post-doctoral research associates and researchers in industry, who are relatively new to the field of liquid-crystal research, irrespective of their academic disciplines) and can offer limited number of places.

Confirmed speakers include:

1. [Dr Dwaipayan Chakrabarti](#)
2. [Dr Stephen Cowling](#)
3. [Prof. Cliff Jones](#)
4. [Prof. Apala Majumdar](#)
5. [Prof. Georg Mehl](#)
6. [Prof. Nigel Mottram](#)
7. [Prof. Jon Preece](#)
8. [Prof. Mark R. Wilson](#)
9. [Prof. Julia Yeomans](#)

Expressions of interest in the prescribed format (see the next page) are currently invited for attending the BLCS Annual Training Workshop to be held in January 2020. Please email your expression of interest to [blcs-atw@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:blcs-atw@contacts.bham.ac.uk) by **November 22, 2019** to meet the extended deadline. Accepted participants will be notified in due course.

There are no registration fees for accepted participants. EPSRC funded researchers will be given priority and those funded by the Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP) and the Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT) grants are anticipated to have access to funding to support their attendance at such a workshop. If there is no access to such funding, the expression of interest from a researcher should include a request for funding to support their attendance with an estimate.

Dwaipayan Chakrabarti and Jon Preece

**Expression of Interest for Attending the BLCS Annual Training Workshop in January 2020**

To be emailed to [blcs-atw@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:blcs-atw@contacts.bham.ac.uk) by **November 22, 2019**

Please follow the format below.

1. Surname:
2. Forename:
3. Affiliation:
4. E-mail address:  
Confirm e-mail address:
5. Career stage:  
PhD Student / Post-Doctoral Research Associate / Researcher in Industry / Other  
If 'other', please specify:
6. Research supervisor(s):
7. Current area of research:
8. Reason to attend the BLCS Annual Training Workshop:
9. Please specify if currently funded by an EPSRC grant:
10. Request for funding to support attendance if applicable:
11. Do you have any dietary restrictions?
12. Additional information:

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