Improv Techniques for the Researcher
October 20th, 2016
No comedy skills needed but a willingness to improve your communication, active listening and engagement skills is critical. Improvisation will teach you about heightening your awareness and improvisation will teach you about heightening your awareness and improved your listening skills. It is more about connecting with your audience, than acting skills. It can also help you hone your key messages when speaking time is short at conferences and can actually increase the quality of the audience-speaker interaction.

Engaging Presentations & Distilling Your Message
November 15th, 2016
Do you ever get caught in “lecture mode” when presenting your work? Do you find many researchers you listen to lose their energy, enthusiasm and ability to engage you the longer they talk? Do you feel an obligation to let society know what you are doing and why? If so, come learn techniques for creating engaging presentation. These tips will not only work for talking with the public and the news media, but also increasing the engagement quality of job seminars and conference presentations. One workshop might not make you an outstanding communicator, but you should be able to recognize when you are not communicating well and how to get back on track.

Story Telling 101
November 2nd, 2016
Storytelling is one of the most powerful ways to share your research knowledge with others in an engaging, memorable format. Stories are powerful and can connect you with an audience in ways that you might never connect with traditional presentation techniques. It can make your arguments more persuasive and transfer more information. If your presentations are more of a spewing of facts, rather than a cohesive story, this workshop is for you. In this workshop we will create a few key stepping stones that you can use to progress through your story and work on the hook that will get an audience interested in your message early and keep them interested to the conclusion.

3 Minute Thesis Overview
February 1st & 16th, 2017
Forget all you know about giving scientific presentations – a 3 Minute Thesis audience is different. You must have an emotional argument to support your scientific argument. In this workshop we will explore why researchers have to communicate with the general public and we will cover the basics of what it takes to prepare a winning 3 minute thesis presentation that is accessible, visually appealing, and engaging.