

## **5/23/13 OSU PDA General Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Emily Butler, Will Cantara, Vanessa Varaljay, Manoj Nair, Rick Laguna, Shareef Dabdoub, Hanah Chapman, Jennifer Larson, Marcela Hernandez, Sukhinder Sandhu, Jim Dowdle, Jeff Agnoli

### **Midwest PDA Research day: June 10<sup>th</sup> 2013 at Iowa State University**

Sukhinder presented the proposed Midwest PDA charter which will be discussed at the up-coming research day. Regarding the Research Day: it has been proposed that one university to hold it each year on a rotating schedule. This year, in order to promote participation, attendance has been made possible at no cost other than travel. There are no registration fees and accommodations & dinner are provided. An interested party from Wright St has inquired about carpooling w/ any of us going. Jeff noted that we have enough funds to reimburse for gas. An email will be sent out asking for people interested in attending.

**Post-doc orientation day.** Jeff & Marcella noted that they and program managers from various colleges are planning a Postdoc orientation day, aimed for some time in October. Such an event could potentially occur twice a year in the future. More information is forthcoming as planning progresses.

### **Committee reports:**

#### **Benefits**

Hanah Chapman reporting. On 4/19/13, Hanah Chapman, Shareef Dabdoub, & Taka Uchida met with personnel from HR: Pam Doseck (Director of Benefits), Mary Ellis (Assistant Director of Benefits), Adam Watowicz and Wendy Swary (Office of Legal Affairs) to discuss pay & benefits equity for postdoc researchers compared to postdoc fellows. Notes are available on the Wiki site:

<https://carmenwiki.osu.edu/display/10412/Benefits+and+Pay+Equity>

#### **Speaker**

Dr. Joanna Groden spoke on her work as Vice Dean of Research.

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Dr. Groden took on this position recently; overseeing research at the College of Medicine (this does not include post-docs outside of COM). She is most familiar with services at the Med Center, in biomed research, and biomed engineering. Her key points were to love what you do, to build a community of people to support you but also to be a mentor to a community of people. For postdocs, she recommends having both a high risk & a “sure bet” project.

She asked that everyone present name what they appreciate most about OSU and then highlight an area or issue of concern. Issues raised were discussed.

Alternative career directions were also discussed at length, including how to best communicate information on career development.

Meeting Minutes prepared by E. Butler (Secretary), approved by S. Dabdoub (Co-Chair)