

European Geosciences Union General Assembly (EGU 2016)
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The British Society for Geomorphology (BSG) supported my attendance and presentation at the European Geosciences Union (EGU) in Vienna, April 2016. The conference provided a great opportunity to attend a large international conference at an opportune time within my PhD research (final year). My research which investigates the implications of invasive signal crayfish on fine sediment dynamics and aquatic macroinvertebrates sits on the interface of geomorphology, river ecology and hydrology. As such, this conference provided me with the first opportunity to combine all interests within one interdisciplinary session entitled 'Linking river ecology, hydrology, and geomorphology for integrated river management'.

During my time as a PhD student I have attended a number of other international conferences which have been predominantly focused on freshwater science and morphology and so I was not expecting to be surprised by the gigantic numbers of scientists who descend on mass to Vienna on an annual basis – I was wrong, even the public trams are taken over by EGU flags! Unlike the other conferences I have attended, the poster sessions provide a real focal hub of the meeting, with scientists mingling and discussing cutting edge research over a beer. These sessions provide a great opportunity for early career researchers to converse with leading academics in an informal setting. I presented a poster within the afore mentioned session which was entitled 'Do predator-prey relationships on rivers beds affect fine sediment ingress?'. This research showcased experiments which investigated the geomorphic roles of invasive signal crayfish (*Pacifastacus leniusculus*) and freshwater shrimp (*Gammarus pulex*) on fine sediment ingress into the riverbed and the mediating role that predator-prey relationships play.



Figure 1. Even the trams are affiliated to EGU during the week!

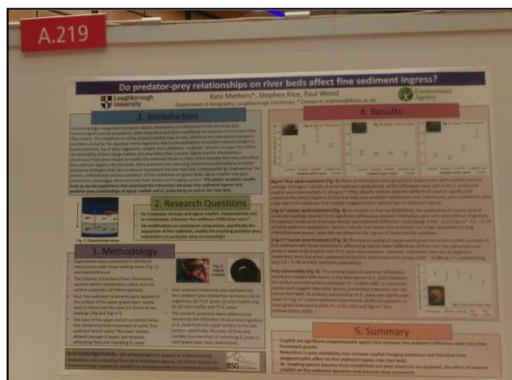


Figure 2. Poster presentation

ecology, meeting a number of prominent scientists in addition to networking with fellow early career scientists.

EGU2106 was a fantastic conference which brought together a broad range of scientists, enabling new insights into different sub-disciplines and future job prospects. I am very grateful for the BSG conference attendance grant which enabled me to experience this great conference.

The meeting proved to be an enjoyable and interesting week – the array of presentations on offer is diverse and the assembly showcases a number of novel presentation techniques including PICO presentations (presentation of Interactive Content) a Google interactive cyber wall in addition to providing exposure to science talks which I would not otherwise encounter at other meetings. I attended a lecture organised by ESA (European Space Agency) which provided an interesting overview on the recent Rosetta mission to Mars. During the week I attended a range of talks and social events which encompassed my interests in fluvial geomorphology, hydrology and