uncovering the Americas to Europeans: “You can never cross the ocean unless you have the courage to lose sight of the shore”. In this talk, the importance of reading scientific literature, being aware of competitors and developing original thoughts will be discussed. As the Nobel laureate Albert Szent-Györgyi said: “Research is to see what everybody else has seen, and to think what nobody else has thought”. And communication – from brain to brain, from yours to proposal reviewers’ mind – will unavoidably emerge as the vousoir, the wedge-shaped or tapered stone used to construct the whole project. In this context, the three pillars of the Aristotle’s Rhetorical Triangle will be discussed: ethos (credibility), logos (reasoning) and pathos (empathy). We will end with a basic, central principle as take-home message: “Have the brain full before writing any single word on any blank piece of paper”. In the Group Discussion sessions, the students will further learn practical skills about structuring the proposal (basic scheme and complementary aspects), designing the research strategy, scheduling aims and tasks, budgeting the costs, writing the abstract, etc.

IS-23

THE ART AND SCIENCE OF EFFECTIVE ORAL PRESENTATIONS

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Successful scientific careers build upon clear, logical and effective delivery of ideas and scientific results. This interactive session will start with discussing the basic elements of any good scientific oral presentation—from journal clubs to short talks in conferences. Brief introduction and some basic guidelines for planning, preparation, practising and delivering of an effective talk will be introduced. Stages of a scientific talk, “what to do” and “what not to do” for each stage will be discussed and exemplified with good practice examples. The group discussions will use both small and whole group discussions. The interactive format of the session will also include engaging learning activities by the use of short questions and some educational technologies or elements of team-based learning. During the session, enough time for clarification about all phases of an effective presentation including dealing with the Q&A will be allocated. Additional resources (guidelines, checklists and other related printed material) will also be provided to participants.

IS-24
e-TOOLS OF TRADE FOR SCIENTISTS

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The World becomes increasingly digitalized and the nature as well as the modus operandi of science evolves accordingly. Numerous electronic tools as software and websites emerge not only as facilitators of the scientific progresses but also as requirements to be an efficient scientist. These tools connect scientists as they share large files via cloud systems, communicate via social media, pre-publish their work to receive feedback, advertise their work and create their online portfolio to seek employment or collaborations, effectively creating an enormous networking environment. Beyond this digital identity, many life science researchers are now using numerous innovative electronic tools, many of which are online and free; to reach data/papers, facilitate their writing, improve their presentations, manage projects, keep laboratory records and for many other purposes.

This talk aims to introduce the most common of some of these soon to be essential tools and the group discussions aim to explore these tools as well as the possible impact they may have on science in detail.