

BSG Post-Graduate Training Workshop

Windsor, UK, 9-12 December 2019

Report on the BSG Post-Graduate Training Workshop 2019

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This year's BSG Windsor Postgraduate Workshop took again place at the amazing Cumberland Lodge located in Great Windsor Park. Twenty-two early PhD students stayed in a royal ambience and we philosophized about the 'why' and 'how' of our PhD projects. Coming from a variety of geomorphological topics, the PhD students presented their topics to each other in an elevator pitch and in more detail within small focus groups. We learned how to present our work at a conference as well as how to engage in scientific discussions with enthusiastic colleagues.



Thomas Coulthard and Tony Parsons introduced us to aspects of research philosophy and practice. We reflected on the high relevance of our PhD topics for the scientific community and public. In a session on project planning, we discussed in small groups different approaches to structure potential PhD projects. Further, we conducted individual risk assessments for the PhD projects to provide more security and alternative pathways in case challenges occur during the planned projects.

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Jo Shanahan from the UK's Environment Agency outlined possible career paths for geomorphologists outside academia. While, Lucy Clarke presented professional advancement within the university system. Lucy further introduced the UK's quality assessment REF/TEF for employees within academia and pointed out the importance of social media for researchers to disseminate their work. In a final session, the PhD students learned about how to write a scientific paper and Stuart Lane talked about the process of publishing from the journal's perspective.



In addition to the practical skills taught during the workshop, the time at Cumberland Lodge provided excellent opportunities to explore Great Windsor Park together with nice colleagues while engaging in scientific discussion. Delicious food as well as tea in the afternoon and beer in the evening offered the perfect framework to exchange ideas, network with fellow PhD students and chat about life in academia. I would therefore like to thank BSG and IAG for making this workshop possible and supporting my journey with a generous travel grant. Furthermore, I would like to thank Thomas and Tony as well as all the other speakers at the workshop for their organization, time and passion to share their experiences in academia with younger generations.