



**UNIVERSITÄT
BAYREUTH**

Elite Study Program "Macromolecular Science"

Module SR006

From Research to Publication – Scientific Writing

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Winter Term 2016/2017

The module “*From research to publication – scientific writing*” will provide training and support for the process of scientific writing and publishing. The module consists of several workshops/tutorials, focusing on improving the skills for

- Structuring scientific publications and conduct “publication oriented research”
- Writing scientific publications in English
- Obtaining insight into the refereeing and publishing process
- Using modern search tools for the scientific literature
- Understanding impact factors and other bibliometric indicators
- Poster presentations

This module consists of the following parts:

1) Workshop: “From Submission to Publication”, “Bibliometric Indicators”, “Graphical Design”

G. Papastavrou

Date: 10. October 2016, 10:00 – 15:30

Location: H11, NW I, University of Bayreuth

Nowadays the amount of literature published per year even on a rather narrow field has grown enormously and achieving an overview on the status of the field has become a major challenge in itself. Luckily, modern tools for searching for literature have matched the pace and using them well is a prerequisite for publishing. By bibliometric indicators not only the success of a journal but also of a researcher is measured. Therefore it is becoming increasingly important to understand terms like “impact factor” and “h-factor”.

Furthermore, this unit will introduce the participants into the effective use of existing literature tools like *SciFinder®* or *ISI Web of Knowledge*. In order to provide real expertise for the use of these databases we will invite an external expert for introductory lectures and practical training.

Poster presentations are an important element of every scientific conference. Often the preparation of posters advances or follows the preparation of a manuscript, but it represents a completely different style of presentation. In this workshop essential elements and rules for the preparation of posters are given. Additionally, the participants will present their own posters, which can also originate from past conferences, and will constructively evaluate the ones of their colleagues. Comparable to a poster award commission the participants will learn to spot the formal strengths and weaknesses of posters in order to improve their own ones.

2) Workshop: “Write it Right”

Gadi Rothenberg, Christopher Lowe

Date: 11. – 12. October 2016, 09:00 (full day)

Location: H11, NW I, University of Bayreuth

This workshop is intended for students at all levels of the Elite Study Program “*Macromolecular Science*”, starting from the first year. At this point, all students have already some research results (e.g. Bachelor or Master thesis) and wish to get the most impact from their work by writing it down clearly and in a professional manner.

Emphasis during this workshop will be on

- Clear and coherent presentation
- Structured writing
- Introductions, discussions and conclusions
- Graphics and data presentation
- Technical English

The organizers describe the workshop as follows:

“If you're having difficulties getting your work published and noticed, then this is your workshop. It covers structured writing, titles and abstracts, the use of graphics and technical English. You submit a two page manuscript that the supervisors pre-read, making written comments. These are then discussed with the participants in the context of the workshop material.”

The format is a mixture of lectures and exercises, culminating in the participants re-writing a short version of their manuscript. These mini-manuscripts are then peer-reviewed. In the discussion the supervisors address the peer-review results and the publishing process.

For more information visit <http://write-it-right.org>

3) Workshop “Publishing from the Perspective of an Editor”

N. N.

Date: December 2016

Location: University of Bayreuth

The refereeing process is essential in publishing. In the end, it will be the editor, based on the referees' comments, who decides on whether your manuscript submission will be successful or not. Thus, understanding the criteria by which editors and referees look at manuscripts will greatly improve your success rate to get your work published. At the same time, scientists are expected to be capable of providing referee reports on their colleagues' work.

4) Tutorial “My first paper”

Assistants and Professors of the Elite Study Program “Macromolecular Science”

The first paper is doubtlessly the most difficult one for every scientist. The Elite Study Program “*Macromolecular Science*” provides support for each student in the preparation of their first manuscripts. Individual advice is given during all steps of the paper writing (discussions during manuscript preparation and proof-reading) and the publishing process.

5) One-page research description

Daniel Wagner, Georg Papastavrou, Hans-Werner Schmidt

A difficult part in scientific writing is to present your results to a general audience of non-specialists. The Elite Network Bavaria features the scientific contributions of their student members on a webpage in order to demonstrate its work the general public. The final contribution of the participants to the Module “Scientific writing” will be a one-page general research description, which would be suitable for online publication on the aforementioned web-page. The general intention of the Elite Study Program “*Macromolecular Science*” is that all its students will contribute a web-page in the second or third year of their PhD. Also in this case the assistants and professors of the Elite Study Program “*Macromolecular Science*” provide help during the preparation of this research description.

Examples of these reports:

<https://www.elitenetzwerk.bayern.de/elite-network-home/forschungsarbeiten/>