



Marlit Hayslett, PhD

Director of Communication Training and Strategy
Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA, USA 22901
marlit@virginia.edu

Marlit coaches graduate students at the University of Virginia (UVA) on how to communicate their research with non-specialist audiences such as the public, media, industry, and policymakers. She offers her curriculum through credit-bearing courses, workshops, seminars, and individual coaching sessions. Since 2016, she has worked with over 700 graduate students to share their research with non-specialist audiences. Recently, Marlit has authored three chapters in the forthcoming *Science+SciCom+Work (late 2021)*, a resource for science teachers to incorporate science communication into their pedagogy.

Marlit's career in science communication unfolded from her time as a science policy practitioner. From 2004 to 2013, she served as the founding director of the Office of Policy Analysis (OPAR) and Research at the Georgia Tech Research Institute in Atlanta, Georgia. The OPAR team analyzed science and technology policy activity at the state-level in the US. Based on their findings, Marlit supported and advised the Georgia General Assembly's House and Senate Science and Technology Committees. Over the years as she watched researchers and policymakers try to engage one another, she fell in love with the challenge of science communication and transitioned her career.

Suffering from an insatiable appetite for learning, Marlit holds a B.S. and M.S. in International Affairs, and an M.S. in Public Policy, all from the Georgia Institute of Technology and a PhD from the University of Georgia's Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication. Her research focuses on understanding how science is communicated to inform public policy, especially in international contexts.