

1. Message from TOS President, Alan Mix

The [US Federal Register](#) reported on March 30, 2018, that to obtain a visa for entry into the US, non-immigrant applicants may need to provide access to or other information about their social media accounts for five years prior to application, as well as a complete five-year history of telephone numbers, email addresses and international travel. Our understanding is that this proposed regulation would not impact citizens of nations that grant visa-free travel status – among them the UK, Canada, France and Germany – but this is not yet completely clear. Various news media outlets have reported on the rule; for example see the [New York Times reprint of a Reuters report](#) and a report by the [British Broadcasting Corporation](#).

Oceanography is an inherently international endeavor, and if implemented the new rule would apply to many TOS members throughout the world. It would impose a barrier to scientific cooperation, which depends on the free exchange of ideas through collaboration on research projects, presentation of results at scientific conferences, and international exchanges between universities, government agencies, and businesses. A logical consequence of this rule would be for scientists to opt out of meetings and exchanges in the United States and to put their energy into building relationships and collaborations elsewhere in the world. This would be a net loss to the scientific enterprise in the United States, and the various economic, security, technological, and personal benefits that follow from strong science.

Although security concerns are legitimate, it is far from clear that putting additional restrictions on non-immigrant visas will do anything to enhance security; it is very clear that it will impose collateral damage on science. TOS reaffirms the importance of international collaboration and communication in ocean science (and many other fields of science). We note that this rule is not yet in force. It is subject to a 60-day comment period (until 29 May, 2018). If you have opinions about this proposed ruling, you may comment at www.Regulations.gov. Search for “Docket Number: DOS-2018-0002”, read the full document, then click the “Comment Now” button and complete the comment form.

2. March for Science: April 14, 2018

The second March for Science is taking place this Saturday, April 14 in [locations around the world](#). Final details for the Washington DC march [were announced](#) a few days ago. If you are interested in joining other TOS members to march together in Washington please contact [Jenny Ramarui](#). Once again, [AAAS is inviting participants](#) to their DC headquarters building for events, including breakfast that morning. Click [here](#) to RSVP, and we hope to see you Saturday!

3. Jerlov Award Nomination Deadline: June 1, 2018

The Jerlov Award is presented in recognition of contributions made to the advancement of our knowledge of the nature and consequences of light in the ocean. The recipient of the 2018 award will be honored at a ceremony during the Ocean Optics XXIV Conference. The deadline for nominations is June 1, 2018. To read the nomination guidelines and instructions, click [here](#).

4. Oceanography Student News

On the 15th of each month, all TOS student members receive [Oceanography Student News](#) via email. Please feel free to download and forward issues to colleagues or print and post each month's issue on your department's bulletin board.

5. Self-Nominations Sought for OSM 2020 Vice-Chair and Student Representative Positions on Planning Committee

Are you interested in representing TOS on the the 2020 Ocean Sciences Meeting Planning Committee? TOS is seeking self-nominations for the positions of vice-chair and student representative. The vice-chairs for TOS, ASLO, and AGU serve alongside the OSM 2020 co-chairs from each society to guide the planning process for the upcoming conference. The expectation is that the vice-chairs from each society assume the position of co-chair for the 2022 conference.

To learn more about these opportunities and to submit your self-nomination, please contact [Jenny Ramarui](#) by email by **April 30, 2018**.

6. Community News

The Division of Ocean Sciences is looking to fill a program director position in the Physical Oceanography program, ideally with a start date in Fall 2018. This position requires a demonstrated record of independent research in physical oceanography or related fields, as well as a PhD degree plus a minimum of six years of experience post degree, or a Masters plus eight years of equivalent experience. The successful candidate will work as part of a group of four program directors in the program. This position may be filled with a rotator or permanent appointment. We also anticipate a second opening in early 2019.

If you have any questions about NSF's Physical Oceanography program, please contact Dr. Mete Uz (bmuz@nsf.gov), Lead Program Director for Physical Oceanography.

Rotator position: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/495607200>

Permanent position: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/495605600>

TOS is making great strides toward fulfilling its [mission](#) as we grow to represent more members of the oceanographic community worldwide. Please invite your colleagues to [join](#) by forwarding them [this link](#) to the membership page. If you would like to support TOS initiatives and programs, please consider [contributing](#) by following [this link](#).

Please contact Jenny Ramarui (jenny@tos.org), TOS Executive Director, with any questions about items in this message or your membership.