The BSG provided sponsorship and support for the first of its kind conference on the Quaternary of southern South America (twitter hashtag: #QSSA15). Hosted at the School of Geographical & Earth Sciences, University of Glasgow at the start of June 2015, the conference was co-organized with Chris Darvill (Durham University/British Antarctic Survey), Tom Roland (University of Exeter) and Neil Glasser (Aberystwyth University). Research in southern South America is inherently multidisciplinary. This means academics tend to present their work during specialist sessions at international conference, limiting opportunities for regional cross-disciplinary discussion and research development. Hence, the aims of this two-day conference were to provide a platform for UK based academics to present their research, identify key knowledge-gaps, discuss future research ideas and possibilities for collaboration.

In total 32 registered delegates from 19 different institutions, including 10 postgraduate students attended the conference. There were 16 oral presentations, 9 poster presentations and a keynote talk by Dr. Frank Lamy (Alfred Wegener Institute, Germany; Fig. 1). The conference was organized into four key research themes: tephrochronology, palaeo-environmental reconstructions, glacial geomorphology & chronology and palaeo-glaciology. Ample scheduled spare time following individual sessions and during breaks were actively utilized by delegates to follow up on previously raised discussion points and to share and develop new research ideas.

Specifically the BSG grant was used to invite Dr. Lamy to attend and further stimulate discussions based on his particular research expertise. For over 20 years Dr. Lamy has been utilizing Southern Ocean cores to reconstruct millennial scale climate and ocean variability over glacial time-scales. His keynote provided a thorough overview of the late quaternary palaeo-oceanography of the South Pacific, its links to the regional palaeo-glaciology and southern westerly wind dynamics. In addition Dr. Lamy highlighted current challenges and future directions of using palaeo-environmental & climatic proxy records for tracking climate shifts in southern South America. His talk fueled interesting discussions at the consequent wine reception and the conference dinner.

![Figure 1. Dr. Lamy's keynote lecture (left). First conference day (right, photo credit: Tom Roland).](image-url)

The effectiveness of the meeting was discussed with delegates at the end of the conference. Many stated that it had been an insightfull and usefull exercise and called for a repetition of a similar meeting in 2-3 years time, if possible expanding to include foreign researchers also. This conference would not have been possible without the British Society for Geomorphology's sponsorship. We also want to thank the Quaternary Research Association, the School of Geographical & Earth Sciences, Van Walt and Beta Analytic for financial & logistical support.