

**POGO-SPONSORED TRAINING INITIATIVE
Report**

1. Name of grant recipient (Proposal Coordinator)

Christa Marandino

2. Title of training

Virtual SOLAS Summer School

3. Dates of training (e.g., 01 Jan 1999)

Start date: 13 June 2022

End date: 17 June 2022

4. Location of training (e.g. institute, city, country) Please indicate if online/in person/hybrid.

Online (via Zoom and the Whova platform)

5. Number of trainees: 62

6. Other partners/funding sources

The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation and the Xiamen Marine International Cooperation Center

7. Provide an outline of the training course/initiative (objectives, format, topics)

Full programme can be included as an Appendix.

The overarching objective of the SOLAS summer schools is to offer young scientists from around the world the opportunity to expand their knowledge and to create collaborations with the international SOLAS community. SOLAS views the development of the current generation of young researchers as vital to the success of the project, as these young scientists have the capacity to make immediate progress in response to the significant environmental and societal challenges now and into the future.

The school was designed to cover the five core themes of the Surface Ocean-Lower Atmosphere Study (SOLAS), one per day. The days were 4.5 hours long and consisted of a plenary set of 3 20-minute interrelated lectures with discussion, then breakout group practicals on various topics, followed by a lightning round of student poster presentations. The practicals included data handling, remote sensing, communications, atmospheric trajectory modelling, and publishing.

We have included the full program as an appendix.

8. Provide a summary of the students' performance and any informal feedback received

Please note that an evaluation questionnaire will be sent to the participants by the Secretariat and therefore we ask that you provide a list of trainees and their e-mail addresses. The questionnaire results will be shared with you in due course.

The students were asked for the following upon admission to the school:

1) Upload a scientific poster;

- 2) Prepare a 1-minute oral presentation for the poster lightning rounds;
- 3) Create a Whova profile; and
- 4) Participate in the contests.

All students performed the requested tasks well. The lightning rounds were well attended and the students asked each other questions. The posters were also well visited and the students engaged independently with each other around the presented research topics.

The online attendance was never full, due to time zone constraints, but many who could not participate in certain portions went online and downloaded the recordings. Only approximately 10 students did not participate in the course regularly, although they were accepted. The use of the Whova platform was extensive. Students participated in polls and topic threads, made their own polls and topic threads, uploaded photos, and participated in the icebreakers. There was detailed interaction between the presenters and students there as well.

We received informal feedback and a few of the students fill out our formal evaluation. From the limited amount of evaluations, we see that the response was positive and that the students learned and enjoyed the interaction. Some informal feedback from the lecturers was that 20 mins is very short to deliver a substantive lecture and that it is difficult to engage with the audience when the cameras are off. A few attendees stated that sometimes it was difficult to get broad participation in the breakout groups. A summary of the main results follows in list format and a full copy of the evaluation results is included as an appendix.

9. Do you have any plans for future collaboration with the students, the host institute (if applicable) or for future editions of the training course?

We saw from the interactions on Whova that the students themselves began collaborating and meeting offline.

Currently, we are planning the 2023 in-person school on Cabo Verde and have encouraged interested virtual summer school attendees to apply. After the 2023, we hope to resume the school in a 2-3-year rhythm. If this does not happen in person, we now have the ability to provide an interesting and engaging alternative online.

10. List of trainees

Please fill in the attached Excel spreadsheet with the list of trainees.