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List of Trainers

SCIENCE AND SOCIETY IN DIALOGUE: HOW TO COMMUNICATE SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS

(15-17 February 2008, Sofia)

Prof. Steve Miller, ESConet Director; Department of Science and Technology Studies, University College London, UK

Steve Miller is Professor in Science Communication and Planetary Science and Head of the Department of Science and Technology Studies, University College London. He combines research interests in science communication with the application of molecular physics to astronomical environments. Prof Miller chaired the European Commission's Expert Group Benchmarking the Promotion of RTD Culture and Public Understanding of Science, which reported in June 2002. He also spent six years as a political journalist.

Professor Miller is particularly interested in the issues surrounding science and society at the European level. He is director of the European Science Communication Network (ESConet: <http://www.esconet.org>). He is co-author of *Science in Public: communication, culture and credibility* (<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/sm/sciencec.htm>).

Dr. Aleksandar Višnjevac, Laboratory for Chemical & Biological Crystallography, Ruđer Bošković Institute, Croatia; Laboratoire de Chimie et Biochimie Pharmacologiques et Toxicologiques, Université René Descartes, France

Dr Aleksandar Višnjevac is a research associate at the Ruđer Bošković Institute in Zagreb, Croatia, in the field of structural and bioinorganic chemistry. He defended his PhD 2001 at the University of Zagreb, and during 2005/2006 he was a postdoc fellow at the Paris Descartes University in Paris, France. Up to now he published 26 original scientific papers, and a hundred or so articles in the leading Croatian daily, weekly and monthly magazines. He actively participates in various science promoting activities (conference organization, web editing and publishing). Member of the European Science Communication Network (ESConet: <http://www.esconet.org>)

Declan Fahy, ESConet Coordinator; Department of Science and Technology Studies, University College London, UK

Declan Fahy is the Co-ordinator of European Science Communication Network (ESConet: <http://www.esconet.org>). He is a PhD candidate at the School of Communications, Dublin City University, where he teaches on the MSc in Science Communication, BA in Journalism, and BSc in Multimedia programmes. His research interests are science journalism, science and celebrity, and health communication. He has worked as a journalist for several publications, including the *Irish Times* and *Irish Daily Mirror*.



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Senior Research Associate, Dr. Oleg Yordanov, Microwave Remote Sensing Laboratory, Institute of Electronics – Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria

Dr. Oleg Yordanov has graduated from Sofia university in theoretical and nuclear physics. He has since been with the Institute of Electronics of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. His research interests are diverse and interdisciplinary centered around the creation and application of fractal and stochastic models of complex spatial structures and time varying processes. Dr. Yordanov took visiting research positions in a number of US and European Universities and Laboratories. His research results are published in more than 20 professional scientific journals in USA and Europe. His teaching activity includes Physics, Mathematics, Astronomy and Economics courses delivered in the following universities: Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, US; Washington State University, Pullman, USA; and the American University in Bulgaria (AUBG) – in the last case for a total of 10 years. The majority of courses taught at AUBG were part of general education science curriculum tailored for students from non-science majors.

Dr. Sima Adhya, University College London, UK

Sima Adhya lives in London. She studied Natural Sciences at Cambridge then took her PhD at UCL, London. Since the age of four, Sima has wanted to be an astronaut. She is a natural academic, having completed a degree in Natural Sciences at Cambridge, a Masters in Space Science and is currently studying for her PHD in Satellite Geodesy and Astrodynamics.

She was awarded the Amelia Earhart Fellowship Award to Outstanding Women in Science in 2002, which involved presenting her work to an assembly of NASA scientists - something that only 35 people get worldwide. She is currently trying to organise a trip to Antarctica for 6 weeks to carry fieldwork to monitor glacial rebound.

Sima has a Diploma in Speech and Drama in 1995. Also, she did a 5km Swimathon for charity last year, and has completed a sky dive in Australia. She loves diving and travelling. She was the runner-up in the [FameLab 2006](#) competition for science communicators in the UK. (*Info source: Café Scientifique – British Council - Bulgaria*)

Dr. Todor Galev, Institute of Sociology – Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria

Dr Todor Galev is a research fellow at the Institute of Sociology, Sofia, where his work in Science Technology Studies (STS) includes the issue of how to improve the use of social scientists' expert knowledge in public policy decision making, especially in the field of IT policy, and how to communicate the achievements of social sciences to general publics. He is a Member of the Executive Board of the Bulgarian Sociological Association, where he is responsible for web-communication activities. He is a member of the Bulgarian team of European Science Communication Network (ESConet: <http://www.esconet.org>)



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