

## Effective Scientific Writing Workshops

Writing papers is a challenge for all young researchers, but particularly for non-native English speakers. Moreover, clear, well-structured, concise scientific writing is essential to getting published, regardless of your previous experience or language fluency.

This workshop is not only designed to help young scientists organize and get started with writing, such as finding out where to place information within the structure a scientific paper, but also how to present information to “sell” the research theme and results obtained in the best way possible.

To optimize confidence with writing in English, we look at key factors such as verb use, tenses and agreement, punctuation and word order to produce clear and concise writing.

To create flow and logic we practice using transitions to add and link information. How to use paragraph and sentence structures to add emphasis and highlight key messages is another important aspect of writing that we explore.

Revision is the secret of all good writing, so we practice integrating all the factors contributing to effective scientific writing by editing texts either obtained from your department or provided by the participants themselves.

Hands-on participation, feedback and interactive discussion help the participants apply these skills to their own writing.

### Scientific Writing Workshop Topics

Getting started – what you need for a paper

Organizing material – to create the optimum story

Structure of a research paper – where to locate questions, gaps, aims and solutions

Title and Abstract — attracting readers and selling your message

Purpose of the Introduction and Discussion — posing questions, providing answers

Presenting and discussing results — logic sequence and positioning key information

Figures, graphs and tables — optimally presenting your data

Paragraph structures – to highlight key messages

Sentence structures – for logic and readability

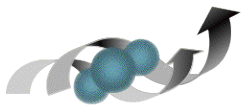
Punctuation and word positioning – for clarity and emphasis

Verbs (tenses, strong, precise, active) – to drive meaningful sentences

Conjunctions and transitions – to create flow and links

Editing and revision – to produce clear, concise, well-structured scientific texts

Submitting or re-submitting a paper — cover letters and dealing with editors' and referees' comments



## Workshop Trainer



Dr. Avril Arthur-Goettig combines her background in scientific research and many years of organizing scientific data, publishing papers, supervising graduate students, with subsequently working as a freelance scientific editor, writer, and translator. She established a freelance scientific writing and communication service in 1996, and has been training scientists in scientific communications since 2007.

Avril was born in Scotland and graduated from Edinburgh University with a BSc (honours) in molecular biology. She gained a PhD in molecular genetics from Sussex University, UK, and obtained a 2-year MRC postdoctoral fellowship at Glasgow University, UK. After 3 months as a visiting scientist at Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, she

joined the Department of Biochemistry at the LMU Munich, Germany, as a postdoc, moving on after being awarded a BMBF grant to the Munich Gene Center as a joint project leader.

Since 1996 she has helped scores scientists from research institutes, biotech startups, biotech/pharmaceutical companies, international non-profit organizations, as well as media, and clinical agencies, all over Germany and Europe, with optimizing their scientific texts.

### Soft skills in writing and presentation

Experience gained from her own research career (publishing papers, preparing and presenting posters and talks), and subsequently working as a freelancer editing and revising papers, answering referees comments, and translating scientific texts, has provided her with in-depth knowledge about the different aspects of written scientific communication, particularly the needs of non-English speaking scientists.

She has now transferred these insights into training programs to provide soft skills in writing and presentation that are required for successful graduate programs.

Avril also specializes in highly interactive workshops for more experienced **graduate students, postdocs and group leaders**, to help them maximize their English communication and writing skills to get published in high impact journals.



Workshops are individually designed to meet the needs of the participant group. Please contact us for more information.

Dr. Avril Arthur-Goettig is located in Munich, Germany, and Gioi-Cilento (SA) Italy.