

DR RACHEL BRAZIL

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PROFILE

An experienced science communication professional with over ten years of expertise in science writing and editing. I also focus on researcher development training and the development, facilitation and evaluation of training workshops with an emphasis on communication skills. Having created the Crucible researcher development programme, I have a particular interest in the process of incubating interdisciplinary research.

I am additionally skilled in programme management with experience of fund-raising and marketing. I am an excellent communicator with strong people management skills and a track-record of building and maintaining stakeholder relationships.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Science writer and communications consultant [June 2011 - present]

Freelance

- Provide editorial services, with a focus on biomedicine and chemistry. This includes, writing news articles and features, research highlights, profiles, website copy and research reports. Clients include **Nature Publishing Group, Chemistry & Industry Magazine, the Academy of Medical Sciences**, and **Imperial College London**.
- Additionally I provide consultancy services in academic and scientific event management and facilitation, including staff development and skills training programmes and corporate and policy events. Clients include **the Royal Institution of Great Britain, Quercas Training, Cardiff University** and **the British Council**.

Communications Manager [June 2012 – Dec 2012]

Centre for the Advancement of Sustainable Medical Innovation, Oxford University www.casmi.org.uk

- Developed communications strategy and website for new academic centre.
- Organised interdisciplinary academic workshops for Centre's Fellows.

Corporate Programme Manager [October 2010 – June 2011]

The Royal Institution of Great Britain, London www.rigb.org

- Launched new science club for finance professionals. Devised and pitched the concept and created club programme and business plan.
- Developed high level contacts and relationships with senior bankers and hedge fund managers to create support and profile for the project. Obtained £40K of sponsorship for club launch.

Development Manager [Jan 2007 – October 2010]

NESTA (National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts), London www.nesta.org.uk

- Created and developed the *Crucible* programme for early career researchers. *Crucible* is a development programme that provides opportunities to develop creative and interdisciplinary approaches to research through exposure to a variety of speakers and activities.
- Produced online resource, *Crucible in a box*, to allow universities to replicate the programme. Includes training resources on public engagement, science communication and policy.
- Managed an annual budget of approx £250K and a team of two. Worked in partnership with other organisations to develop the programme in Wales and Scotland.
- Regularly lectured on concepts behind programme. Invited by Japanese innovation agency and British Council to present *Crucible* concept at Tokyo seminar (July 2010).

Manager, Science Policy Communications [July 2005 – December 2006]

Royal Society of Chemistry, London www.rsc.org

- Edited and produced RSC Policy Bulletin. Commissioned and edited articles as well as writing original content.
- Managed RSC science policy seminars on issues such as crime, drug addiction, transport, healthcare, nuclear power and global warming. Commissioned and wrote seminar reports.
- Managed graduate trainee to support communications activities.

Manager, Materials Chemistry [April 2002 – July 2005]

Royal Society of Chemistry, London www.rsc.org

- Wrote and edited Materials newsletter for members, including technical articles, researcher profiles and journal highlights.
- Managed society initiatives in materials chemistry to provide up to date events and information for the academic community.
- Organized workshops, events and international conferences with high profile overseas speakers.

Associate Editor [September 2001- April 2002]

Sage Publications, London www.uk.sagepub.com

- Managed a list of academic science journals. Worked closely with academic editors, editorial boards and scholarly societies.
- Assisted in the acquisition of new journals.

Assistant/Associate Editor [March 2000 – September 2001]

Psychology Press and Routledge (Taylor and Francis Group), London www.psypress.com

- Commissioned academic psychology textbooks for A-level and undergraduate series.
- Managed progress of over 40 contracted titles from proposal to production stage.

EDUCATION

PhD, Conservation of archaeological artefacts [1995 - 1999]

Institute of Archaeology, University College London

- Awarded Tylecote scholarship for interdisciplinary study in the conservation of archaeological iron.
- Supervised other incoming postgraduate students.
- Presented work at regular departmental seminars and international meetings.

MSc, Archaeological science; distinction [1994 - 1995]

Institute of Archaeology, University College London

- Courses in science-based archaeology and analysis of ancient materials.
- Dissertation on conservation of pre-Columbian Peruvian gold.

BA (Hons), Chemistry; 2ii [1990 - 1994]

Somerville College, Oxford University

- Part II year research project in the Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory.
- Studied a wide range of chemistry courses as well as biological chemistry, mathematics and history and philosophy of science.

Henrietta Barnett School, London [1983 - 1990]

- **S Level:** Chemistry (**Merit**)
- **A Levels:** Chemistry (**A**), Physics (**A**), Mathematics (**B**)
- **A/S Level:** History (**B**)
- **GCSEs:** **10 As, 3 Bs**, including English, Mathematics, and French