



AQUACOSM-plus Early Career Researcher Network Newsletter

Hello everyone ✨ We are back with some updates from the past, plans for the future, and opportunities to look out for.

Announcements

- ❖ Welcome to our new member to the Core team - Faith Oyewale Olabisi!

Faith is an aquaculture researcher from Nigeria. He is passionate about all things aquatic - from ecosystem dynamics to fish health and gut-microbiota interactions. He holds a bachelor's degree in Aquaculture and Fisheries from the University of Ilorin and will soon begin his master's in Aquaculture Sciences at the Chinese Academy of Sciences under the ANSO Scholarship. We are excited to have Faith as part of the AQUACOSM ECR Core Team and can't wait to see his ideas in action!



- ❖ Join our informal **coffee chats** ☕! Bring a beverage of your choice and connect virtually with other like-minded ECRs once a month. The dates are announced on our **Discord** channel - so be sure to [join](#) to stay updated and connect with fellow ECRs! In our last coffee chat, ECRs discuss their thoughts, ideas and research interests on **Plankton communities**.
- ❖ *Want to be more active in our community?* 🏊 🏄 🚴 🏃 🏊
Host a Coffee Chat! It's an easy way to find like-minded researchers for your next session proposal, grant application, project idea, or to just make more friends. For more information, email [Sarah \(sarah.s.hasnain@gmail.com\)](mailto:sarah.s.hasnain@gmail.com), [Kati \(kati.patonai@gmail.com\)](mailto:kati.patonai@gmail.com) or post on our Discord channel (#social). We will be happy to support you!
Host an in-person ECR event! Are you going to a conference in 2026 and would like to network with other ECRs? Consider hosting an AQ+ ECR-associated event! We will be happy to help you plan anything from a casual meet and greet, to a workshop or a formal networking session! For more information, email [Sarah \(sarah.s.hasnain@gmail.com\)](mailto:sarah.s.hasnain@gmail.com), [Varsha \(vysneha9@gmail.com\)](mailto:Varsha (vysneha9@gmail.com)), or post on our Discord channel (#social).
- ❖ If you are **attending the Ocean Sciences Meeting (OSM)** in Glasgow and would like to be featured in our next newsletter to increase attendance at your talk/poster and foster more connections, submit your information [here](#). We will put together a list of talks/posters from the members of our network in the next newsletter!

- ❖ *Have you published recently?* We are launching a new section in our newsletter. Share your recent papers, preprints, or research tools so we can share your amazing work. Let's promote our community's work, connect with fellow researchers, and boost collaboration opportunities.
- ❖ ✨ Our network will have an official website soon! Stay tuned! ✨

Upcoming ECR opportunities and events

- **Some sessions to look for if you are going to ASLO-SIL 2026 conference:**
 - SS014 Novel concepts and methods in food web research
 - SS031 Emerging ideas and technologies transforming aquatic trait-based ecology
 - SS034 Crossing Scales: Harmonizing Biomonitoring from Local Streams to Continental Observatories
 - SS078 Urban waters under pressure: socio-ecological feedback and anthropogenic stressors in city ponds, streams, and estuaries
 - SS082 Mesocosm-based approaches for tackling grand challenges in aquatic ecosystems
 - SS088 Trophic Ecology and Biogeochemistry in Aquatic Food Webs: Integrating Novel Techniques to Disentangle Ecosystem Dynamics
 - EP010 Sharing experiences among early-career researchers in aquatic science: unleashing the power of collaboration

AQ+ ECRs in the Wild

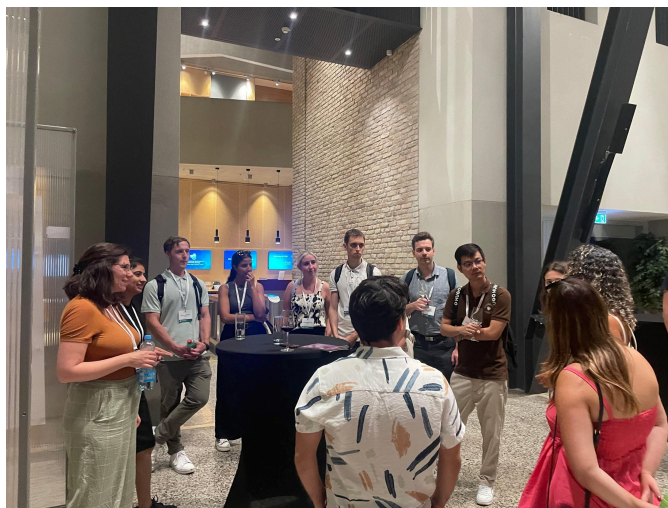
The AQ+ ECR core team members got the chance to meet twice in the last few months at the 14th Symposium for European Freshwater Sciences in Bolu, Turkey, and 5th International Conference on Community Ecology in Budapest, Hungary. These were a great chance to connect, exchange ideas, and plan upcoming network activities.



ECR Ice-Breaker at ComEc5 at 5th International Conference on Community Ecology (ComEc5)

📍 **Budapest, Hungary | 3–5 September 2025**

The AQUACOSM-plus ECR Network hosted a lively ice-breaking event at ComEc5 to help early-career researchers meet and connect. The session offered a friendly space for young scientists to introduce themselves and share their research interests, building new connections.





Past Online Events

- **Diversity in Science: Women in Science (Online)** Dr. Núria Catalán and Dr. Alison Derry - June 12, 2025, 16:00-17:30 CET

Dr. Núria Catalan is a scientific researcher focusing on carbon biogeochemistry at CEAB-CSIC, Spain. **Dr. Alison Derry** is a professor in the department of biological sciences at the Université du Québec à Montréal, Canada. The panel members, Núria and Alison, shared their experiences in science and academia and offered valuable advice on overcoming challenges. The panel questions led to active discussions involving all participants, and several common themes emerged — such as the importance of defining your priorities throughout your career, building a support network, and having a mentor to guide your scientific journey. These discussions are critically important for early career researchers. If you have suggestions for future panel topics or potential panelists, feel free to reach out to [Sarah \(sarah.s.hasnain@gmail.com\)](mailto:sarah.s.hasnain@gmail.com) or [Kati \(kati.patonai@gmail.com\)](mailto:kati.patonai@gmail.com).

- **How can Bayesian Inference advance our insights from Mesocosm Experiments?** Dr. Luca Schenone - August 21st 2025 10:00-11:00 CET

Dr. Luca Schenone, an AQ+ ECR and a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Konstanz exposed us to the variety of ways in which Bayesian inference can be incorporated in mesocosm-based research, across all stages from data analysis to informing mesocosm experiment design. His talk was followed by a very vibrant and lively discussion! Dr. Schenone also shared many resources with all participants (including relevant papers and R packages). If you have any questions about implementing bayesian methods in your research, feel free to contact Dr. Schenone at lucaschenone@comahue-conicet.gob.ar.

- **Structural Equation Modelling Workshop** with Dr. Cristina Charette - Sept 26, 2025 16:00 CET

Dr. Cristina Charette gave an overview of the applications of SEM (Structural Equation Modeling) in mesocosm research. She provided an R script and additional reading materials that participants could download and follow step by step, making the workshop highly detailed and easy to follow. Dr. Charette works at the St. Lawrence River Institute of Environmental Sciences (Canada) and is open to collaborations on projects involving SEM.

- **“Building Bridges for Career Success – How to Create Opportunities Through Networking”** with ECRs representing different networks Barbara Barta (Centre for Ecological Research, Society for Inland Waters), Bruno Cremella (Sorbonne University - CNRS, Laboratoire d’Oceanographie, Society for Inland Waters), Cihelio Amorim, Maria Nicoară, Jenna Robinson (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Global Lake Ecological Observatory Network), Abigail Kreuser (University of South Carolina, Association for the

Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography). Panellists shared their personal stories, tips and success stories of how being part of their respective networks helped them to grow professionally, find new collaborations and opportunities.

Job Board

- **Post Doc position (2 years):** Food web transfer of pollutants in a changing climate — **Umeå University (Sweden)**
Deadline: November 14th 2025. [More details](#)
- **Post Doc position (1 year):** Unravelling macroecological patterns and drivers of freshwater plant biodiversity across the world — **University of León (Spain)**
Deadline: November 14th 2025. [More details \(English\)](#) [More details \(Spanish\)](#)
- **Post Doc position (2–3 years):** *Aquatic Ecology* — **Eawag (Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology)**
Deadline: November 15th 2025 (applications accepted until filled). [More details](#)
- **Post Doc position:** *Spatio-temporal variation in reservoir temperature and dissolved oxygen conditions, fish behavior, and modeling habitat restoration outcomes* — **Iowa State University (USA)**
Deadline: November 21st 2025. [More details](#)
- **Post Doc position:** *Environmental geochemistry on arsenic recovery from water treatment residues* — **Eawag (Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology)**
Deadline: November 21st 2025. [More details](#)
- **PhD Student position:** *Ecological Interactions of Coexisting Cryptic Gammarus Species* — **Charles University (Prague, Czechia)**
Deadline: November 30th 2025. [More details](#)
- **Post Doc position (2 years):** *Biodiversity and Ecosystem Monitoring using eDNA Technology* — **Aarhus University (Denmark)**
Deadline: December 1st 2025. [More details](#)
- **PhD opportunity:** *Enhancing Connectivity and Natural Capital in Seascape-scale Coastal Restoration* — **University of Essex (UK)**
Deadline: January 7th 2026. [More details](#)
- **PhD opportunity:** *Future Rivers: Environmental Trajectories and Biodiversity Responses in 21st Century Freshwater Systems (CASE project with DEFRA)* — **University of Essex (UK)**
Deadline: January 7th 2026. [More details](#)
- **PhD opportunity:** *Shearwater Migration and Navigation* — **University of Oxford (UK)**
Deadline: January 8th 2026. [More details](#)

- **PhD opportunity:** *The Community Consequences of Disease Outbreaks in Keystone Species* — **University of Oxford (UK)**
Deadline: January 8th 2026. [More details](#)
- **PhD opportunity:** *Examining Impacts of Marine Heatwaves on Key Indicator Species of Ocean Warming* — **University of Southampton (UK)** **Deadline:** January 8th 2026.
[More details](#)
- **Permanent Researcher position:** *Carbon Biogeochemistry* — **IFREMER, La Tremblade Station (France)**
Deadline: Open until filled. [More details](#)

Conferences

 ASLO–SIL 2026 Joint Meeting — Montréal, Québec, Canada · 12–16 May 2026

 **Abstract Submission Deadline:** 25 November 2025
 [More Info → ASLO–SIL 2026 Joint Meeting](#)

 Ocean Sciences Meeting 2026 (OSM 2026) — Glasgow, Scotland, UK · 22–27 February 2026

 **Early-Bird Registration Deadline:** 14 January 2026
 [More Info → Ocean Sciences Meeting 2026](#)

 Society for Freshwater Science (SFS) Annual Meeting 2026 — Spokane, Washington, USA · 17–21 May 2026

 **Abstract Submission Opens:** November 2025
 [More Info → SFS 2026 Annual Meeting](#)

 European Congress of Conservation Biology (ECCB 2026) — Leiden, Netherlands · 6–10 July 2026

 **Abstract Submission Opens:** December 2025
 [More Info → ECCB 2026](#)

- **X** [MOPGA 2026](#): Visiting Fellowship Program for Early Career Researchers | Campus France
- [Summer 2026](#): Panama: Marine Ecology & Blue Carbon Conservation in the Pacific & Caribbean - SIT Study Abroad**S**

New reads from our ECRs

- ☐ **Brock, M. L.**, Tavares-Reager, J. F., Dong, J., Larkin, A. A., Lam, T., Pineda, N., Olivares, C. I., Mackey, K. R. M., & Martiny, A. C. (2025). Bacterial response to the 2021 Orange County, California, oil spill was episodic but subtle relative to natural fluctuations. *Microbiology Spectrum*, 13(5), e02267–24. <https://doi.org/10.1128/spectrum.02267-24>
- ☐ **Stamenković, O.**, Pacheco, J. P., Levi, E. E., Jeppesen, E., & Davidson, T. A. (2025). Nutrient inversion but not warming drive changes in periphyton biomass and composition in shallow lake mesocosms. *Limnology and Oceanography*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/lno.70053>
- ☐ **Hermann, M.**, Amekor, M. K., Contrucci, E., Evarita, A. M., Peeters, E. T. H. M., & Van den Brink, P. J. (2025). Multiple stressor effects of a neonicotinoid, heatwaves, and elevated temperatures on aquatic insect emergence. *Environmental Science & Technology*, 59(28), 14226–14238. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.est.5c01498>
- ☐ **Hermann, M.**, Schjuit, L., Albini, D., Amekor, M. K., Belgers, D., Boerwinkel, M.-C., Avarita, A. M., Huang, A., Jackson, M. C., Peeters, E. T. H. M., Rosessink, I., van Smeeden, J., & Van den Brink, P. J. (2025). Heatwaves, elevated temperature, and insecticide-induced effects at different trophic levels of a freshwater ecosystem. *Environmental Research*, 277, 121566. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envres.2025.121566>

Stay tuned for events to follow!

If you have an upcoming presentation or poster on aquatic ecology at a conference, feel free to email us, and we'll gladly **feature you in our newsletter** to increase its visibility within our ECR community.

If you know of any online events, job opportunities, and conferences that would be relevant to our ECR community, please contact [Varsha Rani \(vysneha9@gmail.com\)](mailto:Varsha.Rani@gmail.com), [Anika Happe \(anika.happe@uni-oldenburg.de\)](mailto:anika.happe@uni-oldenburg.de) or [Maria Nicoară \(maria.nicoara@icbcluj.ro\)](mailto:maria.nicoara@icbcluj.ro) to feature them in our newsletter and via other social media handles.

If you are interested in leading an online presentation (lecture/workshop) on the topic of your expertise, **or if you would like to join the next Ecology Toolbox Event** (5-minute quick, casual presentation of a tool you regularly use in your research), **please register [here](#)**.

And lastly, if you do not want to miss out on information regarding ECR activities and opportunities regarding mesocosm-based research and aquatic science, you can sign up [here](#) to receive our newsletter and [join our Discord server](#). The newsletter is sent out

every two to three months. We post upcoming grants and opportunities in between our newsletter on Discord!

For more information, visit us at <https://www.aquacoscsm.eu/>.

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