

Science Communication Online Meeting

“Science on the media – when scientists are subject to harassment”

February 15, 2023, 3:00pm (GMT), online (Zoom)

In order for science to become more part of our dialogue on a day-to-day basis, it is important that it continues to be, more and more, presented and discussed on the media. For this, it is essential that scientists contribute to this dialogue and act as a public voice for science. We frequently talk about how to encourage scientists to establish a dialogue with journalists, and most of the times this interaction is positive for all of those involved.

But what happens when the topics being discussed on the media are controversial, and researchers are target to negative comments in the media or online, or are even harassed? What can and should the researcher do? And how can their institutions, and the science communicators that work with them, support them in the best way possible?

This Science Communication Online Meeting takes as a starting point the publication [“Advice for researchers experiencing harassment”](#) from the [Science Media Centre](#).

Invited Speakers:

Richard Van Noorden (Features Editor, Nature)

Edd McCracken (Head of Research Communications, University of Edinburgh)

Brief Biography of the Invited Speakers

Edd McCracken is Head of Research Communications at the University of Edinburgh, where he has worked for the past 11 years. Edd previously worked for the Sunday Herald, one of Scotland’s main newspapers, and has helped set up websites dedicated to investigative journalism and the joy of books.

Richard Van Noorden is a features editor at Nature. He has more than 15 years' experience in science journalism, and has been at Nature since 2009, previously as a reporter and news editor.

He worked on a Nature survey of harassment experienced by scientists during the pandemic and also covers the chemical and physical sciences, as well as community issues such as science publishing and research fraud.