

Dr. Mayank Chugh

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An established scientist (10+ years) and a visionary leader (8+ years) with exceptional communication, organisation, and management skills. A proven track record of using data-driven approaches to design and execute biological research and social sciences projects to inform equitable institutional and federal policies in STEM higher education, workforce diversity, and inclusive innovation. A team player with excellent supervision skills, people/stakeholder management across multiple levels, and drive to contribute to the society with impactful work.

Experience

2023 – PRESENT

Early Career Advisor—North America/eLife—non-profit, Cambridge, UK

Advise, review, and update the organisation's leadership, editors, and staff on strategies and new initiatives for equitable research practices and policies focusing on retaining marginalised scholars in STEM and promoting open-access scientific publishing globally.

2020 – PRESENT

Research Scientist, Mentor, and Manager/Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA

Lead independent scientific research on water transport during organismal development, write federal research grants, present research at local, national, and international conferences and meetings, mentor and supervise undergraduates with self-designed projects, teach school kids occasionally, and manage lab resources, reagents, training, and other meetings. *Output: Published 1 peer-reviewed article, mentored 1 undergraduate student, wrote 2 federal research grants, presented research at 10+ meetings. Direct report (DR): 1*

2021 – 2023

President, Harvard Medical Postdoc Association/Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA

Lead with strategic planning, oversee the board (15 members/year), manage multiple stakeholders (Internal and external: deans, directors, departmental chairs, research scientists), and nationally represent the organisation of 5000+ constituents. *Output: led independent research on compensation and as a barrier for marginalised STEM scholars, published 3 articles in leading journals, established 1 mentorship program with Bunker Hill Community College, set up 1 mentorship program for research scholars nationally, launched entrepreneurial, professional development, and networking events for researchers. DR: 30*

2021 – 2023

Chair, Department Force on DEI—Recruitment/Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA

Lead strategic planning and project execution within diversifying the candidate/recruitment pool for departmental scholars and faculty. *Output: Launched a centralised recruitment portal with robust data tracking to identify biases in candidate assessment, selection, and retention. DR: 3*

2019–2020

Research Associate/Eberhard Karls University, Tübingen, Germany

Assist and provide intellectual/biological expertise to physicists. *Output: Project executed with 1 peer-reviewed publication in a prestigious journal. DR: 2*

2014–2019

International Max Planck Research School Scientist, Mentor, Manager/Eberhard Karls University, Tübingen, Germany

Lead independent scientific research on single-molecule biophysics of plant cell division, write federal research grants, present research at local, national, and international conferences and meetings, mentor and supervise undergraduate and graduate students with self-designed projects, teach master classes on molecular biophysics, and manage collaborations, lab resources, reagents, training, and other meetings. *Output: Published 3 peer-reviewed papers in esteemed journals, mentored 6 students, and presented research at 10+ meetings.* DR: 6

2017–2019

Co-Founder, Together We Science/Eberhard Karls University, Tübingen, Germany

Plan, design, organise, and coordinate events, manage various stakeholders, and recruit volunteers/people to organise university-wide events bridging disciplines and fostering collaborations. *Output: Organised 8 successful events bringing social sciences, STEM researchers, and the wider public.* DR: 3

2016–2018

Editor—The Offspring Magazine/Max Planck Society PhD Magazine, Germany

Proofread, generate content ideas, assign projects, and monitor deadlines, manage budget, write editorials, and ensure timely publication. *Output: Wrote 2 annual editorials with the editorial team, contributed 4 feature articles, and curated 2 annual magazine issues.*

Skills

Strategic planning • Data analytics • Team player • Project management • Conflict resolution • Public speaking • Stakeholder and multiple projects coordination • Relationship building • Problem solving • Complex ideas and concepts deliverance to different audiences • DEI practices • Digital work tools

Education

Mini-MBA Certification/Harvard GSAS Business Club (in co-op with Harvard Business School), Boston, USA 2022

PhD in Biology/Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen with Max Planck Institute for Biology, Tübingen, Germany 2019

Dual-Degree B.S.-M.S. in Biology/Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Mohali, India 2014

Publications

Full list of my peer-reviewed research, feature articles, and op-eds can be found [here](#). Selected venues include *Nature*, *Science*, *Nature Biotechnology*, *Biophysical Journal*, *eLife*, *STAT News*.

Community Engagement

- Keynote and other invited talks. Selected mentions: *Yale University*, *George Washington University*, *Gordon Conference*, *NIH listening session 2023*, *The White House listening session 2023*.
- Podcasts, include *Preprints in motion*, *Breaking the facts* (upcoming), *Behind our science* (upcoming), and *Think Research* (upcoming)
- Other media coverage of my research and leadership work can be found [here](#).