



# Synthetic Chemistry and Drug Discovery Lab

Department of Chemistry, University of Colombo

## A new Synthetic Chemistry and Drug Discovery Lab for Conducting Advanced Research in Synthetic Organic Chemistry.

- Equipped with a glovebox, Schlenk lines and solvent purification systems to perform modern synthetic methods and utilize air and moisture sensitive catalysts and materials.
- Expand the research portfolio in the field of synthetic chemistry.
- State-of-the-art facility and equipment to significantly enhance education and training.
- Transform the R&D landscape in Sri Lanka, drive innovation, & create intellectual property.
- New lab (500 sq ft) to be located on the ground floor and integrated with existing facilities.
- Expect to complete in three phases (Phase 1, 2 & 3) and by end of 2025.

**Phase 2: Basic Lab Infrastructure.** To be supported by CUFSAA (est. \$100,000).

Item	Estimated Cost (\$)
Three fume hoods with ventilation systems	15,000
Chemical resistant benches (wall + island) and necessary storage cabinets	15,000
Gas cylinder cage, gas lines, and safety shower	5,000
Flammable solvent storage cabinets and “spark-free” refrigerator	5,000
Five port, dual manifold Schlenk line with direct-drive or rotary-vain vacuum pump	20,000
Rotary evaporator	5,000
Single station glovebox with purification catalyst bed	25,000
Analytical balance, top loading balance, hotplate stirrer with temperature control (3 units), and oven	10,000

Priority color coding: Red – High; Blue – moderate; Green – nice to have. Equipment cost represents current best estimate.

**Phases 1 & 3: Lab preparation** (est. \$25,000) and **Advanced analytical equipment purchase** (est. \$130,000), respectively, will be funded and completed by the university/department.

The Department of Chemistry has grown over the past two decades in every aspect including student enrolment, number of degree programs, new facilities, and research output. Some highlights include:

- Five Honors Degree programs for undergraduates and three MSc programs with two more in the pipeline. All have a strong research component.
- Currently has ~40 MPhil/Ph.D. students; a strong publication record in high impact factor journals.
- Students received admission to top-ranked Universities in the world including Oxford, MIT, and Cambridge.
- Scheduled to launch a new external degree program, BSc in Applied Chemistry, in early 2024.

Please support Phase 2 of the project by making a generous tax-deductible donation to CUFSAA.

Full proposal is available at <https://www.cufsa.com/synthetic-lab>



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