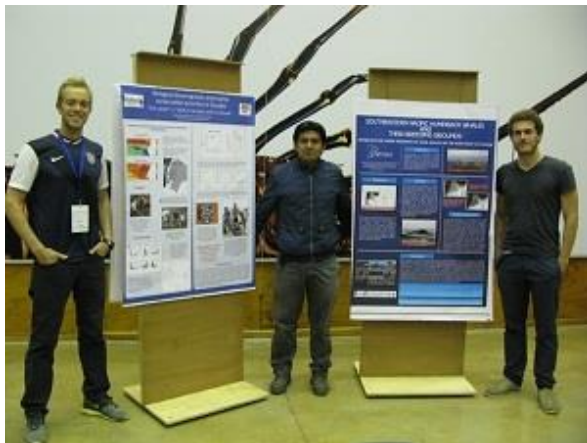


Project Update: June 2015

I thought I would write about my presentation at the Rufford Regional Conference held in Valparaiso, Chile, from the 27th to the 29th May 2015. I attended with two colleagues from the Universidad San Francisco de Quito, Maximilian Hirschfeld and Javier Oña. The three of us received our Master's degrees together from the USFQ and each of us has been a recipient of a Rufford Small Grant.



I presented a talk on my research and conservation work in the Galapagos, and also presented a poster on the Rufford-sponsored work I did in Ecuador to incorporate coastal oceanography into the planning and



management of new marine reserves. We met with grant recipients from all over the continent and learned a great deal about the different ways in which people are integrating socioeconomic development, empirical science, and communication on multiple scales to achieve real conservation targets. We also did a workshop to engage each other in a regional conservation network that we continue to build.

Really a terrific experience and many thanks to the organizers at Costa Humboldt (<http://www.costahumboldt.org/>)

I would also like to send links to our lab webpage and some outreach videos we have made in the last couple of years! Here they are:

<http://www.witmanlab.com/>

<http://www.nytimes.com/video/science/10000002735051/creaturecast-a-tale-of-two-urchins.html>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gDkOOrohkj8>

If I can provide any more information or a more detailed description of the conference I would be happy to!