

BSG Conference September 2018 Aberystwyth – Highlights

Hello! Launch of the new Committee for Professional Geomorphology



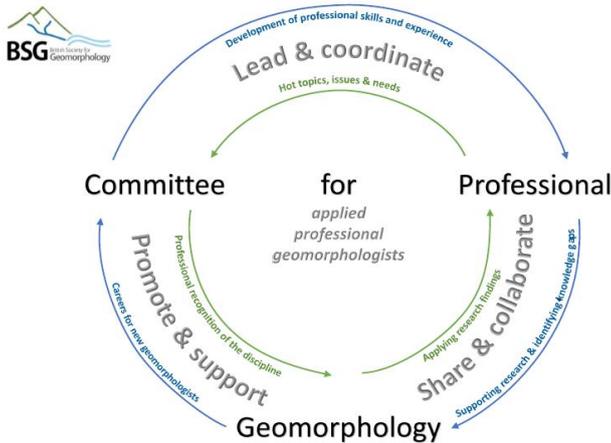
Launching the Committee for Professional Geomorphology

The conference gave us a good opportunity to launch the new committee. There's also a page [on the BSG website](#).

Rich and Katy ran a well-attended workshop on how professional geomorphologists communicate with academics and the wide range of people we work with daily.

The team introduced the new committee with a lunchtime session. We set out our vision and asked for ideas on how we can help. The new committee received plenty of support from leading academics. Our work is valued.

There will be scope for professional geomorphology to feature at next year's conference. **Please let us know if you have any ideas or would be interested in presenting your work.**



Workshop on communicating geomorphology

Communicating Geomorphology – more, wider, creatively

The conference theme was 'communicating geomorphology' – recognising the growing role for geomorphology in managing people's 'love and fear' of the environment. John Lewin's introductory Frost Lecture asked for better understanding of the public's learning needs and for geomorphology to be useful – in education and for society. Katy Kemble, our secretary, presented on the realities of applying geomorphological understanding to complex technical problems within time and budget constraints. Suzie Maas represented the committee on 'The Big Debate' about how better to communicate geomorphology and how challenging it can be. There was much discussion about listening, language, platforms and audiences. Exploring the scope for creative communication through education, arts, fieldwork and social media to embed geomorphology in society and to deliver for people was a key topic. Does geomorphology need an 'Attenborough' figure?



Applied research: better together

Many of the papers showed how important geomorphology can be, especially when linked to ecology and society. For example:

Jamie Woodward: micro plastics in Manchester rivers
Found hotspots with a maximum micro plastic concentration of >500 000 particles/m²

Larissa Naylor: 'green the grey'

See a city as a catchment and use building materials, design and collaboration to benefit ecology and society

Harry Sanders: on signal crayfish burrowing drivers

Crayfish generate significant sediment and should be considered in future sediment transport and river functioning models

Richard Mason: invertebrates and sediment transport

Surface dwelling species can transport sediment up from below the armour layer by ca 2cm

Mairi MacArthur: 'live' coastal defence schemes

Choose light, rough and angled rock armour to retain water and benefit ecology – limestone for limpets!

The programme and abstracts are [here](#).



Awards – it could be you!

The BSG's top award - [the Linton Award](#) - is now open to applied geomorphologists. It's for geomorphologists who have made a leading contribution to the discipline over a sustained period – think 'lifetime achievement'. Would you like to nominate anybody? The deadline is the end of this year.

We are also hoping to set up a new award specifically for professional geomorphologists.

Outreach grants

Grants of up to £1000 are available to members who would like to organise geomorphological outreach activities to schools, the general public and industry. The deadlines are 30th September and 1st February but there is flexibility. Contact the outreach team with your ideas and look [here](#).

What can I do?

Keep in touch with your sector using the details above – share ideas and experiences

Think What can the BSG do for you? Your sector reps will be in touch in coming weeks

Spread the word Tell your colleagues about us – you don't have to be a member

Volunteer Your support may be needed to get things done – let us know if you can help

The Committee

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CASE Studentships – act now

NERC CASE studentships link academic and non-academic partner institutions to support PhD students in their studies. There will be over 50 available to start in the academic year 2019/20. Let's try to make some of these in applied geomorphology.

Both partners benefit. PhD students and academics can gain valuable insights into industry that can help them with future career prospects. Partner organisations can gain a highly qualified intern and practical support with developing new evidence for projects. The cost to organisations is minimal at £1000 a year for 3-4 years, plus some time for support and guidance.

Think about whether your organisation could benefit from a CASE studentship. Look [here](#) for more information.

The time to start making contact with potential academic partners is now.

Coming up...

Association of Rivers Trusts Autumn Conference
21st November 2018 Bristol

<http://www.therivertrust.org/events/river-trust-autumn-conference-save-the-date/>

BSG Windsor Postgraduate Workshop
3rd-6th December 2018 Windsor

<http://geomorphology.org.uk/workshops/windsor-postgraduate-workshop-2018>

River Restoration Centre Annual Conference

<http://www.therrc.co.uk/rrc-annual-conference-2019>

BSG Annual Conference

9th-12th September 2019 Sheffield

Get involved - represent professional geomorphology!