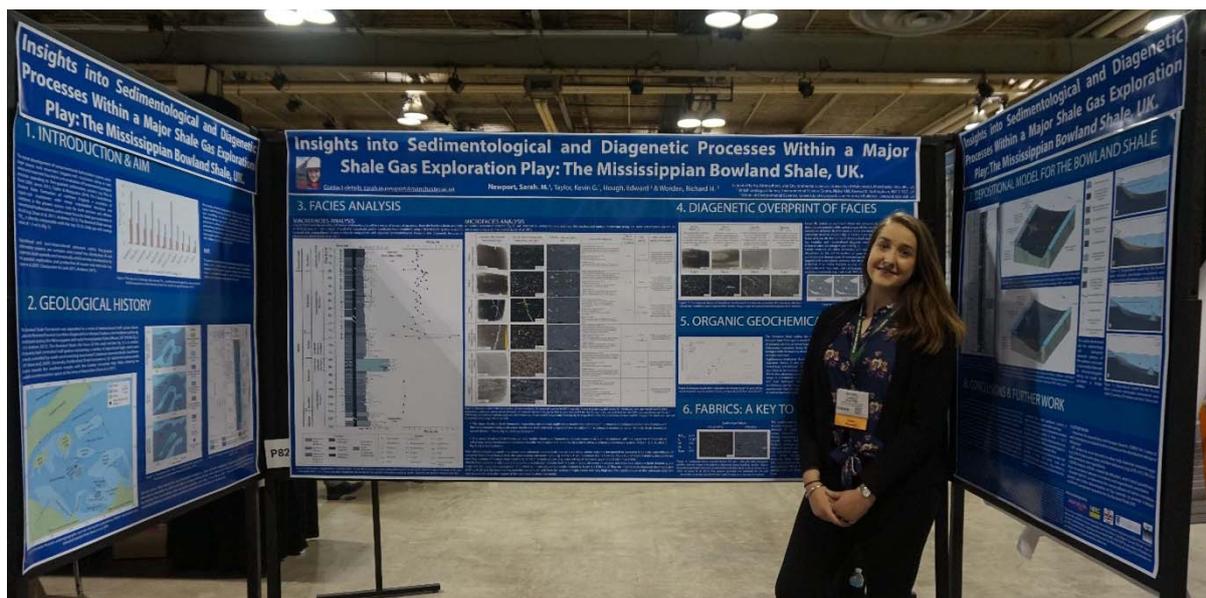


Sarah Newport – 2nd year PhD student at the University of Manchester.

Conference: American Association of Petroleum Geologists - Annual Convention & Exhibition, Calgary (Canada), 19th -22nd June 2016.

Thanks to the financial support provided by the Clay Mineral Group, I was able to attend and present at AAPG Annual Convention & Exhibition 2016 which this year was held in Calgary (Canada). AAPG ACE is a major international conference held in North America, with over 7,000 delegates from more than 72 countries attending and approximately ~900 technical and poster presentations covering 11 main themes across petroleum geology. The annual four day conference consists of a series of talks and posters on all aspects of petroleum geology and sedimentology, including the specific application to the oil industry, which provides a great opportunity for PhD students and early career researchers to present their research to a diversified international audience from both academia and industry.

Before the conference, on Saturday 18th June, there was the opportunity to take part in a Short Course led by Prof Juergen Schieber (Indiana University) based on the recent work conducted by him and other co-authors (Remus Lazar, Kevin Bohacs, Joe Macquaker, Timothy Denko) on ‘Sequence-Stratigraphic Analysis of Shales’. The short course was organised by the Society for Sedimentary Geology (SEPM) and consisted of a series of lectures introducing key concepts and paradigms, followed by a series of practical exercises which allowed attendees to investigate, discuss and share ideas about the interpretation of shale sedimentology. The short course provided an informal and friendly atmosphere to discuss, with world-leading researchers in the field, my research topic and PhD



project.

My poster presentation entitled 'Insights into Sedimentological and Diagenetic Process Within a Major Shale Gas Exploration Play: The Mississippian Bowland Shale, UK' was within the Theme 1: (Siliciclastic) Insights into Mudrock Stratigraphy (link to the full abstract for my presentation: <http://www.searchanddiscovery.com/abstracts/html/2016/90259ace/abstracts/2377990.html>); the feedback and discussion from my poster presentation and both the presentations which I attended not only provided stimulating scientific conversation but has helped in further developing my research.

I am very grateful to the Clay Minerals Group for awarding me a bursary to attend the conference and pre-conference short course.