

CNAES
HQP Research & Collaborative Exchange
Funding
Visit report

1. Exchange information

Visitor: **Haibin Dong, MSc candidate, Western University, CNAES Project II-4/5**

Supervisor: Irena Creed

Conference: **ESA Annual Meeting 2017; Oregon Convention Center, Portland, OR, USA; Aug 6-11, 2017**

2. Objective/Purpose

The main goal of my visit is to deliver a 20-minute contributed oral presentation on behalf of my supervisor on August 10 during the “Ecosystem Stability and Resilience” session. The purpose of giving this talk is to introduce the emerging concept of biogeochemical resilience to the ecological society and seek feedback for our research findings. Additionally, I am expecting valuable academic exchanges with researchers studying aquatic ecosystems and fresh water biogeochemistry who will be interested in my thesis topic and other projects supported by CNAES (e.g., Boreal 2050).

3. Description of the visit

My visit to Portland, OR, was from Aug 5 – 12, 2017. It involved delivering a presentation about biogeochemical resilience assessment in stream ecosystems and attending several talks related to biogeochemistry and ecosystem services.

The purpose of joining this international conference was to propose the emerging idea of biogeochemical resilience assessment to scholars and researchers in the related field. Feedback and potential challenges were raised after the presentation. I also discussed this topic with many experts informally throughout the week. The information gathered was a valuable source for refining my statistical analysis and thesis writing skills. There were a variety of contributed talks, organized sessions and workshops in this conference, which are under the theme of the aquatic ecosystem and biogeochemical research; these sessions helped me build my background knowledge of biogeochemical cycles and ecosystem services. I also joined a field trip to Mountain Rainier National Park on Aug 6 where I learned about many long term ecological research projects related to aquatic ecosystems. Over the course of the week, I met many excellent young researchers from all over the world.

Overall, my expected goals were achieved on this trip. Another major benefit from attending this conference was networking. I had the chance to talk to various professionals, from government agents and academic scholars to industry experts. I plan to stay in regular contact with them, such that they can guide me through my research with their knowledge and insights and also provide opportunities for future research. Consequently, I believe I have strengthened existing collaborative relationships with experts and scholars in Theme II and have also established many new connections for future knowledge exchange.



Figure 1. Mountain Rainier under the sunset

**Stream biogeochemical resilience –
Finding the “new normal” in the age of Anthropocene**

COS 158 – Ecosystem Stability And Resilience II
August 10th, 2017

Haibin Dong,
Western University, Ontario

Irena Creed,
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Figure 2. Presentation slides for ESA 2017