

Safiyeh Haghani

Institute for the Environment, Brunel University, London, UK

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Education

Aug. 2011 to Present

Institute for the Environment, Brunel University, London, UK

Degree Now Being Sought: PhD

Sep. 2006- Feb. 2009

MSc. Geology (Sedimentology), University of Tehran, Iran

Dissertation: Sedimentology of South-West Caspian Sea offshore deposits and processes responsible for their deposition

Jan. 2001- Apr. 2006

BSc. Geology, University of Kerman, Iran

Work Experience during PhD

Sep. 2013 to **laboratory teaching assistant, Brunel University**

Dec. 2013: for a module "Global climatic change" (8 hours)

Apr. 2013 to **Co-supervisor of a Master student, Brunel University**

Aug. 2013: Dissertation title: A multi-proxy approach to detect the Little Ice Age high-stand in the Langarud Lagoon (South west of the Caspian Sea)

Jan. 2013 to **teaching assistant, Brunel University**

Apr. 2013: for a module "Sustainable Development in Practice" (14 hours)

Jan. 2012 to **teaching assistant, Brunel University**

Apr. 2012: for a module "Sustainable Development in Practice" (21 hours)

Sources of funding

January 2013: £540 from INQUA to attend a workshop in Tehran, Iran

January 2012: £200 from QRA to attend a conference in Southampton, UK

August 2011: £145,711 from Brunel University, for my Ph.D. project (for 3 years)

Skills

Working with different coring system (gravity, percussion and Livingstone corer)

Working with RAMAC/GPR system to obtain seismic profiles

Processing and interpreting seismic profiles and GPR profiles

Provenance study using detrital heavy minerals

Reconstruct past environments using macrofossils

Presentation at international conferences

1st international congress on stratigraphy, 1-7 Jul. 2013, Lisbon, Portugal (oral)

10th international congress on fluvial sedimentology, 14-19 Jul. 2013, Leeds, UK (poster)

1st QuiclakeH workshop on "Rapidly changing Large Lakes and Human Response", 5-11 Jan. 2013, Tehran, Iran (oral and poster)

AAPG Annual Conference, 3-5 Oct. 2012, Baku, Azerbaijan (oral and poster)

AAPG Annual Conference, 17-19 Oct. 2010, Kiev, Ukraine (oral and poster)

Professional memberships

Student member of International Association of Sedimentologists (IAS)

Student member of Quaternary Research Association (QRA)

Student member of American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG)

References

Available on request

Evolution and architecture of the Sefidrud Delta, South west of the Caspian Sea

Safiyeh Haghani

PhD student at Brunel University

Supervisors: *Professor Suzanne Leroy and David Finlayson*

Research Overview

The South Caspian Basin contains significant accumulations of oil and gas, making the area a world class petroleum system. The Sefidrud Delta has developed in the south west of the Caspian Sea, and it is formed by the River Sefidrud, which is the largest sediment source for the Caspian Sea. Its peculiarities are very rapid sedimentation rates and a very steep slope setting, which is favourable for oil formation. However, a lack of information available from the Sefidrud Delta is making the area a potential petroleum unit. Therefore, studying the modern Sefidrud Delta as an analogue can improve our understanding of reservoir architecture. In other words, this general description describes the current delta location and allows us to interpret the older depositional environment in the deltaic system. This study aims to explain the evolution of the Sefidrud Delta during the last millennia, and a mechanism for delta building will be proposed. It can be used as a model for oil-bearing reservoirs in similar settings: high burial rates and steep slopes.

This study is based on geophysical data and sediment samples acquired during three surveys. Field work was conducted in two parts including terrestrial (on land) and marine (onshore and offshore). On land, the lagoons and coastal deposits were subjected to study using taken cores. Also, Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) transects were obtained in order to image the internal structure of sediments. Furthermore, samples were collected from different tributaries of the Sefidrud River with the purpose of study heavy minerals. During marine cruise, seismic transects were obtained, and cores were retrieved to provide a correlation of acoustic and sedimentary facies. This research is a field and laboratory based project, funded by Brunel University and money was earmarked for field campaigns, analysis (mostly dating) and conference costs. However, part of the study (such as heavy mineral) was not anticipated at the beginning, and the required expense for the field campaign was more than anticipated. Therefore, the remaining money from my scholarship has already been allocated for the laboratory cost and the expenses for attending conferences need to be provided from other sources.

Justification for Funding Request

I am applying for the BSRG Funds for a financial contribution to attend the 19th International Sedimentology Congress (18th-22nd August 2014, Geneva, Switzerland). I would like to be considered for both the Gill Harwood and Steve Farrell funds. My aim is to present the results of this research (conducted during 3 years of PhD study) in the session of 'Marine and coastal depositional environments'. Attending this conference will provide an opportunity to learn from experts, identify new knowledge and techniques in my field and share ideas with others, as well as receive oral feedback during my presentation. I could then 'network' with researchers doing similar work who are likely to extend my ideas for my future research. It also will offer a great opportunity to bring my research to the attention of others. This will be an opportunity to meet potential postdoctoral supervisors and achieve a good postdoctoral research position. Finally, presenting at this conference will contribute to knowledge in this field, and other people may benefit from this research finding.

Budget Outline

Conference Registration (for IAS student members): £200

Visa fee: £60

Flight: £100

Lodging: £170

Geneva Pass: free (using Geneva Transport Card)

Pre & Post-conference field trips: depends on the amount of available budget¹

Total without Pre & Post-conference field trip expenses: £530

Any amount to cover the above mentioned expenses would be gratefully accepted. If I receive partial funding from the Steve Farrell and Gill Harwood memorial Funds, I will apply for a travel grants (flight cost) available for IAS² students.

Regards,
Safiyeh Haghani

¹ Ten field trips with the duration of 1day to 5 days are available in this conference.

² International Association of Sedimentologists

From: Suzanne Leroy <Suzanne.Leroy@brunel.ac.uk>
Sent: 05 February 2014 14:07
To: chair@bsrg.org.uk
Cc: Safiyeh Haghani
Subject: Steve Farrell and Gill Harwood memorial Funds

Steve Farrell and Gill Harwood memorial Funds

To whom it may concern;

Further to Safiyeh Haghani's application for the above funds, I can confirm that she is a Ph.D. student under my supervision, at the Institute for the Environment, Brunel University. She is conducting research on "Evolution and architecture of the Sefidrud Delta, South west of the Caspian Sea". She is a very clever and hardworking student, with ambition for her future. She might be able to serve as an ambassador for BSRG in her part of the world. She is applying for this fund to attend the International Sedimentology Congress (18th-22nd August 2014, Geneva, Switzerland). She has a scholarship from Brunel University, but due to extra field campaign which was not anticipated in the beginning of her research, the money allocated for the conference has been used for the mentioned field work and subsequent analyses. However, I believe attending the conference will enable her to meet new professionals and academics, also gaining more knowledge and skills through the seminar. It would also provide an opportunity for her to continue her research after finishing her PhD. I am convinced that this will contribute to the benefit of her study success.

Regards,
Prof. Suzanne Leroy