**Improving Your Presentation Skills**

**4th October 2019**

**9 am - 1 pm**

Once conclusive results are in, the time comes for young researchers to begin to present their findings to the scientific community. Presenting that information in public effectively and confidently can lead to establishing a wider network of potential collaborators and better recognition within the community. Without strong public speaking skills, however, even the best ideas remain stuck at the starting gate, lost before they gain any momentum. This course is designed for PhD students to present their ideas more effectively in front of an audience, to ensure that their message gets across.

**Aim of the course:**

To teach participants how to plan a presentation effectively, engaging an audience through strong delivery and avoiding common pitfalls, aided by an interactive discussion on the main skills to be acquired.

**By the end of the course, the participants should be able to:**

- make critical choices regarding the focus and scope of their presentation

- improve their own slideshow-making approach

- come up with ideas for stronger conclusions and introductions

- develop key delivery skills, including eye contact and appropriate body language

- apply strategies for reading an audience for a more dynamic presentation

- avoid common (language and presentation) mistakes for better professionalism

**Target group**:  PhD candidates in the beginning of their PhD trajectory, group is limited to 30 participants

**Prerequisites:** This workshop has no prerequisites other than working knowledge of English.

**Duration of the course**: 4 hours

**Location:** J-M Ghuysen grande (GIGA B34, +5)

**Workload:**±4h for attending and participating in the one-day course + 30min preparation before attending the course by coming up with questions and practical concerns to be addressed in the Q&A session

**Educators:**

Clara Brereton and Ellen Harry, English (ESP) Language Lecturers at the ISLV (ULiège)

**The course schedule:**

**9:00 – 10:15** Effective presentation styles and PowerPoint slideshows, followed by practical advice on Engaging Your Audience. Practical examples will be given in video format with an opportunity for participants to assess basic dos and don’ts.

**10:30 – 11:50** Planning Effectively (including anticipation of worst-case scenarios), followed by Avoiding Common Pitfalls (including, but not limited to, common language errors).

**12:00 – 13:00** Informal Question and Answer session with the lecturers based on practical (language or presentation-related) questions they have.