

## Project Update: February 2016

From Itatiaia to Chile: from January 6th-14th I attended to the International Course on Plant Ecophysiology in a Warmer & Drier World, that occurred in the Katalapi Park, located inside the Chilean Patagonia. There, I met students and professors from different countries, such as Canada, England, France, USA, Vietnam, Spain, Ireland, Australia, Bolivia, Peru, among others. The lectures of the renowned professors Richard Michalet (Université d'Bordeaux, France), Pugnaire Francisco (EEZACSIC, Spain) and Ragan Callaway (University of Montana, USA) were very inspiring, and closely related to the doctoral project I'm currently developing in Itatiaia. Undoubtedly, it was an excellent opportunity to deepen my knowledge about plant stress physiology and the mediating role of plant-plant interactions on vegetation responses to climate change. Furthermore, during the course I trained my English skills, made new friends, learned how to fly a drone, enjoyed the Chilean cuisine and discovered the amazing Andean vegetation."



Left: The lecturer J. Gago (University of the Balearic Islands, Spain) and some of the course attendants, everybody was happy after making the drone fly high. (Photo by Yap Mei Ling). Right: Appreciating the marvellous Andean vegetation at Cajón del Maipo, Chile.