2005 UWEB
Communications Workshop

Introduction
Jennifer Patterson
June 15, 2005
The REU program can be a life-changing experience
Communications workshop objectives are based on REU program requirements

**REU Program**
- Write a journal article (JURIBE)
- Prepare a scientific poster (poster session)
- Orally present results (final presentation)

**Communications Workshop**
- Prepare drafts of paper
- Peer review/editing
- Organize poster
- Present/defend poster
- Prepare slides
- Practice presenting
Effective communication skills are vitally important to a scientist’s career.

Academia
- Scientific meetings (posters, talks), job interviews, teaching/mentoring, seminars, journal clubs, lab meetings

Industry
- Job interviews, managing employees, inter-office memos, client meetings, venture capital/entrepreneurship
It takes preparation and effort to communicate well

- Be prepared
  - Know format
  - Know audience
    - Highly technical in your field (i.e. specialized scientific conference)
    - Non-scientific (i.e. an investor)
- Reflect → Visualize → Convey
- Don’t forget to proofread!
The communications workshop is broken into two sessions

- **Group lecture times and locations**
  - Wednesdays June 15 - August 3, 1:30PM, Bagley 261

- **Lead Instructor: Jennifer Patterson**
  - Office: Bagley 425/411
  - Phone: (206) 685-3949
  - Email: [jp98@u.washington.edu](mailto:jp98@u.washington.edu)
  - Office Hours: Wednesdays, 12-1PM
The communications workshop is broken into two sessions

- Breakout sessions
  - Wednesdays June 15 - August 3, 2:20PM
  - USIRP/REU alternating weeks in Bagley 261
  - NNIN/CREE selected weeks in Bagley 260

- Instructor for NNIN/CREE: Ethan Allen
  - Office: Bagley 422C
  - Phone: (206) 616-9760
  - Email: ethana@u.washington.edu
  - Office Hours: by appointment
Lectures will cover several aspects of scientific communication

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 15 (Wed.)</td>
<td>1:30PM</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 22 (Wed.)</td>
<td>1:30PM</td>
<td>Presenting a scientific talk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 29 (Wed.)</td>
<td>1:30PM</td>
<td>Scientific talks, cont’d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 6 (Wed.)</td>
<td>1:30PM</td>
<td>Writing a scientific research article</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 13 (Wed.)</td>
<td>1:30PM</td>
<td>Writing articles, cont’d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 20 (Wed.)</td>
<td>1:30PM</td>
<td>Reviewing scientific papers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 27 (Wed.)</td>
<td>1:30PM</td>
<td>Preparing a scientific poster presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 3 (Wed.)</td>
<td>1:30PM</td>
<td>Poster presentations, cont’d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 9 (Tues.)</td>
<td>10:00AM</td>
<td>Final presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 18 (Thurs.)</td>
<td>9:00AM</td>
<td>Poster session</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Assignments will vary based on specific program requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual assessment (all)</td>
<td>June 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 minute practice presentation – introduction and methods (REU/USIRP)</td>
<td>June 29 or July 6, 13, or 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft layout of poster (REU/USIRP)</td>
<td>August 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First draft of paper – introduction and methods (REU/USIRP)</td>
<td>July 27 or August 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final presentation (REU only; all invited to attend)</td>
<td>August 9 at 10:00AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poster (all)</td>
<td>August 18 at 9:00AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final paper to Joy Louie (REU only)</td>
<td>August 19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From the beginning, think how you will communicate about your project and results

- Talk to your mentor
  - Take notes and then write up in your own words
- Begin reading - background and methods
  - Start with your mentor
  - Why? What’s known? What’s not known?
- Ask questions
  - PI, mentor, other students/post-docs in lab
- Get your hands dirty
  - Start experiments, get familiar with lab
  - Keep a good lab notebook
- Mentally organize and begin writing
  - Learn software packages
Several libraries on campus have hard copies of scientific journals

- UW Libraries Home Page
  - http://www.lib.washington.edu/
- HealthLinks
  - http://healthlinks.washington.edu/
- Engineering Library
- Chemistry Library
  - Chem Library basement
- Health Sciences Library
  - HSB 2nd floor T-wing

http://www.lib.washington.edu/about/bookdrops.html
The UW has many electronic journals available online

- Most major journals
  - Available since mid-late 1990s
- Retrieve, view, and print .pdf articles
  - Adobe Acrobat or Acrobat Reader
- Direct links to most recent articles (via Medline)
Search databases for publications relating to a topic area

- **UW Databases**

- **UW Top 25 databases**

- **Medline**
  - >4,000 biomedical journals, >14 million citations (1950s on)

- **Web of Science Citation Databases**

- **Current Contents**
  - >7,000 journals; sciences, social sciences, arts & humanities
  - Within last 2-3 years
Several biomaterials journals provide examples of scientific articles

- Journal of Undergraduate Research in Bioengineering (JURIBE)
- Journal of Biomaterials Research
  - Part B: Applied Biomaterials
- Biomaterials
- Journal of Biomaterials Applications
- General (biology/bioengineering)
  - Science
  - Nature
  - Proceedings of the National Academy of Science (PNAS)
Use Health Sciences Photography to print your poster

- [http://depts.washington.edu/hsasf/photo/posters.html](http://depts.washington.edu/hsasf/photo/posters.html)
- Printed as one continuous sheet
  - Up to 58” wide x 20’ long
- Prepare in Powerpoint
  - Also can use Freehand, Illustrator, Pagemaker, Photoshop
- Charge to budget number
- Print a preview
- 24-48 hours turnaround time