

09/17/13 OSU PDA General Meeting Minutes

11am, 352 Denney Hall

Present: Jeff Agnoli, Ioana Boeras, Rick Laguna, Shareef Dabdoub, Emily Butler, Daniel Kiss, Annette Ratecliff, Ursula Zangrilli, Nancy Moran

OPA proposal:

The most recent draft of the PDA proposal for establishment of an Office of Postdoctoral Affairs at OSU was posted to the wiki site for review by PDA members for discussion at the meeting today.

<https://carmenwiki.osu.edu/display/10412/Office+of+Postdoctoral+Affairs+Proposal>

The mechanism for funding the OPA budget was the first topic discussed. Ioana suggested that there might be an aversion by some PIs to having the proposed \$125 fee paid through PI grant funds. It was suggested that some PIs would prefer the money to be taken instead from the university's Facilities & Administrative (FA) funds. Jeff noted that this would require a recalculation of FA rates during the next rate agreement cycle. Daniel suggested a 50/50 split between postdoc and PI to cover the fee. Overall, there was general support for the inclusion of the proposed budget along with a comparison of how other university's OPAs are funded for consideration by the administration.

General aspects of the proposal's nuance and format were discussed. Nancy suggested using language in the proposal that highlights better a set of problems that OPA could solve, especially regarding: 1) promoting funding for postdocs, 2) building more diverse pipeline for future faculty within the academic realm, and 3) supplying Ohio with better-trained PhD workforce. Additionally, it put forth that the proposal should note that the OPA would provide a means for data collection on postdocs/postdoc issues. Asuko recommended emphasizing the potential role of the OPA in maintaining a connection between alumni postdocs and OSU. She also proposed that the OPA benefit to postdocs listed as "increasing PDA membership" should be changed to a broader statement regarding the potential of the OPA to enhance postdoc culture at OSU. Nancy further suggested adding references to strengthen the arguments put forth in support of the need for an OPA at OSU. She noted the NPA report on attrition of women in postdoc positions and the positive role that university OPAs play as an example. Potentially adding references to Bruce Weinberg's report and BiOhio were also discussed.

An updated draft will be prepared.

Career development series update:

We will host Nicole Kwiek and Chris Andersen at the next Career Development seminar, scheduled for Friday, 9/27/13 in 165 DHLRI at 10:00 a.m. Jeff suggested that we send the announcement out to all post-docs, not just those enrolled in the listserv. I will forward both the email text and blurb for OSUToday to Jeff later today for posting.

The October Career Development seminar will feature Christina Sherry from Abbott.

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