**Conferences Attended**

Measuring the optical properties of single particles and aerosol ensembles using cavity ring down spectroscopy, European Aerosol Conference, Granada

Measuring the Optical Properties of Aerosols using a Counter Propagating Bessel Beam / Annual Aerosol Science Conference; Bristol, England; Poster presentation

**Courses Attended**

Philosophy of Science – Prof J. N. Harvey

Aerosols: Properties, Processes and Sources – Prof J. P. Reid

Measurement Techniques in Surface Science – Mr R Dyer

**Seminars Attended**

Molecular sciences and colloids talks.

## Fullerenes, Nanotubes (and a little bit of Graphene) - Professor Eleanor Campbell

## Hydrogen bond dynamics in water - Professor James T Hynes

**Demonstrating**

1st year undergraduate laboratories September 2011 to May 2012

1st year undergraduate laboratories September 2012 to present

**Transferable skills – future plans**

Courses I would like to attend,

Optics tutorials – Dr H Gersen (PhD tutorial)

**Transferable skills – Assessment**

**Presentation**

I believe that my presentation skills have improved greatly over the last year and I think that I owe this to the philosophy of the group that I work in. There is an emphasis on presenting work in group meetings and, importantly, practising presentations for seminars and conferences with the group. The feedback and help I have received has been invaluable for developing my presentational skills.

**Communication**

As with presentation I feel my written and one-on-one speaking skills have improved this year. Writing a paper has helped me develop my scientific writing however I think I can still improve a great deal. In particular I could improve by thinking in more detail about the order and general structure of a piece I’m trying to write.

**Networking**

This year I have attended two conferences. The European Aerosol Conference in Spain allowed me to engage with a particular person, Dr Michel Flores, who is performing similar experiments to those that I did in the first year of my PhD. I found this especially useful by talking through the experimental difficulties that he faced and the similar difficulties with my work.

**Teamwork**

The group dynamic we have is fantastic. Everyone socialises with one another which meaning that I feel comfortable asking for help from anyone. I have recently been teaching a new PhD student about an experimental setup I’ve been handing over to him which I have very instructive and fun.

**Motivation, drive and timekeeping**

I’m motivated by both problem solving (solving a problem simply because it is there) and because my work is easily related to ‘real world’ problems (human impact on climate change, aerosol dynamics etc). Although I find no problems with my timekeeping I don’t always use the time I spend in work to the best of my ability. I keep diaries and lab books but I could still benefit from planning and prioritising my time better.

**Problem solving and interpersonal skills**

I don’t think that anyone who didn’t enjoy problem solving would enjoy my work! I get a lot out thinking through and discussing problems with the group whether they are programming, experimental logistics or experimental design issues. I consider demonstrating to be one of the best things that I have done during my PhD. I have thoroughly enjoyed developing by communication skills though teaching concepts in laboratories. My tutees struggled with particular aspects of the experiments that I demonstrated and I worked on being able to quickly identify the root of the confusion and then talking them through the concept.