



Online Peptoid Symposia 2020/21

The online [Peptoid Symposium Series](#) aims to sustain and grow the international community interested in peptoids and related research, and is organised by an [international committee](#) of peptoid researchers. It is intended as a free, online series of roughly bimonthly symposia, which will feature keynote talks and a mix of shorter invited talks and flash presentations from leaders in the field as well as early career researchers (ECRs).

We are grateful to the Durham Biophysical Sciences Institute for hosting the symposia and providing administrative support.

Technical Program – June 7, 2021

(scroll down for speaker profiles)

Co-Chairs: T.B.A.	Run time start
PDT / EDT / BST / CEST / CST 08:00 11:00 16:00 17:00 23:00	00:00
Welcome	
Kent Kirshenbaum (New York University) – 25 min <i>“Metal Species Coordinating Elaborate Peptoid Macrocycle Assemblies”</i>	00:02
Q&A – 8 min	
08:35 / 11:35 / 16:35 / 17:35 / 23:35	00:35
Flash presentations:	
Assunta D'Amato (University of Salerno) – 5 min <i>“Targeted synthesis of structurally defined water-soluble cyclic peptoids”</i>	
Martyn Merrilees (University of Strathclyde) – 5 min <i>“High molecular weight sequence-specific block copolypeptoids from resin supported NNTA polymerization and solid phase synthesis”</i>	
Christine Muli (Purdue University) – 5 min <i>“Binding Site Discovery of a Peptoid Probe on Proteasome Ubiquitin Receptor, Rpn-13”</i>	
Q&A – 10 min	
09:00 / 12:00 / 17:00 / 18:00 / 24:00	01:00
Community Meeting – 25 min Agenda: <i>Format and organization of online symposia Sep 2021 to Jul 2022</i>	
09:25 / 12:25 / 17:25 / 18:25 / 00:25	01:25
Further Q&A, closing remarks	
PDT / EDT / BST / CEST / CST End around 09:30 12:30 17:30 18:30 00:30	01:30
Unofficial social: <i>for those who wish to mingle and/or continue private discussions</i>	10-20 min

Speaker Profiles



Kent Kirshenbaum
Professor, Department of Chemistry
New York University

Kent Kirshenbaum is a Professor in the Department of Chemistry at New York University, where he is a founding member of the Biomedical Chemistry Institute. Kent obtained his Bachelor's degree in Chemistry at Reed College in Portland, Oregon. He conducted his PhD studies in Pharmaceutical Chemistry with Ken Dill at the University of California San Francisco and his post-doctoral studies in protein chemistry with David Tirrell at the California Institute of Technology. Kent's research explores sequence-structure-function relationships in peptoid oligomers. Recent studies in the Kirshenbaum lab have focused on developing peptoids as therapeutics, including new strategies for addressing prostate cancer and infectious diseases. As part of this effort, Kent is currently engaged as Chief Scientific Officer at Maxwell Biosciences.



Assunta D'Amato
Post-Doctoral Researcher, Department of Chemistry and Biology by A. Zambelli
University of Salerno, Italy

Dr. A. D'Amato obtained her PhD from University of Salerno in 2020; her research involved the synthesis, conformational studies and biological applications of cyclic peptoids. After a period as visiting researcher at Durham University (Prof. Dr. S.L. Cobb's lab), she is now a postdoctoral fellow in Prof. Dr. F. De Riccardis' group, focusing on peptoids, peraza-macrocycles and asymmetric catalysis.



Martyn G. L. Merrilees
PhD Candidate, Department of Pure & Applied Chemistry
University of Strathclyde, Glasgow.

Martyn Merrilees received a Masters in Chemistry from the University of Strathclyde in 2018. He is currently a third year PhD student, working under the supervision of Dr K. H. Aaron Lau. Martyn's focus is on the development of sequence specific multifunctional peptoid materials, targeting high molecular weight peptide mimetic materials. He was a recipient of a Scottish Funding Council (SFC) Postgraduate and Early Career Researcher Exchanges (PECRE) award that enabled his collaboration on NNTA polymerization with the Ling group at Zhejiang University.



Christine Muli
PhD Candidate
Purdue University

Christine Muli received a Biochemistry B.S. in 2014 at California Polytechnic (Cal Poly) State University in San Luis Obispo. Before graduate school, Christine worked at Genentech in South San Francisco, California, developing small scale formulation screening methods for poor orally bioavailable small molecules. She then joined Professor Darci Trader's lab at Purdue University in 2018, and she studies ways to harness the proteasome beyond standard catalytic inhibition to reduce off-target toxicities of current hematological cancer therapies. Her broad research interests lie in utilizing integrative approaches of chemistry and biology to solve early drug discovery challenges. She is funded by an F31 predoctoral fellowship from the NIH National Cancer Institute.

Organizing Committee and Further Information

- [Steven Cobb \(Durham University\)](#)
- [Sophie Faure \(Chemistry Institute of Clermont-Ferrand\)](#)
- [K. H. Aaron Lau \(University of Strathclyde\)](#)
- [Caroline Proulx \(NC State\)](#)
- [Jiwon Seo \(Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology\)](#)

Please contact admin.bsi@durham.ac.uk if you would like to receive updates about the Peptoid Symposium Series.

Further information about the symposium series and past and future speakers can be found at:
<https://www.durham.ac.uk/research/institutes-and-centres/biophysical-sciences-institute/events/online-peptoid-symposia/>.