



Write by not writing. How to develop a blueprint for a research paper

Wednesday 14 May 1 - 2pm

Speaker

Dr Geoff Hyde

Freelance consultant in research communication;
Online Research Communication Consultant and Teacher (part-time) at National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bangalore (Tata Institute for Fundamental Research)

Location

Slatyer Seminar Room

R.N. Robertson Building (Bldg. 46),
Linnaeus Way, ANU

Contact

E gagan.bhardwaj@anu.edu.au

T +61 2 612 59395

This lecture is free and open to the public

PSS event information:
biology.anu.edu.au/News/events-ps.php



You would not start building a home without a blueprint, and if you want it to be a great home, that blueprint would have evolved through discussions with an architect and builders. When researchers embark on writing up a paper -also a lengthy, complex task- they often proceed straight to the “building” phase (i.e. writing). If the paper ever acquires an admirable structure at all, it only does so after repeated bouts of demolition (revision) and rebuilding from the rubble. Today, I will propose a more efficient, proactive strategy in

which you first develop, in conjunction with your colleagues, the equivalent of a blueprint for the paper. This schema embodies the logical structure of the research process, but I will show that it helps you present your work not only convincingly but also compellingly.

About the speaker

I have given workshops and courses on research communication skills since 1998, first at UNSW, where I ran the professional skills program for Honours students in the School of Biological Earth and Environmental Sciences (BEES), then at the National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bangalore, and since 2013 as a consultant based in Sydney. Between 1988 and 2004 I did research in the area of fungal cell biology (23 publications) and won many prizes, fellowships and grants, including an ARC Postdoctoral Fellowship, an NSERC International Postdoctoral Fellowship and several Large ARC grants. On moving to NCBS as a longterm visiting scientist, I concentrated fully on developing better ways to teach young researchers to write and present their work. In doing so so, I have developed an online writing course that helps researchers see the logical underpinnings of their projects and communicate their work effectively. More information: <http://writeaboutresearch.com/>

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