

My name is Noelia Sanchez and I was awarded with the JSPS fellowship two years ago to continue my research at the National Institute for Material Science (NIMS), Tsukuba, Japan. Two years have passed since I came to Japan, actually very fast. This was my first time in Japan and at first I was a bit worried as well as excited about learning new things in a completely different country. During this time I came across many unfamiliar things, from eating nattō to experiencing an earthquake. Also, I had the opportunity to interact with worldwide researchers and build up collaborations in Japan and abroad.

The starting point of my investigation was the synthesis of particular ligands designed either for specific miscibility with liquid crystals or for ease of crystal growth.

Parallel to these studies, I have been working on novel hybrid organic-inorganic coordination assemblies of manganese and iron. These systems have been investigated putting particular emphasis on its relevance in biological systems and its implications for the field of materials science. For example, properties such as supercapacitance, Li batteries, photocatalytic activity etc. have been tested.

From the personal point of view, the last two years have been a great experience. It has been an excellent opportunity for me to learn about a completely different culture, traditions and language.

Concerning the Fellowship Program, I would like to highlight that this program had allowed me to learn new techniques from the work with very skillful researchers.

I also appreciate the possibility of giving a lecture to students through the JSPS Science Dialog Program. It is always challenging to present research work in a basic level for general public and it is very enjoyable to see students interested in science.

Overall, I think JSPS program is a great opportunity to not only grown as a researcher but also to live experiences you will always remember. どうもありがとうございました。



NIMS, Namiki-site, Tsukuba, Japan.



Tsukuba center at Christmas time.

HOST: Dr. Jonathan P. Hill

Group: Supermolecules Group