

1. From the President, Martin Visbeck

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected our lives around the world. Many of us had to abruptly change our mode of working. Limited or no access to the usual workplaces, stay-at-home regulations, care arrangements, and financial hardships are impacting our work-personal life situations. A lot of uncertainty makes it challenging to make firm plans for the coming months.

TOS as an organization has so far been very fortunate. We were able to co-sponsor, and along with many of you, enjoy a fantastic Ocean Sciences Meeting. We came out of that with decent revenue and renewed inspiration about the importance of ocean sciences and positive energy about the future of our Society. The reality of the coronavirus pandemic, however, makes it less certain how we will be interacting as a community. I expect severe restrictions with regard to in-person meetings in the coming 12-18 months. During the past week, the EGU has held its General Assembly 'in Vienna @ home' mode completely virtually. The Ocean Sciences section during its business lunch concluded that holding a virtual meeting every other year might have some real value even during post-pandemic times. The JpGU - AGU Joint Meeting 2020 with Japan will also be done completely virtually. The EGU offered the meeting content free of charge while the registration rate is reduced for JpGU – AGU. I expect a lot of fast and global learning about virtual meetings during the next few months. Let us keep an open mind about the new formats and see what is viable.

Despite these new challenges, it is time to look ahead toward our next Ocean Sciences Meeting in 2022 in Hawaii. We are looking for energetic members from the TOS family to help shape this program. Early indications from the planning committee leaders are that this meeting will combine the in-person experience with elements of virtual participation. In order to make sure that the OSM 2022 fully serves the needs of our Society, please nominate yourself for one of the three planning committee positions as TOS representatives as outlined in the next section.

We are also moving ahead with defining criteria for our three new honors: TOS mentoring, TOS early-career, and TOS ocean observing team awards. We are also advancing elements of the TOS 2030 strategic planning effort, although at a slightly reduced pace.

Please stay safe and healthy during these trying times, and let us know if there is anything TOS can do to support you during the coming months.

2. Self-nominations for TOS Representatives for the 2022 Ocean Sciences Meeting Planning Committee

We invite TOS members to submit self-nominations for **Vice-Chair, Early Career Representative, or Student Representative** for the 2022 Ocean Sciences Meeting Planning Committee **by June 1, 2020**:

All TOS Representatives are expected to:

- Participate in regularly scheduled monthly one-hour Planning Committee conference calls, as well as additional conference calls with other relevant committee representatives from AGU and ASLO as needed
- Attend two planning committee meetings (either in-person or virtually). The first will likely take place in June 2021, and the other will take place in October 2021.
- Assist with reviewing and merging sessions and communicating with session chairs as needed; work with other committee members and staff to create the schedule of oral and poster presentations
- Collaborate with other relevant committee members from AGU and ASLO to review past Ocean Sciences Meeting activities and determine activities for OSM 2022. Create plans, invite speakers, coordinate with conference staff on logistical needs as necessary.
- Attend the 2022 Ocean Sciences Meeting, and host, moderate, or monitor activities as assigned

Please note: The TOS Vice-Chair will assume the position of TOS Co-Chair for the 2024 Ocean Sciences Meeting (OSM) immediately after the 2022 OSM concludes.

To submit your self-nomination, please prepare a short statement indicating your motivation, interest, and relevant experience (2,000 characters maximum) and submit that information along with your CV by using one of the following submission forms:

Vice-Chair Submission Form

Early Career Representative Submission Form

Student Representative Submission Form

Applicants will be notified of decisions in mid-June. If you have any difficulty accessing the submission form, contact **Jenny Ramarui**.

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.