

Europlanet Mentorship: opportunities for sharing knowledge

Stonkutė E.¹, Tautvaišienė G.¹, Heward A.², Mikolaitis Š.¹ and DeWitt J.³

¹ Institute of Theoretical Physics and Astronomy, Vilnius University, Lithuania

² University of Kent, United Kingdom

³ Evaluation Officer for Europlanet 2024 RI, United Kingdom

Europlanet Mentorship Platform

In August 2020, Europlanet launched the Mentorship platform with the aim to support early career researchers.

- ❑ Supports Mentees in pursuing their career paths
- ❑ Fosters open-minded collaboration and leadership
- ❑ Provides opportunities to ask questions, develop expertise and discuss career plans

Two years after launch we are using a survey to gather feedback from mentors and mentees, and we are also following up with participants informally through chats and e-mails.

Inspiring Success Story

In November 2020, research fellow dr. Iharka Csillik, working on celestial mechanics and dynamical astronomy (Romania), started mentoring a PhD candidate, Simon Anghel (doctoral thesis about the atmospheric impacts e.g. airbursts, fireballs, meteors), and supporting him by sharing experience in fields such as career pathways, fundraising, increasing visibility in the community.

Working together Iharka and Simon learned a lot from each other and also published their ideas in the peer-reviewed Romanian Astronomical Journal in 2021.

After one year of Mentorship, Iharka agreed to be a mentor for another PhD candidate, Marcelo de Cicco from Brazil (in the field of planetary science, meteoroids, meteors) and is supporting him how to develop skills in meteor science dynamics and publishing.

Marcelo and Iharka met for the first time in Cluj at an international conference in summer of 2022 with funding from the Europlanet Expert Exchange programme. The mentor-mentee pair had a presentation together about Earth-grazing fireballs. Currently they are investigating the dynamic problem of meteors, and plan to publish their results in a journal this year.

"I had an idea that if both mentees work in the same area and projects, they can collaborate in the future. So, at the Cluj international conference, we create a collaboration group of research for detecting and characterizing fireballs (orbit, trajectory, size, etc.) between Romania (MOROI) - Brazil (EXOSS) - Fripon (International) and Hungary (Baja Observatory)." - Mentor Iharka Csillik.



Marcelo de Cicco (Brazil), Iharka Csillik (Romania) and Simon Anghel (Romania) at the Astronomical Observatory in Cluj-Napoca, Cluj, Romania.



You can ask the advice of our Mentoring Team via e-mail: mentors@europlanet-society.org

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<https://www.europlanet-society.org/mentoring>