

Mouthwash
'can
raise cancer
risk'

How using facebook
could increase your risk
of cancer

Breast cancer is 'cured'
by wonderdrug says
doctor

Cosmetics 'expose
women to 175
chemicals in a day'

HOW DO JOURNALISTS APPROACH STORIES? WHAT HAPPENS WHEN RESEARCH ANNOUNCEMENTS GO WRONG OR DISCUSSIONS ARE POLARIZED?

WHAT DOES PEER REVIEW DO FOR SCIENCE? DOES IT ILLUMINATE GOOD IDEAS OR SHUT THEM DOWN?

Join us at two discussion sessions on **Tuesday 3rd May 2011** at **The Broad Institute, 7 Cambridge Center**, hosted by **Sense About Science** and **Elsevier** as part of the Cambridge Science Festival.

These sessions are free but space is limited, **so please register by emailing Julia Wilson at jwilson@senseaboutscience.org** stating which sessions you would like to attend by **Friday April 29th 2011**.

WHAT'S UP WITH PEER REVIEW?

The Broad Institute, 7 Cambridge Center

11.00 - 12.30

A panel discussion examining the process of peer review and exploring the criticisms of the system. Using highlights from a survey of over 4,000 scientists, the panel will discuss the role of peer review in policy, research and public debates and reflect on some of the recent debates about the subject.

What does peer review do for science and what does the scientific community want it to do for them? Does it illuminate good ideas or shut them down? Is maverick science rejected? Should peer review detect plagiarism, bias or fraud? Does the system need to change? What is the public perception of peer review? Can it help the public understand the status of scientific claims?

SPEAKERS: **Leonor Sierra**, Sense About Science; **Dr Emilie Marcus**, Senior Editor, Cell; **Karen Weintraub**, freelance health and science journalist; **Dr Natalie Kuldell**, Biological Engineering at MIT

STANDING UP FOR SCIENCE

The Broad Institute, 7 Cambridge Center

3.30 - 5.00

This session will combine discussion about science related controversies in the news with practical guidance for how to deal with the media. Why does it matter that the public has access to good science and evidence? What happens when research announcements go wrong; statistics are manipulated; risk factors are distorted; or discussions become polarized? The panel will explain how journalists approach stories and balance the need for news and entertainment with reporting science. What can early career researchers do to encourage good science and evidence in the public domain?

SPEAKERS: **Leonor Sierra**, Sense About Science; **Karen Weintraub**, freelance health and science journalist; **Dr Chris Reddy**, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution; **Morgan Thompson**, Science in the News

