

Symposium Summary Report

This summary captures a two-day programme of presentations and a professional debate on scientific writing and research integrity, which concluded its work successfully.

The First National Symposium on ‘Scientific Writing and Research Integrity’ was held between April 23 and April 24, 2018, at Mohamed Lamine Debaghine Sétif 2 University, Faculty of Letters and Languages, Algeria. The symposium was organized by the Quality Assurance Cell of the same faculty, where the coordinators were: Miss. Ikhlas GHERZOULI, Miss. Amina TALBI, and Mr. Fateh MELAKHESSOU.

The national symposium was a forum to bring together graduate students, postgraduate students as well as teachers-researchers to discuss ideas revolving around promotion of scientific writing and integrity.

With respect to registrations, **209 students** registered (100/first day + 109/second day), **many managers** from the French Department, the vice dean in charge of pedagogy of the faculty Dr. Hidaya MERZEK, and **twelve teachers** benefited in many ways from the symposium. In a stimulating environment of multidisciplinary exchange, the keynote speaker, Prof. Youcef AIBECHE, MLD Sétif2 University’s vice-rector in charge of Scientific Research, Postgraduate Studies and University Accreditation, as well as the Editor-in-chief of MLD Sétif2 University Journal, and **23 speakers** from **ten national universities**, including Setif2 University, addressed the audience and shared knowledge and rich experience on scientific writing and integrity.

Symposium Highlights

With a focus on scientific writing and research integrity, the symposium addressed a variety of topics relevant to the main theme, including specific questions about the publication process and scientific integrity at large, such as reference management software, journal metrics, academic writing, APA formatting style for papers, copy right infringement, and how to avoid plagiarism and electronic cheating.

Symposium Recommendations

These recommendations were agreed upon by the participants at the symposium.

- ✓ Coherent and well-designed papers is a key to publishing;
- ✓ Research integrity should be sustained with vigilance, professionalism, and collegiality;
- ✓ Universities should design and implement a formal system for addressing misconduct in research;
- ✓ The pertinent rules, regulations, and procedures concerning research integrity should be clearly defined and well publicized;
- ✓ Teachers and decision makers should incorporate instruction about responsible conduct of research in student curricula, and in the training of faculty, staff and technical personnel;
- ✓ At the level of university faculties and departments, teachers and managers should actively fostering open and frank discussion of misconduct-related matters;
- ✓ Rewarding quality of papers rather than quantity of publications;
- ✓ Promoting the development of software for detecting fraud.

It is hoped that the symposium will lay a cornerstone for the continued sharing of practical experience and lessons learned about different issues on scientific writing and research integrity.