

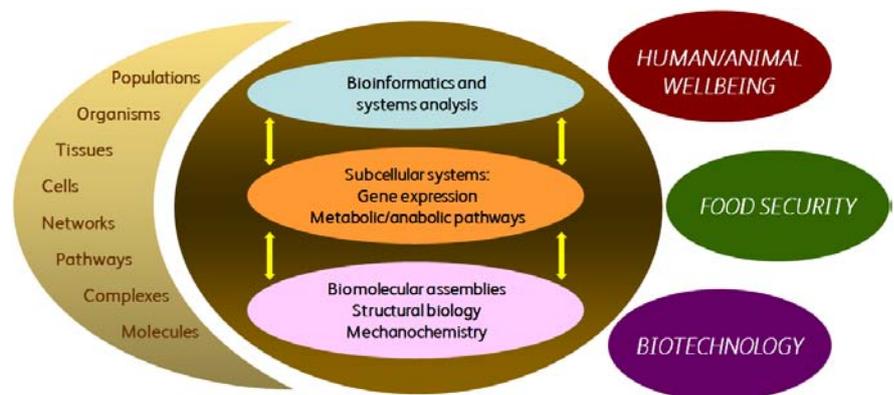
University of Warwick School of Life Sciences



Warwick's recently created School of Life Sciences undertakes a broad range of research and activities to embed a culture that values impact at all levels. We have embedded measures such as training, that facilitate innovation and its translation into the infrastructure of our new community.

Research in the newly created Warwick School of Life Sciences spans from molecular properties through to cellular and whole-organism systems.

Research impact is maximised through activities at multiple levels. Our science maps fully onto the BBSRC's priority areas. We are engaging extensively with industry and have established a comprehensive set of measures to facilitate innovation and its translation, as well as to promote training and communication. These activities are embedded in the culture and infrastructure of our new community.



Research in Warwick School of Life Sciences integrates molecular, cellular and whole organism studies with key areas of application and impact

Delivering Impact

The creation of Warwick School of Life Sciences has allowed us to extend our existing impact activities and embed new practices and procedures at all levels. These include new post-graduate training modules and academic mentoring on best practice and new dedicated support for business engagement and early career impact activities. Our new Warwick Crop Centre provides a focus for partnerships with a range of stakeholders, particularly those in the commercial sector. We have re-branded our website, expanded our knowledge transfer work and extended our outreach to local schools and special interest groups. This has led to increased interest in our research and opportunities to work with a wider range of stakeholders, including international partners.

Warwick School of Life Sciences is building an ambitious research agenda with a key aspiration of embedding awareness of the importance of economic, social and policy impacts amongst all staff. This includes wider promotion and coordination of impact activities and sharing best practice within the School and with our key partners.

We intend to become a beacon of good practice by undertaking activities including:

- increasing our range of funded impact activities
- providing bespoke training for partners
- finding more innovative pathways to impact
- embedding impact generation in researchers training at Warwick, so that they adopt a culture of excellence with impact throughout their careers

Managing ovine footrot

The School's epidemiological research on farm livestock diseases produced groundbreaking approaches to managing ovine footrot. The research group's close working relationship with EBLEX led to the adoption of these as industry standards, disseminated by manuals, CDs and on-farm workshops.

The research also strongly influenced a report on lameness in sheep by the UK Farm Animal Welfare Council.

The relationship has stimulated new research ideas and an IIP with EBLEX is producing further impact by educating vets. We are in discussion with EBLEX on how to best target lameness for technology transfer again in 2012.



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Knowledge transfer between Warwick and industry has led to innovative approaches to managing footrot in sheep

New media

We prioritise developing impact awareness early in the careers of young researchers. As well as compulsory media training in our postgraduate training courses, we encourage the innovative use of new media.

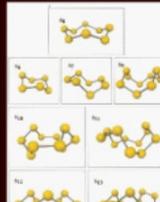
One early career researcher in microbiology capitalised on this by using microblogging during a research visit to Romania. Over the last year, several thousand microblogging posts have been published using Twitter, in addition to traditional blog posts.

A website for the project has received more than 2000 hits to date from a wide range of stakeholders. Following this success, we will expand this activity for further research areas.

August 26, 2009
Long-chain sulfur species as energy sources

The majority of the energy sources for chemolithoautotrophic, chemolithoheterotrophic and mixotrophic Bacteria that use inorganic sulfur compounds, such as thiosulfate ($S_2O_3^{2-}$), tetrathionate ($S_4O_6^{2-}$), carbon disulfide (CS_2) and sulfide (S^{2-}), elemental sulfur itself, as many Bacteria and Archaea can metabolise it, so today I thought I would talk a little bit about

Sulfur is quite a complicated element - it has a lot of isotopes, a lot of allotropes, a lot of oxidation states and a lot of correctly. There has been a lot of debate over the years but "sulfur" is most definitely correct and "sulphur" and "sulf" (1995 for a full discussion of this). In microbiology, we refer to elemental sulfur as " S^0 " to designate the oxidation state referring to it in its common allotropic form of " S_8 ". This is due to sulfur not always being in the form of an S_8 ring - part Figure 1 shows some of the other ring forms of sulfur commonly found.



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Warwick researchers are using blogs and other new media tools to disseminate information and communicate their research activity to a wide audience

Contact

School of Life Sciences
 Gibbet Hill Campus
 The University of Warwick
 Coventry
 CV4 7AL

THE UNIVERSITY OF
WARWICK

Website: www.warwick.ac.uk/go/lifesci
Email: life.sciences@warwick.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0)24 7657 4251

BBSRC
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 2011



The BBSRC Excellence with Impact 2011 scheme ran from 2008 to 2010. It was developed to reward and esteem those university departments most active in embedding a culture that recognises and values the achievement of impact alongside excellent research.