

Department of Chemistry
Departmental Seminar:
Chemistry Education Research Month

You are cordially invited to a virtual lecture presented by



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Date: Friday, 20th August 2021
Time: 10:30 – 11:20
Venue: <https://meet.google.com/yau-eapz-xdp>
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Chemistry Education Research: Where from and where to?

During the past century, tertiary chemistry education research (CER) developed from opinions and empirical accounts of teaching to a mature science that is supported by trusted methodologies and grounded in robust learning theories. Modern CER is richly infused by other disciplines, such as cognitive science, sociology and the learning sciences, contributing to its versatility. Lately, CER is responding to calls for contextual relevance to prepare graduates to fully participate as informed citizens and confident scientists that can address global challenges such as sustainability.

While CER is firmly established as a subdiscipline of chemistry in the USA, with academics specialising in this field appointed in chemistry departments rather than in faculties of education, it is less so in the UK and Europe and rare elsewhere in the world. There are only a handful of South African academics in chemistry departments specialising in CER, some of them in our own department.

In this presentation I will provide a brief overview of the history of the discipline, describe the most important contributions that CER has made to chemistry teaching, and share insights on global developments driving CER and curriculum reform in the near future.

