



From the Rep

Well, my friends, it's the beginning of the end for me. My time as TOS student rep ends in December—which means it's time to start selecting the new rep. Key details on this process will appear in your email, as well as this and future newsletters.

When I started my term as the student rep, TOS just had an influx of several hundred student members, due to the new free student membership. This left the TOS Council with some important questions: How do we engage these students and then keep them involved in TOS? How do we become more than a free checkbox to get reduced OSM registration fees? These questions governed my time as the student rep, and I worked to provide value for student membership, as well as represent student interests to the TOS Council. Now, we have a web page dedicated to student resources, we've taken steps toward a more permanent student mentoring program, and we send out this monthly newsletter.

Lately, TOS has been expanding internationally and outside of academia, and addressing issues such as diversity, inclusivity, and a hostile political climate. This sets the stage for the next round of questions. How do we reach out and include more international students? How do we retain and assist student members as they transition to employment, especially when a majority will not remain in academia? And, how does TOS, as an organization, ethically take a stand for science?

If you are interested or concerned about these issues, or other ones I haven't mentioned, apply to be the next student rep. You don't need answers, just a willingness to address the questions.

— Stefanie



TOS Student Member Highlight

NICHOLAS HUYNH. Research cruises are a distinctive part of oceanographic work and culture. They are fleeting, but influential, junctures where we connect and collaborate with other scientists. Research vessels are invaluable platforms for making measurements, and importantly they are where graduate students gain critical practical experience. Although graduate students often participate on cruises, we seldom have the chance to direct them from planning to execution.

"You *could* apply for time on the Scripps vessels," a professor said to me over beers. I didn't know that. I was thinking of my backpacking trip the next morning, trying to remember what I was probably forgetting, so I stashed what he said where I could recall it later.

High in the Sierras, I remembered. Maybe I was loopy from altitude, but I decided then to apply for ship time. It would be incredible to workshop an idea with my fellow grad students and then see it culminate in a cruise. It would be worth the effort.

Somehow my motivation resonated with my friend and colleague, Kelsey Bisson, who will share her own thoughts in an upcoming newsletter. We secured ship time to study microbial processes in the Santa Barbara Channel. Over a year, we built a remarkable team that was able to distill our ideal science plans to achievable ones. When a wildfire erupted days before our cruise, we were well prepared to respond quickly and dissect how marine microbes respond to ash.

We all took away something from this cruise. We each learned what works and doesn't work; which details are worth fretting over, which are not. We all agree that some iteration of duct tape, zip-ties, and cursing can solve anything. Me? My peers are generous, inspiring people who support what they believe in. With a community like that, it's easy to want to do it all over again.

Resources: Teaching Assistantships

A variety of perspectives on how to be an effective TA.

Tips for New Teaching Assistants

» <https://www.insidehighered.com/advice/2015/08/28/experienced-professors-advice-new-teaching-assistants-essay>

Advice for Your First Year as a Teaching Assistant

» <https://www.unl.edu/gradstudies/current/news/advice-your-first-year-teaching-assistant>

Tips for New Graduate Teaching Assistants from Your Experienced Peers

» <https://facdevblog.niu.edu/tips4newgta>



Tips for First-Time Teaching Assistant

» <http://www.pgbovine.net/ta-tips.htm>

Send Us Your Feedback!

Have questions or comments for the Student Rep?
Interested in being a highlighted student?
Want to share your best career tips and tricks?
We need your input!
» studentrep@tos.org and @mnemoniko

Follow Us

 The Oceanography Society
 @TOSOceanography



You Could be the Next TOS Student Rep

Seeking candidates for Student Representative on the TOS Council.

Self-nominations are welcome. Please send a statement of interest and an abbreviated CV to Jenny Ramarui by September 30, 2018. Also please contact your current Student Rep, Stefanie Mack, to learn more about the position. Term begins January 2019.

Seen In *Oceanography* Marine Species Range Shifts Necessitate Advanced Policy Planning

By Erin L. Meyer-Gutbrod et al.

» <https://doi.org/10.5670/oceanog.2018.209>

