

My most favorite aspect of this workshop was the live recording of our presentations and the valuable comments provided by the Accord consultants. This workshop provided details on research opportunities in India, various funding agencies, postdoc careers, handling of research project, ethical issues and also inculcated wider details on manuscript/proposal writing. I would suggest accommodating more participants to enrich more scientists with this great knowledge sharing process.

- Ms M Saraswathy, PhD student, Sri Ramachandra University, Chennai (SciComm Hyderabad, March 2014)

SciComm workshop was a unique endeavor for all-round development of young researchers such as me towards being independent investigators. The workshop was an extremely well-planned and a very balanced event for instilling presentation skills, core-biological and translational mentoring through the presence of basic and clinical scientists. Although I have attended scientific development events, this was a more immersive and practical event which has surely molded my way of framing and writing scientific proposal and preparing for the global scientific community. It was an event of optimal duration, and I would not have minded to spend another half-a-day, especially on a more practical, situation driven training and quizzes on ethical protocols.

- Dr Tavpritesh Sethi, Quick hire scientist, CSIR-Fourth Paradigm Unit, New Delhi (SciComm Hyderabad, March 2014)

The workshop was unique as it provided an opportunity to “break ice” between clinicians and basic scientists which no other workshops provide. The workshop helped me by providing a template for improving my communication and presentation skills to convey my research work more effectively to the audience and grants committee. It also offered me insights into improvising my grant application. The round table provided opportunity to interact only with one mentor. A slot may be provided to listen to advices provided by other mentors to their respective groups.

- Dr Anil Vasudevan, Clinician scientist, St. John’s Research Institute, Bangalore (SciComm Hyderabad, March 2014)

I found the workshop quite useful for gaining practical skills around research. The session on learning research presentation was productive and helped me in gaining insight into communicating research for audiences. Even though my research proposal was in a nascent stage, the feedback from my mentor helped me in rethinking some of the ideas I had proposed and reformulating in ways that would be palatable to a grant-making organization. The sessions were planned well. I would recommend that the workshop be extended to other public health researchers as well.

- Nandita Bhan, South Asia Network for Chronic Diseases, PHFI, Delhi, 09 Scicomm, Hyderabad, November 2013

I am overwhelmed with the experience of the scicomm that I attended this year. It is a one of its kind of a workshop that addresses very crucial aspects of being a successful scientist.....the aspects which are left unattended most of the times. The session on presentation skills was the most exciting and fruitful... with

personalized attention on each participant. I have started accessing presentations with a different view now...and also giving fruitful suggestions to my colleagues. The valuable insights on grants writing and putting up fellowship applications from the very experts in the field were extremely useful. I think it's a must attend workshop for every PhD and postdoctoral student. I thoroughly enjoyed and learned a lot from this workshop.

- Faiza Amber Siddiqui, International Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, New Delhi, 09 Scicomm, Hyderabad, November 2013

WellcomeTrust-DBT workshop on Science and Communication was one of the best workshop for the young researcher to get aware of how to move ahead in science. It provides a basic need for developing presentation skills, understanding of scientific proposal writing and improving power point presentation skills. It was well organised and very interactive workshop. I highly recommend this workshop to be attended by every young researcher. It was very good experience to learn from diverse people.

- D Karthick, Univ of Madras, Chennai, 09 Scicomm, Hyderabad, November 2013

It has been close to a month since we have returned back from Hyderabad after attending the India Alliance workshop. It was a wonderful experience and various aspects of research methodology were discussed there. The participants were an amalgam of both youth and experience. We both from PGIMER (myself and Dr.Smita) were happy to see the enthusiasm among the young budding scientists of our country. The workshop was a well-planned endeavor by the IA alliance team, the modules were well distributed over two and a half days, the faculty was well picked and each one of them stalwarts in their respective fields. Of the many workshops I have attended was the first one where the faculty was so receptive and they even would tell both the negative and positive points of our work. This has helped me in my recent talks where I have used the suggestions given during the IA workshop and have been successful.

Finally I have to thank the entire IA team for considering me for this workshop and I am happy that I attended it.

- Dr. Vikas Suri (Clinician), PGIMER, 08 Scicomm, Hyderabad, March 2013

The Science and Communication workshop was one of the best workshops that I have attended so far. It was a wonderful experience being a part of this workshop. This workshop provided me an opportunity to improve my communication as well as presentation skills. Critical feedback given by the accord team strengthens my communication skill. Learning from choice and mentors suggestion on research proposal would help in my future plan. It was a great learning experience. I will never forget the lessons that I learnt in this workshop. Of course, it really made a difference as we had excellent trainers, mentors and thanks to Wellcome trust / DBT India Alliance.

- Naeem Khan, University of Kashmir (Department of Biotechnology), 08 Scicomm, Hyderabad, March 2013

The Scicomm is an exceptional workshop that primarily focuses on presentation skills and grant writing. The presentation module covered every little detail regarding making an effective presentation. Special thanks to Accord people for this. The interactive sessions with the mentors regarding grant writing and research ethics are particularly noteworthy. The thoroughly planned workshop helped me in analysing my strengths and weakness in these areas and the inputs gained will surely help me in near future, when I will be competing for an independent career in science.

- Nidhi Hans, ICGEB, 08 Scicomm, Hyderabad, March 2013

The IA workshop was perfect for building the capacity of young researchers towards accomplishing the goal of translating knowledge into action. The workshop helped to strengthen overall capacity to communicate better. The workshop enhanced analytical skills required for the design, management and execution of a cohort study. In specific, presentation and interpretation skills were fine-tuned and the workshop will help in shaping up careers of young researchers. I request the IA to organize workshops for intermediate level fellowships to provide advice on writing-up, seeking and carrying out the research as principal investigator.

- Dr. Giridhara Rathnaiah Babu (Public Health Researcher), IIPH-Hyderabad (Bangalore campus), 08 Scicomm, Hyderabad, March 2013

It was a fascinating experience and a welcome break from the monotonous routine of the lab. We learned various aspects of scientific communication skills - verbal, non verbal and writing. Those tips given to hone our presentation skills and audience handling were particularly useful and informative. The workshop was immensely helpful in identifying each individual's barrier to effective communication and rectifying those.

- Santosh Keisam , PhD student (Microbial Resources Division), Institute of Bioresources and Sustainable Development, Imphal, July 2012

The SciComm workshop rejuvenated the way of presentation especially scientific communications, interpretations, elaboration and elucidation in lucid manner. The sessions had wide coverage of training, individual involvement, team spirit and innovative way thinking. The trainers had evaluated every individual to interpret the pros and cons of the way of representation. I wish all the best for Wellcom-DBT alliance for their future endeavors.

- Bharat G. Somkuwar, Scientist (Bioinformatics), Institute of Bioresources and Sustainable Development, Imphal, July 2012

In two days of captivating sessions of SciComm I found it beneficial for development of self confidence to express our thoughts, knowledge, presentation and way of further improvement through communications especially the types of audience and how to tackle them in more effective manner.

- Sanasam Shantibala Devi, Women Scientist (Microbial Resources Division), Institute of Bioresources and Sustainable Development, Imphal, July 2012

The workshop was a tremendous source of skill development in scientific presentation demonstrating many do's and don'ts while making a scientific presentation in front of the crowds and also gave many inputs such as, how to control the audience which is a primary task for a presenter. Overall it was a very good workshop which imparts lots of knowledge in different aspects also. In future also I personally like to attend this kind of workshop though it was very hectic schedule.

- Dr. Sanjabihari Singh, Post-doctoral Fellow, Institute of Bioresources and Sustainable Development, Imphal, July 2012

Sci-Comm workshop was one of its kind, whose focus was to improve our abilities in scientific writing and communication skills. The encouraging criticisms received from the mentors on our grant proposal are worth pursuing and will definitely help us in the future. Team Accord did an exceptionally brilliant job in providing us the right skills for an effective communication. Finally, the friendly environment created by Wellcome Trust - DBT India Alliance group and the fellow colleagues is worth a memory.

- Neha Arya, IIT Kanpur, 06 Scicomm, March 2012

The workshop is an excellent opportunity for the biomedical researchers to learn presentation skills and art of writing scientific projects. I wish to congratulate Wellcome trust/ DBT India alliance for providing the platform for the budding Indian scientists. This unique workshop gives a right perspective of putting 'right' things in a 'correct way'. Learning by choices instills the confidence in the vulnerable minds of young researches, who are in a dilemma whether they are right or wrong. Accord consultants are great strength of the workshop.

- Shiv Sajan Saini, Clinician, PGIMER, 06 Scicomm, March 2012

This was an excellent workshop and a unique opportunity. I learned a lot about grant writing and presentation skills and I believe this experience would be very useful in my near future. The feedback from mentors and Accord team was great and encouraging. I enjoyed interacting with other students from diverse scientific background and with clinicians. I suggest every PhD student must attend this. Finally, workshop was very structured and well organized.

- Shaheena Parween, ICGB, 06 Scicomm, March 2012

The SciComm compiles interactive sessions on personal effectiveness, ethics in research and grant writing which helps in enhancing my scientific aptitude. This workshop provides the concept of how to provoke people with the ideas effectively. The team Accord offers solution-oriented tips to strengthen my communication skill. Moreover, the mentors have given valuable suggestions about how to design the project study and how to tackle the ethical issues. This workshop exhibits excellent time management and it brings all the participants, mentors, other team members together on the same platform in a friendly and scientifically fruitful environment. Thank you so much for organizing such an informative workshop.

- Dhvani Raghav, Banasthali University, Rajasthan, 06 Scicomm, March 2012

The scicomm workshop focuses on presentation skills and writing scientific proposals, towards making a successful research career. There is an emphasis on interactive 'real world' teaching which is enriching. Feedback on research proposals from senior faculty is unique and an important part. Finally meeting peers and the friendly india alliance team make for a wonderful experience"

- Varun Dhir (Clinician), PGIMER, Chandigarh, 05 Scicomm, August 2011

"This has been the best workshop I have ever attended and the credit definitely goes to the Wellcome Trust/ DBT India Alliance team. Every topic in this workshop has been very aptly selected and we learnt so many serious issues playfully. Special thanks to the Accord Consultants for making me learn to use my strengths effectively and overcome my drawbacks. The one to one interaction with the mentors, learning from their decisions in taking scientific careers as well as the tips offered for effective grant writing have immensely motivated me to seriously plan my future for an independent career in science.

I believe the insights gained from this workshop will benefit me in the years to come and is probably the first step in fulfilling my dream of curving out a niche in the scientific community. In future I would love to attend more workshops from the organizers in their effort to groom the budding scientists of our country."

- Gautami Das, Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, 05 Scicomm, August 2011

"This was a one of its kind workshop, with the sole purpose of empowering the scientific aptitude within us. It was incredibly encouraging to have renowned scientists actually evaluate and criticize our grant proposals. The mentors together with IA team, left no stone unturned to answer all our queries, in the most comfortable of environments. Team Accord was brilliant in bringing out the confident communicator within each of us."

- Arunava Roy, University of Calcutta, 05 Scicomm, August 2011

"This meticulously planned workshop aims to strengthen scientific writing and communication skills. The level of attention and objective criticism one gets from the mentors as well as the team is certainly impressive. Personally, I am benefited from learning how an effective grant proposal is written. A session on research ethics made an interesting listening too"

- Shubhada Hegde, Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics, 05 Scicomm, August 2011