



Report
on
Youth Symposium "Geomorphology in Quaternary Research"

Borucino, Poland, from June 28 to July 1, 2022

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Since my admission to the PhD, I was looking for an international gathering to interact with the world community of geomorphology. But soon the world got into the covid-19 pandemic. After 2 years of waiting, I get information about this symposium. It was the same kind of event, I was looking for. As it has several workshops and field trips along with the research presentation. At the same time, this was affordable, including the stay and food. Due to high currency exchange rates, students from developing countries find it difficult to attend international conferences and associated field trips. But here the registration fee was less and there were no extra charges for field trips. The IAG travel support grant was instrumental for me to join the same.

So, with my first-ever aeroplane journey, I reached Europe for the first time. Dr Damian received me from Gdansk Airport, late at night. Upon reaching the event venue I was mesmerised by the beauty of Kashubian Lakeland. After that, the next 4 days were full of learning and good memories. A total of 21 participants joined the events from the countries of Lithuania, Latvia, Croatia, Hungary, Poland and India (me).



Pic. 1. Drone photograph of event site taken by Maciek Kossowski.

So, on the first day after three insightful introductory lectures and a tasty lunch, we went for the local field trip. Dr Karol and Dr Piotr descriptively explained to us the geological structure and glaciogenic landscapes of the surroundings. On the second day, participants presented their research papers related to various topics like megafloods, sand wedges, glacial and fluvial landforms and the application of remote sensing and drone in geomorphological investigations. In the second half, we have two useful workshops on ‘Handheld gamma-ray spectrometry’ and ‘Dating using TCN’ by Dr Damian and Dr Karol, respectively. We also had lots of fun during the geoHunger Game in the evening.



Pic. 2. Participants during introductory lecture.



Pic. 3. Participants during the first-day field trip.



Pic. 4. Dr Karol explaining the local landscape to participants during the first-day field trip.



Pic. 5. Participants' research presentation on the 2nd day of the symposium.



Pic. 6. Workshop by Dr Damian on Hand-held Gamma-ray Spectrometry.



Pic. 7. Workshop on dating using TCN by Dr Karol.

The 3rd day was full of field trips and we visited a number of interesting places. Dr Karolina explained to us about the storm surge deposits on the Baltic coast, while Dr Piotr described the geomorphological conditions of early settlement at the Puck Lagoon area. We also got an opportunity to know about debris flow and lacustrine sedimentary structures on a cliff side and glacial sedimentation and deformations with the field examples. The organisers had a very good understanding of their locality and showed us every special feature available nearby.



Pic. 8. Dr Karolina explaining storm surge deposits on the Baltic sea coast.



Pic. 9. Dr Piotr explaining about the surface deformations.

On the fourth day, we had a workshop on Microtomography in quaternary deposits with hands-on practice. After that, we had the closing meeting.



Pic. 10. Group photograph at Puck lagoon area.

Overall, this was a very well-organized event. The format of this symposium was excellent with many field trips and workshops. The arrangements were great and we had a very good time while learning and discussing the science of the subject. I have got a good understanding of major research topics and the methodology of researchers in the Peri-Baltic region. I am very grateful to the organisers and IAG for this wonderful experience of my first international trip.