



Report on the 9th International Conference on Geomorphology and post-conference Intensive Course for Young Geomorphologists

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Introduction

This report is a brief description of my experience as a young geomorphologist on 9th International Conference on Geomorphology (9th ICG) and the post-conference intensive course. The 9th ICG occurs at 9th – 11th November 2017, in New Delhi – India. I participated of the conference by presenting a poster in the tectonic geomorphology section; my work was entitled “The role of the climate and hillslope geometry in the erosion processes in the continental margin of southeast Brazil”. The intensive course occurs at 12th – 16th November 2017 and it was entitled “Geomorphology Field Training in tectonically active mountain regions”. Below, the main topics of my experience.

9th ICG

The conference had good lectures with interesting themes. I’m sure, it was very important for my education to hear people with relevant experience in different areas of Geomorphology. I miss, however, some focus in important modern methods and views on geomorphology, as the use of cosmogenic isotopes, which particularly I had some experience in my doctorate.

My presentation

My poster presentation was evaluated by Peter van der Beek and it resulted in a good discussion which will have important implications in the continuity of my research. Despite that, the place and time for poster presentation was not good, I talked with a few peoples and a lot of presenters were absent. It is obviously that the conference focus was in the oral presentation. In my point of view, it could be better fewer and more selected oral presentations, as well an highlighted place for the posters, creating a great space for scientific discussion.

Intensive course

It was consensus that the numbers of the lectures was exaggerated and a focus in practical activities could be more interesting. However, I must to say the field trip was amazing. We visited the “Outer” and the “Lesser” Himalaya. We saw valleys and fan materials, as well the folded and metamorphosed sediments that sustain the mountains in this place. Also, we saw morphotectonics features associated with active faults, as river terraces, fault scarps, triangular facets etc. It was my first time in an orogenic setting and I believe that the trip and the stops were well organized.

Human interaction

I think the most interesting human and scientific experience occurs in an informal context. Brazil had the largest delegation in the Conference, with the exception of India. It means I increased my network and I had a lot of good discussions about what we are doing and what we can do. These discussions were omnipresent in our in India, that is: in the conference, in the hotel, in the bar and in the touristic places. This interesting context was potentialized when we were introduced to the geomorphological community and to the other young geomorphologists. This interaction extrapolates our own research and we thought about conference, the young geomorphologists, the International Association on Geomorphology role and about the geomorphology as a science. We reached some consensus (some ones are described in this report) and I believe we created a promising group.

Conclusions

Despite all the understandable difficulties I believe the IAG organization reached their goals. To offer grants for young geomorphologists from less-favoured countries is an important social initiative to stimulate our science in our countries. As a holder of this grant I was very happy to be together with early career geomorphologists from around world. We learned a lot and we are very excited to do geomorphology.