REPORT ON THE WINDSOR WORKSHOP 2015

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Between 7th and 10th December 2015, a Windsor Workshop 2015 was held in western suburbs of London. The workshop was organized by the British Society for Geomorphology (BSG). From its beginnings 30 years ago this event has been held up in Cumberland Lodge in the middle of Windsor Great Park, which is in a property of the Royal family and covers more than 7.8 square miles. In the north it borders with well-known Windsor Castle, the largest settled castle in the world. Cumberland Lodge is entirely dedicated to host more than 4,000 students a year who attend conferences, seminars, lectures, workshops and other meetings. Twenty-eight PhD students participated at the 2015 BSG Windsor Workshop, coming mostly from Great Britain but also Germany, Austria, Italy and for the first time from Slovenia. The workshop was organized by British geomorphologists Tom Coulthard, Brian Whalley, Tony Parsons, David Favis Mortlock and Paul Farres.

The workshop began with introductory presentations followed by group activities where we determined the geomorphological characteristics of landscapes and processes using representative photos. During first day session we were also introduced to basics of geomorphological studies and philosophy of science. Next day we had an introduction to modelling in geomorphology where the Netlogo programme was presented. Next session was dedicated to a short fieldwork and later followed by project planning in small groups. Projects were discussed among colleagues and every group was given a feedback on its approach. There was a presentation of young geomorphologist Christopher Darvill about his Postgraduate experience and his research of Quaternary glacial and climatic changes in Patagonia in the evening session. On Wednesday modelling and dealing with large data sets followed by organization of fieldwork and lab work were presented. We spent the rest of the day on presentation of our PhD work in small groups. I presented Slovenia, the Anton Melik Geographical Institute and geomorphological researches in Slovenia with emphasis on karst research. The last day on BSG Windsor Workshop was focused on article writing and presentation of our research work among scientific society including social media.

Most of the students that attended Windsor Workshop 2015 use modelling as a basic geomorphological research tool, while only few rely on extended fieldwork. Topics of their explorations are based on fluvial processes, followed by glacial processes, sedimentation, wind erosion, water management and karst research.

Excellently organized workshop with dynamic schedule was a very positive experience. It broadened our academic horizons and connections, and interwine between experienced and young geomorphologists. Organizers and leaders of this workshop were very responsive to suggestions from PhD students and there was enough time for individual approach. There is certainly a place for some upgrades of workshop, especially on the fieldwork which was weakly represented. Nevertheless I really recommend this workshop to any future PhD geomorphology student, who has just got involved in his PhD.

I would like to give my gratitude to International Association of Geomorphologists for the financial support and other help to attend the BSG Windsor Workshop 2015.
At the end: Photo(s) if any

Cumberland Lodge (photo by Daniel Sperl)

Group photo of Windsor Workshop 2015 attendees (photo by Brian Whalley)

Christopher Darvill presenting his Postgraduate experience (photo by Tom Coulthard)