SAGES Graduate School – Graduate testimonial

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University of St Andrews

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Supervisor - Michael Bliss Singer (University of St Andrews)

TESTIMONIAL

My PhD thesis aimed to assess the development of trends in the cross-sectional geometry of river channels (width, depth, and velocity of the flow) over decadal timescales and their contribution to changes in flood hazard, in comparison with trends in hydrology. To do this, I developed automated statistical procedures to analyse the US Geological Survey’s databases of streamflow and stream channel measurements, which have been collected at thousands of stream gauges over the course of the last century. As a SAGES-affiliated PhD student, I was able to collaborate with a wider group of SAGES-funded appointees which included my thesis advisor, Michael Singer, and also Simon Mudd and Mikael Attal from the University of Edinburgh, and their PhD students. This collaboration led to publication of a paper in Water Resources Research in 2014. I also received the SAGES award for the ‘Best published paper to appear in a peer-reviewed journal’ for our 2013 Geology paper. Since leaving St Andrews I have been employed as a Lecturer in Physical Geography at Queen Mary University of London. From July 2015 I will begin a Postdoctoral Research Scholarship at the Iowa Institute for Hydraulic Research, Hydroscience & Engineering, in Iowa City (USA), developing novel flood forecasting methods using multi-model ensemble data.

PUBLICATIONS


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The same principle will be adopted for the Scottish Graduate Academy of Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths.*