RSC Secondary and Further Education Group (SaFE) 4th National Chemistry Teachers and Educators Conference, "Transitions Post 16 and Moving On" was hosted at Birmingham University, Tuesday 3rd July 2018

Approximately 75 delegates including speakers and the committee attended this one day SaFE educators conference, and it was good to see several representatives from the RSC attend the day. We continued to have poster exhibits; (Educational Coordinators, SciChem, Peter Hoare - Free post-16 resources on line, Birmingham University- Chem Bam, University of Wolverhampton), over the breaks which were attended well by delegates. As ever, networking was popular and delegates took the chance to catch up, meet new colleagues and catch speakers during the breaks.

Professor Jon Preece welcomed the delegates introducing the School of Chemistry at Birmingham, he was pleased that we had come back to Birmingham for our 4th conference and wished us a valuable and enjoyable day.

As the SaFE chair, I welcomed the delegates, explained the format for the day and the role of the teacher. David is an excellent speaker who engaged the audience getting us to response questions throughout his presentation.

It is important teachers have the opportunity to network through this conference and the breaks are as valuable as the presentations so after a short break we went into the presentations that would be offered in more depth for the afternoon breakout sessions.

Hilary Jefferys delivered an engaging presentation about changes to apprenticeship training and brought the new T-levels to the attention of the audience. Many of our students will not follow the academic route and it is important that teachers can appreciate the benefit of

student. Hilary introduced this to our audience with examples of her follow up presentation later.

Daniele Gibney from the RSC is working on the framework of the new curriculum. Daniele shared the work to date with the audience presenting the way that our subject will be covered as the curriculum is developed for the future, this is being developed by her team and looks at chemistry across the board. Daniele also offered a workshop later in the day.

Niki Kaiser presented on her current work in the classroom about the role of research. This is really a different approach for the school teacher. There has been research into educational techniques in the past but the main work published to date is in the HE sector, however, Niki and her team are inspiring the secondary sector to consider the research side of teaching which really gave teachers something to think about. Niki also offered a workshop later in the day.

Damian Riddle was the final speaker of the morning and presented about the reflections and

from the modular curriculum to a linear programme, and the practical work has a major more skilled

with their practical work, they will be examined on practical work in written papers as well. This presentation was built on with a workshop session later in the day.

Lunch and networking was a valuable time, apart from meeting new people and sharing ideas. Delegates got the opportunity to see the various posters exhibited and had the chance to integrate with new colleagues and meet presenters in an informal atmosphere.

Afternoon Breakout Sessions:-

Hilary Jefferys and Robert Bowles

Dr Peter Hoare was our plenary lecturer with his popular lecture colourful chemistry filled with many fun but spectacular demonstrations that teachers would be able to deliver in their own schools, see photos on our website. A nice way to round up a busy day.

Closing remarks, I announced that the next conference would be on Tuesday 2nd July 2019 at Bolton School in Manchester, watch this space for the 2019 news!

Some 2018 Conference feedback from delegates – advertising through social media helped improve awareness of the event with RSC members but we still need to do more to reach out to others. Booking and registration were easier to use, as systems bed down and become familiar to people. We also took the opportunity to improve the links to the venue website, particularly with regard to directions. The venue was easy to get to, and the facilities good. Following feedback from last year, we extended networking time, and this was well received. There was also increased satisfaction with the afternoon breakout sessions. The format we have adopted is well liked, and we look forward to a similar format in Bolton next year.

Report on SaFE / RSC Mid-Southern Counties LS Post-16 Teachers Conference The 11th Annual Wessex Group Post-

th.