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Series: Pathways of Young Material Scientists after Graduation

Science journalism and science communication

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Abstract

You are doing it whenever you present a poster at a conference, or you tweet about a recent paper, or you explain your work to a family member: you are communicating science. Just like these examples, science communication comes in various colors. The same is true for science journalism, which looks at science and research results from an outside perspective and reports from a neutral position. At the core of both, the task is to make science understandable for a broad audience or, as some may say, explain the world.

As passionate researchers, you have one big prerequisite for this job – you know how the world of science works. So, who could better bring across the fascination of research and at the same time understand the matter at its core? In this seminar, we will talk about your career options: What makes a good science journalist or communicator? What can you expect from a job in these fields? How do you start your career? Which options do you have to make your job compatible with your (family) life?

Speaker

Verena Tang is a scientist turned journalist: after studying chemistry at the University of Stuttgart, she worked as a science communicator at the Max Planck Institute for Multidisciplinary Sciences and at the Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Engineering IAO. In 2019, she switched to science journalism and since then has been an editor at »Spektrum der Wissenschaft«, while raising two sons who are now aged 3 and 7.