

JC Afternoons

"Come Experience Life as a Chem Undergrad!" 2017

Every year, in July, the Department of Chemistry holds half-day workshops for JC students to experience what NUS and NUS Chemistry has to offer. In 2017, a total of 188 JC students from Meridian, Anderson, Temasek, Dunman High, Serangoon and National Junior Colleges participated in the workshops and sampled life as an NUS Chemistry undergraduate.

After a short introduction and showcase of the NUS Chem Department Video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SArvUZDc-pg>), Dr Emelyn Tan shared the various options offered in Department of Chemistry undergraduate programme as well as the career opportunities awaiting a Chemistry graduate. The participants then had an App Assisted Interactive Tutorial using a in-house developed augmented reality mobile app, called "ARMoVis". Users can hover over 2D photos of several everyday products and the corresponding molecule that is predominant in that product appears in 3D on their phones. The app allows users to identify the chemical's name, formula and 3D structure of several everyday products.

Each JC could select a hands-on experiment from 4 options: UV-Visible Spectroscopy of Indicators (@Physical Teaching Lab); Separation of Additives in Soft Drinks (@Analytical Teaching Lab); Synthesis of Medically Useful Compound (Methyl Salicylate) (@Synthesis Teaching Lab); Synthesis of Metal Complexes (Tetragonal Nickel(II) Complexes) (@General Chemistry Teaching Lab). The participants spent 1.5 hours in the respective teaching labs to carry out their selected experiment.

After lab time, the participants boarded the bus to tour around the NUS Kent Ridge Campus. During the tour, the participants were introduced to the various faculties, departments, campus buildings, facilities and residences as well as a short walking tour around UTown. The workshop ended with a tea break session at the Science Canteen.

(Staff involved – Dr Emelyn Tan, Linda Oei, Dr Jeremiah Chen, Dr Michael Patuwo, Saradha Thyagarajan, Dr Ong Yue Ying.)

