

Report on BSG Post-Graduate Training Workshop (Windsor, UK, 5-8 December 2016)

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The Windsor Postgraduate Workshop was held in the amazing location of the Cumberland Lodge in Windsor Great Park. The workshop started on Monday afternoon. After the registration and an introductory session including nice icebreaker activities, the first session of the workshop was about the nature of the PhD. It provided us with very useful suggestions on how to succeed in our PhD and on how to complete it within the planned years. The evening talk was a very interesting and provoking discussion about the philosophy of science.

The first session of the second day was dedicated to an effective introduction on computer modelling applied to geomorphology. During this session we had the chance to become familiar with the software NetLogo. There was also a session on project planning accompanied by a practical exercise carried out in small groups. This exercise concerned the creation of an entire PhD project in an afternoon and then presenting the project design to the other groups. To every presentation an inspiring discussion session followed.



Prof. Tom Coulthard, Workshop organizer, and IAG grant-holders at Cumberland Lodge

The sessions during the third day ranged from learning how to code with Python to how to organize fieldwork activities. We also had the possibility to present our own PhD project to small supervised groups divided by topics. This let us to get different feedbacks from supervisors and from the other PhD students. The evening talk was particularly interesting, a former PhD student told us his personal experience providing useful suggestions on how to public on a journal, gaining funding as well as other advices for our future career.

The last day of the workshop was dedicated to a social media session and on how to promote ourselves and our research using social networks, a topical issue.

One of the aspects of the workshop that I have enjoyed the most was meeting other PhD students, finding out how the PhD is working in different Universities and making contacts. I am very thankful to IAG for supporting me in attending this workshop.