



# International Association of Geomorphologists

## 11<sup>th</sup> IAG International Conference on Geomorphology

Christchurch, New Zealand, 2–6 February 2026

and

## ICG2026 Young Geomorphologists Training Program

### “Methods for assessing geomorphic processes and change”

Christchurch, New Zealand 30, January–7 February 2026

## Report

**Chantal Del Siro**

*Institute of Earth Sciences, University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland  
chantal.delsiro@supsi.ch*

I am extremely grateful and honored to have received the IAG grant to attend the 11<sup>th</sup> IAG International Conference on Geomorphology. This event was a great opportunity to present an important part of my PhD thesis to an international audience and to receive valuable feedback from leading experts in the field.

The conference also gave me the chance to enrich my knowledge on topics related to geomorphology and to meet other researchers, exchange ideas, and build new professional connections that will be important for my future career.

Besides the parallel sessions and keynote lectures, the conference also included a very interesting Training Program dedicated to young geomorphologists, as well as field trips to explore the geomorphological diversity of New Zealand.



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The 11<sup>th</sup> IAG International Conference on Geomorphology took place in Christchurch, a city located on the east coast of the South Island of New Zealand. All the parallel sessions and keynote lectures were held at Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre (Fig. 1).

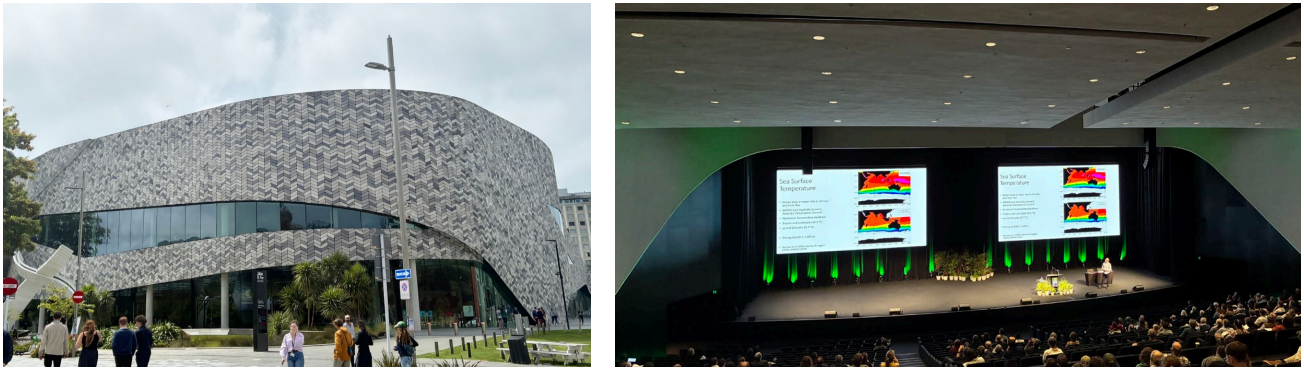


Figure 1: Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre where the conference took place.

During the conference, I had the opportunity to present two contributions (Fig. 2).

An oral presentation entitled “Active rock glaciers as hydro-chemical disruptors of freshwater ecosystems from the Swiss Alps”, delivered during the “Cryosphere Processes and Mountain Hydrology” session, which took place on Tuesday, 3 February. In this talk, I presented the first chapter of my PhD thesis, which investigates the water quality of two rock glacier springs and their impacts on high-mountain headwater systems of Southern Swiss Alps.

I also presented a poster entitled “Analysing surface elevation changes of active rock glaciers on intra- and inter-seasonal scales. Case studies from the Swiss Alps”, at the “Open session on rock glaciers dynamics” session held on Monday, 2 February. In this poster, I exhibited the results from the second chapter of my PhD thesis, which focuses on the analysis of the morphodynamics of three active rock glaciers and the processes involved, in order to detect thickness losses related to ground ice melting. The poster session took place alongside the Welcome Cocktail Reception, allowing me to discuss my research findings with numerous researchers in a relaxed and informal atmosphere.



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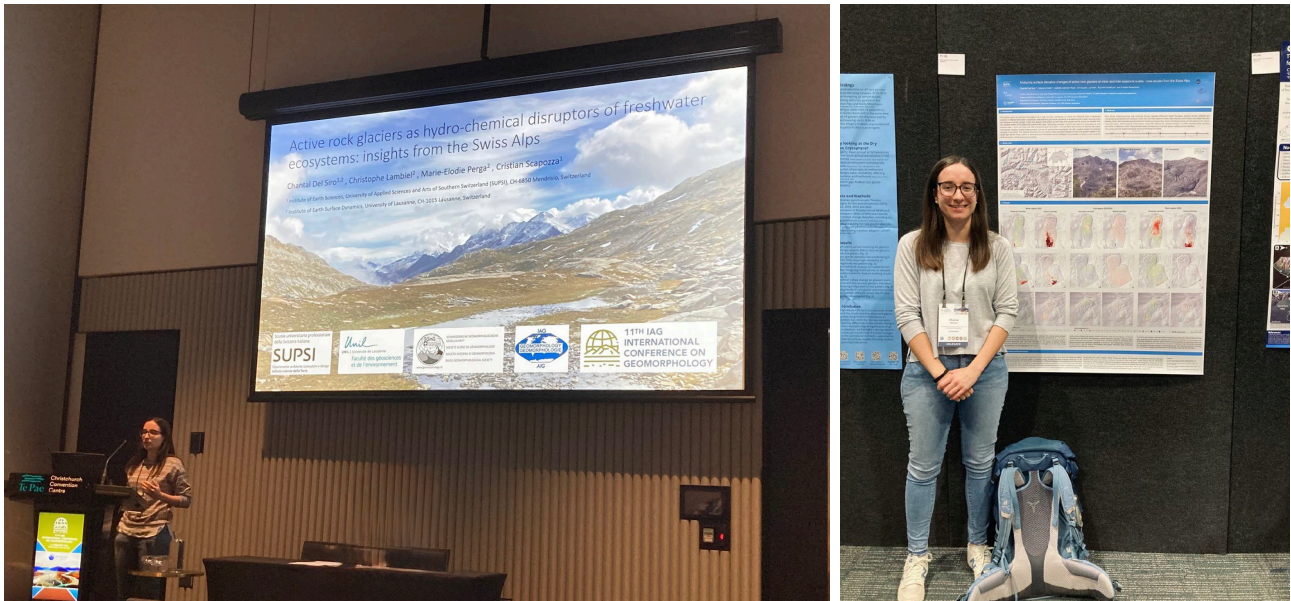


Figure 2: On the left, my oral presentation on the water quality of rock glacier springs; on the right, my poster presentation on the morphodynamics analysis of rock glaciers.

During the conference, I attended two workshops organized as part of the Training Program dedicated to young geomorphologists (Fig. 3).

The first workshop, entitled “Early Career Workshop on Peer Review”, took place on Tuesday, 3 February. The workshop was led by Prof. Ann Rowan, Prof. Oliver Korup and Dr. Anya Leenman, respectively Editor-in-Chief and Associate Editors of the “Journal of Geophysical Research: Earth Surface”. During the presentation, they offered a clear explanation of the peer review process adopted by the journal. In addition, they provided valuable suggestions on how to write reviews as journal reviewers, as well as on how to respond to reviews when submitting an article.

The second workshop, entitled “Getting published. How to write and publish a journal article”, took place on Thursday, 5 February. The workshop was conducted by Prof. Jasper Knight from the University of Witwatersrand, South Africa. In this presentation, Prof. Knight provided very useful advice on both the selection of the suitable journal for publication and the preparation of the manuscript. He provided a clear overview of the standard structure of a scientific article and detailed recommendations on how the different sections (i.e., Abstract, Introduction, etc.) should be written.



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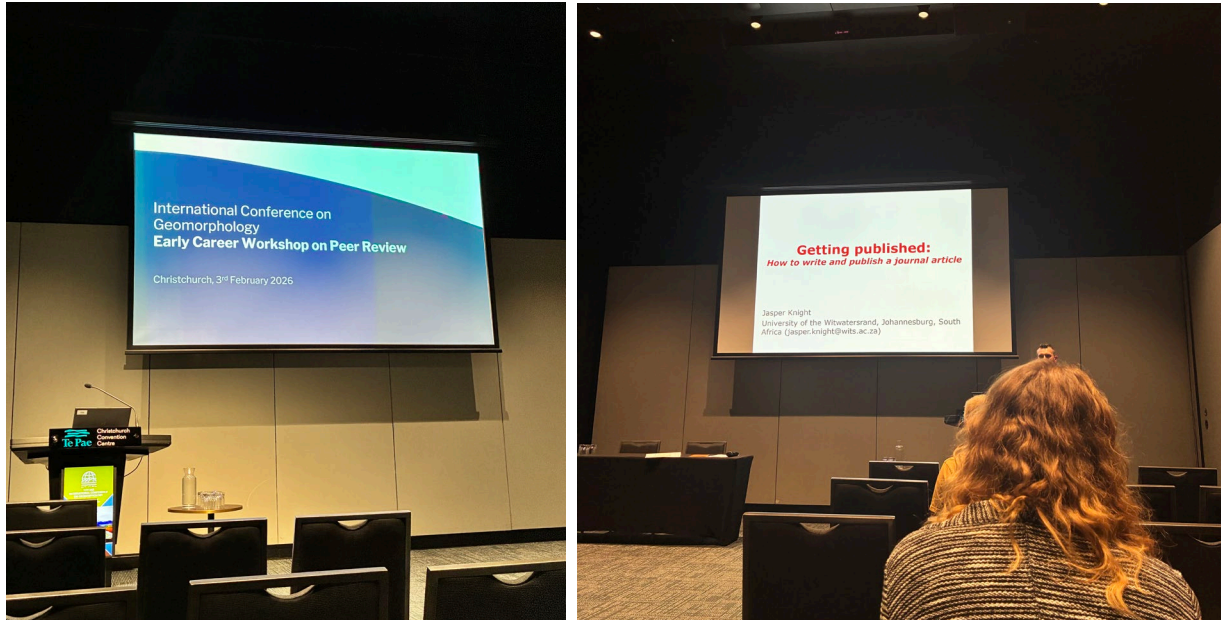


Figure 3: Workshops organized as part of the Training Program dedicated to young geomorphologists during the conference.

During the conference, I also had the opportunity to participate in the mid-conference field trip “Costal Geomorphology of the Northern Canterbury Coastline” (Fig. 4). During this excursion we travelled from Christchurch to Gore Bay to explore the coastal geomorphology of this region. Throughout the field trip, I had the opportunity to observe numerous coastal processes and landforms, including hapua, eroding cliffs, estuaries, and mixed-sand and gravel beaches. The organisation of the excursion was excellent. All the stops were highly interesting, and the explanations provided by the speakers (in particular Dr. Sarah McSweeney and Dr. Sophie Horton) were clear and concise, while still allowing time for independent exploration of the sites. During the launch break, we had the opportunity to visit the Terrace Edge Vineyard in Waipara and to taste their excellent wines.

I greatly appreciated this field trip, as it allowed me to learn about numerous geomorphological processes and landforms that were new to me, since my research generally focuses on periglacial environments.



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Figure 4: Some photos from the mid-conference field trip “Costal Geomorphology of the Nothern Canterbury Coastline”. On the left, the Hurunui River hapua; on the right, a glass of excellent *Pinot Gris* during the visit to the Terrace Edge Vineyard.

Finally, I had the great honour of being appointed as National Delegate by the Swiss Geomorphological Society (SGmS). During the conference, I therefore had the opportunity to attend the IAG Council Meetings and to officially represent Switzerland in the voting procedures. This allowed me to gain closer insight into the IAG Executive Committee, as well as to meet other National Delegates and to reconnect with the representative of Cameroon, Dr. Ghislain Zangmo Tefogoum, whom I had previously met at the 10<sup>th</sup> IAG International Conference on Geomorphology in Coimbra (Fig. 5).



Figure 5: Some photos taken during the IAG Council Meeting. On the left, the vote counting process; on the right, a photo with Dr. Ghislain Zangmo Tefogoum.



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I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the IAG for its valuable support of my participation in 11<sup>th</sup> IAG International Conference on Geomorphology. I would also like to express my warmest thanks to the Local Organising Committee for the impeccable organization of this conference, which allowed me to experience an enriching opportunity in many aspects. From a scientific perspective, it enabled me to broaden my knowledge in the field of geomorphology; from a professional perspective, it provided the opportunity to expand my network by engaging with researchers from around the world; and on a personal level, it allowed me to meet new people and create new friendships.

This remarkable and inspiring experience on the other side of the world will remain close to my heart, and I am confident that it will positively contribute to the continuation of my early career as a young researcher.