

09/18/14 PDA general meeting

Present: Emily Butler, Annette Ratcliff, Shareef Dabdoub, Jeff Agnoli, Ioana Boeras, Nancy Moran, Yoshie Narui, Will Cantara, Marcela Hernandez, Atsuko Uchida, Jason Walker, Bao Feng Ma, Suresh Kari, Sayak Bhattacharya

9/17/14 National Postdoc Appreciation Week (NPAW) Industry networking event:

Approximately 46 postdocs attended. From the PDA, Shareef, Yoshie, and Ioana were present. Shareef reported speaking to many new postdocs who were interested in our organization. Also discussed was the organization of a tour of TechColumbus (<http://www.techcolumbus.org/>) for OSU PDA members.

Jeff asked for a general opinion as to whether PI's should be invited to networking events such as the 9/17/14 event. While there was no consensus reached on this issue, it was suggested that a separate event could be held to include PI's and raise their awareness of NPAW.

Social committee:

The first PDA Coffee Break will be held this coming Tuesday, Sept 23rd in BRT room 105. Ioana reports that the cheapest option is to buy coffee and bring coffee makers. The brand of coffee to select was discussed, as well as the need to provide tea as an option for non-coffee drinkers. Ioana also brought some color fliers for people to hang in their buildings.

PAC update:

Marcela noted that the next postdoc orientation event will be held Oct 29th 9-1pm. Planning is in progress. Some changes to the agenda include splitting the panel of postdocs and young faculty into two independent panels. Additionally, they will have a portion of the agenda dedicated to two or three PI's with mentoring experience giving their advice and perspectives on the postdoc experience.

The next PAC sponsored event will be Oct 8th in DHLRI 170 from 9:30-11 "Stuck: One postdoc's journey". This will be an interactive theater event put on by INTERACT (<https://theatre.osu.edu/interact>), a collaboration between the OSU Department of Theater and UCAT.

Regarding PAC budget renewal: The provisional budget is expected to be done by early October and sent to the dean for approval. They are seeking a 2nd year of funding and a budget increase from 13K to 15K.

Jeff distributed a folder containing information on the Office of Research. Their Annual Research Expo will be held next Tuesday, starting just after our PDA Coffee Break event. The expo will host 65 exhibitors including most of the shared core labs and offices that support research at OSU. Some vendors will also be present. Marcela noted that the PDA should be represented at this event. Jeff said we could fit two members into next week's event. Shareef said he would adapt the flier from the picnic to hand out at the expo.

Website committee:

Our website (postdocs.osu.edu) is tightly controlled by the OR and was recently reformatted without warning to us nor our with consent. Ideally, we would like to have our own site outside of the OR restrictions. One option is

getting a site through my.osu.edu. Any OSU affiliate can sign up. Yoshie is presently getting more information on this option. Jeff noted that we could have our current url redirect to the new site.

Elections:

At the PDA meeting last month, it was decided to postpone elections and continue to have volunteers for the positions outlined in the charter. Over time, we will also fill in positions that are currently vacant, i.e. treasurer, Benefits and Equity committee chair, and positions on the International Committee. Both Sayak and Suresh expressed interest in being involved in the International Committee. Additionally, we will have a sign-up sheet listing open positions for attendees of the Coffee Break event.

Career Development

We will additionally need to recruit another chair of the Career Development Committee as Annette has accepted a job in the TCO.

Regarding up-coming Career Development events, UCAT is hosting events this month and next that we will advertise. We could move forward with the TechColumbus tour as a potential event for November. In December, the PAC in conjunction with the Council of Graduate Students (CGS) may be hosting Lisa Balbes to speak on job searching and social media, although Jeff noted that Maris at the OSU library might also be a good choice to speak on this topic.

Jeff mentioned some other ideas for future events:

Contacting publisher websites to talk about who do they hire and for what types of jobs; financial advisors (i.e. Edward Jones) to talk about money management; a professional photographer to take LinkedIn profile photos; someone from HR to talk about the option for postdocs to take courses at OSU (this could potentially be included in the postdoc orientation); Stress management and conflict resolution; Managing up (the presentation Jeff gave at the last postdoc orientation). Jeff also noted that we could check the NPA website for other ideas.

Meeting Minutes prepared by E. Butler (Secretary)