



Science Communication Workshop 3.0

The BIOscope, Students' Council of Biosciences

Department of Biosciences

Integral University, Lucknow

Inaugural Report: 16 January, 2026

The Science Communication Workshop 3.0 was formally inaugurated on 16 January 2026 at the Central Auditorium, Block C, Integral University, Lucknow. The two-day workshop was a student-led initiative organized by The BIOscope, Students' Council of the Department of Biosciences, in collaboration with the Indian Science Communication Society (ISCOS), Lucknow. This third edition of the workshop aimed to promote effective science communication and nurture scientific temper among students.

The workshop was organized under the visionary patronage and institutional support of Prof. S. W. Akhtar, Founder & Chancellor, and Prof. Javed Musarrat, Vice-Chancellor, Integral University, whose encouragement and guidance played a crucial role in the successful organization of this student-led initiative.

The inaugural session was held in the august presence of the Dean, Faculty of Science, Prof. Abdul Rahman Khan; Dean of Student Welfare, Prof. M. A. Khalid; Dean, Research and Development, Prof. Wahajul Haq; Chief Guest, Prof. Pradeep Kumar Srivastava; Executive Secretary of ISCOS, Prof. Vishnu Pratap Singh; Dr. V. P. Sharma; Dr. Navneet Singhal; Head of the Department, Prof. Snober S. Mir; mentors Dr. Swati Sharma, Dr. Arshi Siddiqui, and Dr. Durdana Yasin, along with other respected faculty members.

The dignitaries emphasized that science is not merely a body of knowledge but a way of thinking, and that it becomes meaningful only when communicated effectively to society. They highlighted the crucial role of scientists and students in bridging the gap between scientific research and the general public.

Prof. Vishnu Pratap Singh, Executive Secretary of the Indian Science Communication Society (ISCOS), stressed the importance of scientific writing and publication. He encouraged students to cultivate the habit of publishing their work and highlighted that one of the key objectives of the workshop is to enable participants to communicate research findings clearly through articles, papers, and other scientific platforms.

The Chief Guest, Prof. Pradeep Srivastava, the Chief Guest, Prof. Pradeep Srivastava, Former Senior Principal Scientist, CSIR CDRI and pioneer of Scientoons and Scientoonics, delivered a highly engaging and interactive session on creative science communication. He live-demonstrated several Scientoons, including a creative cartoon depicting a conversation between Ascaris (roundworm) and Amoeba, effectively simplifying complex biological concepts through humor and storytelling. He further illustrated multiple Scientoons, showcasing how cartoons can serve as powerful tools to make science accessible,



relatable, and enjoyable. Prof. Srivastava urged students to develop evolving ideas, think creatively, and communicate science in an engaging and impactful manner.

Dr. V. P. Sharma, Former Chief Scientist and Professor AcSIR, CSIR IITR, Lucknow, elaborated on emerging environmental concerns, highlighting issues such as toxicological products and the growing presence of nanoplastics in the environment. He emphasized the need for students to adopt an environmentally responsible approach toward scientific research, writing, and communication, underscoring sustainability as a key aspect of modern science communication.

Dr. Navneet Singhal, International Science Communicator and Former International Consultant, UNO, explained the fundamentals of camera operation, including the working of image sensors, aperture, and exposure control. He further enriched the session by highlighting how complex scientific concepts can be communicated in a clear, structured, and engaging manner.

The session was highly interactive and inspiring, leaving students enthusiastic and motivated. It reinforced the importance of science communication as an essential skill and set a strong foundation for the workshop's objective of developing confident, creative, and socially responsible science communicators.

Sessions 2 & 3: Talk sessions and activities

The inaugural session was followed by several fun and learning-oriented interactive activities to promote imagination, critical thinking, and scientific reasoning among participants.

The Myth and Fact activity involved presenting participants with paired statements, from which they had to identify the myth and the scientific fact. The activity encouraged critical thinking and evidence-based reasoning.

Through the Emoji Illusion activity, participants analyzed pairs of emojis to recognize and explain scientific processes, thereby enhancing imagination, visual literacy, and conceptual understanding.

Mr. Hasan Jawaid Khan, Former Chief Scientist at CSIR-NIScPR, Editor of Science Reporter and CSIR News, formally concluded the day's proceedings with his address. His remarks effectively summarized the key themes of the workshop and provided valuable insights for the participants.

In conclusion, the Science Communication Workshop successfully showed students that science can be creative, relatable, and engaging beyond textbooks. Through Sci-toons, emoji-based science activities, and interactive discussions, participants learned how complex scientific ideas can be simplified and communicated in fun, meaningful ways. The session on camera operation and scientific photography further helped students understand how visuals can teach science. By assigning an activity for the next day, the workshop encouraged students to continue thinking, creating, and applying what they learned. Overall, the workshop inspired curiosity, and confidence, empowering students to see science not just as a subject to study, but as a story to share.



Day 2 (17 January 2026)

The second day of Science Communication Workshop 3.0 focused on the significance of science communication in society, media, and public policy, highlighting its importance in addressing misinformation and strengthening scientific temper in a rapidly changing world.

Prof. (Dr.) M. A. Ansari, Chairman, ISCOS, emphasized Public Understanding of Science (PUS) and examined key dimensions shaping public perception of science, including trust, awareness, and societal relevance. His session highlighted the need for mutual learning between scientific and non-scientific communities in addressing miscommunication.

Dr. Sarah Hyder Iqbal, Biomedical Scientist trained at the University of Oxford, Co-Founder and Lead of Superheroes Against Superbugs, addressed the question, “What is science trying to solve for society?” She explained the three models of scientist–public interaction—deficit, dialogue, and participatory models—while emphasizing the global shift in science communication paradigms. She encouraged participants to reflect on who their audience is and why science should be communicated, advocating for participatory and inclusive approaches.

The Half to Whole activity was conducted with the objective of creatively communicating scientific concepts by transforming simple shapes into meaningful scientific representations within the given ten minutes. The activity aimed to enhance imagination and conceptual understanding.

Dr. Arvind Kumar Singh, Assistant Professor of Mass Communication and Journalism, highlighted the importance of science in practical life and the need to cultivate scientific temperament. He discussed the necessity of popularizing science to prevent accidents and societal harm caused by a lack of scientific awareness. His session introduced scriptwriting in media, science programs on television, and the rising influence of digital media.

Our Chief Guest, Prof. (Dr.) Manoj Kumar Patariya, Adjunct Professor of Science Communication at NIAS, discussed the responsibility of science communicators in today’s media-driven world. He encouraged participants to combine scientific accuracy with creativity, adapt to evolving communication platforms, and actively engage with society to promote informed decision-making.

The session concluded with a student-presented short movie that focused on explaining genetic mutation and genetic modification through visual storytelling using artificial intelligence. The film simplified scientific ideas using a fictional example inspired by the character of Hulk. The movie was developed through conceptual planning, prompt generation using AI.

The formal Vote of Thanks at the end of the Science Communication Workshop 3.0 was given by Prof. Snober S. Mir, Head, Department of Biosciences, Integral University, Lucknow. She thanked the Indian Science Communication Society (ISCOS) and all the dignitaries and keynote speakers for their significant contributions. Prof. Mir also appreciated the keenness of the students, whose active participation made this programme a grand success.



Winners

Science Writing Competition

1st Position – Umme Hani (B.Sc. Biotechnology, 1st Year)

2nd Position – Amina Murshid (B.Sc. Biotechnology, 2nd Year)

Half to Whole Activity

1st Position – Ambreen Fatima (B.Sc. Biotechnology, 1st Year)

2nd Position – Falak Siddiqui (B.Sc. Medical Microbiology, 3rd Year)

Conducted and Coordinated By:

Technical Team – Aditi Verma, Sayyaf Sheikh , Kavish Hasan Khan, Unnati Singh

Stage Management – Amra Ahmad, Juweiriya, Ammarah, Umaima Zafar, Tamreen Fatima

Guest Management – Mohd Umar, Samiya Zehra, Binish Ali, Vinayak Middha, Huzaifa Khan, and Fari Fatima

Treasurer – Farhan Ahmad, Fareha

Participants Management – Sameer Shah, Atul Thakur, Syed Mohd Ibrahim Umar, Mohd Affan Mirza, Zaid, Dildar Hussain Usmani, Syed Amina umar

Media Team – Shiva Pandey, Aayush Sharma, Aisha Ashfaque, Ujjawal

Activity Coordinators – Saima Zafir, Akshita Singh, Sana Ahmad, and Manas Krishna Tripathi

Hall Management – Dareen Tanzeem, Mohd Mohsin Mukhtar, Bhumi Kumari, Naushaba Parveen, Rubeena Parveen, Mahin Shahwar, Shrestha Kumar, Anamika, Abdullah, Asad, and Qutaiba

In the end, Day 2 of Science Communication Workshop 3.0 successfully re-asserted the critical role of science communication and its importance. Insightful sessions by the esteemed speakers helped participants to better understand various models of public engagement, the responsibility of scientists and communicators, and how media and digital platforms are gaining power. The interactive activities-like Half to Whole and the student-created short film-showcased how the amalgamation of creativity, technology, and storytelling has the ability to simplify even the most complex scientific concept without losing any accuracy. Recognizing the achievements of the students further encouraged active participation and excellence. Overall, the 2 days workshop successfully fostered scientific temper, critical thinking and communication skills in them, leaving participants better equipped to bridge the gap between science and society.



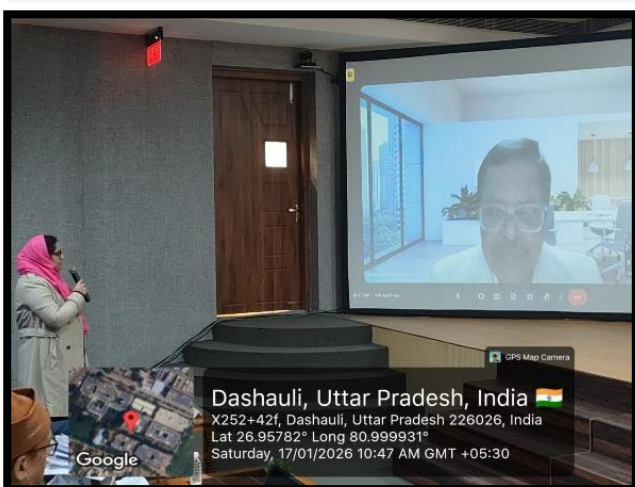
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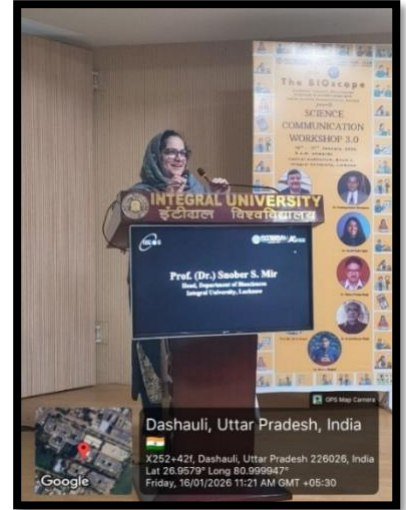
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