

Dr Sandun Dissanayake



Dr Sandun Dissanayake, currently a Research Fellow at Cranfield University, is leading the pilot-scale Turquoise Hydrogen Generation programme in collaboration with HyDEX. His expertise, developed through rigorous research, spans across multiple disciplines, including analytical and materials chemistry, as well as process systems development and scale-up.

Dr. Dissanayake's academic journey culminated in the achievement of a Ph.D., reflecting his relentless pursuit of knowledge. His doctoral research focused on the recovery, synthesis, and application of catalytic nanomaterials and nanocomposites derived from natural minerals and rocks. This innovative work, although seemingly diverse, intersects at the core of sustainable energy solutions, specifically hydrogen production.

Jo-Anne Tomkins



Jo-Anne Tomkins is a Senior Principal Engineer at DNV, focusing on safety and hydrogen transition projects within the natural gas industry. With over 20 years of experience, she ensures the gas network remains safe and efficient during the energy transition.

After earning a degree in Chemical Engineering from Loughborough University, Jo-Anne held roles at Foster Wheeler before joining DNV in 2013. She now collaborates with key stakeholders on hydrogen initiatives and plays a key role in projects like SGN's H100 Fife.

A Chartered Engineer and IGEM member, Jo-Anne is passionate about mentoring young engineers and promoting careers in the gas industry. She also serves on Loughborough University's Chemical Engineering Industrial Advisory Board.

Professor Sai Gu



Professor Sai Gu is Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor (China) at the University of Surrey, enhancing partnerships with Chinese universities and advancing opportunities for funding, student mobility, and research collaboration. An expert in clean energy and materials research, he has led major international projects and secured over £10 million in research funding.

Prof. Gu earned his PhD from the University of Nottingham and held academic roles at Aston University, the University of Southampton, and Cranfield University before joining Surrey, where he transformed the Department of Chemical Engineering. He is also a pioneer in digital technologies for chemical engineering, leading the development of Industry 6th Sense technologies.

Elizabeth Simon



Elizabeth Simon is the Green Energy Partnerships Director at Hydrogen Safe, where she fosters collaborations with industry, education, and community stakeholders to promote safe hydrogen practices. Previously, as Senior Green Skills Lead at Groundwork Greater Manchester, she developed green skills programs across various sectors, managing national projects and driving sustainability initiatives. With a strong background in green energy, Simon is committed to advancing partnerships that support the growth of hydrogen technology. Her expertise and leadership make her a key advocate in the field of sustainable energy.

Dr Sikai Geng



Sikai Geng is a Research Fellow at the Powertrain Research Centre, University of Nottingham.

With a keen focus on clean and high thermal efficiency combustion modes for internal combustion engines, he is dedicated to exploring the interplay of alcohols, hydrogen, and ammonia as decarbonised fuels towards Net-Zero. He has recently submitted his PhD.

His current research investigates an advanced pre-chamber technology (Jet Ignition), aiming to enhance combustion characteristics and emissions profiles under various fuel combinations (co-fuelling) in positive ignition engines, for future thermal propulsion systems.

Dr Hanlin Li



Dr. Hanlin Li is a Human Factors Consultant and Hydrogen Safety Engineer at Loughborough University and CRA Corporate Risk Associates. His research focuses on the role of human factors in the design and safety of next-generation hydrogen fuel cell vehicles (HFCVs). He investigates how UK users perceive hydrogen vehicles, exploring both technical and psychological factors that influence trust and safety, with the aim of advancing the commercialization of HFCVs.

Dr. Li holds an MPhil in Automotive Engineering from Loughborough University and is currently completing a PhD on safety issues related to hydrogen vehicles. His work includes studying driver behavior, accident scenarios, and developing protocols for safer vehicle design, refueling, and repairs. He is also a teaching assistant, passionate about sharing knowledge on hydrogen technologies.

Dr Jerry Luo



Dr. Jerry Luo is a Reader in Energy Storage and Harvesting at Cranfield University, where he focuses on Renewable Energy and Energy Harvesting, including solar-to-hydrogen generation and energy harvesting materials/devices. He has expertise in energy systems, from materials research to system design and prototyping. Dr. Luo earned his PhD from the University of New South Wales and conducted research at Technical University Darmstadt during his PhD. He has worked at universities in Australia and the UK before joining Cranfield in 2016.

His research has secured over £3.6M in funding from EPSRC, Innovate UK, RAEng, HEIF, and industry. He has led or contributed to 14 Innovate UK projects, 1 EPSRC ICASE project with BAE Systems, and 1 EPSRC Researcher in Residence. Dr. Luo received an ICURe Award in 2019, the Golden Award for Academic Excellence in Hydrogen Research in 2024, and was nominated for the Earthshot Prize 2024. He has over 60 publications and 5 patents. His research group includes 2 postdocs and 8 PhD students and is supported by a well-equipped laboratory for energy materials and devices research.