



## From the Rep

A few years back, I watched a new cohort of graduate students struggle to adjust to graduate school. They spent large portions of time figuring out class schedules, coursework requirements, how to set up emails, where are the printers again? — trivial for me, but large obstacles for them. I was confused. Why don't they stop and ask for help? Why do they think they have to figure it all out themselves?

Then I realized that I still do the same thing. That there are senior scientists who have worked their way through the system wondering why I don't ask for help.

To me, this is a prime example of the purpose of mentoring—information from someone who has been through the stage you are at and knows all about it. They know what is worth the time and effort, and what isn't. They understand the pain of rejection and how to cope. They know how to streamline administrative matters and what conferences (or other scientists!) are better to avoid. They even know answers to questions you haven't encountered yet.

For me, my "mentor" is actually a network of people that has changed over time. Check out the Student Resources section for some help on identifying who is part of your mentoring network. If you are interested in a career outside of academia, keep your eyes open for potential mentors who have that experience. And if you feel a bit guilty (as I have occasionally) about all the unearned benefits from being mentored, be a mentor to someone else, or share your knowledge with your peers.

— Stefanie

## TOS Student Highlight > Mentoring Program Update

This pilot program includes monthly phone calls that aim to expose oceanography graduate students to career options and necessary skills. Each mentor group is composed of two senior scientists, one of whom does not hold an academic position, and seven graduate students from US institutions. Below are some thoughts from one of the mentor groups on the value of the calls and mentoring in general.

- "At first, I wanted to [participate in the TOS mentoring calls] for the networking, but once the calls started, it made me question my communication and social skill set..."
- "It has contributed to my professional and academic development."
- "...to share and practice [communicating science] with persons that have been in that situation and students that are going through the same process...gives you a new perspective."
- "The calls have helped me identify some of my weaknesses in making meaningful connections..."
- "...all the participants have offered advice from different angles that I found very useful."
- "I would definitely recommend the mentoring program to graduate students..."

TOS will collect more feedback from the groups as the calls progress. If this first round continues to be successful, more groups will be organized in the future.



## Countdown to Ocean Sciences 2018

February 11–16 » Portland, OR, USA » [osm.agu.org](http://osm.agu.org)

Register for these **free** student/early career events:

**STUDENT & EARLY CAREER WORKSHOP.** 8:30 am–4 pm, Sunday, February 11. Workshops on data management, grant writing, and scientific communication. Coffee, lunch, and afternoon beverages are included for all participants.

**STUDENT MIXER.** 6–8 pm, Monday, February 12. Refreshments provided.

**MID-WEEK CAREER PANEL.** 12:30–2 pm, Tuesday, February 13. Panel discussion on various career options in the ocean sciences. Box lunch included.

Register for these events as soon as the conference registration system opens—capacity will be limited. Check here for updates » <http://osm.agu.org/2018/students/student-early-career-scientist-events>

## News & Views

**TOS MEMBERSHIP UPDATE.** If your membership record shows an expected graduation year of 2017, you'll receive an email in November asking to either confirm that you've graduated or to provide an update. If your graduation year is 2018 onward, your complimentary membership will continue uninterrupted. Any questions? Contact Jenny Ramarui at TOS. » [jenny@tos.org](mailto:jenny@tos.org)

**FROM ROLLING STONE: 'SLOWING IT DOWN MATTERS!'** What Harvey and Irma tell us about climate change. » <http://www.rollingstone.com/politics/features/what-hurricanes-harvey-and-irma-tell-us-about-climate-change-w502813>

## 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](mailto:studentrep@tos.org) and [@mnemoniko](https://twitter.com/mnemoniko)

## Follow Us

The Oceanography Society  
 @TOSOceanography



## Student Resources

### TAKING OWNERSHIP OF YOUR OWN MENTORING

Blog post by Mirjam S. Glessmer

» <http://mirjamglessmer.com/teaching-and-learning/taking-ownership-of-your-own-mentoring>

## Seen In Oceanography

### PROJECT RECOVER

Extending the Applications of Unmanned Platforms and Autonomy to Support Underwater MIA Searches

By Eric Terrill and others

» <https://doi.org/10.5670/oceanog.2017.237>