

*Transition Metal N-heterocyclic Carbene
Complexes: A Trip Through the Periodic Table*

Prof. Mike Whittlesey

University of Bath (United Kingdom)

Friday 13th April, 2012. ICIQ Auditorium, 12 p.m.

Professional Career



Mike Whittlesey was born in Nottingham England in 1966 and did both his undergraduate and postgraduate studies at the University of York. His PhD work (1987-991) on the photochemistry of transition metal dihydride complexes was performed with Roger Mawby and Robin Perutz FRS, who instilled in him the importance of understanding the role of reaction intermediates and mechanisms. After postdoctoral work in organic photochemistry with Tito Scaiano in Ottawa (Canada), he returned to York in 1993 to work with Perutz once more on metal mediated C-F bond activation. He was appointed to a permanent independent lectureship at the University of Bath in 1999, and rose through the ranks of senior lecturer and reader to become a full professor in 2011

Research Interests

Mike Whittlesey's research interests are in the synthesis and reactivity of late transition metal complexes, especially those bearing N-heterocyclic carbene (NHC) ligands. Particular emphasis is placed on the use of M-NHC species for the stoichiometric and catalytic activation of inert bonds (e.g. C-H, C-N, C-F etc), with significant collaborations involving both computational and organic colleagues.