

AGU Fall Meeting 2023 – Gray-Milne Travel Bursary Outcome Report

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I am very grateful to the BGA committee for awarding me a Gray-Milne travel bursary to attend and present at the American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting in San Francisco in December 2023. I am completing a PhD in the Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge, and this grant allowed me to present the results of my research in person at AGU23.



At the Moscone Centre, San Francisco

The AGU Fall Meeting is attended by over 25,000 scientists and is a world-leading conference for geoscience. Last year was my first time in attendance, and it was a hugely beneficial experience. The work I presented was titled ‘Topographic response to mantle dynamics in passive margin settings: A study of the Australian continent’. During my PhD, I have been investigating the influence of convective circulation within the mantle on Earth’s surface elevation. I work on constraining this dynamic component of topography across Australia. I have studied my results in conjunction with further geological and geophysical observations, including the volcanism along the continent’s eastern seaboard and have gained insights into the continent’s tectonic evolution.

Attending AGU provided me with a great opportunity to discuss my research with scientists from around the world, including several working in Australia who I otherwise wouldn’t have had the chance to meet. I had a number of fascinating discussions from which I generated new research ideas that I have since built into my studies.



Visiting the Golden Gate Bridge

I attended numerous presentations by experts which widened my understanding of my field and allowed me to take on new ideas from a board range of disciplines. I also particularly enjoyed learning about enhanced rock weathering, a subject which I am deeply interested in, and hearing about the latest advances from those working actively in this field. During the week I was able to meet with academics to discuss our respective research in great detail, and additionally to discuss potential future collaborations and opportunities for when I have completed my degree.

I would like to reiterate my thanks to BGA for awarding me this bursary of £500, which covered my registration fees and a significant proportion of my travel costs. Furthermore, I am very grateful to BGA for providing awards promptly and upfront, both of which are much appreciated by members of the postgraduate community.

<https://agu.confex.com/agu/fm23/meetingapp.cgi/Paper/1399582>