Thanks to AntEco for supporting my attendance to present at the recent POLAR2018 open science conference ‘Where the poles come together’. This conference brought together international researchers in areas from all three poles: the Antarctic, Alpine and Arctic.

I used this fantastic opportunity to network with other polar scientists from within and outside the Antarctic ‘pole’ – meeting many other moss enthusiasts as well as connecting and reconnecting with fellow early career researchers.

My oral presentation was well received and generated a great discussion, boosting my confidence in the research that I am passionate about. Expanding my network is extremely important in paving my career path and attending this conference has further motivated me to broaden my horizons overseas.

