



# International Association of Geomorphologists

## BSG Post-Graduate Training Workshop

Windsor, UK, 5–8 December 2022

### Report

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In the wonderful frame of Cumberland Lodge, Windsor Great Park, the BSG Windsor Postgraduate Workshop took again place from 5th to 8th December. The interiors are exquisitely decorated and, as I told to Dr Lucy Clark, very fitting into the Christmas atmosphere.

Here twenty-four young geomorphologists had the opportunity to participate in this well-organized workshop to understand how to be a researcher. There have been many interesting discussions and activities. A crucial point of the workshop was the interaction: several activities and breaks were organized to allow socialization, and we shared a room with another person.



Upon our arrival, we had lunch and were welcomed by Dr Lucy Clark and Dr John Wainwright, the workshop leaders. The lectures were held in the Mews, a royal stable block now reconverted into a conference building. So, after an interesting introduction to Cumberland Lodge history by Canon Dr Edmund Newell, we started our lectures on the importance of having an online presence and then had coffee and tea with homemade cakes (the first of so many!). Then we had a lesson about the nature of PhD and, in the evening, we introduced each other to our PhD thesis titles and main methods with an "ice-breaking" presentation. We only had one minute as during the PICO sessions and I think it was extremely useful as I am always a bit chatty.



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During the second day, lectures about the Philosophy of Science, the British evaluation system for researchers and teachers, and Python were held and there were two group activities to facilitate the interaction between the attendees. We had to deal with project planning, time management and abstract writing on a specific topic. In the next two days, we had lectures on how to write a scientific paper, academic and non-academic career opportunities, Python modelling, and publishing. Dr Stuart Lane, for example, explained to us the importance of choosing a journal properly, due to the predatory nature of some online journals. It is such a controversial topic, and we have discussed it a lot, even in our free time.

To apply the gained notions in the planning of our PhD project, there was another presentation about it. This time we had five minutes presentation followed by a 5-minute time slot for Q&A.



Another topic was the English doctoral system. From my point of view, this discussion was very enlightening because in Italy we have quite a different approach. I think I'm going to try to use a few of the tips and tricks shown in the workshop during my PhD path.

To conclude, I could definitely recommend this experience as it allowed all of us participants to measure ourselves with different research realities and make new scientific contacts and friendships. I am grateful to the IAG for supporting me and the other grant holder, Małgorzata Szczypińska (who was also my roommate).