

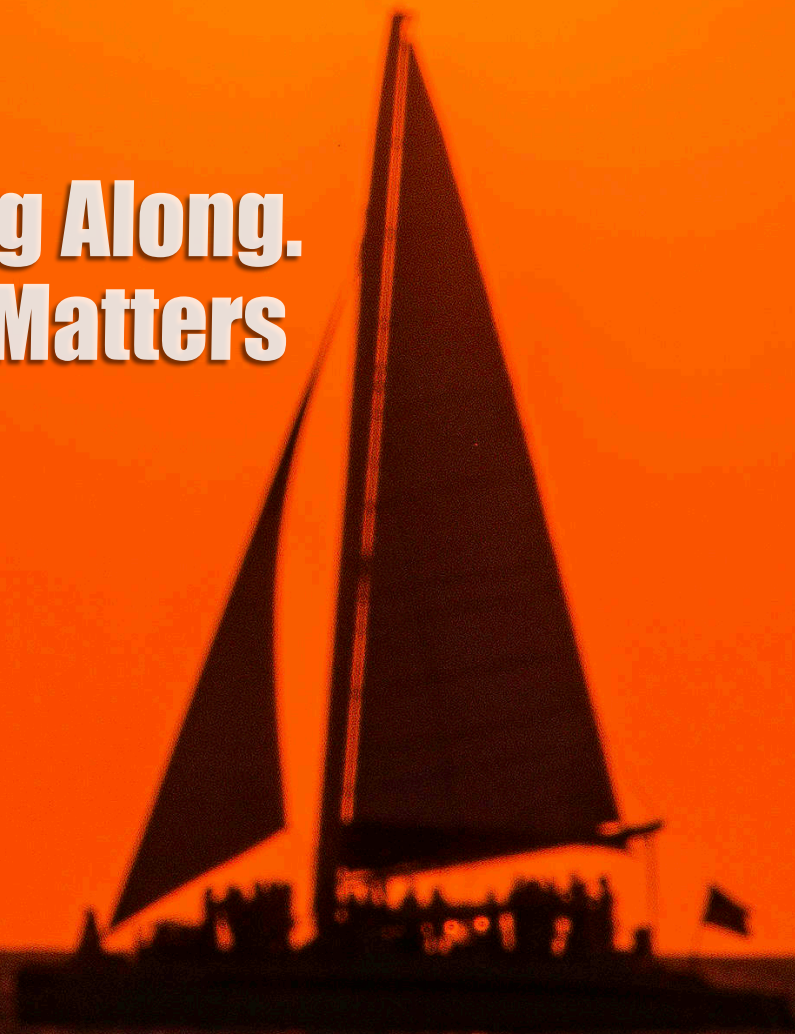
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- NF-POGO Alumni Network for the Ocean -

NF-POGO Alumni E-Newsletter – Volume 20, May 2021

**10 Years and Sailing Along.
..... A Journey that Matters**



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countries living in same house. Scientific expedition in the North Sea with well-equipped research vessels, handling modern oceanographic instruments, working in labs with all necessary facilities, group study, working on our individual research project by taking help from each other and meeting friends with different cultural and academic backgrounds were really exciting experiences for me. Every Saturday, one of the 10 scholars used to cook his/her national food for rest of the scholars. We did this for whole training period. I will never forget these memories.

Do you keep in touch with instructors, mentors, and/or colleagues from the training(s)? Professionally or personally?

Yes. I still have contact with my colleagues, instructors and mentor both professionally and personally.

Was the experience useful for you and your current work? If yes, how?

The experience was useful. The training programme developed my insights on ocean science. I learnt new methodologies and tools, and now I am applying those in my research work. Most importantly, I developed a network of well experienced marine scientists and with some of them I am now collaborating for my research.

Any words of wisdom for our Early Career, new members?

Training programmes offered by NF-POGO are practical oriented. These training programme plant the seed of multidisciplinary ocean science and provide the necessary transferable skills to build the career of scholars. Along with practical knowledge these training programmes also offer a great opportunity for international networking. So, I would like to say to the new members to take this opportunity to build their capacity in ocean science and make an international network for further collaboration.

**DIRECTOR GENERAL, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY (NIO),
PAKISTAN**

Dr. Samina Kidwai

Alumnus profile: <https://nf-pogo-alumni.org/profile/skidwai/>



What was your occupation at the time of the training?

I was a research scientist at the National Institute of Oceanography.

What is your favourite memory from the training(s)?

POGO-IOC-SCOR Fellowship: The ice cream shop Oliver's Garage in Charlottlund (huge size, exotic flavors). Long queues and huge size, you will get tired of licking the cone and the ice cream wont finish

Visiting scholar at the Prof. Thomas Kiorboe lab DIFRES, Charlottlund, Denmark: Train trip to Hirtshal and cruise on board RV DANA to Copenhagen and the first time visit to the Little Mermaid.

NF POGO COF E BIOS, Bermuda: The spectacular beauty of the island, visit to Nonsuch Island, the cruises onboard the RV Atlantic Explorer with Dr. Maureen Conte Mooring cruises (great inspiration, wonderful person and mentor) and a dinner at the Governor of Bermuda's house, where we accompanied the Director of BIOS.

Do you keep in touch with instructors, mentors, and/or colleagues from the training(s)? Professionally or personally?

On and off with mentors Prof. Trevor Platt (*in memoriam*) and Dr. Shubha Sathyendranath, CofE colleagues Housseem Smeti, Joseph Palermo, Toye, Lica Krug and Priyadarshani, and former BIOS staff Rachel Parson and Lilia Jackman.

Was the experience useful for you and your current work? If yes, how?

Yes, hands on cruise experience, networking friends all over the world.

Any words of wisdom for our Early Career, new members?

Whatever you do, do it with your heart to the best of your ability.

We are amongst those lucky ones who are blessed to live our dreams, open your hearts.

Success is not what we achieve but what we give back.



NF-POGO Alumni Network for the Ocean
<https://nf-pogo-alumni.org/>



<http://www.nippon-foundation.or.jp/eng/>



<http://www.pogo-ocean.org>



Partnership for Observation of the Global Ocean (POGO)
Plymouth Marine Laboratory, Prospect Place
Plymouth PL1 3DH
United Kingdom

POGO Secretariat
Tel. +44 (0)1752 633424
E-mail pogoadmin@pml.ac.uk

NANO News 20 Chief Editor: Kanthi Yapa

Layout Design Editor: Lilian Krug

<https://nf-pogo-alumni.org/about/newsletters/>

