

## Simon Aldridge FRS

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Date of birth: 26 July 1970 (Shrewsbury, UK)



### Current Employment

*Oct 2010 - present* Professor of Main Group Chemistry, University of Oxford  
*from Oct 2025* Head of Inorganic Chemistry, Department of Chemistry, University of Oxford  
*Apr 2024 - present* Director, EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT) in Inorganic Materials for Advanced Manufacturing (IMAT), University of Oxford  
*Feb 2019 - present* Director, EPSRC CDT in Inorganic Chemistry for Future Manufacturing (OxICFM), Univ. Oxford  
*Jan 2007 - present* Fellow and Tutor in Inorganic Chemistry, The Queen's College, Oxford

### Previous Positions

*Oct 2011 - Oct 2017* Tutor for Graduates, The Queen's College Oxford  
*Jan 2007 - Sept 2010* University Lecturer (Associate Professor), Inorganic Chemistry, University of Oxford  
*Sept 2004 - Dec 2006* Senior lecturer (Associate Professor, tenured), School of Chemistry, Cardiff University  
*Oct 2003 - Dec 2006* Co-founder/Director, Centre for Fundamental & Applied Main Group Chemistry, Cardiff Univ.  
*Aug 1998 - Aug 2004* Lecturer (Assistant Professor), School of Chemistry, Cardiff University  
*Dec 1997 - July 1998* Post-doctoral associate (PDRA), Imperial College London (with DMP Mingos FRS)  
*Mar 1996 - Nov 1997* Fulbright Scholar and PDRA, University of Notre Dame, USA (with TP Fehlner)

### Education

*Oct 1992 - Mar 1996* DPhil, Inorganic Chemistry, University of Oxford (with AJ Downs): *Studies of Some Volatile Compounds of Main Group Elements*. Submitted: Jan 1996; viva: Mar 1996  
*Oct 1988 - July 1992* BA Hons chemistry (1<sup>st</sup> class), Jesus College, University of Oxford. Open Scholarship 1989-1992, ICI Scholarship 1990-1992, Inorganic Chemistry thesis prize 1992

### Honours, Awards and Visiting Professorships

*Oct 2024* GEQO Fellow, Spanish Royal Society of Chemistry (Mención GEQO)  
*May 2024* Elected Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS)  
*July 2022* Visiting Professor (Humboldt Award), Technische Universität Berlin  
*Oct 2021* Humboldt Forschungspreis (Research Award) of the Humboldt Foundation  
*May 2018* Royal Society of Chemistry Frankland Award  
*Mar 2018* International Visiting Lecturer of the Organometallic Chemistry Division (GEQO) of the Spanish Royal Society of Chemistry (RSEQ)  
*July 2014 - Aug 2014* Distinguished Lecturer, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong  
*July 2012 - Dec 2012* University Visiting Professor, Monash University, Australia (School of Chemistry)  
*Jun 2010* Royal Society of Chemistry Main Group Chemistry Award  
*Apr 2009* Dalton Transactions European Lectureship Award  
*Jun 2005* McCamley Memorial Lecturer, University of York  
*Mar 1996 - Nov 1997* J William Fulbright Scholarship (post-doctoral)

### Major Institutional Responsibilities

*Feb 2019 - present* Director, EPSRC Centres for Doctoral Training OxICFM and IMAT, University of Oxford. Responsibility (as principal investigator) for setting up/running/maintaining 2 training centres for doctoral students in inorganic chemistry and materials science; total budget >£25M  
*Oct 2011 - Oct 2017* Tutor for Graduates, Queen's College, Oxford. Senior admin role overseeing all aspects of graduate education in the college – academic, administrative, pastoral and financial

### Commissions of Trust and Editorial Responsibilities

*Sept 2014 - Sept 2017* External examiner/evaluator for Dept of Chemistry, Strathclyde University  
*Sept 2013 - Sept 2016* External examiner/evaluator for School of Life Sciences, Sussex University  
*Aug 2013 - June 2014* Advisor/expert witness for the UK Government's Environment Agency on the chemical contamination of groundwater  
*July 2013 - present* Member of international advisory committee for the International Conference on Boron Chemistry (IMEBORON)  
*July 2008 - Sept 2013* Chairman, Royal Society of Chemistry, Main Group Chemistry interest group  
*Oct 1998 - present* External examiner for 59 doctoral theses at universities in the UK, Europe, Asia, North America and Australia

Sept 2019 - May 2022	Volume editor, Main Group, Comprehensive Organometallic Chemistry IV
Nov 2014	Guest editor <i>Chem. Soc. Rev.</i> (special issue: <i>Modern Main Group Chemistry</i> )
Mar 2013	Guest editor <i>Dalton Trans</i> (2013, #3: <i>Boranes and Borohydrides</i> )
Jan 2011- present	Editorial advisory board member, <i>Dalton Trans.</i> , <i>Reviews in Inorganic Chemistry</i>
Jan 2010 – Dec 2013	Editorial advisory board member, <i>Organometallics</i>
Aug 2008 – Jan 2010	Editorial board member <i>Chemistry Central Journal</i>
Jan 2008 – July 2008	Guest editor <i>Dalton Trans.</i> (2008, #26: <i>Main Group Chemistry</i> )

### Publication record

270 peer-reviewed career publications, and three granted patents, *h*-index 61 (Google Scholar), 56 (Scopus). These include recent publications in *Science* (three), *Nature* (one), *Nature Chemistry* (six), *Nature Comm.* (one) and 78 in *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* or *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* These include papers which have been written up as literature highlights, for example in *Science* (**2023**, 380, 1106; **2005**, 310, 747), *Nature* (**2012**, 485, 49), *Nature Chemistry* (**2019**, 11, 199; **2012**, 4, 525), *C&E News* (**2023**, June 15<sup>th</sup> issue; **2019**, Dec 9<sup>th</sup> issue ‘highlights of the year’; **2012**, April 24<sup>th</sup> issue), *Angew. Chem.* (**2018**, 57, 8818; **2010**, 49, 3412; **2008**, 47, 6326) and *Chemistry and Industry*, (**2003**, issue 12, 26). In addition, research in the Aldridge group has been profiled by *Angew. Chem.* (**2010**, 49, 1008). Prof Aldridge co-wrote (with Tony Downs) a definitive book on the chemistry of the Group 13 Elements (*The Group 13 Metals Aluminium, Gallium, Indium and Thallium: Chemical Patterns and Peculiarities*, Wiley/Blackwell, Nov. 2010) and is the volume editor for Main Group compounds in *Comprehensive Organometallic Chemistry IV*.

### Research funding

Current major funding as principal investigator ca. £26M:

- **EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training EP/Y035569/1**, *Inorganic Materials for Advanced Manufacturing (IMAT)* (01/04/24-31/09/32, total value **£15.2M**, EPSRC contribution £8.00M).
- **EPSRC EP/X020800/1** *Transition Metal/Aluminium Bimetallics for Cooperative Catalysis* (01/05/23- 31/04/26, **£466k**).
- **EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training EP/S023828/1**: *Inorganic Chemistry for Future Manufacturing (OxICFM)* (01/04/19-31/09/27, total value **£10.4M**, EPSRC contribution £6.24M).
- **Infineum** *Exploring molecular precursors for the deposition of Si<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> or hexagonal BN films* (01/04/19 - 01/10/23, **£152k**).
- **EPSRC EP/V008145/1**: *The Green Ammonia Demonstrator - a National Net-Zero Project* (01/03/21-31/08/23, **£202k**). [as co-investigator]

Previous major grants as principal investigator include EPSRC (10 awards: £357k, £299k, £518k, £304k, £77k, £63k; £180k, £210k & £234k (Catalysis Hub) & £69k), BP (£88k), Infineum (£105k), SCG Chemicals (£224k), Leverhulme Trust (£124k & £278k); EU Marie Curie (3 awards: €222k, €222k, €160k); previous smaller grants (under £60k each, 15 awards) total £244k. Previous awards as co-investigator EPSRC (3 awards: £95k, £102k (both with I Fallis, Cardiff), £125k (with C Jones, then Cardiff)). Equipment and central facilities grants: (£140k, £116k, £384k, £94k, £173k).

### Supervision of Graduate Students and Post-doctoral Fellows

<i>Cardiff Univ.:</i>	12 masters students, 9 doctoral students and 6 post-doctoral fellows supervised
<i>Univ. of Oxford:</i>	61 masters, 38 doctoral students and 31 post-doctoral fellows supervised
<i>(2007-present)</i>	(PDRA support from: EPSRC, Leverhulme Trust, Marie Curie, Talentia, DFG, Humboldt Foundation, NSERC, CSC, Spanish government, Finnish Academy, industry)

- 36 doctoral students have graduated from the Aldridge group (the first in 2002); 37 post-doctoral co-workers have been supervised. Current group size 17 (11 doctoral students, 3 masters students, 3 post-doctoral co-workers)
- 23 former group members have gone on to occupy faculty positions: Kays (Nottingham), Rossin (CNR, Florence), Al-Fawaz (King Saud University), Urbano (Huelva), Vidovic (NTU then Monash), Tang (HKBU), Siewert (Göttingen), Bates (Dalhousie), Campos (Sevilla), Rit (IIT Madras), Riddlestone (Surrey), Mo (Nankai), Haynes (UCL), Niemeyer (Duisberg-Essen), Hicks (ANU), Sindlinger (Stuttgart), Frank (TU Braunschweig), Vasko (Helsinki), Y. Wang (Hangzhou Institute for Advanced Study), Fischer (Göttingen), Schorpp (Regensburg), Loh (NUS, Singapore), Boronski (Imperial College London).

### Teaching Activities

The teaching of chemistry in Oxford University is divided into two parts – that organized by the University (lectures, practical labs etc.) and that organized by the individual constituent colleges (small group tutorials). College teaching load includes 6 hours per week of small group tutorials (2-3 students) in years 1-3, covering the entire breadth of the inorganic chemistry course. Current University teaching load (per year) includes 14 lectures (3 courses), and ca. 96 hours final year (Part 2) project supervision. Graduate teaching (OxICFM CDT) represents ca. 80 hours/year.

### Invited and Plenary Lectures

155 total (97 since 2010), including invited lecture tours in Germany (2006, 2011), USA (2006, 2008), China (2009, 2016), Australia (2012), Spain (2018), India (2023), Canada (2025).