

CAREERS IN SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

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Bioscience Careers Group



SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

What is science communication?

Outreach

Policy

Teaching

Publishing

Journalism

Medical writing

CAREERS IN SCIENCE OUTREACH



SCIENCE OUTREACH

What do outreach professionals do?

- Communicate science to schools and the public in lay terms
- Use a variety of tools to do this – lab demos, exhibitions, web-based media
- Develop exciting and interesting ways to inspire children about science
- Engage in debate with adults

SCIENCE OUTREACH

Who employs outreach professionals?

Museums

Science Centres

STEMNET

British Science Association

Learned Societies

Universities

Research institutes

CAREERS IN SCIENCE POLICY



SCIENCE POLICY

Who works in policy?

Government

- Civil Service
- MP

Scientists working in Policy

- Scientific Advisory Committees
- Chief Scientific Advisers

Policy professional specialising in science

- Professional bodies
- Charities
- Think tanks

SCIENCE POLICY

Campaigning and lobbying

Policy briefings from the Parliamentary Office
for Science and Technology

Policy blogs

Interested in current affairs

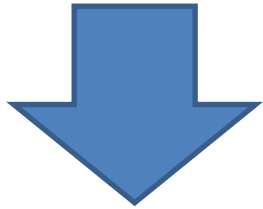
Subject is quite academic in process, and there
is close working with science and scientists

Can be quite dry

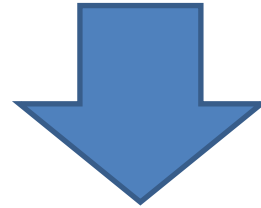
CAREERS IN SCIENCE PUBLISHING



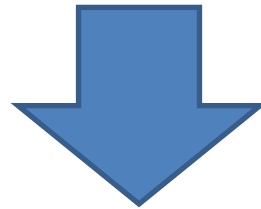
SCIENCE PUBLISHING



Journals



Books



EDITORIAL
PRODUCTION
COMMISSIONING
MARKETING

CAREERS IN SCIENCE JOURNALISM

twitter



SCIENCE JOURNALISM

Broadcast; Print; Internet

TV, radio, Magazines, newspapers

Technical, topical, political, interest

Questioning, interviewing

Communication: Long articles, short pieces

Short deadlines, flexible working

No obvious career structure in many cases

SCIENCE PRESS OFFICERS

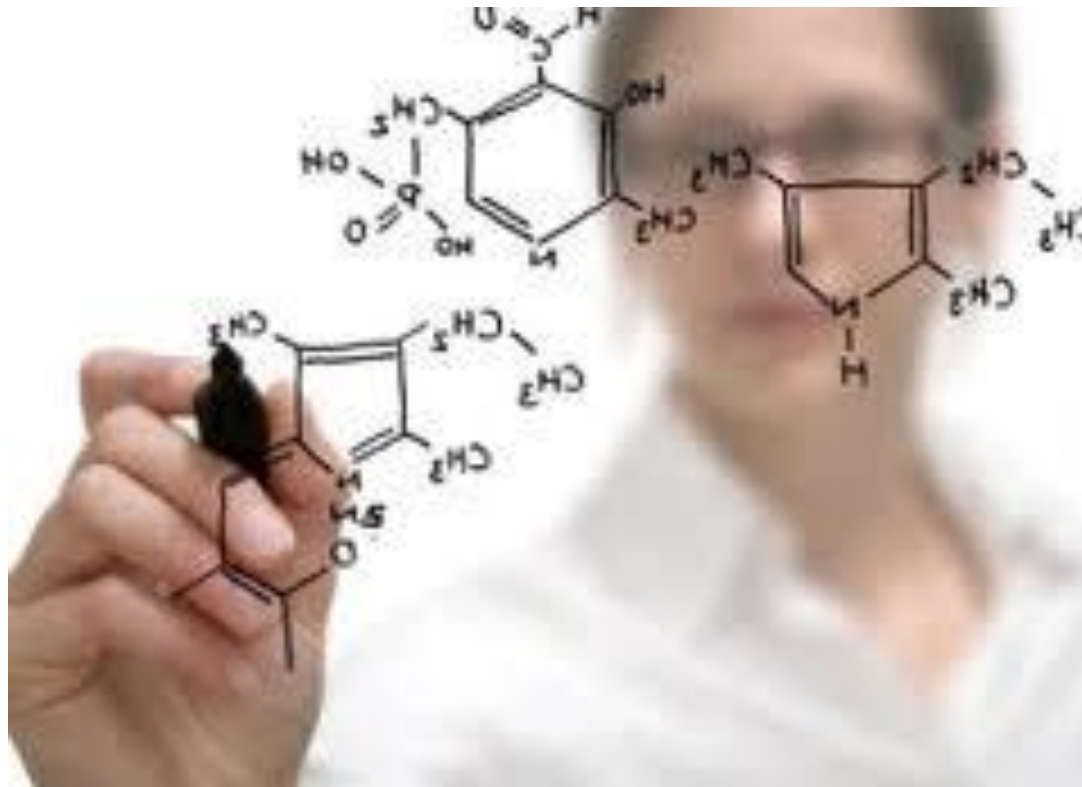
Work for an organisation to promote them

Source science stories

Write and publish press stories

Act as a bridge between scientists
and the media

CAREERS IN MEDICAL WRITING



MEDICAL WRITING

Working for the Pharma industry
Outsourced companies – Med Comms
Structured entry; Structured career
Writing and comprehension skills
Analytical skills and the ability to
assimilate new and complex knowledge
Flexibility – lots of diversity

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

Getting in (+ science background)

Experience and knowledge:

Voluntary, internship, workshadowing,
social media (Twitter, blogs)

Qualification

Postgrad course (Diploma, MSc/MA),
FT/PT, long distance, on-the-job

Entrance Assessment: Aptitude tests

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

Getting in (+ science background)

Outreach - experience

Policy - experience

Publishing – experience/PG Diploma

Journalism - experience/PG Diploma

Medical writing – assessment

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

Skills & Qualities required

Excellent communication skills

Writing, speaking, listening, comprehension

Resourceful and flexible

Excellent interpersonal skills

Organised and able to meet deadlines

Good sense of humour

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

Further information

Departmental schools liaison officer

University alumni office

University press/communications office

Learned societies & other organisations

Next Steps booklet - resources

Bioscience Careers Group stand

CAREERS IN SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

Thank You !

