

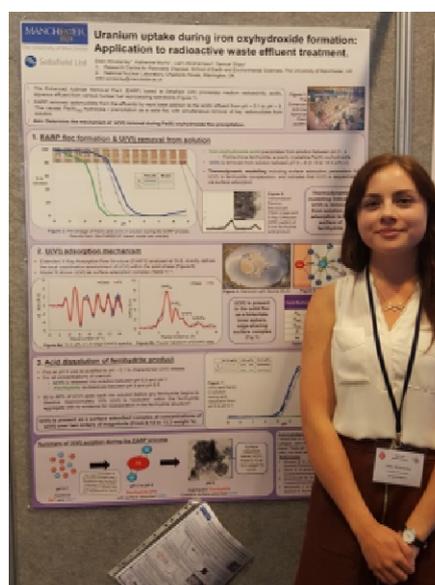
The 2016 International Conference on Nuclear and Radiochemistry (NRC9): 29th August to the 2nd of September 2016

I would like to thank the Mineralogical Society for this bursary which allowed me to attend and present a poster at the Ninth International Conference on Nuclear and Radiochemistry (NRC9) in Helsinki, Finland. The conference was hosted and organised by the Laboratory of Radiochemistry, University of Helsinki, on behalf of the Nuclear and Radiochemistry Division of EuCheMS. Over the (very busy!) 5 days of the conference there were around 90 talks and 230 posters presented, covering most nuclear and radiochemistry topics, for over 350 delegates from around the world.

NRC9 is the first international conference I have attended during my PhD and I was impressed with the wide range of subjects covered and the great opportunities for networking with other researchers in my field of study. I presented a poster entitled: 'Uranium uptake during iron oxyhydroxide formation; Application to radioactive waste effluent treatment', and got some useful feedback from fellow conference attendees during the poster session.

I'm interested in the interactions of aqueous contaminants (such as radionuclides) with various materials in both natural and industrial processes, and several talks and posters throughout the week caught my attention including one on the sorption competition of trivalent metals on corundum ($\alpha\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$) studied on the macro- and microscopic scale (S. Virtanen, Finland). I also enjoyed the opportunity to learn more about current research in areas outside my own field of study.

Several other PhD students from the University of Manchester attended this conference and presented some excellent talks and posters. I also had a chance to explore Helsinki in the evenings, and it is a beautiful city with a friendly atmosphere, and great food!



With thanks again to the Mineralogical Society for their generous bursary.

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