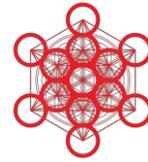




WFSJ
World Federation of Science Journalists



THE
KAVLI
FOUNDATION

3rd KAVLI SYMPOSIUM ON SCIENCE JOURNALISM

International Collaboration on Global Science Stories: Challenges & Opportunities

U.S. National Academy of Sciences
2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC, USA
February 15 - 17, 2016

SYMPOSIUM ORGANIZERS

World Federation of Science Journalists
The Kavli Foundation
U.S. National Academy of Sciences



PREFACE

The **3rd Kavli Symposium on Science Journalism** had the ambitious goal of addressing ways to facilitate coverage of science through international collaboration. It brought together an international group of leading science journalists and specialists to discuss International Collaboration on Global Science Stories: Challenges & Opportunities.

Advisory committee

Damien Chalaud
Executive Director
World Federation of Science Journalists

Veronique Morin
Science Journalist & Symposium Project Leader
World Federation of Science Journalists

Fred Guterl
Executive Director
Scientific American

Ivan Oransky
Global Editorial Director
Retraction Watch

Deborah Blum
Director
Knight Science Journalism Program at MIT

Ginger Pinholster
Director, Office of Public Programs
American Association for the Advancement of Science

Pallab Ghosh
Science Correspondent
BBC

Robert Lee Hotz
Science Editor
Wall Street Journal

James Cohe
Director of Communications & Public Outreach
The Kavli Foundation

Richard Stone
International News Editor
Science Magazine

Participants

Fifty-five participants (55) from 10 countries attended the symposium. An overview of all the participants as well as their short biography can be found at the end of this document.

Report Authors

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Acknowledgment

We would like to thank the organizing committee for their time and effort in making the symposium a success. In addition to the principal funding to the symposium provided by **The Kavli Foundation** generous support was also received from **Leopoldina, ESOF, The National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, Medicine** and the **Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics**.

FOREWORD

Dear Readers,

The **Kavli Symposium on Science Journalism** is a unique and yearly platform/forum that brings together different stakeholders – science journalists, academics, policy makers, and researchers – to discuss topics and issues that are deeply important to the profession of science journalism.

The **3rd Kavli Symposium on Science Journalism** (February 15-17, 2016) had the ambitious goal of addressing ways to facilitate coverage of science through international collaboration. The symposium participants were particularly interested in opportunities that collaboration can offer to alleviate challenges in accessing, appraising and tracking stories on some of the most pressing issues that face the world.

International science news can be extraordinarily challenging, especially when stories have human consequences. A number of obvious barriers, such as: location, languages, political and financial interest often interact in complex manners to make it extremely difficult to access and assess sources, evaluate information, and turn international science stories into accurate and relevant accounts. Restrictions and conflicting information from international, national and even local sources can also complicate coverage. Furthermore, the digital landscape while seemingly offering new access opportunities, adds several layers of complexities, making information vulnerable to distortion and manipulation.

The 3rd Kavli Symposium (3KS) presented **four case studies of sensitive science topics**: food, nuclear, clinical trials and infectious diseases. Each session was enriched by “out of the box” speakers. The discussions aimed at exposing the level of complexity specific to each theme, as well as introducing new ideas, tools, strategies and collaborative models to empower science journalists.

This brief report³ explores the discussion that arose around the **four case studies**:

1. Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) – International Collaboration
2. Clinical Trials – Appraising information
3. Ebola and Zika – International Story Tracking
4. Nuclear News Coverage – Accessing information

³ **Please note:** the report attempts to remain true to what was said during the invited presentations and subsequent breakout sessions so as to reflect the group deliberations that occurred during the event.

The report does not attempt to capture all points raised. Instead, it highlights the main challenges and solutions arising from each case study, which gave rise to a set of final collective recommendations reported here. Nor is the report intended to be a static document, but instead it is an invitation to the science journalists for a **request for comments**. As you read this report, we encourage you to ask questions, think of potential areas of development and critique. We would appreciate if you could send us your notes, comments and thoughts to - info@wfsj.org - so we can start a dialogue between the World Federation of Science Journalists (WFSJ) and the science journalism community.

So let the conversation begin. Let us connect as a community, look forward to the future, and enhance and embrace change together. Hopefully some of the projects outlined in the document will open a new world of possibilities.

We would like to thank the members of the **Advisory Committee**: Deborah Blum, Pallab Ghosh, Fred Guterl, Robert Lee Hotz, Ivan Oransky Ginger Pinholster and Richard Stone.

We also thank David Secko and Chris Palmer for taking notes during the discussion as well as Ginger Pinholster, Eliza Strickland, Kai Kupferschmidt and Olivier Dessibourg for gracefully sharing their own.

Special thanks to the symposium project leader, Véronique Morin, for her hard work, advice and dedication.

Yours truly,

Damien Chalaud

Executive Director
World Federation of Science Journalists



James Cohen

Director, Communications & Public Outreach
The Kavli Foundation



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The Kavli Foundation

THEME #1

GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS (GMOs) – INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

The first key challenge addressed at the symposium was how to better empower journalists to deal with complicated stories that are international in scope but local in focus.

Topic: GMOs and How to feed a growing planet

The session explored this challenge through the example of how to feed the planet while decreasing impacts on the environment. It was noted that by 2050 the global population is predicted to be 9.7 billion, causing some to argue that we need to double food production. This raises complex issues over water usage, farmland, and greenhouse-gas emissions, among other concerns. The session focused on genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and gene editing (CRISPR) as technological solutions to the issue of global food production. The topic was presented as filled with constraints and as a highly charged subject that requires simultaneous international and local coverage. This raised the question: How do science journalists' best cover it?

Challenge: Improved coverage of complex global stories (Panel discussion)

A panel discussion on the topic opened by noting the success of biotech crops and that people are not alarmed by most traditional breeding methods not being regulated. It is when rDNA and GMOs come into play that debate surfaces, something one panelist linked to the "language" used to discuss these new technologies. It was noted that GMOs are a complex global issue that requires storytelling about local places, something that needs to be reconciled. It was also argued that much of the current coverage of such issues is simply quoting opinions on the topic, with little analysis of the technology itself. One suggestion was that improvements in GMO reporting may come from the development of international rating criteria for story quality.

Explored solutions: Empowerment through international collaboration (Breakout session)

Organizations used to have bureaus all over the planet, but this is not the case anymore. Stringers exist, but only as loosely connected professionals who deal with editors they know. There was a clear expressed need in the breakout session for better connections between international science journalists. A proposed solution was a database of freelance science journalists and their expertise (CV/example articles), perhaps with a blog that would keep track of story production and allow for the geolocalisation of story origin (e.g. bring local stories to the global level, not the reverse). This database could include a search engine where you type a keyword (e.g., GMO) and immediately find a colleague and their stories. It was recognized that it would be important to also find ways to meet together (face to face) to increase the speed of collaboration and build trust. It was further raised that editors could be asked to be the nodes of connection, and that educational materials could be integrated into the database. The obstacles foreseen for this solution were how to

systemize journalist inclusion, the issue of local languages, the need for curation of the database to have quality, and how to avoid the database being western-driven or -centric.

THEME #2

CLINICAL TRIALS – APPRAISING INFORMATION

The second key challenge addressed at the symposium was how to appraise information related to global science stories.

Topic: Understanding clinical trials

The session explored this challenge through the example of clinical trials and public appraisal of clinical trial data. It was noted that a historic reliance on clinical trials developed out of cases such as the thalidomide disaster, where the success of the FDA in stopping thalidomide led to widespread support for a regulatory regime, partly based in randomized clinical trials (RCT). A 1965 FDA drug efficacy study and its implementation (DESI) – a review of 3,443 pharmaceutical products and 16,000 therapeutic claims, leading to 2,000 products withdrawn from the market – further pushed for the importance of RCT data. However, since the 1960s, RCTs have moved from academics to a \$5B research “service” industry, leading to a reliance on data from private industry at regulatory approval stage. This data is not easily accessed due to legal barriers that stop data from being exposed unless it is needed to protect the public. This raised the question: How do we appraise data in the public interest that is not actively shared?

Challenge: Improved appraisal of information (Panel discussion)

Clinical trial data was presented as a key example of how scientific results can be a mess in terms of sharing. This mess was argued as having a direct effect on a science journalist’s ability to understand the context of a RCT and thereby develop deeper journalism, leaving audiences with only quick-hit stories. Various barriers to gaining clinical trial data were discussed, including: missing studies (this automatically gives an incomplete picture around a drug or device); a distorted literature with no negative studies; disappearing subjects; end goals and outcomes changing during a study; scientists misrepresenting or distorting the outcome of trial; misconduct or fraud. Few of these barriers are apparent in literature searches, leaving them hidden from view. It was argued, however, that regulatory data is a public good needed to reassure people that drugs are safe, and that full transparency is an essential right.

Explored solutions: Activating cross border collaborative databases (Breakout session)

It was suggested that journalists fail at their job if they don’t attempt to get and appraise hidden data to provide real context for scientific studies. There was a clear expressed need in the breakout session to activate cross border collaborations through easily accessible lists of experts who are independent and collaborative databases to gather information about clinical trials. These databases could involve moderators to input what’s happening in clinical trials around the world. This could be supplemented with a global network of FOIA/regulatory experts, a WFSJ directory of journalists for finding collaborators, and simple checklists/guidelines for how to appraise

information (e.g. RCTs, COIs, list of competing drugs). It was again recognized (as for theme 1) that it would be important to also find ways to meet to discuss these issues and, in this case, look at case law and global lawsuit information.

THEME #3

EBOLA AND ZIKA – INTERNATIONAL STORY TRACKING

The third key challenge addressed at the symposium was how to better track stories that are emerging globally.

Topic: Tracking emerging stories such as Ebola and Zika

The session explored this challenge through the example of emerging infectious diseases. There was a time of complacency in the 1980s about infectious diseases and it being conquered. But in 1992, warnings began about pathogenic microorganisms, and as novel outbreaks continued to emerge it became clear that we needed to think globally, as viruses and diseases see no borders. Whether it is Ebola, Zika, or other contagious diseases, the ability to track down and communicate accurately the spread of a disease is vital. Journalism on infectious diseases, however, has been critiqued as panic-stricken, episodic, reactionary and unable to provide early surveillance of evolving stories. This raised the question: What tools do we need to tell these stories better?

Challenge: How to improve infectious disease coverage? (Panel discussion)

Informal-source surveillance and on the ground reporting were presented as a key examples of tools that could be built on to improve journalism on infectious diseases. An example of informal-source surveillance is [ProMED](http://www.promedmail.org/)⁴, a system of moderated emails combined with a website and social media presence. *ProMED*'s model is simple: media reports, observers and health workers (etc.) tell *ProMED* about outbreaks and *ProMED* tells everyone. The system was discussed as fast and inexpensive, but potentially inaccurate, always non-quantitative, and suffering from bias. Still, it was argued as one element that has caused outbreak discovery to fall from an average of 30 days to about two weeks. Reporting on Ebola in Sierra Leone was seen as a second example where stories could be told about people as people, and not as disease vectors. It was argued that reporting on Ebola from afar led to hysterical and conflicting coverage. The questions were raised: What would have happened if the human stories about Ebola had been told earlier? Would the world have reacted faster? Would it have led to a better outcome?

Explored solutions: Fighting complacency between outbreaks (Breakout session)

Better tracking of stories on emerging infectious diseases is based on people on the ground and the ability to tap into those people and help them. There was a clear expressed need in the breakout session for the creation of virtual collaborations that fight complacency, enable productive work, and give incentives for people to participate (e.g. people learn, gain money or reputation). These collaborations were discussed in two ways: (1) as having an exploration goal that detects emerging stories (*ProMED*-model) and (2) an exploit goal for finding a local journalist to produce a story when it is detected (*on the ground* model). It was suggested that a platform

⁴ <http://www.promedmail.org/>

and a plan needed to be ready well before the next outbreak. The platform could start as a closed Facebook page (loose network) of interested journalists and get them working together. The plan would include crisis funding to be used for a pop up disease workshop when needed.

THEME #4

NUCLEAR NEWS COVERAGE – ACCESSING INFORMATION

The fourth key challenge at the symposium was addressing how to access reliable scientific information of a highly charged nature.

Topic: Covering Nuclear Stories

This session explored one of the most challenging stories of all time: the nuclear file. Whether it is a disaster like Fukushima or a diplomatic achievement like the Iran nuclear agreement (2015), journalists face obstacles both in identifying and laying hand on critical data and unprejudiced scientific voices. For such stories, access to information and finding credible sources is key. But it can take years to build such relationships and for a good story to emerge, not to mention the significant resources required to pursue such a story across the globe and the dangers that exist in dealing with information that floats the line to secret or classified material. This raised the question: Can we work together to more effectively cover such stories?

Challenge: Access to sensitive and secretive scientific information (Panel discussion)

A 5-year investigation on tracking fissioned nuclear material was presented as a key example of accessing sensitive scientific information. The final investigative stories on worldwide nuclear material threats started from vague reports on stolen enriched Uranium. Information uncovered in public documents said that some Russian material had been lost (later confirmed by an internal US informant). The stories were chased across several countries in Africa and India, requiring knowledge of terrorism, the use of local reporters, and FOIA requests. There are no quick payoffs for these stories and sources need to be continually talked to for ideas. A second example of the Iran nuclear agreement (2015) showed how nuclear coverage was banned before the deal, but that shifting contexts might be opportunities for collaboration. The panel ended with a tool, global satellite surveillance, which was argued as a way to access related information.

Explored solutions: Partnerships on surveillance, access and discovery (Breakout session)

It was suggested that science journalists interested in this area could focus on surveillance and information security, how to work with contacts and journalists in areas such as Iran, and the development of new discovery tools (e.g. use of satellite imagery). There was a clear expressed need in the breakout session for these options to be (again) facilitated by the development a collaborative network. In order to protect journalists and their sources, this network should first offer a workshop on secure communication/encryption, and provide a hotline for freelancers and a consultant able to give practical advice. Funding and matchmaker services to help journalists hire research assistants in a foreign place was proposed. Key problems still include gaining access to information from corporations and building trust with sources. Creating networks of local journalists (in areas such as Iran) may help increase source trust, and the use of free public databases (e.g., examining Wikipedia edits for contacts) may also allow information to be mined.

Partnerships and funders were discussed, and in particular, an exploratory partnership between [SpaceKnow](#) and a charitable organization (e.g., WFSJ) to examine global satellite imagery.

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

While each breakout session discussed solutions specific to their case study, the final session of the symposium sought collective recommendations across the group and the topics examined. This final discussion examined these recommendations with mind to some of the challenges listed above, and for future projects that might be collaboratively started.

Recommendations across breakout groups

Joint efforts to highlight elements of cross-border collaboration on challenging stories resulted in three major recommendations.

A. Matchmaking and team development

In order to collaborate and build international teams, science journalists need accessible and improved means of knowing each other. It was unanimously recommended that the WFSJ should share a database⁵ on science journalists worldwide and focus effort on improving it to spark team development. This database should be systemized, grown upon, and shared with members through its national associations in a fashion that highlights its collaborative spirit. The database would not only allow exchanges to hire stringers and learn about the backgrounds of local reporters, but also document team building approaches. It was further recommended that the WFSJ database could serve as a matchmaking platform for the initiation of special projects.

B. Development of an informal-source surveillance tool

In order to improve coverage, science journalists need fast and inexpensive means of tracking challenging global science stories. It was unanimously recommended that the WFSJ could apply the *ProMED* mail model to take advantage of its own network and improve the international flow of information. For example, such a tool could involve “moderators” to input what is happening in clinical trials around the world, and supplement this with a global network of FOIA/regulatory experts. Alternatively, this might be tested by tracking infectious diseases reporting of local journalists (e.g. on Zika) to examine the impact of more quickly learning who is doing what.

C. Diversification of funding strategies

Participants expressed a strong recommendation on the need to diversify funding: A workshop or project set by the WFSJ should not be based on one source of funding only, to avoid putting science journalists at risk of losing credibility.

Other recommendations from individual groups

- D.** Facebook page on crisis such as, infectious diseases
- E.** Training on crisis and on secure communication through encryption

⁵ Such database already exists at the national level of several organizations, such as NASW and the CSWA.

- F.** A yearly top Ten of the Best Science stories in the World, accompanied by an award for the Best story to honour and encourage international collaboration, and the development of international rating criteria for story success.
- G.** With Freedom of the Press Foundation, develop a tool kit to protect information and sources. Make this available online or through a low-cost secure hotline.
- H.** Funding for Cross-Border collaboration (similar as the Pulitzer crisis program); Funding to help journos (freelancers, maybe more) get an assistant or researcher in foreign place
- I.** New Tools (for better access): Wikipedia + Watson cognitive assistant.
- J.** Develop a satellite map service for stories such as mining/agriculture/ etc. to track stories and make available to all members. In collaboration with **SpaceKnow**⁶ and/or other such service.
- K.** The database in Recommendation A could also offer a directorate of independent experts in the fields of “freedom of information”, such as a searchable Global freedom of information database, and a list of experts in Clinical trials regulations and ethics.

⁶ <https://spaceknow.com/>

CONCLUSION

Although challenges and barriers to international collaboration are obviously numerous, the fact that the science journalism community pursues a common goal is a major strength and a guarantee for its success.

The spirit of the Kavli symposia, conducted with open-minds, flexibility, trust and support from all participants, is a testament to this potential. Successful international collaborative project is based on team building. It was already noted in previous Kavli symposia that international stories can only be done with team effort.

In addition, this 3rd symposium highlighted some of the most urgent and positive steps that can be taken to launch successful collaborative initiatives within the network of the WFSJ, and to enhance relevance of coverage and offer support to science journalists worldwide on pressing issues of global scope.

International science news can be extraordinarily challenging – especially when stories have human consequences. Difficulty in accessing sources due to language barriers makes information hard to assess and disseminate; geopolitical influences can color the information that’s provided; the veracity of information can range from the trustworthy to the manipulative or even to the corrupt. Coverage can also be complicated by a wave of restricted and/or conflicting information from international, national and even local sources. Further convoluting already complex stories: the inability (and sometimes unwillingness) to share and cross-check information, especially at the local level. Even a publication with overseas bureaus may lack the network and expertise its science reporting team needs to properly cover a region.

This symposium will use a combination of science news “case studies” and “out of the box” speakers to introduce new ideas, tools, strategies and models aimed at better empowering science journalists facing these complicated issues. Particular attention will be focused on:

- Identifying international collaborative opportunities for improving coverage of cross-border science stories.
- Empowering science journalists to better analyze, confront and circumvent the pressures and influences that come from covering science stories in varied and often unfamiliar regions.
- Equipping science journalists to better access and accurately appraise relevant evidence from a range of regional sources.

Four case studies will spark this conversation:

Case Study One: Ebola, Zika and International Story Tracking

Case Study Two: Clinical Trials - Appraising information

Case Study Three: Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) – International Collaboration

Case Study Four: Nuclear News Coverage - Accessing information

Monday, 15th February 2016

The Melrose Georgetown Hotel, 2430 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington DC

18:00 Cocktail –Potomac room

Welcome Reception hosted by ESOE EuroScience Open Forum Manchester 2016

19:00 Dinner - Potomac room

20:00 **Evening Speaker**

Title: "Team Science for the 21st Century"

Speaker: [Noshir Contractor](#), Director of the Science of Networks in Communities (SONIC) Research Group at Northwestern University. He is also the Jane S. & William J. White Professor of Behavioral Sciences in the McCormick School of Engineering & Applied Science, the School of Communication and the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.

Applying 30 years of expertise in social network analysis, Noshir will discuss the conditions under which teams can become successful and have the greatest impact.

Tuesday, 16th February 2016

7:30 Breakfast-William Penn Room, The Melrose Georgetown Hotel

8:20 Departure Shuttle to National Academy of Sciences – Hotel Lobby

8:45 Shuttle drop off on 21th St NW - Parking

Entrance National Academy of Science, 2101 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC

ID photo is required to enter in the building

Registration - East Court

9:00 **SESSION I:** International Story Tracking – Lecture Room

Case study one: Ebola, Zika and International Story Tracking

Session Leader: [Mohammed Yahia](#), Editor, Nature Middle East, he started reporting and editing for the Health & Science section at IslamOnline.net. Since then he has written for many different outlets, including The Daily Star Egypt and IDRC. Prior to joining Nature Middle East, he was the MENA region coordinator for the website SciDev.Net.

Speaker: [Erika Hayden](#), Science Correspondent, Nature, specializing in biomedical and biology research, she has reported for a variety of publications, including award-winning coverage of the Ebola epidemic for Wired.

Speaker: [Larry Maddof](#), Editor of ProMED (the Program for Monitoring Emerging Diseases) and Professor of Medicine at University of Massachusetts Medical School, whose international network collaborated to develop a tool to track down infectious diseases: promedmail.org.

Summary: Whether it is Ebola, Zika, or other highly contagious diseases, the ability to track down and communicate accurately the spread of a disease is vital. This session will discuss how tools can help build international network to **track and provide surveillance** of evolving stories. Focusing on Ebola, a discussion will explore whether tools of global surveillance for tracking diseases could serve in tracking other developing phenomenon in other fields of science. An overview will also detail what it was like to track the spread of Ebola from the field, highlighting the difficulty to access and appraise timely information and sharing thoughts on what went wrong in terms of communication break down.

10:30 Coffee break – East Court

10:45 **SESSION II:** Appraising information

Case Study two: Clinical Trials

Session Leader: [Ivan Oransky](#), Vice President and Global Editorial Director, MedPage Today and Co-Founder, Retraction Watch. Vice President of the Association of Health Care Journalists, past assignments include serving as Executive Editor of Reuters Health, Managing Editor (Online) of Scientific American, Deputy Editor of The Scientist and Editor-in-Chief of the Praxis Post.

Speaker: [Trudo Lemmens](#), Professor, University of Toronto. Scholl Chair in Health Law and Policy at the university, his research focuses on the complex interaction between law, other governance tools, and ethical norms and values in the context of health care, biomedical research, health product development, and knowledge production

Speaker: [Charles Seife](#), Faculty Member, NYU Department of Journalism. Journalist and author, he has been writer for Science magazine, U.S. correspondent for New Scientist and has written for The Economist, Scientific American, The Philadelphia Inquirer, The Washington Post, The New York Times and other publications.

Summary: With the numerous and complex barriers to accessing information, it becomes all the more important to effectively critique and appraise the evidence that is available. When information comes from a limited number of official sources, including government sources it becomes difficult to **appraise information**, as well as whether the information is complete or selective, or in some other way is being manipulated or even suppressed. This session will look at principles of ethics, laws and regulations in order be able to evaluate research fairly, as well as present the result of a year-long investigation into the Food and Drug Administration’s clinical trial “approval process” – along with reveal how the investigation was conducted.

12:15 Lunch-East court

13:30 **SESSION III:** International Collaboration

Case study three: FOOD: (GMO’S) (CRISPR)

Session Leader: [Fred Guterl](#), Executive Editor, Scientific American. Journalist and author who has been writing about science for 25 years, he has also worked, among other titles, for Discover magazine (senior editor, 1994 -1998) and Newsweek (deputy editor, 2000-2010).

Speaker: [Nina Fedoroff](#) is an American molecular biologist known for her research in life sciences and biotechnology. Appointments include serving as the Science and Technology Adviser to U.S. Secretaries of State Condoleeza Rice and Hillary Clinton, as well as to the U.S. Agency for International Development. Awarded the National Medal of Science in 2007, she is a member of the United States National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the European Academy of Sciences, and the American Academy of Microbiology. She served as president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Speaker: [Sasha Kerberg](#), is a German geneticist turned freelance science journalist, writes for a variety of newspapers and magazines, like Tagesspiegel, Handelsblatt, bild der wissenschaft, MIT Technology Review, Geo, ZeitWissen, Cell, BBC-Future.

Speaker: [Stephen S. Hall](#). Journalist and author who has been reporting and writing about science for nearly 30 years, he has published numerous cover stories in The New York Times Magazine, where he also served as a story editor, as well as published in The New Yorker, The Atlantic Monthly, National Geographic, Discover, and many others.

Summary: Too often, the public’s grasp of GMOs is tarnished by misinformation and misunderstanding. Part of this is a visceral reaction to “Frankenfoods,” but it is also because the public’s understanding of GMOs is influenced by the interests of industry, governments and even local communities. (That’s along with simply weak reporting and misinformation on the web.) For a topic that is global, and whose risks and promises are also global, science journalists would benefit from **greater international collaboration** to help assure accuracy of reporting. This session will launch a discussion about the possibilities of greater international collaboration by focusing on how science journalists are covering this important topic. It will include a primer and update for science journalists on GMOs, and a discussion of how the story looks from the European side — and particularly the challenges of reporting on GMO. It will also include a critical evaluation of what journalists get right, what they get wrong, and what they need to know about the current GMO debate and the new gene-editing technologies.

15:00 Coffee break

15:15 **SESSION IV:** Accessing information

Case study four: Nuclear News Coverage

Session Leader: [Richard Stone](#), International News Editor, Science, has been with Science for 25 years. During this time, his assignments have included five years as Asia news editor in Beijing, launching Science's daily news service, ScienceNOW, and serving four years as European news editor.

Speaker: [Pavel Machalek](#), Co-Founder and CEO of Spaceknow Inc – a satellite imagery analytics VC-funded company based in San Francisco, CA. Previously, he was Head of Remote Sensing at the Climate Corporation. He has also worked with numerous NASA observatories including Spitzer, Hubble and Kepler Space Telescopes as Principal Investigator.

Speaker: [Pouria Nazemi](#), is a science journalist f Tehran, Iran. He has been senior a science editor at the daily newspaper Jam-e since 2004 and is editor-in-chief of SIB, a science weekly. He has written extensively for science web sites and magazine in Iran, particularly for Nojum (Astronomy) Magazine.

Speaker: [R. Jeffrey Smith](#), Managing Editor, National Security, Center for Public Integrity, Smith worked for 25 years in a series of key reporting and editorial roles at The Washington Post. In 2006, he was a co-recipient of the Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting for articles on House Majority Leader Tom DeLay and lobbyist Jack Abramoff)

Summary: Whether it is a disaster like Fukushima or a diplomatic achievement like the Iran nuclear agreement, journalists face obstacles both in identifying and laying hands on critical data and unprejudiced scientific voices. With a focus on three important nuclear stories, this session will explore the difficulties of **accessing reliable scientific information** when it is unclear where the credible information necessary to tell the story can be obtained. This includes delving into how journalists achieved their recent groundbreaking coverage of nuclear smuggling from Russia, how journalists used satellite imagery to shed light on North Korea's nuclear program (and how journalists can use this in the future), and a review of science coverage of the Iran nuclear agreement – along with a discussion of the the potential opportunities for collaboration between science journalists inside and outside Iran.

17:00 Shuttle pick up on 21th St NW-Parking lot

18:00 Dinner - Potomac room
Melrose Georgetown Hotel, 2430 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington DC

19:00 **Evening Speakers**

Title: Tool box for science journalists: Protection of Sources and Data

Speaker: Katy Scoggin, co-producer of "Citizenfour"

Speaker: Ewen MacAskill Defence and Security Correspondent, The Guardian

EVENING DISCUSSION

Discussion of the day's presentations led by Robert Lee Hotz, science writer at The Wall Street Journal, president of the Alicia Patterson Foundation, elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and past president of the National Association of Science Writers.

Wednesday, 17th February 2016

7:30 Breakfast – Potomac I and II, The Melrose Georgetown Hotel

8:20 Shuttle to National Academy of Science-Hotel Lobby

8:45 Shuttle drop off on 21st NW

Entrance National Academy of Science, 2101 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC

ID photo is required to enter in the building

Lecture Room

9:00 **BREAKOUT GROUPS**

Breakout sessions take a closer look at the four case examples. In small workgroups, participants examine the opportunities, roadblocks, potential uses the tools presented, and how they can contribute to enhance international collaboration amongst science journalists.

Participants will also consider the following: key lessons/principles learned and to be shared; new opportunities for collaboration and tool development; next steps to advance ideas central to advancing reporting of key science international reporting.

Group I: International Story Tracking **Lecture room**
Leader: Mohammed Yahia

Group II: Appraising information **Board Room**
Leader: Ivan Oransky

Group III: International Collaboration **Room 125**
Leader: Fred Guterl

Group IV: Accessing information **Room 118**
Leader: Richard Stone

10:00 Coffee Break-East coast

10:15 Breakout groups (Continuation)

12:00 Lunch

13:00 **PLENARY DISCUSSION AND GOAL REVIEW**

Discussion moderated by Robert Lee Hotz

14:00 Closure

14:10 Shuttle pick up on 21th St NW –Parking



Andrea Obaid is a science journalist from Chile. She is the host/editor of the TV show Technoscience (eight seasons), science and technology journalist at CARAS magazine and currently director of Neurona Group company dedicated to generating projects of scientific, medical and environmental outreach to media. She is a member of the Chilean Association of Science Journalists (ACHIPEC) and the Society of Environmental Journalists (SEJ). Ms Obaid was a member of the Presidential Commission for the report "Science for Development of Chile"



Brooke Borel is a science journalist and author. She is a contributing editor at *Popular Science*, where her blog *Our Modern Plagues* is also hosted. She has written for the Atlantic, the Guardian, Slate, BuzzFeed News, and PBS's Nova Next, among others. She is the author of *Infested: How the Bed Bug Infiltrated Our Bedrooms and Took Over the World*, published by the University of Chicago Press with additional support from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. Her second book, *The Chicago Guide to Fact-Checking* will come out in September 2016.



Caroline Wichmann is spokesperson and director of the Press and Public Relations Department at Leopoldina. As Germany's National Academy of Sciences, Leopoldina gives science-based policy advice. Wichmann established the program "Diving into Science," a training seminar for established journalists who don't usually cover science but can bring science stories to the front page. A graduate in political science, public administration and media affairs management, her primary interest lies at the intersection of science and media and the challenges of communicating science. Caroline was elected German Science Press Spokesperson of the Year in 2011 and 2015.



Charles Seife is a professor of journalism at NYU's Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute. He has been writing about physics and mathematics for two decades. He is the author of six books, including *Zero: The Biography of a Dangerous Idea*



Curtis Brainard is the Digital Content Manager of the Scientific American blog network. Mr Curtis has been a guest on NPR to Al-Jazeera English and invited to speak at venues such as the National Press Club in Washington, DC and the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Aspen, Colorado. Mr. Brainard is a member of the National Association of Science Writers and the Society of Environmental Journalists in the United States. He is currently the President of the World Federation of Science Journalism.



Christophe D. Assogba is an investigative journalist, a science journalist, an author and a PhD student in archaeology based in Benin. He has freelanced for SciDev.Net since 2011 about science issues in Benin and the wider West Africa region. He is also the president of the *Association des Journalistes et Communicateurs Scientifiques du Benin* and the West Africa Forum of Science Journalists and Communicators.



Claudia Dreifus has been producing interviews for the New York Times since 1992. She was brought to the newspaper from Playboy, where she was one of the Playboy Interviewers. Her conversations with leading scientists and political figures are the basis of two widely-read books on the art of the interview, "Scientific Conversations," and "Interview." Ms. Dreifus teaches a journalism course for scientists at Columbia University's Earth Institute and international and another on foreign affairs reporting at Columbia University's School of *International and Public Affairs*.



At Concordia University, **Dr. David Secko** is working to give journalists and students new tools to communicate science as part of the *Concordia Science Journalism Project*. His interests further extend to the moderation and design of deliberative engagement events, as well as research that links across journalism, science and ethical issues to clarify and experiment with the roles of the public, experts and journalists in the democratic governance of biotechnology. He previously worked as a reporter, columnist and freelance science writer for *The Scientist* magazine, *Vancouver's Tyee*, the *Science Creative Quarterly*, *Canadian Medical Association Journal*.



Damien Chalaud is the Executive Director of the World Federation of Science Journalists. He graduated from the University of London – Goldsmiths College with a Masters degree in Communications and a Masters degree in Journalism. He was a journalist and producer at BBC Radio and the BBC World Service. In 1998 he joined the European Broadcasting Union in Geneva as Director of Eurosonic satellite operations. In 2001 he was appointed Director of the cross-media platform at RFO-France Télévisions. He was Director of content for the Radio France City Radio network in Paris and has been a project manager and consultant for different international broadcasters and web/mobile entities: BBC, CBC, Danmarks Radio, Radio-Canada, ARD, RTE, Vodafone, O2, etc.



Debbie Ponchner is the Spanish-language editor for *Scientific American*. Originally from Costa Rica, she started out as a science reporter for *La Nación*. In 2005 she founded and served as editor of the first daily science section of *La Nación*. She has won several journalism awards, including Costa Rica's National Journalism Prize, the Jorge Vargas-Gené Award. She studied mass communication at the University of Costa Rica, specializing in science communication at Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona, Spain. In 2003–04 she spent the academic year as a Knight Science Journalism Fellow at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



Deborah Blum is a Pulitzer-prize winning science journalist who has written for publications ranging from *The New York Times* to *Scientific American*. She is the author of five books, most recently *The Poisoner's Handbook*, and is almost finished working on a sixth book. She is a past-president of the National Association of Science Writers (USA) and currently serves on the board of the Council for the Advancement of Science Writing (USA). She is based at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where she is director of the Knight Science Journalism Program.



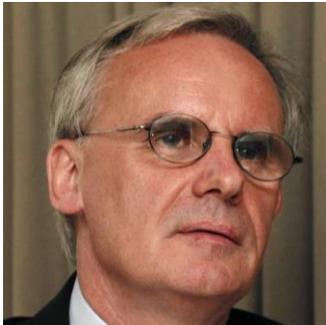
Eliza Strickland is a senior associate editor at the technology magazine *IEEE Spectrum*. Her special report on Japan's Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster helped *Spectrum* win a National Magazine Award for general excellence in 2012. On her current beat, biomedical engineering, she covers such topics as advanced prosthetics, neural engineering devices, and next-generation genome sequencing tools. She previously worked as an online editor for the science magazine *Discover*, and has written for such publications as *Nautilus*, *Wired*, *Sierra*, and *Foreign Policy*. She attended Columbia University's School of Journalism and Tufts University.



Erik Vance is a Bay Area writer replanted in Mexico as a non-native species. Before becoming a writer he was, at turns, a biologist, a rock climbing guide, an environmental consultant, and an environmental educator. His work focuses on the human element of science – the people who do it, those who benefit from it, and those who do not. He has written for The New York Times, Nature, Scientific American, Harper’s, National Geographic, and a number of other local and national outlets. He is currently working on his first book about how the mind and body continually twist and shape our realities.



Estrella Burgos Ruiz is a science writer and editor based in Mexico City. She has freelanced for magazine and newspapers, co-hosted science radio and tv shows, and since 1998 has served as editor-in-chief of the monthly science magazine for adolescents and young adults, ¿Cómo ves? She has authored five science books and co-authored another four. She is the former president of the Mexican Association of Science and Technology Communication, where she now coordinates the Division of Science Journalism, and a member of NASW since 2008. She regularly gives workshops on science writing and journalism. In 2014 she became a fellow of the Civitella Ranieri Foundation.



Ewen MacAskill has been a reporter for more than 40 years, the last 20 on the Guardian where he started as chief political correspondent covering the UK. He became diplomatic editor, Washington bureau chief, reporter based in New York and is now back in London as defence and security correspondent. He covered the Northern Ireland conflict, the fall of Thatcher and the rise of Blair, the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, the Iraq war and two US presidential elections. He shared the Pulitzer prize in 2013 with, among others, Laura Poitras and Glenn Greenwald for reporting of the Snowden leaks and appears in CitizenFour.



Erika Check Haydan is a science Correspondent, Nature, specializing in biomedical and biology research, she has reported for a variety of publications, including award-winning coverage of the Ebola epidemic for Wired. Ms Haydan is an award-winning, San Francisco-based science and technology reporter. She writes for the science journal Nature, and on a freelance basis for a variety of publications, and teaches in the University of California Santa Cruz Science Communication Program.



Federico Kukso is an independent science journalist from Argentina with 15 years of experience writing about the intersections of science and literature. He writes for popular science magazines such as *Muy Interesante Argentina*, *Quo México*, *Le Monde Diplomatique*, and *Scientific American*. Previously, he was in charge of the science section of national newspapers like *Página/12*, *Crítica*, and *Revista Ñ*. He is the author of two books: “All You Need to Know about Science” and “The Bathrooms Weren’t Always Like This.” He is also member of the Argentinian Network of Science Journalism.



Fred Guterl is executive editor of *Scientific American* and author of *The Fate of the Species: Why the Human Race May Cause Its Own Extinction and How We Can Stop It* (Bloomsbury 2012). He has won numerous awards for writing and editing from American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Overseas Press Club, the American Society of Magazine Editors and other organizations. He led *Scientific American* to its first-ever award for National Magazine Award for General Excellence in 2011. Guterl was formerly deputy editor at *Newsweek International*. He makes frequent speaking appearances and has appeared on Charlie Rose, the Today Show, The Daily Show with Jon Stewart and others venues. Guterl holds a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Rochester and has taught science writing at Princeton.



Ginger Pinholster is a former newspaper reporter and public information officer for organizations such as the Georgia Tech Research Institute, the University of Delaware, and the National Academy of Sciences. In January 2000, she joined the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), where she serves as Chief Communications Director and Director of the Office of Public Programs. Her office runs the AAAS Annual Meeting as well as the EurekaAlert! website, the science-news service for some 11,000 reporters worldwide.



Ivan Semeniuk is currently Journalist-in-Residence at the Dunlap Institute for Astronomy & Astrophysics, University of Toronto. During the International Year of Astronomy he is on a mission to figure out why the universe matters and why astronomers can't stop exploring it. Mr Semeniuk is also the *Globe and Mail's* Science correspondent.



Ivan Oransky, MD, is the vice president and global editorial director of MedPage Today, co-founder of the MacArthur Foundation- and Arnold Foundation-funded Retraction Watch, and Distinguished Writer in Residence at New York University's Arthur Carter Journalism Institute. He previously was executive editor of Reuters Health and held editorial positions at Scientific American and The Scientist. He is the recipient of the 2015 John P. McGovern Award for excellence in biomedical communication from the American Medical Writers Association. He has written for numerous publications, including Nature, The New Republic, and The New York Times. Oransky is also a clinical assistant professor of

medicine at the New York University School of Medicine, and serves on the board of directors and as vice president of the Association of Health Care Journalists.



James Cohen is director of communications and public outreach for The Kavli Foundation, which is dedicated to advancing science for the benefit of humanity, promoting public understanding of scientific research, and supporting scientists and their work. As director, Cohen provides strategic direction and oversight for the Foundation's communications initiatives and programs, from the support of science journalism to helping scientists become better communicators and a variety of direct public outreach activities. Prior to joining the Foundation, Cohen was director of media relations at the University of California, Irvine as well as associate director of communications. He is a member of the Author's

Guild and Writer's Guild of America, West.



Jeffrey Smith worked for 25 years in a series of key reporting and editorial roles at *The Washington Post*, including national investigative editor, national security correspondent, national investigative correspondent, and a foreign staff bureau chief based in Rome. In 2006, he won the Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting, along with two colleagues at the *Post*, for articles on House Majority Leader Tom DeLay and lobbyist Jack Abramoff. Smith was also a finalist with other *Post* reporters for the Pulitzer Prize in international reporting in 1999 (from Kosovo), and a finalist with others for the Pulitzer Prize in national reporting in 2005 (about Abu Ghraib and military prisoner

abuse). In his first ten years at the *Post*, Smith wrote about defense, intelligence and foreign policy matters, including policymaking at the State Department, Pentagon, and White House. He also focused on conflict and terrorism in the Middle East; politics and military affairs in Asia; and arms proliferation. Prior to that, he was a senior writer for the News and Comment section of *Science Magazine* where he won a National Magazine Award in 1986 for writing about arms control.



Kai Kupferschmidt is a free-lance science journalist based in Berlin, Germany. After studying molecular biomedicine at the University of Bonn, Kai studied journalism at the Berlin Journalism School. He developed a weekly science page at German newspaper Tagesspiegel and has reported extensively on infectious diseases and biotechnology for US journal Science and German newspapers Süddeutsche Zeitung.



Katy Scoggin is a writer-director and cinematographer. With a background in sculpture and narrative filmmaking, documentary is her home. She worked with Laura Poitras as co-producer and cinematographer on *CITIZENFOUR* and associate producer on *The Oath*. She's currently directing a documentary about extraordinary people at work in their 80s. She is also developing *Flood*, a work of fiction, documentary, and public radio about people whose beliefs polarize them to the breaking point. At the project's core is the filmmaker's loving and maddening relationship to her creationist father. *Flood* is supported by Sundance, Film Independent, the Sloan Foundation, and the MacDowell

Colony.

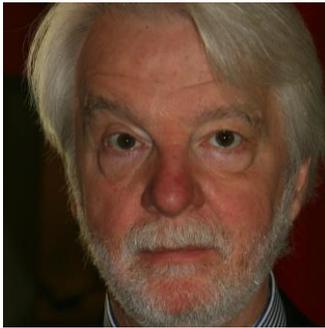


Dr. Larry Madoff is an infectious disease physician specializing in the epidemiology of emerging pathogens, bacterial pathogenesis, and international health. He is Professor of Medicine at the University of Massachusetts Medical School and Lecturer on Medicine at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Madoff serves as Director of Epidemiology and Immunization and Deputy State Epidemiologist for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Dr. Madoff has directed ProMED, the Program for Monitoring Emerging Diseases, since 2002. He is a member of the American Society for Microbiology, the International Society for Infectious Diseases, past President of the U.S. Lancefield Streptococcal

Research Society, a Fellow of the Infectious Diseases Society of America and a Fellow of the American College of Physicians. A graduate of Yale College and Tufts Medical School, he performed his Internal Medicine Residency at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center and his Infectious Disease Fellowship at the Harvard Medical School-Longwood program.



Laura Helmuth is the director of digital news at *National Geographic* and vice-president of the U.S. National Association of Science Writers. She was previously the science and health editor and legal editor at *Slate*, and the science editor at *Smithsonian* magazine, and a writer and editor for *Science* magazine and its daily news site, ScienceNOW. She has a Ph.D. in cognitive neuroscience from the University of California at Berkeley.



Robert Lee Hotz covers science and technology for The Wall Street Journal. He is a Distinguished Writer in Residence at New York University's Arthur Carter Journalism Institute, and president of the Alicia Patterson Foundation, which funds independent journalism projects around the world. He is a past president of the National Association of Science Writers. Mr. Hotz has twice been a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and also shared in The Los Angeles Times' 1995 Pulitzer Prize for coverage of the Northridge Earthquake. He won the national science journalism award from the American Association for the Advancement of Science three times. He also has received awards from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering & Medicine; The Society of Professional Journalists, and the American Geophysical Union. He is a Fellow of The AAAS, and an honorary life member of The Research Society Sigma Xi.



Maggie Fox is a Senior Writer Health at NBCnews.com. An experienced reporter and editor with years covering medicine and science, politics, conflict and life in the Middle East, Asia, Europe and the Americas. She works in all forms of media including radio, television, newspapers, magazines and online. Her specialities include international diplomacy, disasters and, most of all, health, science and medicine. She is currently focusing on writing stories the average reader can understand for NBCNews.com and TODAY.com.



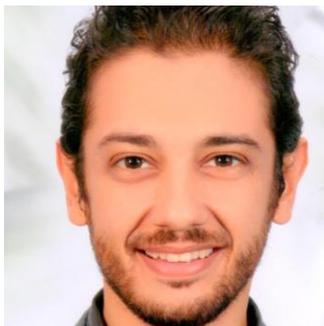
Makoto Mitsui is a science correspondent at the Yomiuri Shimbun, Washington D.C. Mr Mitsui is a science correspondent at the Washington DC bureau of The Yomiuri Shimbun, Japan's largest daily newspaper with a global circulation of about 10 million. He reports on news coming out of the United States on such subjects including space development, climate change policy and life science. He was a visiting scholar at the Graduate School of Journalism in UC Berkeley as a Fulbright Scholar from 2013 to 2014. He graduated from Kyoto University in Molecular Biology.



Michael Moyer is the deputy editor of Quanta Magazine. He used to edit stories at Scientific American, and before that, Popular Science. Long ago he studied physics and cosmology, which led him into a research position on the team that would go on to discover the accelerating expansion of the universe. Although the Nobel committee overlooked his particular contributions to that effort, he has won other awards, including the American Institute of Physics Science Writing Award. He lives in the frigid hinterlands north of New York City.



Michel Rochon is a trained physiologist. He has been a television journalist and broadcaster for more than 30 years and currently works as a health and science journalist for the weekly television science show *Découverte* and the *Téléjournal*, the national television newscast of Radio-Canada. His main interests are in public health, the environment, space, neurosciences and new technologies. He has won numerous national and international awards in journalism and gives lectures and courses in science journalism for university students and journalists.



Mohammed Yahia is the executive editor of Nature Publishing Group in the Middle East. He joined NPG six years ago as the launch editor of *Nature Middle East*, an online portal that focuses on science and science-related news from the Arab world. He now works with the editorial teams of all NPG publications in the Middle East and Africa as well as several custom publications. He is also currently the vice president of the World Federation of Science Journalists (WFSJ) and has been the vice president of the Arab Science Journalists Association for the past three years.



Niall Byrne is creative director at Science in Public in Melbourne-helping scientists translate their work into stories and headlines

Niall Byrne is a science writer and publicist with Science in Public in Melbourne. Working with CSIRO, the Prime Ministers Prizes for Science, L'Oreal Australia and other clients he helps scientists bring their work into the public space through the media, events and festivals. He also guides science organisations in the development of communication strategies to reach their stakeholders, customers and the public. He learnt his trade in the 1990s at CSIRO's Australian Animal Health Laboratory.



Nina V. Fedoroff received her Ph.D. in Molecular Biology from the Rockefeller University and has served on the faculties of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, the Johns Hopkins University, the Pennsylvania State University, and the King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (Saudi Arabia). Fedoroff has published three books and more than 160 scientific papers. She is a member of the U. S. National Academy of Sciences and a 2006 National Medal of Science laureate. Fedoroff served as the Science and Technology Adviser to the Secretary of State and to the Administrator of the US Agency for International Development (USAID) from 2007 to 2010. She is a member of the Science Advisory Board

of the Santa Fe Institute and serves as Senior Science Advisor to OFW Law, Washington, DC.



Noshir Contractor is the Jane S. & William J. White Professor of Behavioral Sciences at Northwestern University, USA. He is investigating factors that lead to the formation, maintenance, and dissolution of dynamically linked social and knowledge networks. He received the National Communication Association 2014 Distinguished Scholar Award and was elected a Fellow of the International Communication Association in 2015.



Olivier Dessibourg is a physicist and science teacher by training and for over 16 years a science journalist, based in Lausanne, Switzerland. He's heading the Science & Environment section of the daily quality newspaper *Le Temps* and the newsmagazine *L'Hebdo*. He is the president of the Swiss Association of Science Journalism, with 370 members, and the Swiss delegate to the WFSJ. A winner of various science journalism awards, he also had his articles published in *NewScientist* (UK), *Le Monde* (France), *Le Soir* (Belgium), *La Recherche* (France), *NZZamSonntag* (Switzerland). He regularly teaches science journalism in different universities.



Pavel Machalek is a Co-Founder at Spaceknow, a provider of satellite imagery analytics for the financial, government and construction sectors. Previously Pavel was head of remote sensing at The Climate Corporation; a researcher at NASA and holds a PhD in Astrophysics from Johns Hopkins University."



Pouria Nazemi is a freelance science journalist. He started in science journalism at Nojum (Persian Astronomy) Magazine in Iran. He then went to Jam-e-Jam, one of the best selling daily newspaper in Iran, where he worked as Science Editor and Senior Science Editor until 2011. While at Jam-e-Jam he founded a weekly science and medicine magazine (SIB). He has made many public presentations on science and technology and frequently appeared on TV and radio shows in Iran and outside. He also translated a few general science and journalism books into Farsi and frequently writes for the Hamshahri online Journalism school. He is a member of the advisory board for few Iranian science media. He lives in Montreal, Canada, freelancing for media in Iran and Canada.



Richard Harris has been a science correspondent at National Public Radio for nearly 30 years. He's currently on leave from NPR to write a book about rigor and reproducibility in biomedical research.



Richard Stone oversees *Science Magazine's* international news coverage. From 2000 to 2012, Rich served as a foreign correspondent for *Science*, starting out in Cambridge, U.K., as *Science's* European Editor and as a Visiting Writer at the University of Cambridge. The last stop on his overseas tour was Beijing, where he opened the magazine's Asia bureau in 2007. He returned to *Science's* home office in Washington, D.C., in early 2013.



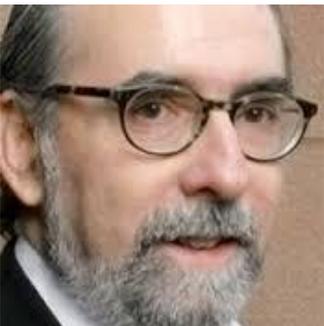
Ron Winslow is deputy bureau chief, health and science, at The Wall Street Journal, where he has written more than 1,500 articles chronicling the effects of economics and innovation on the U.S. health care system. He is a winner of the Victor Cohn Prize for Excellence in Medical Reporting. His work has also been recognized by the Association for Health Care Journalists, the New York Press Club, the American Heart Association and other groups. He is past president of the National Association of Science Writers and currently co-chair of the Local Organizing Committee for the World Conference of Science Journalists 2017 in San Francisco.



Sasha Chavkin is a reporter for International Consortium of Investigative Journalists. He was ICIJ's lead reporter for the Evicted & Abandoned investigation which revealed massive forced displacement caused by projects funded by the World Bank. He was also the lead reporter for ICIJ's award-winning Island of the Widows and Mystery in the Fields projects, which examined a mysterious form of kidney disease that is killing agricultural workers across continents. Sasha's work has been recognized by the Online News Association, Society of Professional Journalists, the Society of Environmental Journalists and the Sidney Hillman Foundation



Sascha Karberg is a geneticist turned freelance science journalist. He writes for a variety of newspapers and magazines, like *Tagesspiegel*, *Handelsblatt*, *bild der wissenschaft*, *MIT Technology Review*, *Geo*, *ZeitWissen*, *Cell*, *BBC-Future* etc. Karberg studied biology and science journalism at the *Free University Berlin* and founded *Schnittstelle*, an international network of freelance science journalists. He was an editor for „Die Profis“, the science show of Berlin's public radio station *rbb* and for the former online newspaper *Netzeitung*. Karberg was honored a Knight Science Journalism Fellowship at MIT and won several awards, most recently the *Hofschneider Investigation Award*.



Stephen Hall Stephen is an Adjunct Professor of Journalism at New York University. He is a journalist and author who has been reporting and writing about science for nearly 30 years, he has published numerous cover stories in The New York Times Magazine, where he also served as a story editor, as well as published in The New Yorker, The Atlantic Monthly, National Geographic, Discover, and many others.



Tim De Chant is the senior digital editor at NOVA, where he's the founding editor of NOVA Next, and a lecturer in MIT's Graduate Program in Science Writing. He has also written for *Wired*, the *Chicago Tribune*, and *Ars Technica*, among others, and he blogs at *Per Square Mile*. Before turning to science journalism, he received his Ph.D. in landscape ecology from UC Berkeley and his B.A. in environmental studies, English, and biology from St. Olaf College.



Trudo Lemmens is Professor and Scholl Chair in Health Law and Policy at the Faculty of Law and the Dalla Lana School of Public Health of the University of Toronto. He has been a visiting professor at leading universities in Europe, the US, New Zealand and Argentina. He publishes in law, policy, science and bioethics journals and more popular media. His research focuses on the role of law in dealing with legal, ethical and social issues of health care, health care technologies, and biomedical research. He teaches courses on Health Law and Bioethics, Pharmaceutical Governance, and Research Ethics.



Yves Sciamia is a French freelance science journalist and writer with nearly 20 years of experience. Trained in biology and science journalism, he has covered most fields of life and environmental sciences. His reporting trips have taken him to Madagascar, Antarctica, the Sahel and many other destinations. He collaborates closely with "*Science et Vie*", the first French-language science magazine, but continues publishing in other important media such as *Le Monde*. He has also done some documentary writing and website designing. He is the author of several books. He was awarded a Knight Science Journalism Fellowship at MIT.



Véronique Morin is the steering committee leader of the 2nd & 3rd Kavli Symposium and a science journalist with over 25 years' experience in TV, print, radio. She believes strongly that journalism is key to communicating science to the public. She was president of the Canadian Science Writers' Association (CSWA) from 2001-2005, first president of the World Federation of Science Journalists (WFSJ) from 2002-2004, Webster-McConnell fellow, William Southam journalism fellowships (2013-2014), Massey College, University of Toronto. For the past nine years, she has worked for the science magazine program « *Le Code Chastenay* » on the public network *Télé-Québec*, researching and writing freelance articles, serving as bilingual moderator on numerous panels, as well as developing a documentary series.



William Kearney is director of media relations at the U.S. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. In his 20 years there he has led media dissemination efforts for hundreds of science, technology, and health policy reports. He also has directed international science communication efforts, including for the African Science Academy Development Initiative, and he has been invited to speak at the World Conference of Science Journalists. In 2011 he helped organize a science communication workshop in Buenos Aires on behalf of the InterAmerican Network of Academies of Sciences, and in 2010 he was assigned to the InterAcademy Council, an Amsterdam-based

organization of the world's science academies -- to manage communications for a U.N.-sponsored review of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.



Zeynab Abdulrahman is a TV journalist with the Nation Media Group, based in Nairobi, Kenya. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Broadcast Journalism from the United States International University. She reports on agriculture and environmental sciences such as climate change, and has covered both subjects extensively, both in and outside Kenya. Her reporting on climate change earned her a continental award, the Africa Climate Change and Environmental Reporting Award, as the best climate change reporter on African Television



Lina Trivino joined the WFSJ team as a Financial & Administrative Assistant in July 2015. She has 6 years of experience in auditing and management. Lina previously worked at PriceWaterhouse Coopers where she audited public and private companies of different sizes in fields such as: pharmaceutical, retail & consumer, oil, gas and utilities. Lina Trivino is an Industrial engineer with a graduate diploma in Strategic Management. She is currently following a master degree in management at McGill University.



Jessica Johnson is CEO of Newswise, an international news delivery service for journalists. Originally founded in 1992, Newswise was the world's first technology-driven news distribution service and today provides its services to more than 30,000 journalists and curious readers throughout the world. Since assuming the leadership of Newswise, Jessica has dedicated herself to continuing the company's long standing role of connecting journalists to the latest and most vital news in their respective fields.



John Timmer is the senior science editor at Ars Technica, and teaches at the Alan Alda Center for Science Communication. His background in science includes a PhD in Molecular and Cell Biology, and nearly a dozen years of research at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and Weill Cornell Medical College. He started writing about science in 2005, and changed careers to science journalism in 2008. Since then, his work at Ars Technica has been profiled in Cell and Nature. In 2012, he started teaching at Stony Brook University's Alda Center, including classes on digital media and science journalism. Through the Alda Center, he's done numerous workshops to help scientists communicate more effectively.

SUMMARY OF TEAM BUILDING AND SOURCES PROTECTION

Teamwork is a necessity for any international collaborative projects. Working in team is not a natural tendency for journalists who work very hard to protect their sources and generate scoops. But team science – as presented by keynote speaker Noshir Contractor of North-western University – teaches us that one model applies to the international science journalism community of the WFSJ, i.e. “(...) a collection of individuals who were brought together based on mutual interest”.

As journalism is generally recognized as a force for people’s empowerment in society; another tangential reason – or motor - for forming teams is imitation. “We want to work with successful people.” In other words, success brings success in the pursuit of the greater good.

Team science also teaches that working in teams across disciplines and geography is very difficult and most often fails. However, when it does succeed, it succeeds spectacularly.

Key ingredients of success are:

- Maximize the expertise of everyone.
- Willingness to compromise and adapt
- Synergy within the team; people who can work together well (team chemistry)
- Gender and racial diversity which is generally very important for teams, to generate ideas but also, more concretely in this case to take a local story to an international level. “

One final point: the quality of the team is not just based on people on team and their relationships, but other teams that your team members go on to, and the overlap with other teams.

This idea takes us back to one generated at the **1st Kavli symposium**⁷ to create a piloted project with ICJ. The need to work with science journalists on clinical trials in developing countries e.g. polio eradication campaign was already highlighted then. The 3rd Kavli symposium discussed this and more in depth. Looping this idea with the **2nd Kavli symposium**⁸, which discussed crowdsourcing data application, could lead to powerful, original, interactive storytelling project.

That said, when it comes to international collaboration in a digital landscape, protecting sources is one of the great challenge and concerns of participants to the symposium.

⁷ http://www.kavlifoundation.org/sites/default/files/image/news/Final_DetailedReport_KavliSym_2014.pdf

⁸ http://wfsj.org/v2/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/KS2_FinalReport_Aug28_2015.pdf

Tutorial by Michael Lee – [whitepaper](#)⁹

Encryption Works: How to Protect Your Privacy in the Age of NSA Surveillance

by Freedom of Press Foundation.

July 2, 2013 and updated in 2016.

⁹ <https://freedom.press/encryption-works>

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