

Scientific Outreach
Online Workshop
19th March 2021

On March 19th 2021, the Early Career Lecturers in Biosciences group hosted the first online Scientific Outreach themed workshop. This two-hour workshop was designed to cater for the specific needs of science colleagues who are (newly) appointed in Higher Education; from new lecturers, research focused academics, to postgraduate students and early-career researchers. The workshop brought together a line-up of award-winning public engagement specialists as well as early career lecturers in biosciences that will showcase their experiences in communicating science to the larger public. It provides an opportunity to discuss the challenges and opportunities for new academics in dealing with the scientific outreach. The program was structured in four parts. The event started with an introductory address from Dr Cristina Sisu that gave an overview of the ECLbio group work and aims. This was followed by a keynote talk from Dr Pedro Ferreira who talked about funding opportunities and best practices for scientific outreach. This was followed a short lighting talks session where the audience were able to listen to success stories from the early career lecturers engaged in outreach activities ranging from communicating to focus groups from the wider public to going global and taking engaging with visual media such as the BBC in publicizing and discussing science. These were led by Dr Kirsty McIntyre, Dr Andrew Holding, Dr Natalie Riddell. The third session brought the second keynote of the day, Dr Jamie Gallagher who talked about metrics and factors to consider when evaluating the impact of a scientific outreach event. The day concluded with a short panel discussion where all the guest speakers were able to answer questions from the moderator, Dr Sharon Williams and the online audience. While we missed the enthusiastic coffee break networking opportunity from previous in person events, the positive feedback that we received from the audience showcased that our online event was successful. All recordings from the meeting are available on the Advance HE connect platform.