
Celeste R Brennecka, PhD

Scientific Manuscript Editor and Consultant

Description

As a scientific editor, I revise scientists' written work to make it clearer, improve the logical flow of ideas, fill gaps in knowledge, and ensure writing is consistent and cohesive. Through editing, I help scientists communicate their research clearly and effectively. As a consultant, I work with individual authors and give workshops to larger groups on effective scientific writing and presentations.

Education

Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
Biomedical Engineering, PhD
August 2011

- Formulated, optimized, and tested a liquid-to-solid gelling polymer system for brain aneurysm treatment

Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR
Bioengineering, BS
December 2006

University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Certificate in Medical Writing and Editing
• April 2013 – April 2015

Employment

Freelance Scientific Manuscript Editor
Independent Consultant (www.perfectingpapers.com)
December 2012 – Present

- I offer scientific editing and consultations to private clients, mostly university researchers in the natural or social sciences. I also offer virtual and in-person workshops on scientific writing and scientific presentations.

University of Münster, Münster, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany
Supportstelle Englisch
Scientific Editor
January 2015 – November 2019

- I ran the Science Writing Support Service (SWSS) within the *Supportstelle Englisch* at the University of Münster. Through this service, I provided scientific writing assistance to professors, postdocs, and graduate students in the natural sciences. I edited manuscripts and grant proposals, offered individual writing consultations on specific projects, and held workshops on scientific communication.

University of Münster, Münster, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany
Institute for Planetology

Scientific Editor

May 2015 – November 2015; May 2019 – November 2020

- I edited two consecutive rounds of the Collaborative Research Centre proposal TRR 170, Late Accretion onto Terrestrial Planets, jointly submitted by the University of Münster and the Free University of Berlin to the *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft* (DFG). The proposal was initially funded in 2016, and funding was renewed in 2020.

Gladstone Institutes, San Francisco, CA

Scientific Communications Department

Scientific Editor

November 2013 – August 2014

- I edited manuscripts, grant proposals, presentations, posters, and other work written by Gladstone scientists; the scientific fields included cardiovascular disease, neurodegenerative disease, stem cell applications, and virology.
- I developed and administered writing workshops for Gladstone scientists.

Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

Center for Interventional Biomaterials

Postdoctoral Researcher

August 2011 – January 2013

- Developed a drug-loaded polymer system for brain aneurysm treatment.
- Wrote proposals to secure funding.
- Published my research in peer-reviewed journals.
- Reviewed scientific manuscripts and proposals.

Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

Center for Interventional Biomaterials

Research Assistant

August 2007 – August 2011

- Researched injectable polymer systems.
- Wrote proposals to secure funding.
- Published my research in peer-reviewed journals.

Bayer Healthcare, Berkeley, CA

Pathogen Safety Group

Research Assistant

December 2006 – July 2007

- I developed, wrote, and performed standard operating procedures related to the purification process for a therapeutic protein drug.

Prior Editing & Writing Experience

AuthorAID Program

Peer Mentor

I volunteered with the AuthorAID program (www.authoraid.info), a global network that supports scientists in developing countries.

- I edited manuscripts written by non-native English-speaking scientists who cannot afford or do not have access to manuscript-editing services.

Graduate Writers Studio Program

Peer Facilitator

Fall Semester 2010

- I led a graduate student writing group in the Biomedical Engineering department at Arizona State University.
- I facilitated discussion and peer review of students' manuscripts to help improve writing.

Scientific Communications Course

Teaching Assistant

Biomedical Engineering department at Arizona State University

Spring Semester 2010

- I lectured graduate students on techniques for effective writing.
- I gave feedback on student writing to remedy problems in logic and clarity.

Relevant Skills

Software and Word Processing

- Extensive experience with Microsoft Office programs – Word (including Track Changes and commenting tools) PowerPoint, etc.
- Experience with Adobe products: Illustrator, Acrobat, PhotoShop, InDesign

Familiarity with Style Guides

- *Scientific Style and Format: The CSE Manual* (8th ed)
- *AMA Manual of Style* (11th ed)
- *The Chicago Manual of Style* (17th ed)

Professional Organizations

Council of Science Editors

American Medical Writers Association

Published Works

Soodak KF, **Brennecka CR**, Vernon BL. In vitro characteristics of a gelling PEGDA-QT polymer system with model drug release for cerebral aneurysm embolization. *Journal of Biomedical Materials Research, Part B: Applied Biomaterials*. 2013;101B:1477-1488.

Brennecka CR, Preul MC, Becker, TA, Vernon BL. In vivo embolization of lateral wall aneurysms in canines using the liquid-to-solid gelling PPODA-QT polymer system: 6-month pilot study. *Journal of Neurosurgery*. 2013;119:228-238.

Brennecka CR, Preul MC, Vernon BL. In vitro delivery, cytotoxicity, swelling, and degradation behavior of a liquid-to-solid gelling polymer system for cerebral aneurysm embolization. *Journal of Biomedical Materials Research, Part B: Applied Biomaterials*. 2012;100B:1298-1309.

Brennecka CR, Preul MC, Bichard WD, Vernon BL. In vivo experimental aneurysm embolization in a swine model with a liquid-to-solid gelling polymer system: initial biocompatibility and delivery strategy analysis. *World Neurosurgery*. 2012;78:469-480.

***Riley C**. A Liquid-to-Solid Gelling Polymer System for Cerebral Aneurysm Embolization: Formulation, Characterization, and Testing [dissertation]. Tempe: Arizona State University; 2011.

***Riley CM**, McLemore R, Preul MC, Vernon BL. Gelling process differences in reverse emulsion, in situ gelling polymeric materials for intracranial aneurysm embolization, formulated with injectable contrast agents. *Journal of Biomedical Materials Research, Part B: Applied Biomaterials*. 2011;96B:47-56.

***Riley C**, Vernon BL. Vascular applications. In: Vernon BL, ed. *Injectable Biomaterials: Science and Applications*. Cambridge: Woodhead Publishing Ltd; 2011:183-201.

Blakely B, Lee BH, ***Riley C**, McLemore R, Pathak CP, Vernon BL. Formulation and characterization of radio-opaque conjugated in situ gelling materials. *Journal of Biomedical Materials Research, Part B: Applied Biomaterials*. 2010;93B:9-17.

***Riley CM**, Fuegy PW, Firpo MA, Shu XZ, Prestwich GD, Peattie RA. Stimulation of in vivo angiogenesis using dual growth factor-loaded crosslinked glycosaminoglycan hydrogels. *Biomaterials*. 2006;27:5935-5943.

*Published under my maiden name, **Celeste M Riley**

Awards

American Heart Association: Grant-in-Aid, 2011-2013

American Heart Association: Predoctoral Fellowship, 2010-2011

Achievement Rewards for College Scientists: Scholarship, 2009-2011

Arizona State University: Dean's Scholarship, 2009-2010

Science Foundation of Arizona: Fellowship, 2007-2009

National Science Foundation: International Summer School Fellowship, 2008

Oregon State University: Bioengineering Academic Achievement Award, 2007