Utilizing innovative approaches to improve communication skills is a top priority for our Career Development Association (CDA) members. CDA members are particularly concerned with improving the communication of science to lay audiences and the general public. Looking for solutions, our CDA was inspired by a 2017 NPA Annual Meeting presentation about Science Sketches.

**BRINGING SCIENCE SKETCHES TO MMCRI**

**IDENTIFYING TRAINING GAPS:**
Annual survey identified communication as one of top three areas for training improvement

**SEEKING SOLUTIONS:**
Members of the CDA attended the 2017 NPA meeting in San Francisco and participated in the Science Sketch Workshop

**GROUP BUY-IN:**
CDA Leadership Team voted to initiate a Science Sketch workshop at MMCRI

**SKETCHING OUR SCIENCE:**
A two day workshop included writing and peer review of scripts, generation of storyboards, and recording and editing of videos.

**SCIENCE SKETCH HOW-TO**

1. **Step 1:** Decide on script and audience
2. **Step 2:** Write the script
3. **Step 3:** Create illustrations!
4. **Step 4:** Record the audio
5. **Step 5:** Record the video
6. **Step 6:** Edit the video
7. **Step 7:** Post & use your video!

**USING YOUR SCIENCE SKETCH:**

- Lab or program website: ScienceSketches.org
- Community Open House

**WORSHOP ATTENDEES:**

- Motyl lab
- Myocardial biology & heart failure lab
- Metabolic COBRE
- Cox lab
- International Office

**PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK:**
100% of participants found the workshop extremely useful
100% of participants would recommend the workshop to a friend
100% of participants felt very prepared or extremely prepared to create their own Science Sketch

**PARTICIPANT COMMENTS:**

- “My favorite part was the time spent workshopping ideas and the ability to do it during the workshop didn’t feel rushed. Really enjoyed the detailed instructions for pre-workshop homework.”
- “Really fantastic workshop, happy I was able to attend”
- “Very practical workshop!”
- “This is a great idea for communicating science to many audiences.”