Summary:
Science requires communication. At the international level, success in scientific research is inextricably tied to the ability to convey one's findings clearly and persuasively in written English. This presents additional hurdles for scientists for whom English is not their mother tongue, but this disadvantage does not prevent non-native speakers from performing research and communicating results at the highest levels. This talk will focus on the challenges that confront non-native authors. These are not entirely linguistic; conceptual and cultural differences can also serve to widen the communication gap. The speaker addresses these issues from the perspective of a non-native speaker of English who has herself worked successfully as a researcher, editor of Nature Medicine, and currently as publisher of Nature Research journals in the life sciences.