



CNAES
HQP Research & Collaborative Exchange
Funding
Visit report

1. Exchange information

Visitor: **Patrizia Zamberletti, MSc student, Western University, CNAES Project 2.4/2.5**

Supervisor: **Dr. Irena Creed**

Conference: **ASLO 2017 Aquatic Sciences Meeting - Mountains to the Sea, Honolulu, Hawaii, Feb 26- Mar 3**

2. Objective/Purpose

I attended the ASLO 2017 conference to present my research to an international scientific community with a talk and promote scientific stewardship of aquatic resources for the public interest. At the same time, I had the opportunity to get in touch with the full spectrum of aquatic sciences, advances public awareness and education about aquatic resources and research.

3. Description of the visit

The conference focuses on the theme “From the Mountains to the Sea” which emphasizes the connectivity of our planet’s aquatic systems, and underscores the urgent need to share knowledge, insights, discoveries, and different world views about the lakes, rivers, streams, aquifers, wetlands, and oceans that comprise our Earth’s hydrosphere. I attended the conference from Feb 26th to Mar 3rd with my colleague Marta Zaffaroni to present our research project in a talk and a poster. The presented work is our master thesis that we are going to discuss at the end of April 2017. The sessions I followed were related to changes in ecosystem dynamics, ecosystem and water interactions, food web, landscape connectivity and climate change. Attending the conference gave me the opportunity to get in touch with an international scientific community and discover different research approaches. This has proved very useful for my project because it suggests new ideas and tools to continue the research work. Moreover, I presented the first part of our project as a talk in the session “Does connectivity enhance integrity? Dependence of physical, biological, and chemical integrity of natural waters on connections to land and other waterbodies”. This was very helpful because I gained more experience in dealing with a scientific committee and achieving more skills on presenting my work. Taking part in the poster session with my colleague, I had the opportunity discuss with people, present the project to them and answer their questions in an informal way. This was helpful for creating new contacts and promoting our work to a wide public range. Dealing with the public, I had also an evaluation on the work. From both the talk and the poster, we received positive feedback and our work seems to be appreciated. In my opinion, the conference was successful and it was also an excellent opportunity for research sharing and future potential collaboration. I am very grateful to the CNAES Scientific Committee for giving me this opportunity by funding the trip.