



## Softskill-Seminar **Creative Science Communication**

Trainer Derek Handley

### Course Agenda for a 3-day Workshop

#### Preparatory work for participants

- Read a short research paper sent by the trainer and answer four basic questions about it.
- Choose one scientific poster to bring to the course.
- Prepare a five-minute general audience presentation on one of a supplied set of topics and a five-minute specialist audience presentation focused on the participant's research area of choice.

#### Day 1

##### Morning – Fundamentals of Rhetoric

- Introduction to academic rhetoric
- Recognizing your audience – writing for general and specialist audiences
- Recognizing your medium – writing for journals, books and conferences
- Key elements of language – passive and active voice; parallel structure; formality

##### Afternoon – Posters and Slide Decks

- Creating slide decks
- Analyzing the elements of posters
- Participant poster session, including group feedback

#### Day 2

##### Morning – Writing in Focus

- The elements and language of a scientific paper
- Abstracts, introductions, summaries and conclusions – key differences
- Analysis of a single research paper

##### Afternoon – Speaking in Focus

- Working with your slide deck
- Participant presentation I – general audience presentations
- Homework: Refine specialist presentation

#### Day 3

##### Morning – Abstracts in Focus

- Writing exercise – prepare an abstract based on a paper
- Writing exercise – prepare a conference abstract
- Discussion of abstracts

##### Afternoon – Summing Up

- Participant presentation II – specialist audience presentations
- Feedback session on participant presentations and slide decks
- Final thoughts