

REPORT ON THE MANUSCRIPT WRITING WORKSHOP 15TH-17TH AUG 2006

The Uganda Society for Health Scientists organized and conducted a three-day manuscript writing workshop from the 15th - 17th Aug 2006. The manuscript writing workshop is the last of the series of research methodology workshops funded from the AIDS International Training and Research Program at Case Western Reserve University.

Twenty four participants registered for the workshop. These were required to have conducted research and in possession of a data set that they would use during the training. The workshop was held in the Department of Biochemistry at Makerere University Medical School. Due to the busy schedules of the participants, eight participants dropped out during the training and only sixteen participants completed the three day training. These included medical doctors, graduate trainees and other researchers in the medical field.

The Chairperson of the society, Ms. Jayne B Tusiime, welcomed the participants and informed them that the society aimed to equip the members with skills to carry out quality research through the research methodology workshops. She noted that through the manuscript writing workshop the members would be able to write publishable papers from their research findings. She reiterated the fact that the workshop was largely practical hence the insistence of the organizers that all participants should have their research findings with them. She then introduced the facilitators.

Objectives of the workshop

- To equip the members with skills to write research papers that can be accepted for publication in scientific journals.

Participants' expectations

- Hope to get skills to write papers.
- Get skills to write quality publications
- Get ability to publish
- Acquire skills to write up my dissertation

Scope of the workshop

The workshop covered the following areas.

- Manuscript mapping & language skill
- Sentence structure
- Title
- Introduction/background
- Objectives
- Endnote demonstration
- Overview of data analysis
- Methodology
- Results/ Tables
- Discussion
- Conclusions

- Recommendation
- Acknowledgements
- Abstract
- Submission
- Inquiry to Editor
- Correspondence with Editor
- Surviving Peer Review

Facilitators

1. Prof. James Tumwine
2. Prof. Fred Kironde
3. Mr. Albert Maganda (Biostatistics)
4. Ms. Jayne Byakika Tusiime (Chairperson USHS)
5. Dr. Godfrey Bwire (Staff USHS)
6. Ms. Isabella Achokocho (Staff USHS)
7. Ms. Cissy Namakula (Staff USHS)
8. Ms. Doreen Kakembo (Volunteer)

Participants who attended fully

	Names	Organization
1	Dr. Damalie Nakanjako	Mulago Dept of Medicine
2	Ms. Tusaba Christine	Mulago-dept of Psychiatry
3	Dr. Luzige Simon	Makerere University Medical School
4	Dr. Kiwewa Francis	Makerere University Medical School
5	Dr. Matovu Flavia	MUJHU
6	Dr. Namagembe Imelda	Mulago Hospital/CWRU
7	Dr. Fred Ssewankambo	Infectious Disease Institute
8	Dr. Doris Mwesigire	MJAP
9	Dr. Andrew Kiboneka	TASO
10	Dr. Noeline Nakasujja	Mulago Hospital
11	Mr. Amany John	National care Centre
12	Ms. Loy Gwoyita	Clinical Epidemiology Unit
13	Dr. Pauline Byakika	Infectious Disease Institute
14	Mr. Ogwal Alex	PIDC
15	Mr. Mubiru Joseph	Open Ralm Goweser Rakai
16	Dr. Namusoke Fatuma	Makerere University

PARTICIPANTS' EVALUATION OF THE WORKSHOP

Activity /item	Average or Below (%)	Good or Excellent (%)
Overview Lectures	0.00	100.00
Practical sessions	0.00	100.00
Venue	40.00	60.00
Meals	8.00	92.00
If expectations met	16.00	84.00
Overall conference organization	0.00	100.00

Some comments made by the participants

It was participatory and involving.

Many new ideas and hands-on skills.

Was well thought out and addressing pertinent issues concerning publication domain.

Follow up by organizers and mentors should be done after the workshop.

It has been an interactive and good learning experience.

My attitude has been aroused positively.

Facilitators were very competent and inspiring.

I acquired skills, knowledge and a good attitude towards research writing.

I commend the facilitators for making the workshop very participatory.

Needed more time to appreciate the different aspects.

We need a workshop on grant proposal writing.