

BSG Postgraduate Grant Report

European Geosciences Union conference – April 2017

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I was lucky to receive a contribution of £500 from the British Society of Geomorphology Postgraduate Grant to attend the European Geosciences Union conference 2017, where I presented an oral presentation entitled '*Influence of urban surface properties and rainfall characteristics on rainfall characteristics on surface water flood outputs: insights from a physical modelling environment*', and a poster presentation entitled '*Calibration and validation of a small-scale urban surface water flood event using crowdsourced images*'. I was also asked to co-convene a session on the use of rainfall simulators in geomorphology, hydrology and soil science (SSS12.16/HS11.40) and presented an associated convener-led poster presentation entitled '*Rainfall simulators in hydrological and geomorphological sciences: benefits, applications and future research directions*' with experts in the field of rainfall simulation using examples taken from our rainfall-simulator related research.

Attending EGU 2017 was a fantastic experience which allowed me to present my PhD work to an international audience and to key individuals in the field of rainfall simulation and physical modelling of surface water flooding, as well as the numerical modelling of surface water flood risk. The highlight of my week was my final poster presentation which focused on the calibration and validation of surface water flood risk using crowdsourced imagery, where I had a number of detailed and useful conversations with people interested in the use of numerical modelling to simulate surface water flood risk and how crowdsourced images could be used to validate flood modelling which will definitely help with the writing up of my PhD thesis. The case study I used on my poster presentation was a flood event which occurred on the 28th June 2012 on the Loughborough University campus, where a very intense rainfall event (28.7mm in 15minutes) caused widespread flooding and we were able to collect over 140 useable images to validate flood depth and extent. Interestingly, a PhD student from Bristol spoke to me at the end of the poster session and had said that she was also looking at a small-scale, high intensity flood event just outside of Newcastle which had occurred on the same date so it was interesting to talk about the impacts that this had on her case study location too.

Another highlight of the conference was convening the session on rainfall simulation and the associated poster presentation slot in the evening after the session. This was a useful opportunity to listen to and network with authors who had very interesting and relevant presentations to my PhD research.

In summary, EGU 2017 was a fantastic conference which proved to be an enjoyable, relevant and social conference to present my PhD research at and network with and meet friendly researchers from all across Europe and further afield, which I hope to stay in contact with in the future. I am very grateful to the BSG for awarding me a BSG Postgraduate Conference Attendance Grant which enabled me to attend and present at a fantastic and enjoyable conference which was an incredibly useful opportunity in the final stages of my PhD.

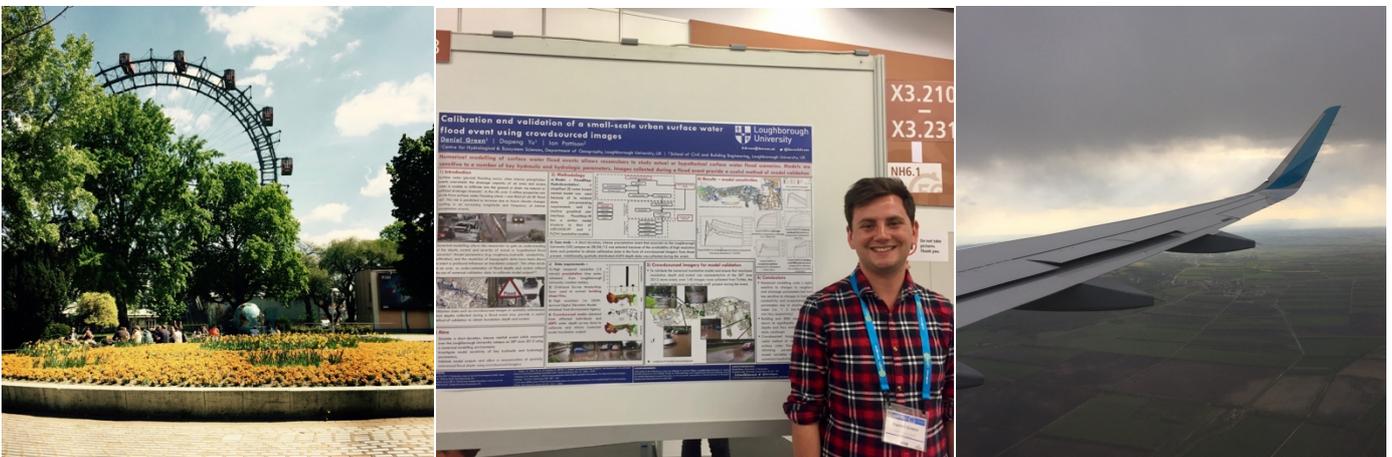


Figure 1a: Prater Park, close to the apartment where we stayed; Figure 1b: One of my poster presentations; Figure 1c: Flying home back to the UK after a fantastic week at EGU.