

Alex (I. M.) van der Wateren

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PhD graduate working as a Science Writer at BioStrata. I have wide ranging interests and enjoy communicating science through various types of content such as articles and blogs.

EDUCATION

2012-2016	PhD	Chemistry, University of Cambridge (awarded in July 2017)
2009-2011	MSc	Medical Biology, University of Amsterdam (7.4 out of 10)
2006-2009	BSc	BioMedical Sciences, University of Amsterdam (7.2 out of 10)
2005-2006	-	Bachelor programme in Fashion Design at HKU, Utrecht (no degree)

SKILLS

IT: MS Office (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, SharePoint Designer, Outlook), LaTeX, GraphPad Prism, Mendeley, EndNote, some experience with KompoZer, Photoshop, ImageJ, InDesign.

Languages: English (fluent), Dutch (native), German (intermediate).

Design: Some skills in illustration, photography, web design and graphic design as displayed by work done for the Cambridge University (CU) Astronomical Society and CU Nanotechnology society.

Customer service: Skilled in customer service through working at a call centre (in-bound and out-bound) for a cable company and a medical billing service; phone operator taking orders for a restaurant; working as a waitress/barista; customer service for online sales.

Writing: Writing, editing and proofreading theses, manuscripts, conference abstracts, reports, posters; tutoring students in academic writing in English whilst a research assistant in Stockholm.

CAREER in ACADEMIA/WRITING

Oct. 2017 – present	BioStrata, Histon (Cambridge) Science writer I produce different types of copy on science and technology.
Nov. 2016 – Jan. 2017	Department of Chemistry, University of Cambridge Post-Doctoral Research Assistant under supervision of Prof. Dobson working on Parkinson's Disease, mainly using high resolution microscopy and micro capillaries to study macromolecular protein assemblies.
Oct. 2012 – Sept. 2016	Department of Chemistry, University of Cambridge PhD student under supervision of Prof. Dobson working on molecular origins of Parkinson's Disease using various techniques, mainly: recombinant protein expression and purification, high resolution microscopy, bulk aggregation assays and circular dichroism.
April 2012 – June 2012	Department of Immunology, Wenner-Gren Institute, Stockholm Research assistant in immunology working on Fibromyalgia performing mostly flow cytometry analyses on patient blood cells.
Sept. 2011 – March 2012	Department of Cell Biology, Wenner-Gren Institute, Stockholm Research assistant in cell biology studying the role of a chromatin remodelling complex in alternative splicing using cell culture, ChIP, Western blot, siRNA, PCR.
Sept. 2010 – April 2011	Nuclear Organisation Group, SILS, University of Amsterdam MSc. Student in cell biology studying the role of two proteins in chromatin organisation using techniques such as cell culture, siRNA, Western blot, FISH and 3D confocal microscopy.

- Nov. 2009 –
July 2010 **Department of Medical Biochemistry, AMC, University of Amsterdam**
MSc. Student in biochemistry/cell biology looking at the role of programmed necrosis and glycosphingolipids in the development of insulin resistance using cell culture, Western blot, WST-1 assay and flow cytometry.
- May 2009 –
Aug. 2009 **Department of Pathology, AMC, University of Amsterdam**
BSc. Student studying concordance of HER2 status between primary breast cancer and corresponding distant metastases using IHC and CISH on tissue micro arrays.

TEACHING & VOLUNTEERING EXPERIENCE

- Aug. 2014 –
June 2015 **Cambridge University Nanotechnology Society**
Committee member designing and maintaining the website, photographing our events and updating social media.
- Aug. 2013 –
June 2014 **Cambridge University Astronomical Society**
Webmaster maintaining our website, designing several promotional materials, photographing our events and editing/designing our printed newsletter (Neptune).
- Nov. 2011 –
April 2012 **Stockholm Student Union**
English tutor I helped students with academic writing and general conversation skills.
- March 2010 **Department of Anatomy and Embryology, AMC, Amsterdam**
Teaching assistant teaching early embryology to undergraduate students combined with a study on student characteristics and test performance.

SPECIALISED COURSES

- 2013 FEBS-EMBO advanced lecture course: Biomembranes; molecular architecture, dynamics and function, Cargèse, Corsica, FR. [Poster presentation](#)
- 2011 Postgraduate course 'The 3' end of the gene', Stockholm University, Stockholm, SE.

SELECTION of CONFERENCES/SYMPOSIA

- Annual 'Centre for Protein Misfolding Diseases' meeting, Nov. 9-11, 2015, Cambridge, UK. [Short talk](#)
- EBSA2015, July 18-22 2015, Dresden, DE. [Short talk + Poster presentation](#)
- Annual 'Centre for Protein Misfolding Diseases' meeting, Nov. 3-4, 2014, Cambridge, UK. [Short talk](#)
- Protein Structure, Protein Evolution, June 2-3 2014, Stockholm, SE.
- Biophysics of Amyloids and Prions, May 25-26 2014, Naples, IT. [Poster presentation](#)
- Annual 'Centre for Protein Misfolding Disease' meeting, Nov. 4-5 2013, Cambridge, UK. [Short talk](#)
- Protein misfolding in disease, April 13-17 2013, Roscoff, FR. [Poster presentation](#)
- Prion 2012, May 9-12 2012, Amsterdam, NL.
- 'Actin and actin-associated proteins, from genes to polysomes', Sept. 7-10 2011, Stockholm, SE.
- FOM Molecular and Cellular Biophysics, Oct.4-5 2010, Veldhoven, NL. [Poster presentation](#)

AWARDS

- Darwin College conference grant for EBSA2015 (£ 150), 2015.
- EBSA congress bursary for EBSA2015 (€ 400), 2015.
- Boehringer Ingelheim Stiftung conference grant for FEBS-EMBO advanced lecture course: Biomembranes; molecular architecture, dynamics and function (€ 400), 2013.

PUBLICATION

Tark-Dame M, Jerabek H, Manders EMM, **van der Wateren IM**, Heermann DW, van Driel R (2014) Depletion of the Chromatin Looping Proteins CTCF and Cohesin Causes Chromatin Compaction: Insight into Chromatin Folding by Polymer Modelling. PLoS Comput Biol 10(10):e1003877. doi:10.1371/journal.pcbi.1003877

HOBBIES

In my spare time, I enjoy creative/artistic pursuits such as illustration, painting, sculpting, costume design and photography. I like to go out on my road bicycle and go to the gym regularly. I am interested in current affairs and enjoy reading (mostly (popular) science).