

## Pier2Peer Scholarship Program

The Ocean Foundation, in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Ocean Acidification Program (NOAA OAP), is pleased to announce a scholarship opportunity for Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network (GOA-ON) Pier2Peer program members. The scholarship opportunity is made possible through The Ocean Foundation, which builds capacity to monitor, understand, and respond to ocean acidification (OA). Awards of up to USD \$5000 are available to help support international collaborations between mentors and mentees that result in tangible gains in technical capacity, cooperation, and knowledge. The next application deadline is April 15, 2023.

### Objectives

This scholarship opportunity will facilitate collaboration among Pier2Peer program participants, thereby serving to enhance the quality and coverage of OA observations and understanding around the world, as part of the ocean observation and understanding objectives of GOA-ON.

The primary purpose of this scholarship is to build the capacity of scientists who are relatively new to studying OA (the mentees, or "peers") by enabling them to design and implement observation and research programs through collaboration with experienced OA researchers (the mentors, or "piers").

Proposed monitoring and research should align with the goals of GOA-ON, which are:

1. Improve our understanding of global OA conditions
2. Improve our understanding of ecosystem response to OA
3. Acquire and exchange data and knowledge necessary to optimize modelling for OA and its impacts

### Scope

Proposals should outline a joint activity between mentor and mentee, focusing on building capacity of the mentee to conduct OA research and establishing a collaboration with long term impacts for OA observation and knowledge exchange. One or more activities can be proposed, such as virtual mentoring, hands-on training with observing equipment, and/or learning new sample analysis techniques. Examples of what the scholarship could be used for include travel, training materials, shipment costs, and/or information resources.

The joint activity/activities should expand the capabilities of the mentee, or both partners, and improve capacity and understanding of the threat of OA to the marine systems in the mentee's region. Proposals should clearly describe how the activity/activities will enable the mentee to contribute to OA understanding, either directly (now) in the course of the project or indirectly (in the future) through training of other experts in the region and related outreach. Either the mentor or mentee must be 1) based in, 2) working in, OR 3) are from and plan to return to a country that is listed on the [DAC List of ODA Recipients](#) to be eligible to apply, or 4) the proposed research must directly benefit one of the listed countries. Please state how the proposed work matches at least one of the eligibility criteria in one of the biographies or in the statement regarding how the research will build a long-term legacy or build capacity in the region in the application.

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria (total 100 points):

- The ability of the project to expand capabilities of the mentee (25 points);
- The ability of the project to build capacity and to create long-term legacy for OA research in the mentee's region (20 points);

- Plan for the mentee to share the knowledge they gain with other interested colleagues to further increase the capacity (10 points);
- The suitability of the activity/activities to the expertise, skill levels, financial resources, and technical resources of the mentor and mentee (20 points);
- The suitability of the budget for the activity/activities and outcomes (15 points);
- The ability of the activity/activities to pursue knowledge (chemical or biological) that fills a gap in current efforts to monitor ocean acidification within the GOA-ON community (10 points).

Note: The scholarship is not intended to support travel to attend conferences. Exceptions may be made if the travel to a conference is clearly connected to achieving the project goals. The scholarship granted must be spent within twelve months of receipt, and can be partitioned between the mentor and mentee as desired.

### Application components

Applications should be jointly submitted by the Pier2Peer mentor and mentee and should contain the following:

1. Project outline to include:
  - a. a description of the collaboration plan (0.5 page) and;
  - b. a brief background on the current capacity for ocean acidification monitoring in the relevant region (0.5 page);
2. Brief biography of applicants (1 paragraph each);
3. Specifics of the mentoring and training activity/activities proposed (0.5 page);
4. How the project will benefit the mentee by expanding their capabilities (0.5 page);
5. How the project will share knowledge and increase long-term scientific capacity in the relevant region (0.5 page);
6. Proposed budget, noting the amount requested by mentor and mentee.

### Submission information

Please submit your applications to [IOAI@oceanfdn.org](mailto:IOAI@oceanfdn.org) by **April 15, 2023** with Pier2Peer Coordinator, Alexandra Puritz ([alexandra.puritz@noaa.gov](mailto:alexandra.puritz@noaa.gov)) and all mentors/mentees cc'ed. Scholarship recipients will commit to submitting a report at the completion of their one-year project that details the outcomes of their collaboration and how funds were expended.

*Pier2Peer is a scientific mentoring program supporting the expansion of ocean acidification observing capacity in direct contribution to the Global Ocean acidification Observing Network (GOA-ON) through two way sharing and capacity building activities. GOA-ON is a collaborative international approach to document the status and progress of ocean acidification in open-ocean, coastal, and estuarine environments, to understand the drivers and impacts of ocean acidification on marine ecosystems, and to provide spatially and temporally resolved biogeochemical data necessary to optimize modelling for ocean acidification.*