

## **Science and Communication Workshop** **Hyderabad, 7 -9 June 2011**

The **India Alliance** is pleased to announce its third Science & Communication workshop for senior PhD students.

The Workshop will include the following modules. For details see “About the workshop”:

- ★ Making effective presentations
- ★ Grants Writing
- ★ Ethics in Research
- ★ Panel Discussion with senior scientists (mentors) on planning a successful career in science

**Eligibility:** You must be

- ★ A PhD student who has completed at least 4 years of research in your Thesis Laboratory OR a postdoc who has completed your PhD no earlier than June 2010
- ★ Broadly working in the area of biomedical science
- ★ Working at a research Institute/University in India
- ★ Be prepared to submit a 1,000 word research proposal if you are invited to attend the workshop

**How to Apply**

- ★ Please use our [online form](#) to submit your application. It is mandatory to use the online form.
- ★ Your application must reach us by **4 May 2011**.
- ★ Late and/or incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- ★ Only 30 Applicants will be short-listed for participation. The India Alliance’s decision on short-listing will be final.

**What’s included**

- ★ Participation is by invitation only
- ★ Travel costs by Train, 2 Tier AC, to Hyderabad and reasonable ground transportation will be reimbursed
- ★ Shared accommodation will be provided for the entire duration of workshop. It is mandatory for all participants to stay on site even if they are from Hyderabad.

**Contact**

If you require further information please write to [scicomm@wellcomedbt.org](mailto:scicomm@wellcomedbt.org). It may take up to 72 hours for a response.

## **About the Workshop**

This workshop is a unique opportunity for PhD and Postdoc scholars to develop their skills in communication and learn from experts on how to build a successful scientific career. Through experimental learning, students will receive training on how to be more effective in communicating their science. And, with the help of our mentors, students will have an opportunity to discuss and learn from decisions made by successful scientists.

Most successful scientists will concede that it is not enough to get an exciting result or idea. It is also important to know how best to communicate it. During your scientific career you will have several opportunities to speak and write about your work. But the content and delivery would vary based on the audience – it could be your lab members or a potential international postdoctoral supervisor or your grandmother! At this workshop you will receive training on basic principles which when applied to a situation can help you convey your idea using either speech or text.

### **“Making Effective Presentations”**

**Accord Consultants**, a Bangalore-based HR consultancy firm, has been invited to conduct this session. Accord Consultants have over 26 years of experience in training employees of various corporate and governmental organizations such as Infosys, Wipro, Astra Zeneca, IIM B etc to be more effective professionally. In this module you will learn the principles of speech communication from their facilitators. To learn more about Accord visit <http://www.accordconsultants.co.in/about-us.html>

### **“Grants Writing”**

In this session, the India Alliance Office will share its experience with the various grants received for Fellowships and advice on what goes into a “good” grant application.

If you are selected for this session, you will have to write a 1000 word proposal for the workshop and will receive feedback from mentors. Mentors typically are internationally successful scientists and would advice on how your grant would be received by an external reviewer.

The 1,000 word proposal should outline an original research project that you would like to pursue if you were an independent scientist. It would typically contain an introduction, specific aims, methodology and outcome. All relevant references should be clearly cited.

### **“Ethics in Research”**

How should authorship on a paper be decided? What is plagiarism? Why should I bother with animal ethical clearance?

Has these or similar questions bothered you? This module led by Dr D Balasubramanian (LVPEI, Hyderabad) will explore these and many such circumstances that you will face

in your career. Through examples and discussions we hope you will be better informed of how the ethical choices you make can shape your career.

### **“Learning from Choices”**

This informal session is based on the premise that all scientists make choices to be where they are and students can benefit by learning from decisions taken by successful scientists. You are encouraged to submit questions for panel members about choices they made to have a career in Science. Through this forum you can find out what postdoctoral supervisors are looking for and obtain advice on how to pick the most suitable postdoctoral supervisor.

### **“Mentors”**

Professor D Balasubramanian  
LV Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI), Hyderabad

Dr DP Kasbekar  
Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad

Professor Subhash Chandra Lakhota  
Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi

Professor Gaiti Hasan  
National Center for Biological Sciences, Bangalore

Professor Sumantra Chattarji  
National Center for Biological Sciences, Bangalore

Professor Anuradha Lohia  
Bose Institute, Kolkata & CEO of the India Alliance

## **Feedback**

### **What previous participants had to say about the workshop:**

“I am fortunate that I applied and had the opportunity to attend the Science & Communication Workshop organized by the Wellcome Trust-DBT India Alliance at Hyderabad from 20-22 September, 2010. This workshop came as a boon in the right time of my career. This workshop not only gives me the opportunity to write a project but also it assists me to present my viewpoints in an appreciable manner. I take this opportunity to thank Wellcome-DBT India Alliance, Team Accord and all other participants for the nice interactive sessions.” - **Dipak Manna, Bose Institute, Scicomm 2010**

“Attending the India Alliance DBT Welcome workshop was a highly enriching experience. The combined efforts of a team of professionals and prominent scientists on both scientific presentation and grant writing helped me immensely. Further, input and discussion with leaders in Indian science helped me define my future scientific path better.” - **Deepika Suri, TIFR, Scicomm 2010**

**Add two from BHU.**

**Here is also a link** to video clips of participants from the 2011 workshop at Banaras Hindu University.