

Standing Up for Science media workshop

This event is open to early career researchers in all sciences, engineering and medicine (PhD students, post-docs or equivalent in first job) and will be held on **Friday 27th March 2009 in Manchester.**

Are you passionate about your research?

Do you think it is important for good science and evidence to be communicated to a wider audience?

What can you do about misconceptions and misinformation about science?

Science in the media: What happens when research announcements go wrong; statistics are manipulated; risk factors are distorted; or discussions become polarised?

Speakers: Dr Dominic Williams, Drug Safety Research Group, University of Liverpool; Professor Trevor Cox, Professor of Acoustic Engineering, University of Salford; Professor Raymond Tallis, Emeritus Professor of Geriatric Medicine, University of Manchester.

What journalists are looking for: How do journalists approach stories? Balance the need for news and entertainment with reporting science? And deal with accusations of polarising debates and misrepresenting the facts?

Speakers: Rebekah Crabtree, BBC Manchester; other journalists to be confirmed.*

Standing up for science; the nuts and bolts: What is there for early career researchers to play for? Not yet the leaders in the field what can you do to encourage good science and evidence in the public domain? This session offers practical guidance for early career researchers to get their voices heard in debates about science; how to respond to bad science when you see it; and top tips for if you come face-to-face with a journalist!

Speakers: Alex Waddington, Media Relations Office, University of Manchester; Alice Tuff, Development Officer, Sense About Science.

These workshops are very popular and there are only 35 places available. Please apply with a CV and covering letter explaining your reason for applying to Julia Wilson: email jwilson@senseaboutscience.org or post to **Sense About Science, 25 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W1D 7EG.** Please also state any affiliations you hold.

The closing date for applications is Friday 13th March 2009

For further information visit www.senseaboutscience.org/VoYS or call on 020 7478 4380. Sense About Science is a registered charity that promotes good science and evidence in public debates.

“An excellent workshop that has made a big difference to the way I view science in the media.”

“This workshop is needed by all science researchers in order to develop an informed attitude towards the media rather than the pessimistic attitude many scientists adopt.”

*Previous journalists have included Mark Henderson, *The Times*, Fiona MacRae, *Daily Mail*, Rachael Buchanan, BBC