The Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland Bursary Award 2016: Bhabananda Biswas, Future Industries Institute, University of South Australia.

Asian Clay Conference 2016 at Guangzhou, China.

Following Euroclay2015, I was looking for another conference where I can share my research with the application of clay minerals and meet the scientists working on the multifunctional reactive materials. The 3rd Asian clay conference was one of them, which I attended this year on 17-21 Nov at the business city of China.

I am grateful to the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland for providing a bursary which covered some expenses for this conference. The money helped very much, but beyond this, it also serves as an inspiration for any young delegate and student. I presented a poster at the conference, which gave me an opportunity to share what I am doing in clay minerals, to develop a biocompatible modified clay product, which can serve as the clean-up material for the soil and sediments.

It was great to meet many student and early-career researchers from many Asian countries, such as China, Japan, S. Korea, Thailand and The Philippines. I also met well known clay scientists: Prof Joseph W. Stucki, Prof Jin-Ho Choy, Prof Faiza Bergaya, Prof Ian Mackinnon, Dr Stuart Mills gave talks at the meeting which covered various aspects of clay minerals.

Traditional Guangzhou foods were served throughout the conference and were delicious. We also enjoyed local art and music before we left China.