

MMM-Intermag write up – Laura Stuffins, Loughborough University

MMM-Intermag is a substantial event in the international Magnetism community's calendar, known for its broad range of topics, interesting speakers and with the most up to date research being presented. As the Joint MMM-Intermag meeting occurred during my third year as a PhD student it presented me with the opportunity to present my work to a large audience.

I really enjoyed the experience and extra knowledge I learnt. I was able to see presentations focused around my area of work as well as many new topics, such as the use of magnetism in areas of Biology (such as medical innovations). I also benefited from the opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of the popular topic of Skyrmions and their potential for application. This was particularly the case for invited speakers who had more time to deliver a more thorough background of many topics. Although there were still the key topics of permanent magnets, spin valves and spintronics, these are very broad topics that allow a lot of scope. I particularly enjoyed the sessions on spin currents and spin orbit torques from intrinsic to interfacial as well as spin charge conversion and materials. The discussions on thin films and surface effects also helped expand my knowledge.

I made new connections for the future with the many new international researchers there who are in a similar situation to me. Meeting suppliers allowed me to think about further development of my university's facilities and how to make the most out of the availability and upgrades.

Overall the conference presented many key sessions and gave me many ideas to think on and apply to my current research. It helped me personally for giving me the opportunity to present in such a large and welcoming environment and encouraged me to further develop my knowledge and understanding. As a young researcher I feel it is important to go to such conferences and meet fellow academics and industrial connections.

Having the funding allowed me to go and present my own work to the wider magnetics community. This was my first presentation but everyone was very relaxed and encouraging which helped with nerves. Overall my first experience of a presentation was a positive one.

Additionally, the vast number of academics and research staff at the event allowed communications between current collaborators, with whom discussion had previously been over email. This is in addition to contacts made with new people to gain experience and knowledge from. Many thanks again for this award as without this I could not have experienced such an event and atmosphere, I enjoyed the whole conference.