

## Jessica Hamilton – Monash University

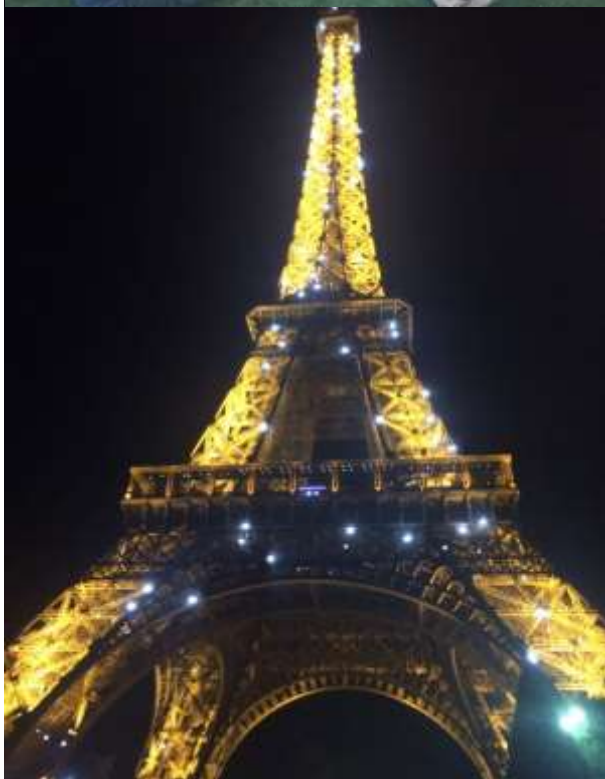
### Bursary Report to the Applied Mineralogy Group

The student bursary awarded by the Applied Mineralogy Group allowed me to attend the Goldschmidt conference held this year in Paris, from the 13<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> August. On the weekend preceding the conference, I attended a workshop on “*Nanoscience in the Earth and Environmental Sciences—Research and Teaching Opportunities*”. The workshop had an emphasis on discussion and round table activities, and introduced me to some fantastic resources that I will use throughout my career.



When the conference kicked off, I met with collaborators and made new contacts in my field. On one night, we had a big group picnic with an ambitious amount of cheese and wine under the Eiffel Tower.

I gave an oral presentation in session 15j: *The environmental legacy of metal and coal mining: Geochemistry, human health, remediation, resource recovery*. It was well attended and I was pleased to receive positive feedback afterwards.



The program was packed with presentations I wanted to see, so each day was meticulously scheduled, and sometimes involved an urgent rush to another room. The highlight presentation for me was the plenary by Prof. Paul Falkowski on “How Corals Make Rocks”. I also enjoyed an exciting presentation by Assoc. Prof. Jennifer Macalady about sampling of microbes in a newly opened glacial cave in Svalbard, Norway. Not only was the intense and daring fieldwork awe-inspiring, the results were very interesting.

At the end of the conference I had a full notebook, and a full brain, and am very much looking forward to the next one.