A summer in the life of a high seas manager

My summer was spent working with the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (NAFO), the regional fisheries management organisation charged with managing the high seas of the Northwest Atlantic.

The placement was fantastic. NAFO are based in Nova Scotia, Canada so I went away for 11 weeks to the temperamental climate of Canada and life as a high seas manager. I attended international meetings, worked within the Secretariat (the HQ of NAFO), was exposed to a huge number of fisheries scientists and managers from a variety of countries and organisations and even managed to interview the President of the International Council for the Exploration of the Seas!

Going away for my placement gave me the opportunity to travel somewhere I wouldn’t necessarily have thought to go to otherwise. And it was worth it! In my free time I got to see humpback whales, moose and mounties! Living and working somewhere new really lets you get to know a place and touring around the whole province was great.

The experience that I gained while I was out there was unbeatable. The best thing that the placement offered was the ability to be exposed to and work with an organisation that otherwise would be very hard to get into. The placement was the perfect way to round off the MSc – cementing both academic and life skills and providing great CV material. Best opportunity the whole course offered!