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The AGU Fall out meeting is one of the major geosciences meetings where scientists from all over the world present and review their latest research results. Due to the travel grants from the ESF I got the opportunity to present the first results of my PhD research on the analysis of oxygen and carbon isotopes of different planktic and benthic foraminifera. Within the framework of the MOCCHA project the goal of my work is to produce a stable isotope stratigraphy at sub-decadal resolution from a high sedimentation rate marine core collected in the Gulf of Taranto (Italy).

In poster session “PP21: Decadal to Century-Scale Climate Variability Over the Last Millennium: Evidence From Non-tree Ring Archives (Sponsor: Paleoceanography and Paleoclimatology)”, I presented a poster of a calibration study, where we carried out oxygen and carbon isotope analyses of planktic and benthic foraminifera of an extensive set of sediment surface samples taken along the southern Italian coast. During the session I had interesting discussions and got some good feedback on my work - from senior scientist as well as from other PhDs. Two days before our session, the session sponsor “Paleoceanography and Paleoclimatology” gave young researchers the opportunity to announce their talks and posters in the form of mini-presentations during a business meeting of the community and to get in touch with the community in a casual atmosphere. Regarding the size of the conference this business meeting was an ideal place to meet people and to discuss my work. Besides my own session, the sessions “PP22A and B: High-resolution Paleoclimate modeling and Proxy Records”, “GC24A Global Environmental Change and General Contribution II”, “PP21D Holocene climate variability”, “PP23C Holocene climate variability”, “PP31B Merging New and Old proxys: Techniques, Limitations, and Applications From the Geological Record I”, “PP31C: Paleoceanography and Paleoclimatology General Contribution”, “PP31A Empirical and modeling reconstructions of the Tempo, Mode, and Origin of Paleocirculation and Climate Change during the Holocene and prior periods”, “AE32A Atmospheric feedbacks and climate change”, “PP34B Merging New and Old proxys: Techniques, Limitations, and Applications From the Geological Record III”, “PP51B Decadal-to Century Scale climate variability over the last Millennium”, allowed me to get further insight. Overall, I appreciate the AGU Fall meeting 2009 – it was a very motivating and successful experience.

Sincerely yours,
Anna-Lena Grauel