



ANNUAL REVIEW 2015

WFSJ

World Federation of Science Journalists

FEBRUARY

2nd Kavli Symposium on Science Journalism

The 2nd Symposium is held in San Jose, California. It focused primarily on data mining and innovative data tools that could benefit the international community of science journalists worldwide.

Board Meeting, the Executive Board meets at AAAS in San Jose, California.

MARCH

Webinars on Ebola

The three, one hour webinars targeted specialized and non-specialized journalists. They sought to raise journalist's awareness about the situation and the longer-term outlook on Ebola.

English webinars

Host: Helen Branswell, Canadian Press

Host: Martin Enserink, Science Magazine

French webinar

Host: Claire Hédon. Radio France Internationale

APRIL

Launch of the Ebola online course: <http://wfsj.org/ebola/>

Hepatitis C Global Media Education Initiative

Steering committee meets at EASL Congress in Vienna, Austria.

Press conference in Vienna, Austria to launch the Hepatitis C Global Media Education Initiative.

2016 Kavli Symposium

Steering committee meets in New York.



ANNUAL REVIEW 2015

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MAY

Hepatitis C Global Media Education Initiative.

Steering committee meets at Agence nationale de recherches sur le sida et les hépatites virales in Paris.

Governance

WFSJ introduces 3 new policies:

- anti-corruption,
- supplier management,
- corporate social responsibility and sustainability.

JUNE

9th World Conference of Science Journalists in Seoul, Korea (June 8 – 12, 2015) hosted by the Korean Science Journalism Association.

SjCOOP Asia

Travel grants for 10 Asian science journalists to learn data journalism skills with world-renowned data journalists and experts. The workshop was hosted at the 9th World Conference of Science Journalists in Seoul, Korea & included a post-WCSJ tour to Fukuoka, Japan.

Hepatitis C, global media education initiative

The WFSJ organises a mini Symposium at the 9th World Conference of Science Journalists in Seoul, Korea.

10th World Conference of Science Journalists

San Francisco emerges as the winning bid to host the 2017 Conference

Board Meeting and Annual General Assembly

The Executive Board meets twice during the Seoul Conference and 34 associations attend the Annual General Assembly. Bylaws of governance structure are modified. Second Canadian seat on the board is no longer tied to Canadian associations. Now targeting a high-profile individual that would be able to open doors for WFSJ in various areas: foundations, government, scientific community, etc. Document retention policy is approved.

Launch of new WFSJ website: www.wfsj.org



ANNUAL REVIEW 2015

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JULY

Global Media Education Initiative on Hepatitis C

The website dedicated to the initiative is launched on **World Hepatitis Day (July 28th)**
www.wfsj.org/hepatitis/

AUGUST

The WFSJ Crowdfunding initiative raises 5,000 USD to support African Journalists who cover the Ebola crisis in Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia.

SjCOOP Asia

The 1st Conference of Indonesian Science Journalists is hosted at the Forestry Research and Development Center in Bogor.

SEPTEMBER

Infectious Diseases project

Academic Research – data collection tools developed

Two Universities oversee the research activities for the Infectious Disease project. Professor Secko from Concordia University in Montreal, Canada and Professor Akindes from Alassane Ouattara University in Bouake, Ivory Coast develop the research plan and the data collection tools.

Infectious Diseases project

Training Journalists

A five-day Training of Trainers workshop on infectious diseases is organized in Abidjan, Ivory Coast. Two science-health journalists Igor Strauss (France) and Kai Kupferschmidt (Germany) train 9 journalists from Sub-Saharan Africa. All are either experts in science and health related issues or have closely covered the recent Ebola crisis in Western Africa. Their expertise as well as their knowledge of the region help develop a course curriculum on infectious diseases.

Infectious Diseases project

Academic Research - Data collection and testing

Surveys, focus groups and semi-structured interviews were conducted by research students at the Training of Trainers workshop in Abidjan. These research activities were useful to test and refine the methodology before the subsequent local workshops. It also helped to collect pertinent preliminary information.



ANNUAL REVIEW 2015

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World Federation of Science Journalists

Ebola & Influenza Pandemic project

Training Journalists

One two-day Training of Trainers regional workshop is organised in Abidjan, Ivory Coast. 15 journalists from 9 French speaking countries attend. Trainers: Igor Strauss (France) and Nicholas Phythian (UK).

One two-day Training of Trainers regional workshop is organised in Nairobi, Kenya. 15 journalists from 9 English speaking countries attend. Trainers: Corinne Podger (Australia) and Meera Senthilingam (UK).

The workshops aim to create a pool of local trainers by focusing on the competency of journalists in public health emergencies reporting, such as Ebola and influenza pandemics.

Kavli Symposium on Science Journalism. Publication of the report. Link to [report](#)

SjCOOP Asia

The conference "Science Journalism - Lessons from SjCOOP Asia" is held in Hanoi and organized in partnership with the Vietnam Journalists Association. The meeting is used as a stepping stone for the future establishment of the Network of Vietnamese Science Journalists.

OCTOBER

The Network of Science Journalists & Communicators of Haiti (NESJCOMH) joins the WFSJ as 51st Full Member. NESJCOMH was founded in 2014. It is a non-profit organization, representing science journalists and communicators nationally and regionally in Haiti's rural and urban areas.

Ebola crisis: Improving Science-Based Communication & Local Journalism

WFSJ responds to letter originally published in The Lancet (Aug 29, p 851) <http://bit.ly/1QPEGcD>

2016 Kavli Symposium steering committee meets in Boston

NOVEMBER

Infectious Diseases project, phase 2

Training Journalists

5-day training workshop in Freetown, Sierra Leone. Focus is on improving science-based communication & local journalism in emergency and post-outbreak periods. A total of 16 local radio journalists from different country districts attend the workshop. Training is overseen by Adele Baleta (South Africa) and James Tamba Lebbie (Sierra Leone). The opening ceremony took place at the University of Sierra Leone in partnership with Radio Mount Aureol CTN.



ANNUAL REVIEW 2015

WFSJ

World Federation of Science Journalists

Infectious Diseases project

Academic Research - Data collection

Surveys and semi-structured interviews were conducted by a research student at the local workshop in Sierra Leone.

DECEMBER

Ebola & Influenza Pandemic project

Training Journalists

A two-day regional training pilot workshop is organised in Nairobi, Kenya in partnership with MESHA (Media for Environment, Science, Health and Agriculture). The workshop's focus is to train non-specialized journalists in covering public health emergencies. The two trainers, Esther Nakkazi and Violet Otindo (both Kenya) attended the original Training of Trainers session held in September. 18 journalists from 6 countries attend the workshop.

Ebola & Influenza Pandemic project

WFSJ produces the WHO online course modules and materials in English, French and Arabic. Material has a specific focus on health threats with pandemic potential.

WFSJ produces a handbook on how to report on public health emergencies. Material is published in English, French and Arabic.

WFSJ produces a training of trainers' handbook, targeting non-science journalists covering Public Health Emergencies. Material is published in English, French and Arabic.

Kavli Prize Scholarship

Launch of the International Competition for Science Journalists to attend & cover the Kavli Prize in Oslo, Norway 3-9 Sept., 2016.

Infectious Diseases project, phase 2

5-day training workshop in Monrovia, Liberia. Focus is on improving science-based communication & local journalism in emergency and post-outbreak periods. A total of 16 local radio journalists from different country districts attend the workshop. Training is overseen by Adele Baleta (South Africa) and James Tamba Lebbie (Sierra Leone).

Infectious Diseases project

Academic Research - Data collection

Surveys and semi-structured interviews were conducted by a research student at the local workshop in Liberia.



ANNUAL REVIEW 2015

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World Federation of Science Journalists

WFSJ Communication in 2015

Newsletters: 8

New website - Launched September 2015

We are pleased to announce the new WFSJ website is now online. It is a big step away from the previous model. The site is easier to handle, enabling us to upload posts and pages at a much faster pace. Visitors to the site get immediate info on our current projects and access to the different science journalism resources that are made available. The website is also responsive and thus accessible on mobile phones and tablets. The website's URL has, of course, not changed: <http://wfsj.org/v2/>.

Our blog – Launched September 2015

The new website also features a blog, through which we are able to feature news coming from our member associations and individual science journalists. WFSJ member associations will be able to upload posts themselves with news and relevant information for the science journalism community. The blog's goal is to strengthen the communication between our members, but to keep it relevant and active we will definitely require your input.

Our Facebook page – Launched May 2015

A communication survey indicated a lot of our followers use Facebook to stay up-to-date on the Federations' projects and activities. The WFSJ did not have its own Facebook page and was compelled to communicate through a non-branded group. The creation of our own Facebook page gives us full editorial control and allows us also to follow other pages that are relevant to the WFSJ's mission and projects. The WFSJ is also on Twitter and LinkedIn.



World Federation of Science Journalists
WFSJ Alumni
SjCOOP Asia 2013



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