

Title: Workshop on Public Engagement in Science
Subtitle: Public Speaking Skills
Duration: 3hrs
Speakers: Dr Edward Duca + others
Date: 13th of June 2017 at 2.30 pm
Audience: 20-50 PhD, post-docs, early stage researchers

Workshop on Public Engagement in Science

The amount of STEM graduates around Europe has remained level for a decade while jobs have increased. In addition STEM graduates can lack communication and team working skills. A key need is the ability to present effectively to various audiences, be it when trying to inspire the next generation of researchers or presenting a conference keynote conveying the latest research.

There are countless resources outlining key public speaking tips. However, there can be a significant time lag between learning this theory and practicing it. Public speaking is a skill that requires practice, coupled with reflection and constructive criticism in order to perfect. The workshop will combine the theory behind effective public speaking. This will be coupled with practicing the newly found knowledge building on constructive criticism to rapidly improve communication skills.

Dr Edward Duca is the Publications Developer and Editor at the University of Malta for the research magazine Think, that has reached three million online views. He is a PhD graduate in Genetics (University of Edinburgh) and a freelance science writer, editor and communicator. He has written for several local and international organisations including The Times of Malta – Science and Nature. In Malta, he founded Malta Cafe Scientifique, which is the public outreach arm of the Malta Chamber of Scientists. By setting up the science and arts festival Science in the City (visited by over 20,000 per year), he aims to bridge the gap between the sciences and arts, that can benefit each other by providing inspiration, bringing new audiences to cultural events and pushing the boundaries of art into new fields, while shining a critical lens on science. He aims to continue setting up projects that communicate science to the public to create a scientifically informed society.

Specialties: Science Communication, Science Writing, Project Management, Science and Art, Genetics, Ideas, Editing