

Alexandra Gellé

Science Communicator and Ph.D. candidate

Scientist with a passion for science communication and advocacy. Dedicated to increasing science literacy and empowering diverse voices to increase representation in the scientific fields.

Worked with multi-cultural teams to develop and deliver entertaining high-quality scientific programs in various formats, in person and online. Co-founded and directed two Canada-wide science communication programs.

Demonstrated critical thinking, creativity, and adaptation skills to successfully achieve goals and established the projects in the long term. Self-driven and problem-solving oriented with strong team spirit, leadership and interpersonal skills. Outstanding project management, communication and organizational skills.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Nanoscience and Green Chemistry, McGill University – Montréal (QC, Canada) *Expected Spring 2021*
Project: Development new photo-active materials for safer and more sustainable chemical processes
Outreach Coordinator for the Faculty of Science
Teaching Assistant for Organic Chemistry laboratories

Mini-MBA, Executive Development Course, McGill University – Montréal (QC, Canada) *Dec. 2020*

B.Sc., Chemistry, Université de Montréal – Montréal (QC, Canada) *May 2016*
Exchange program, Wollongong University, Australia
VP Communications, Undergraduate chemistry student association

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

◦ **Northern Québec: Issues, spaces and culture**, MOOC, ULaval *In progress*
◦ **Indigenous Canada**, MOOC, Faculty of Native Studies, University of Alberta *Nov. 2020*
◦ **Circular economy: An essential transition for a sustainable future**, MOOC, EDDEC institute *July 2020*
◦ **Green Chemistry and Sustainable Energy**, Summer School, American Chemical Society *July 2018*
◦ **Skillsets Leadership Workshop Series**, McGill University *Dec. 2017*

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Co-founder, ComSciCon-Canada, NSERC funded program *Sept. 2018 – present*
◦ Organized an annual 3-day bootcamp to provide science communication and outreach training to graduate students
◦ Secured funding through university and government grants, and private sponsorships (\$80K total)
◦ Co-founded and currently directing the first francophone franchise created in Sept. 2019

Director, Pint of Science Canada *June 2018 – present*
◦ Led a pan-Canadian festival promoting science and research via public talks in bars
◦ Managed the national board, finances, fundraising (\$30K) and communication teams
◦ Handled relationships with the media through press releases and interviews
◦ Built and coordinated a team of 500 volunteers across local chapters in 30 cities
◦ Organized the first online festival in 2020 connecting Canadians from 12 provinces and territories

TECHNICAL SKILLS

◦ Software: Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access and Teams) and Zoom
◦ Platforms: Canva, Google Suite, Mailchimp, Slack, Trello, Google Hangout and Crowdcast
◦ Social media: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, Hootsuite and TweetDeck
◦ Website design: WordPress, Wix and Squarespace

SELECTED SCIENCE COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES AND PUBLICATIONS

Public addresses

- From shrimp shells to the shelf: how to form bioplastics from crustacean waste – Online lecture for secondary students
- *Photochemistry: from nature to the lab* - Lecture for secondary students, EBSOYP, online
- *How photosynthesis inspired chemists to do greener chemistry?* – Lecture and experiments for elementary students, Redpath Museum
- *What does a chemist do?* – Online lecture for elementary and secondary students in multiple locations, Skype A Scientist
- *Closing statement: the importance of Science in our Society* – March for Science Montréal 2018

Articles

- *150 years later, 2019 is the International Year of the Periodic Table* - The Conversation Canada
- *Cinq idées fausses sur la chimie... et les chimistes!* - La Conversation Canada
- *What does a chemical do? Addressing misconceptions about chemistry* - The Conversation Canada
- *Why we need to humanize chemists, and all scientists* - The Science Network
- *Organizing Online conferences: How to get started and make it to the finish line* – Science Borealis

Interviews

- *The art of storytelling for science communication* – Vol. 11, Health Science Inquiry
- *What it's like being a chemist* – Broad Science Youth Summer Program, CKUT
- *Elephant toothpaste experiment and Pint of Science* – Morning Live, CTV Winnipeg
- *Green Chemistry: how to rethink chemistry in 2020* – L'œuf ou la Poule, CHOQ
- *Research and science communication*, – SciComm and Civic Tech podcast
- *What can artificial intelligence do to help researchers?* - Quirks and Quarks, CBC Radio
- *Marche pour la Science 2018* – Radio Journal, Radio Canada

Panels

- *Outreach and Social media* – Let's Talk Science Regional Conference
- *Communicating science: the power of social media* – School of Medicine, University of Alberta
- *Building a science communication network in Canada* - Canadian Association of Science Centers Annual Conference
- *Research is not done until communicated* - Bar des Sciences, Université de Montréal
- *Graduate students and science outreach* - SCICOMM 2A03, McMaster University

Trainings

- *From the bench to the public: Sharing science at large* – CCOM614 Science Communication, McGill University
- *Getting started with Science Writing and Publishing for the Public: A Write-a-thon* – Writing workshop for undergraduate and graduate students, Graphos Center McGill University
- *Promoting science on social media: why and how?* - SCI 301 Science Communication, Simon Fraser University
- *Good practices for communicating science outside of universities* - Workshop for graduate students, INRS Québec
- *Communicating science, it's more than writing a paper* – Workshop for students and faculty, McGill Faculty of Science
- *How can science shine in social media* - Workshop for students and faculty, INRS Laval
- *Art(iculate) your science: Creative SciComm* – Workshop for graduate students, McGill University, Faculty of Science
- *The importance of communicating science outside of academia* - CCOM314 Communicating Science, McGill University

SELECTED HONOURS AND AWARDS

2019	McGill Principal's Prize for Public Engagement, Special Recognition for Public Outreach
2018	Sterry Hunt Award for Outstanding Services as Teaching Assistant
2018	First prize Royal Society of Chemistry Twitter conference - Nanoscience category
2017	Chemical Institute of Canada Student Merit Award
2016	Montreal University Chemistry Department Excellence Scholarship
2015	Montreal University Faculty of Arts and Sciences Dean's Award