

## Extension of academic networking platform

# ResearchGATE offers new publishing tools to scientists

- **Members' profiles now allow for blogging and sharing**
- **Microarticles summarize publications in 306 characters**
- **General ResearchBLOG to publish selection of entries to broader audience**

**Boston/Berlin, November 16, 2009** – Efficient communication is the key to scientific progress, which is why the world's largest academic networking platform ResearchGATE ([www.researchgate.net](http://www.researchgate.net)) is offering so many tools for exchanging ideas, papers, schedules and more. The latest application, to be introduced this week, makes it even easier for the 180,000 members to share news, thoughts and research results: Every profile within ResearchGATE now contains a personal blogging function.

Users are offered the choice between publishing just within their network or to a greater audience through their public profile. They can also submit entries to ResearchBLOG (<http://blog.researchgate.net>), the new public channel of the ResearchGATE scientific community. The highest quality posts from individual members are aggregated here to provide a reputable source for science news, commentary, research, and innovation from all fields of enquiry.

While individual blog entries don't require a specific format, ResearchGATE has introduced a new template for publishing research results called *microarticles*. These articles, written by ResearchGATE members, provide a summary of a published, peer-reviewed article, highlighting key concepts and findings in just 306 characters. Every member is invited to produce such an article on a paper written by himself or by friends and colleagues. Similar to blog entries, microarticles are published via the member's profile and can be submitted to ResearchBLOG.

"With our new short article system, we want to increase the speed in which research results are spread within the scientific community", said ResearchGATE's co-founder Ijad Madisch. To facilitate access to the source of the information contained, every microarticle refers to a publication found either in ResearchGATE's database, linked via an external URL or manually entered by the author. Via their newsfeed, members of the academic networking platform choose to stay informed on blog entries and microarticles posted by their peers. They can also decide to constantly follow their favorite authors and blogs.

**For further information, please contact [press@researchgate.net](mailto:press@researchgate.net)**