

# Chemistry@ Imperial West

Presentation to ICU Council

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FONS

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*Artist's impression of "building C" at Imperial West*

## Key points

- Planning is underway for Chemistry to occupy “building C” on the new Imperial West (IW) campus
- Occupancy of building C anticipated in late 2017
- Likely to accommodate all of Chemistry research, including space for the Dept to expand
- Final year projects (MSci/BSc) will be held in the research labs at IW; final year lectures can also be held there
- Years 1 and 2 teaching will largely remain at South Kensington, in upgraded facilities
- Preliminary planning for new teaching facilities in South Kensington has started – possible 2019 completion

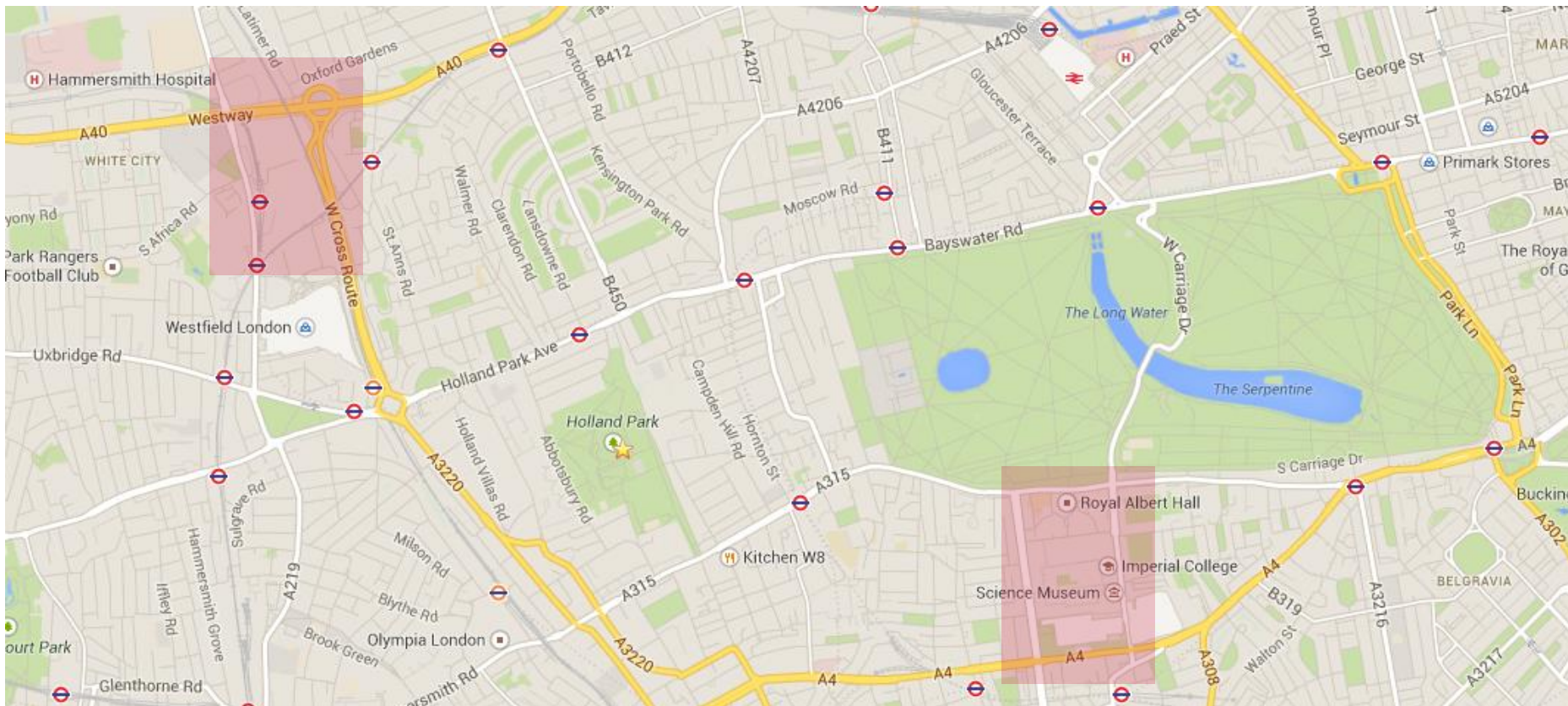
## Big questions...

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- What/where is Imperial West?
- Why does Chemistry need to move?
- What planning has taken place so far?
- What will happen in South Kensington?
- What happens next, and who is doing what?
- How can you contribute?

# What/where is Imperial West?

College's new 25-acre campus at White City - see: <http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/imperialwest>

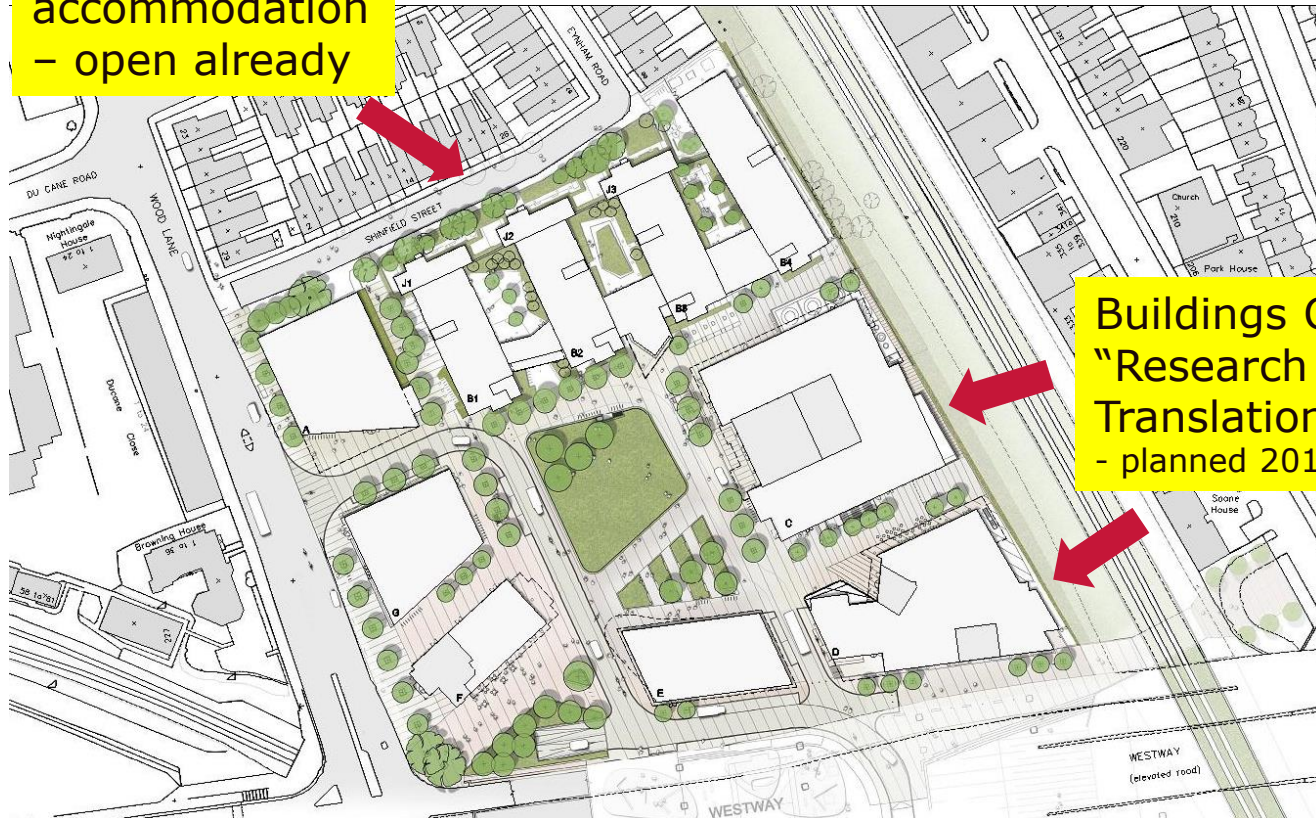


# Imperial West site



# IW “north”

Building B:  
postgrad  
accommodation  
– open already



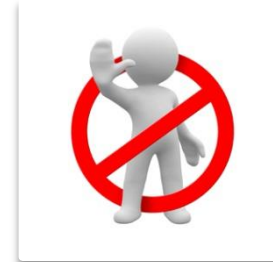
Buildings C and D:  
“Research and  
Translation” Hub  
– planned 2017 completion

# Why does Chemistry need to move?

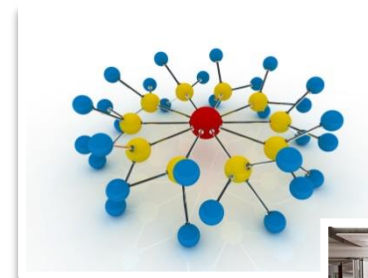
## ***Space is limited, inappropriate and inadequate.***

- Laboratories are small, out-of-date: little resemblance to those used in industrial chemistry or at the College's competitors
- Main building is long/narrow with internal columns that mitigate against efficient use of space
- Not enough fumehoods
- Missing key infrastructure – cell culture/protein production facilities, anti-vibration lab space, centralized analytical facilities
- Social space is small and remote from many research groups
- Constrains ambition and opportunities for collaborative work
- Masterplanning study revealed that a new building in South Kensington is not feasible...

## The Present



## The Future



## What planning has taken place so far?

### Jan-June 2014: Feasibility Study

- Chemistry put together a requirements list (space, facilities) based on expected expansion of academic staff numbers and increased undergraduate intake
- Building C footprint known, but how much *usable* space?
- How many fumehoods?
- Is it suitable for sensitive instrumentation? *Vibration and EM field surveys completed*

### Outcome:

- Building C can accommodate Chemistry's research, including expansion plans and undergraduate project students
- Lecture theatre also included (for 4<sup>th</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> year lectures)
- Years 1 and 2 teaching to remain in South Kensington

### June 2014-present: Design stage

- Detailed planning of floor layout within building
- Plans will go out to tender soon



## What will happen at South Kensington?

- Move of Chemistry research in 2017 will release decant space to allow further development on SK campus
- New Chemistry teaching facilities – estimated for 2019
- Discussions with Masterplanning team re: location are at an early stage
- **Leading up to the move, improvements to current teaching facilities will continue**

# What happens next, and who is doing what?

Project Champion: Prof Tom Welton (now Dean, Faculty of Natural Sciences)  
Project Director: Prof Alan Armstrong (now HoD Chemistry)

## Infrastructure and facilities

### Paul Lickiss (User Coordinator)

Rob Law  
Tim Jefferson  
Making, measuring, modelling,  
spectroscopy reps

## Research and PG training

### Oscar Ces

Laura Barter (Chemical Biology, MRes)  
Fernando Bresme (Chem Phys)  
Mimi Hii (Catalysis)  
Milo Shaffer (NMD)  
Matt Fuchter (Synthesis)  
Sue Gibson (Graduate School)

## Undergraduate teaching

### Bridge Duncombe

Andy Ashley (I)  
Martin Heeney (O)  
Anthony Kucernak (P)  
Teaching fellows, Technicians  
Alan Spivey (Faculty DoE)  
Nick Brooks (Dept Teaching Champion)  
John Harling (GSK, Adjunct Prof)  
Students: Dep Rep, student reps

## Project Manager

### (FoNS)

Emma Sharp

## Operations

Eileen Boyce

*Building brief for architects –  
Adjacencies, layout  
Further lab visits (Bristol, Oxford, York)*

*Refine vision for Chem@IW  
Engagement with key potential  
collaborators*

*Implications of split-site operation*

## How can I contribute?

- What facilities should we have in SK and IW?
- How do we ensure academic and social links are maintained between staff and students at SK and IW?
- How do we timetable efficiently to minimise travel between sites?
- How should tutorials operate?
- How should the personal tutoring system operate?



Ideas captured through, for example:

Bridge's IW workgroup – year reps/Dep reps are members

AA "office hours", meetings with reps, "Town Hall" meetings

**Contact me or Bridge directly at any time**

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## Summary of engagement and consultation activities

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- Department survey – sent to all members of staff (academic, support, postdocs...)
- Subset of questions discussed in meetings with UG reps, PG reps
- Undergraduate “Town Hall” meeting, June 2014 (slides posted on Blackboard)
- Design stage - student consultation on floor layout, particularly write-up and social areas
- Recruitment Open Days Summer 2014 – AA presentation to all groups
- First Year UG Intake Oct 2014 – Q&A session with Tom Welton, Alan Armstrong
  - First lecture course given by AA
  - Poster session, week 1, highlighting UROP

## Future activities

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- Further meetings with student reps
- Town Hall update meeting
- Inform and engage alumni
- Campus facilities – start College working group