



Lucia Lencioni

BSc(Hons) Environmental Management,
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Environment Planning Officer, Environment
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Working on water

Leonardo da Vinci once said that 'water is the driving force in nature', something that Lucia Lencioni certainly agrees with. In her role as an Environment Planning Officer, Lucia is based in the Integrated Environment Planning team, focusing on the water environment.

Her team is responsible for the integration of Environment Agency planning for water resources, water quality and the Water Framework Directive (WFD), as well as environmental economics. As a result, Lucia's role is diverse and also involves her acting as an account manager for prospective hydropower applications and water resources work, which includes dealing with water licenses. However, if Lucia isn't required to work with water, she's asked to train for various other roles such as call handling on incident support.

'My role involves daily communication both internally, with the Environment Agency, and externally, such as with hydropower consultants. I have rapidly acquired improved data manipulation skills and brushed up on my knowledge of ArcGIS. I have also had the opportunity to develop my network within the Environment Agency as we are often called upon to provide Environment Officers with evidence to submit during prosecutions, for those who are on trial for polluting the water environment.'

A new environment

After graduating, Lucia initially worked for the University in technical support at the Bayfordbury Environmental Science Field station, before getting her current role. However, she credits her placement year with giving her the skills she needed to get her current role.

'Aside from environmental monitoring techniques, sample collection and laboratory processing, I also benefitted from being around established research scientists and attending numerous seminars run by them. This really helped inform my views when it came to considering ideas in final year modules and also identifying potential lines of enquiry for assignments.'

Future learning

Lucia advises all students to ask as many questions as possible, making the most out of academic staff knowledge. She is following this advice herself, and hasn't ruled out further study in the future.

'A highlight of my degree was being part of a research expedition to Switzerland and spending the subsequent summer months working on a related research project under a grant from the Nuffield Foundation. The experience whetted my appetite for further study, which I hope to pursue at some point in the future.'



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