

# Mentorship

## Mentorship Definition

“What is mentorship? The simplest way to define mentorship is to think about it in its most usual form; a helping relationship in which one person, usually more experienced or senior, takes time to help the career, professional or personal development of someone else, who is known as a mentee, mentee, or protégé. Mentorships are most often a one-to-one relationship but can be in groups” (<https://artofmentoring.net/mentorship/>).

The word was inspired by the character Mentor in Homer's Odyssey. In this Ancient Greek epic poem, dating back around three thousand years, Odysseus entrusts his young son Telemachus to the care of Mentor, his trusted companion, when he goes to fight in the Trojan War. Although the Mentor in the story is portrayed as a somewhat ineffective old man, the goddess Athena assumes his appearance to guide young Telemachus in his time of difficulty.

## SACNASP Mentoring Programme (CMP)

The SACNASP Candidate Mentoring Programme (CMP) is run in conjunction with Voluntary Associations like the GSSA and provides prospective professional scientists with a mentor who will help them advance from candidate to professional status, provide mentees with the skills they need to perform to their fullest capacity, and empower them to set and achieve goals for their professional and personal development.

The first GSSA Mentoring Programme began in 2020. To date, thirty-five young professionals have taken advantage of the programme.

The one-year mentoring programme is open to geoscientists younger than thirty-five, registered with SACNASP in the Candidate Category AND who are GSSA members. If you fit the bill and would like to further your professional and personal development as a mentee, [apply here](#).



The selected mentees benefit from the following:

A mentor and group mentoring sessions

GSSA events and field trips

GSSA courses and talks on YouTube.

Networking through

- GSSA online events
- GSSA networking events
- Free partner talks by universities and other organisations

Volunteer opportunities within the GSSA as well as branches and divisions of the GSSA

We also need **mentors**. Any geoscientist (from all branches of geoscience) can be a mentor. If you are willing to share your experience and knowledge, [click](#) here now.

Contact Noleen Pauls with questions at [noleen.pauls@gmail.com](mailto:noleen.pauls@gmail.com).

## Events

