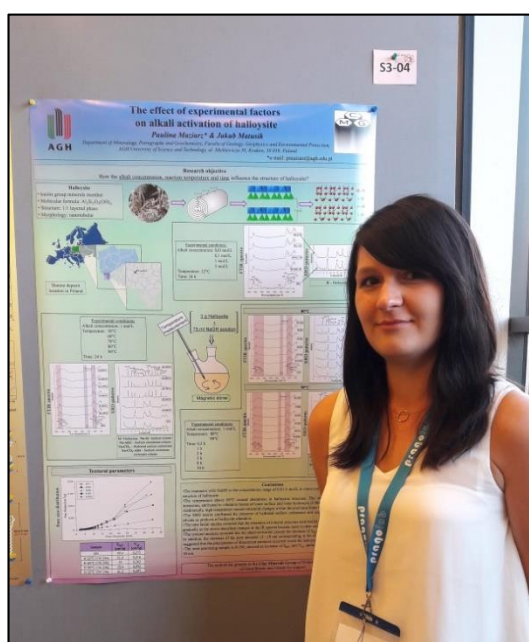


**Clay Minerals Group of Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland  
Bursary 2016**

**8<sup>th</sup> Mid-European Clay Conference  
4-8 July 2016 Košice, Slovakia**

Funding from the Clay Minerals Group of Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland enabled me to attend the 8<sup>th</sup> Mid-European Clay Conference (MECC) 2016 in Košice, Slovakia. During the poster session, which was given in the Tuesday evening session I presented results of my research dedicated to “The effect of experimental factors on alkali activation of halloysite”. The title of the session to which my abstract was submitted was “Modifications and synthesis of clays”.



The MECCs gather international researchers and students interested in the field of clays, zeolites and other layered and silicate raw materials. Since 2001 the MECCs are held regularly in different countries of Central Europe. This year’s conference included 174 presentations, 91 posters and 4 plenary lectures, which were presented by participants from over 30 countries from all over the world. The poster and oral presentations were divided into 12 theme sessions, covering all facets of clay science. The main objective of this international conference is to promote an exchange of new ideas and research results between researchers from different countries and give an opportunity for international cooperation.

The participation in MEC conference was an excellent experience, that has given me a great possibility to discuss various fields related to clay minerals as well as opportunity to broaden my knowledge and expand my horizons, also outside the scope of my research. The meeting with other researchers has provided me with new ideas and directions, which are invaluable for the progression of my current and future research career.

I would like to thank the Clay Mineral Group of Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland for support, which enabled me attendance in truly interesting international conference.

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