



# International Association of Geomorphologists

## The BSG Post-Graduate Training Workshop

Windsor, United Kingdom, 1–4 December 2025

### Report

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I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG) for the financial support that enabled me to attend the British Society for Geomorphology (BSG) Postgraduate Training Workshop, held at Cumberland Lodge in Windsor Great Park from 1 to 4 December 2025. This support made it possible for me to participate in a highly rewarding training event specifically designed for early-stage PhD researchers in geomorphology.

The workshop brought together PhD students from a wide range of European institutions, creating an open, stimulating, and friendly academic environment. The event was organised by members of the BSG, including Lucy Clarke, Emma Shuttleworth, and John Wainwright, whose excellent coordination ensured a well-balanced programme combining scientific reflection, practical training, professional development, and informal interaction.

The first day of workshop accounted a welcome presentation from by Prof. Christopher Hackney (BSG President), who highlighted the relevance of geomorphological research for public policy. His reflections on the challenges of undertaking a PhD—especially balancing scientific rigour, stakeholder expectations, and societal relevance. One of the most engaging activities of the first day was the PICO presentation session, which challenged participants to present their research projects in a concise and accessible way. The feedback and informal discussions that followed were extremely constructive and helped to foster early connections between participants.

The second day focused on fundamental questions about scientific practice, including the nature of scientific knowledge, the role of measurement, model construction, and inductive versus deductive



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reasoning, and how scientific paradigms evolve. A key methodological highlight of the workshop was the Introduction to R and Data Wrangling, led by Prof. John Wainwright, which beyond technical skills, the session strongly reinforced the value of reproducible workflows and thorough documentation following the FAIR principles. Another particularly enjoyable activity was the PhD project planning exercise, where interdisciplinary groups were tasked with designing a complete PhD project within a limited timeframe. This exercise highlighted the importance of clear research questions, realistic planning, risk assessment, and teamwork, while also providing a creative and collaborative setting.

During the third day, I had the opportunity to have informal moments, including time spent exploring Windsor Great Park, further strengthened social interaction and networking among participants. The PhD attendees also presented their PhD projects in a dedicated five-minute presentation. This was especially valuable, as it allowed me to directly apply ideas and advice from the workshop to my own research. Discussing my project with other PhD students helped me to better structure my objectives and data strategy, and the feedback I received contributed significantly to refining my research approach.

The final day focused on scientific writing and publishing, with an excellent session led by Prof. Stuart Lane (University of Lausanne). This session offered practical guidance on academic writing, peer review, and publication strategies, which will be extremely valuable for the dissemination of my doctoral research.

Overall, the BSG Postgraduate Training Workshop was an exceptionally enriching experience. It strengthened my methodological skills, broadened my perspective on scientific practice, and—equally importantly—allowed me to build meaningful professional and personal connections in a supportive and friendly environment.

The workshop has had a clear positive impact on the development of my PhD project and on my confidence as an early-career geomorphologist.



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I would like to once again thank the International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG) for making my participation possible. This initiative plays a crucial role in supporting young researchers and fostering active engagement within the international geomorphological community.

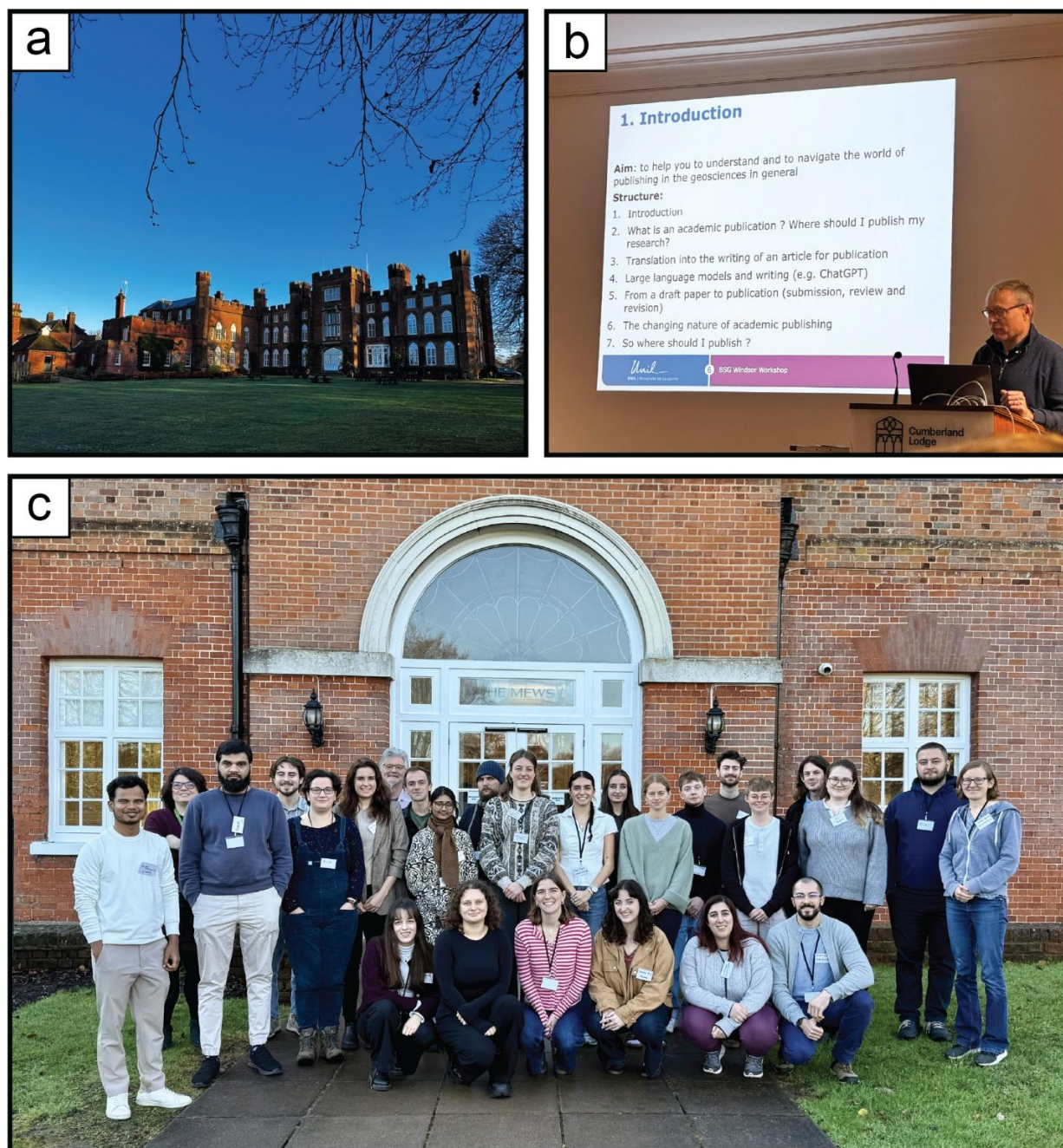


Figure 1. Photographic records from the BSG Postgraduate Training Workshop 2025, held at Cumberland Lodge, Windsor Great Park, United Kingdom: a) Morning view of the Cumberland Lodge backyard prior to the start of the second day; b) Contribution by Prof. Stuart Lane (University of Lausanne, Switzerland) on 'How to Write Science and Get Published in Geosciences'; c) Group photograph of the PhD attendees with the BSG organising team (Lucy Clarke, Emma Shuttleworth and John Wainwright).