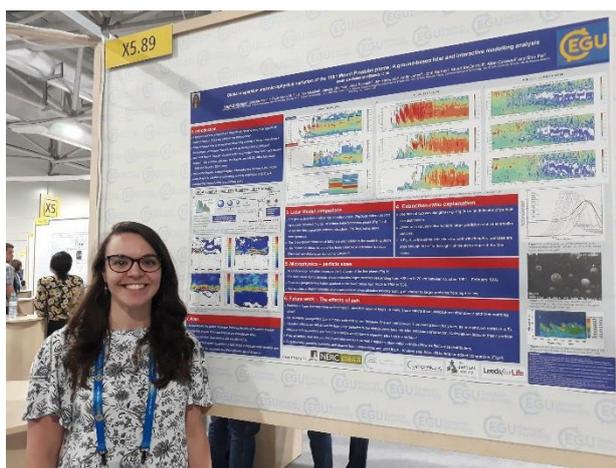


## The Aerosol Society Early Career Scientist Travel Award Report

### **European Geosciences Union General Assembly 2018 Vienna, April 2018**

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In the week of 9-13<sup>th</sup> April 2018 I attended the European Geosciences Union (EGU). This is the biggest conference I have been to with over 15,000 people attending by the end of the week, made possible by the generosity of the Aerosol Society awarding me an Early Career Scientist Travel Award. I presented my research with a poster on the Wednesday, entitled: "Global dispersion and microphysical variation of the 1991 Mount Pinatubo Plume: A Ground-Based Lidar and Interactive Modelling Analysis".

EGU is one of the largest assemblies for geoscientific research in the academic calendar. This made it an excellent place to present my research and meet scientists in both atmospheric science as well as people generally interested in my work. I attended sessions related to my work as well as Early Career Scientist (ECS) talks and lectures and posters unrelated to my work but of interest to me. This was one of the main highlights of EGU for me, it was really interesting noticing all the different types of research going on worldwide within the geoscience community. Knowing that there are thousands of people also researching within the geosciences helped me notice where my research fits in. The other major benefit for me was getting to meet people within my field who I had only seen as a name on a paper previously. The ability to put a face to a name and introduce myself made it feel far more plausible to potentially collaborate with them or at least make them aware of my name and work. One of the most rewarding things was when people came up to my poster and discussed it with me. I met someone doing something similar to my future work, so it was advantageous for me to talk to people both interested in my work and also doing similar things. Talking about your research can sometimes seem daunting, but there is a certain buzz you get when people seem genuinely interested in your work and how it progresses.

Overall, I felt extremely grateful for the opportunity to attend EGU and am extremely appreciative of the Aerosol Society Early Career Scientist Travel Award which allowed me to do so.