



CNAES
HQP Research & Collaborative Exchange
Funding
Visit report

1. Exchange information

Visitor: **Vanessa Bourne, MSc, Laurentian University, CNAES Project I-3**

Supervisor: Dr. John Bailey and Dr. John Gunn

Conference: **Society of Freshwater Science, Raleigh North Carolina, June 2017**

2. Objective/Purpose

I attended the 2017 Society of Freshwater Science (SFS) Conference in Raleigh, North Carolina. At this conference I presented my final results of my master's thesis. I presented preliminary work at the 2016 SFS where I received valuable feedback on my project. This conference is frequented by aquatic biomonitoring biologists with experience in applying similar biomonitoring techniques. By attending the 2017 conference I was looking to receive further feedback on my completed project as these additional pointers will help in publishing my thesis work. I also intended to use this opportunity to network with people in the aquatic biomonitoring field and attend the CNAES special session.

3. Description of the visit

This 2017 SFS conference focused on challenging the SFS community to think about how freshwater science can help imagine and implement solutions to the complex set of problems that plague freshwaters. During this conference I attended presentations that taught me a range of ways we can contribute to solving these problems. I also listened to the CNAES special session. I have enjoyed seeing these projects develop from the beginning of my time with CNAES and building relationships with these other young scientists.

During the conference I had the opportunity to network with biomonitoring scientists from all over the world (Canada, USA, New Zealand, Australia). They provided me with important feedback on my project. I also had the opportunity to speak with a scientist from Environment Canada who I am now working with in my current job. I also spent some time with scientists from Western and UNB. I learned more about their research programs. Overall, the feedback I gained on my project has helped me in putting my thesis paper together. I also learned from the networking opportunities.



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