

PREFACE

Science and research are fundamental to our modern knowledge-based societies. The ivory towers have had their day. Science wants to be explained and wants to explain itself, also and especially to the society outside the so-called scientific community. After all, science, its findings and the innovations derived from them shape all our lives. For the scientific community, hence the University of Luxembourg, the active involvement of the public is not an option, but a responsibility.

We conscientiously foster diverse formats and channels of science communication, spanning from school laboratories and training programs to captivating mediums like comics or video productions. Our mission is to share knowledge and collaborate with society in a dialogue that seeks to cultivate a better world. Through effective science communication, we strive to attain this vision. I am delighted by the release of this book, which embodies our aspirations, and which is now available to all incoming doctoral candidates, PhD students and researchers at the University of Luxembourg. To kindle dialogue and encourage active participation with and about science.



Jens Kreisel
**Rector of the University of
Luxembourg**

With best regards,
Jens Kreisel

Marc Schiltz

**CEO of the Luxembourg
National Research Fund**



Over the last 20-30 years, Luxembourg has built up an attractive and fertile research landscape, which has achieved high international recognition in specific fields. Our mission as the Luxembourg National Research Fund is to build – together with our partner institutions – a sustainable, world-class research system here in Luxembourg that not only produces high quality research results, but also generates societal and economic impact. And one of our strategic priorities is to anchor science in society.

We believe that science outreach is an integral part of the research activities and one of the multiple dimensions of research excellence that needs to be strengthened. By promoting open science, research culture, collaborations between science and society and by empowering researchers and science communicators to engage with the public, we contribute to shape a research system that brings value to society at large. And science communication plays an essential role in this effort. With this book, we hope to help scientists, researchers and science communicators around the world to take their first steps in science communication or to professionalise their skills.

With best regards,
Marc Schiltz