



Pier2Peer: GOA-ON Mentorship Program

The Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network (GOA-ON) relies on international collaboration to share data, experiences, and knowledge, with broad perspectives on local and regional impacts, to guide future research initiatives and enhance our understanding of the global ecological impacts of ocean acidification (OA). As an international organization, GOA-ON is committed to promoting diversity across disciplines, countries, socioeconomic status, gender, and ethnicity.

To increase diversity of membership, support international collaboration, and develop capacity, GOA-ON created Pier2Peer – a scientific mentorship program that matches experienced researchers with those seeking training in a particular skill, and provides professional guidance and technical support. Pier2Peer is designed to build community among the entire GOA-ON cohort and to support new member groups. Mentors and mentees are encouraged to establish a close professional relationship with strong communication, to identify new fields of joint research, additional funding possibilities, and a broad range of international collaborations that may otherwise not materialize. These professional relationships and collaborations allow both mentor and mentee to develop new skills, exchange knowledge with a wider audience, and receive guidance and experience for future OA observation and research.

The Pier2Peer mentorship program, which now includes over 250 members from more than 60 countries, is integral in helping GOA-ON achieve global observing capabilities, and to ultimately diversify and advance our ability to provide early warning of the impacts of OA on ecosystems and local economies.



Who is a Pier2Peer Mentee?

GOA-ON members who are students, early-career scientists, or scientists new to the field are encouraged to request to be matched with a Pier2Peer mentor. As a Pier2Peer mentee, you will expand your understanding of the history and current state of the ocean acidification field, seek advice from a skilled researcher to carry out your research plan, and receive support on your path to carrying out robust ocean acidification research.



Who is a Pier2Peer Mentor?

Experienced GOA-ON members, including scientists, data managers, and policy experts, are encouraged to become mentors. As a Pier2Peer mentor, you will provide support, share personal experiences in the field of OA, and serve as a resource for professional development. You should be active and engaged in OA research, while at the same time sensitive to the non-traditional views of science that others may bring to the table. We strongly encourage mentors to seek out resources to support these collaborations, and to foster open and frequent communication. Mentors benefit from expanding their network of colleagues, helping build and connect the global OA community, and recognition of their efforts by an international body.



GOA-ON provides assistance to Pier2Peer members, via:

- the provision of a platform (the OA Information Exchange) where members can share information and ask questions about OA research,
- “The Pier Review” newsletter, which shares details about potential funding and deadlines, upcoming conferences, and PhD and postdoctoral opportunities,
- the provision of letters of support, noting contributions,
- the Pier2Peer Scholarship Fund! Thanks to The Ocean Foundation, Pier2Peer mentor-mentee pairs can apply for funding on a quarterly basis.