

Dr Eva Amsen

eva.amsen@gmail.com

Twitter: @easternblot

Experience and Career

Freelance writer and science communicator

2005 – ongoing (Fulltime from November 2018)

Clients have included: Merck, AncestryDNA, First Create the Media, *Nautilus*, *The Scientist*, *Popular Science*, *Spacing Magazine*, *Hakai Magazine*, LabLit, WorldChanging, Ontario Genomics and others. A portfolio with some samples is available at <https://evaamsen.com/writing-talks/>

I run the science blog easternblot.net, and was formerly a blogger at Nature Network. Several of my blog posts have been included in science writing anthologies. In 2018, my online profile allowed me to self-publish a guide for researchers interested in a science communication career.

Scientific Engagement Manager – Institute of Cancer Research

January 2016 – October 2018

I managed the communication and social media strategy for several projects, most notably the Transforming Genetic Medicine Initiative (TGMI). Funded by Wellcome, 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.

I also developed and ran workshops for ICR staff and students on data sharing and scientific publishing.

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 early career researchers) who took part in the F1000 Specialists programme, helping spread the word about F1000. I set monthly activities for them to complete, kept track of their achievements, produced a monthly newsletter, and reported to stakeholders. I initially co-founded this programme as part of my previous role in the company, in 2013.

In addition, I 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 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 the 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.

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.

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) - VU University Amsterdam

Award: Taeke Bultsma award for best literature thesis

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

MSc Chemistry (2002) - VU University 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.

Talks and presentations

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

I have also been a keynote speaker at Nature Jobs Career Expo in 2013, speaking about careers for science graduates, and I have been interviewed by Swiss National Radio and Times Higher Education about scholarly publishing and social media use for scientists.

Some of my public talks focus on the overlap of science and the arts. In this capacity I have spoken at the Francis Crick Institute, SpotOn, Ignite London, Story Collider, Science Showoff, and several other events.