

CNAES
HQP Research & Collaborative Exchange
Funding
Visit report

1. Exchange information

Visitor: **Alex Yeung, PhD candidate, Theme II**

Supervisor: **Dr. John Richardson**

Conference: **Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography (ASLO) 2018 Summer Meeting; Victoria, BC, Canada, June 10 -15, 2018**

2. Objective/Purpose

I attended this conference mainly to present a talk about my latest PhD research on ecohydrology, and its bioassessment implications. Through interacting with a broad audience of scholars in aquatic sciences, I aimed at having academic exchanges about aquatic ecosystem functioning and services, and also CNAES.

3. Description of the visit

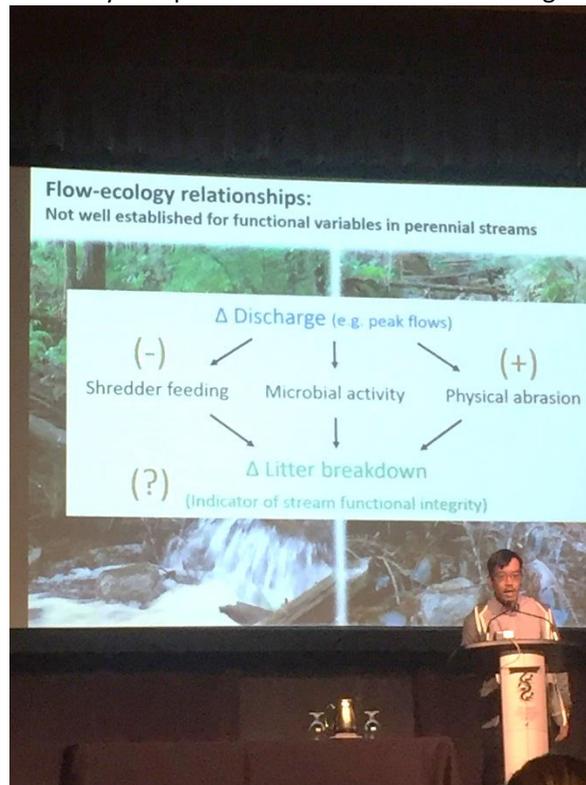
I presented my talk on June 12 in the session 'Food Web Interactions and Trophic Linkages', which was entitled 'Relations of stream litter breakdown with interannual differences in discharge: bioassessment implications'. I highlighted the extent of spatio-temporal variability of litter breakdown in headwater streams, which was found to be weakly related to the differences in hydrologic indices across years. Based on these findings, I made recommendations on refining the criteria for stream bioassessment which involves the use of litter breakdown assays. I received valuable feedback from researchers with interests in organic matter cycling in aquatic systems and the ecology of temperate streams.

Throughout the meeting, I had a wide exposure to the latest research in the dynamics of terrestrial organic matter (carbon) along the river continuum, and their influences on aquatic productivity and food supply, which aligns well with my interest and intersected with many special sessions. I got to know the recent work of many CNAES members (PIs and HQPs) and alumni from my lab, either from their oral presentations or discussions with them. The conference mentor assigned to me, who is a tenured-track faculty, introduced me to his colleagues as well as scientists working in northern high-latitude freshwater systems (my future potential research environment), and we had great academic and non-academic conversations. I also attended the early career workshop 'Effective Publishing and Review Strategies', in which a panel of journal editors gave useful advice on offering and responding to peer reviews of research articles.

Overall, it was a rewarding and intellectually stimulating experience participating in this ASLO meeting, in terms of communicating my research findings, gaining insights from the latest research from my field of study, and networking with scholars/CNAES members.

Photos courtesy of Vanessa Bourne:

1. My oral presentation in the ASLO meeting



2. Lunch gathering with CNAES HQPs (Aleksey Paltsev, Vanessa Bourne, Rachel DeJong, Gillian Fuss)

