

## Writing a Scientific Paper for Publication

Writing is an essential component of the scientific process and of every scientific career. It is the most valuable form of communication within the scientific community, and the scientific literature provides a permanent record (i.e., history) of research that present and future generations of scientists and policy-makers can use as a foundation for expanding knowledge and solving problems. Writing is the basic cost of admission to the scientific literature; however, graduate students and early career scientists often view writing as an obstacle that separates them from their degrees, scientific publications, and career goals.

This workshop is designed to help students understand how to turn a perceived obstacle into an opportunity to contribute to the scientific literature. The workshop will focus on the essential techniques for writing a manuscript for a peer-reviewed scientific journal and for shepherding a manuscript through the review-revision process. The basic structure for a manuscript and the pathway to publication will be based on the *Journal of Animal Science* and *Journal of Dairy Science* models. The format will include lecture-type presentations, writing, editing, and proofreading exercises, and interactive discussions. Students will be expected to actively participate in the workshop. At the end of the workshop, students should understand the fundamental elements of writing a manuscript and seeing it through to publication in the *Journal of Animal Science* or *Journal of Dairy Science* within the next 12 months.

Students should be prepared to bring the following items to the workshop:

1. A laptop computer
2. A sample of their writing. The workshop coordinators suggest an unedited Introduction and 1 paragraph of the Materials and Methods describing a specific technique associated with the data they are using in the workshop.
3. A first attempt at the tables and figures for the data they are using for the workshop.
4. The laboratory or experimental notebook associated with the data they are using in the workshop.