

### **Purpose of visit**

The purpose of my visit was to attend the Urbino Summer School for paleoclimatology in Italy. The main aim of my PhD is to reconstruct Antarctic ice sheet evolution from ~ 25 Ma – 12Ma, with a focus on the interaction between orbital forcing, ice sheet expansion and contraction and changes in the carbon cycle, so the summer school as ideally suited to me as an early career scientist. The main aim of my visit was to attend lectures, seminars and field trips given by scientists at the forefront of paleoclimate research and enable me to forge international links with other paleoclimate research groups.

### **Description of the work carried out**

I spent the majority of my time at the summer school attending seminars and lectures. I was able to present my current progress in my PhD during a poster session. I also attended a fieldwork day, the Contessa section near Urbino, which improved my understanding of Mediterranean cyclostratigraphy. I have not previously had the chance to go out into the field during my PhD and so this was good training for future fieldworks.

### **Description of main results obtained**

Not applicable

### **Future collaboration with the host institution**

I hope in future to collaborate with many of the people from different groups I met at the summer school.

In particular, the summer school gave rise to a potential collaboration with students from the Biology department at Utrecht University on using the TEX86 proxy across the Oligocene-Miocene to recreate sea surface temperatures, and a potential collaboration with the University of Massachusetts using stable isotope analysis of Planktic foraminifers from to reconstruct the geochemistry of the water column across the Oligocene- Miocene.

### **Projected publications/articles**

None based on the trip itself.

### **Other comments (if any)**