

Eva Amsen

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Experience and Career

Scientific Engagement Manager – Institute of Cancer Research

January 2016 – current

In the group of Professor Nazneen Rahman I oversee the communication and social media strategy for several projects, most notably the new Transforming Genetic Medicine Initiative (TGMI). Funded by the Wellcome Trust, the TGMI is a collaboration between scientists and clinicians at a number of top UK research institutes who are building solutions to make genetic medicine work.

Community Strategy Manager - F1000

January 2015 – January 2016

Faculty of 1000 (F1000) produces tools to help biomedical researchers discover, write and publish scientific research.

At F1000 I managed a global network of volunteers (mostly PhD students and postdocs) who took part of the F1000 Specialists programme, helping spread the word about F1000. I set monthly activities for them to complete, keep track of their achievements, produce a monthly newsletter, and report to stakeholders. I initially co-founded this programme as part of my previous role in the company, in 2013.

I also managed the social media manager and oversaw F1000's social media strategy. Our combined social media channels reached an audience of approximately 30,000 unique individuals – mostly scientists.

Outreach Director - F1000Research

March 2013 – January 2015

F1000Research is an open science publishing platform, published by F1000.

To engage researchers with *F1000Research's* publishing model, I developed educational materials and held workshops for academics about different types of peer review and publishing innovations.

I coordinated several awareness campaigns to draw attention to the various features of *F1000Research*, managed the social media presence of the open science branch of F1000, and acted as first-line response for queries.

Community Manager - The Node

February 2010 – February 2013

The Node is a community news site for and by developmental biologists, hosted by the journal *Development*.

I was responsible for project management of website launch, coordinating across teams to ensure that the Node was launched on schedule and promoted amongst the target audience. Once the site was running, I developed and maintained partnerships with professional societies and key researchers in the field, carried out editorial tasks, and oversaw day-to-day community management of our authors and readers.

In addition, I managed the social media presence of *Development*, and selected content to feature on the journal website.

SciBarCamp organiser

2008 – 2013

I co-instigated an ongoing series of SciBarCamp events - an interactive, science-themed “unconference” - which led to events held in Toronto, Palo Alto, Cambridge (UK) and Vienna. I co-organised four of the events (in Toronto and Cambridge), which were attended by an engaged group of local scientists, publishers, technologists, artists and science communicators.

Freelance science writer and science blogger

2005 – ongoing

Writing clients have included: *The Scientist*, *Popular Science*, *Spacing Magazine*, *Hakai Magazine*, LabLit, WorldChanging, and others. I've worked on longer writing contracts for The University of Toronto (Human Biology undergraduate programme) and the Ontario Genomics Institute (ReGenesis TV show fact sheets). I've also written for several science blogs since 2005. Some of my blog posts were selected for publication in the 2009 and 2012 editions of the annual "Best of science blogging" anthology *Open Laboratory*. A portfolio with some samples is available at <http://easternblot.net/writing>

Education

PhD Biochemistry (2008) - University of Toronto

Thesis: "Studies of Proteins that Regulate Melanin Synthesis and Distribution"

Other activities: Editor-in-Chief of Hypothesis Journal; Volunteer for Let's Talk Science (outreach organisation); Teaching assistant for Science Communication and Bioinformatics courses

MSc Pharmacology (2002) - Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Award: Taeke Bultsma award for best literature thesis

Other activities: four month research project in Quebec, Canada.

MSc Chemistry (2002) - Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Award: VNCI (Dutch chemical industry) award for top 5 chemistry students nationwide (1997, 1998)

Other activities: organized a two-week study tour to Denmark and Sweden; co-organised two city-wide science career fairs; coordinated several field trips to chemical companies; executive member of chemistry students association.

Recent professional talks and presentations

I've given talks about science publishing and science communication to audiences at the University of Cambridge, University of Oxford, King's College London, Harvard Medical School, Stanford University, Max Planck Institute, Imperial College, and many others.

Other talks have included:

- Interview on Swiss National Radio – November 2013 – Topic: changes in scholarly publishing
- Keynote speaker at Nature Jobs Career Expo – September 2013 – Topic: careers for science graduates
- Ignite London talk – November 2012 – Topic: musicians and scientists
- Story Collider, Science Showoff, Geek Showoff, Museums Showoff – various performances in a bar setting