

OSU PDA Monthly Meeting Agenda and Minutes

Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017; Research Commons 352, 12-1pm

**Background:** The PDA was established in January 2013 with support from the Office of Research, is run by Postdoc volunteers, and supported by Postdoc Advisory Council (PAC) advisors from the Office of Research and colleges throughout the university. The purpose of PDA is to address the needs and concerns of its members by:

Providing representation and liaison between its members and the administration

Advocating for constructive changes in the research environment and in policies that affect the lives of postdocs and their families

Promoting the academic and non-academic career goals of its members

Building a community of postdocs by promoting interaction between postdocs on academic, social, cultural and political issues

National Postdoc Association (NPA)

**General PDA Business**

**Jessica Irons and Sara Koenig**

- Carol Whitacre retirement
  - Proposed that we present 2 Postdoc Advocate of the Year awards, one for Jeff Agnoli and one for Carol Whitacre. This was voted on and approved.
  - Co-chairs will arrange plaques and deliver awards next week
- Travel awards winners
  - Congratulations to Asmita Murumkar and Justina Ogado, winners of the travel awards!
  - Any suggestions for improving the travel awards for next semester can be sent to Manoj (gottipati.5@osu.edu)
  - One suggestion was to give awards based on a short 5-minute presentation. This would allow for a faster judging process, but would be less effective for awards based on PDA involvement.
- Budget
  - Kerry confirmed that the funds are kept in a development account and are not likely to be audited if at our current balance. The PDA is not required to present a budget to fiscal officers.
- Next meeting: New Year, New Goals. **Committee chairs: please prepare short slides with summary of 2017 and aims for 2016**
  - As part of this, please consider new “big” events
  - Budgets will be required for Feb meeting
  - Some ideas for future PDA events suggested included: more fundraising/social activities, t-shirt design competition, theme night, yoga event

- Tax Bill in congress
  - Increases tax for grad students, but also affects anyone with student loans
  - A number of University/science organizations are speaking out against the bill
  - US citizens can call their senator
  -
- Carol Whitacre’s retirement

- President's Postdoctoral Scholars Program (not discussed)
- RCR training
  - Recent change in Responsible Conduct of Research training requirements. All research eligible individuals must take the training
  - <http://orc.osu.edu/regulations-policies/rcr/>
  - Takes Approx 1 hr

### International

Faith Brennan and Mona El Refaey

- International committee hosted 'Happy hour: thanksgiving edition' at Mad Mex on 11/17. Almost 20 post-docs came and almost 30 food items were collected and donated to the Mid-Ohio food bank. Big kudos to everyone!
- The NPA is posting more international-related info and events. Could we link their programs and resources page to our website? <http://www.nationalpostdoc.org/?page=International>.
  - Manoj will look into this
  - Events can also be advertised on the listserv
- Tax information session planned for February 2018.
  - The session will follow a similar format to the immigration lawyer sessions, with interested attendees sending questions in advance
  - International committee have been considering both internal and external speakers. Kerry suggested the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program on campus. May be restrictions on overall income

### Policy and Advocacy

Leanna Perez and Douglas Cheung

- New co-chairs!
- Report on FLSA faculty survey underway
  - Planning to have the report done by early Jan.
  - Marcela reports that the College of Deans met today and were in support of recommendation of the benefits working group. However, these recommendations did not include FLSA. Noah and Marcela are expecting to meet with Assistant Provost Brad Harris to discuss FLSA recommendations in January.

### Social

Atsuko Uchida and Rudra Purusottam

- December Coffee break : on December 12th at BRT 105
  - 20 people attended, including several new postdocs
- January Coffee break: on January 9th at Eye and Ear Institute(EEI) — This is the new location and the joint event with OPA
  - Location: the room 3000 at EEI
  - From 9am to 10:30am
  - Volunteers: Claire Monroy, Chi-Hsin-CHen, Jongmin Jung (at EEI)
  - We are recruiting more volunteers from PDA!
- Recruiting social committees —Please let us know if you know someone to be interested in our activities.

### Professional Development

Amara Greer-Short and Angela Filous

- **January:** Topic TBD and time TBD
  - Topic: Transitioning into Administration: Speaker = Marcela + others
- **February:** Teaching Opportunities Panel (Angela)
- **March:** BioOhio (Amara) or Transition to Industry (Sujeet)
- **April:** Decision-making and stress management (Mahesh)

<b>Development</b>	<b>Nathalie Houssin</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waiting on the update from Kerry regarding the amount of money received through the PDA fund. Regarding the final number of attendees, we are roughly in the same range than last year (about 400)</li> <li>• Polishing the guideline for preparing the Vendor Show fundraiser (Brenda)</li> <li>• Need to find a new Chair</li> </ul>	
<b>Communications</b>	<b>Manoj Gottipati</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please send event updates, with the flier, as early as possible so they can be put up on the website and Facebook page</li> <li>• If anyone is interested in expanding our social media efforts, please contact Manoj (or stay after the meeting to discuss) <a href="mailto:gottipati.5@osu.edu">gottipati.5@osu.edu</a></li> </ul>	
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Elaine Wells-Gray</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current balance TBD. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Current budget is \$7000, with an additional \$11, 200 from the vendor show coming at the end of April</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Reimbursements: Give Elaine the original receipt and a copy of the event flyer (<a href="mailto:wells-gray.1@osu.edu">wells-gray.1@osu.edu</a>)</li> <li>• New treasurer Nathalie starting in January!</li> <li>• Add box to Kerry office for receipts. Monthly updates Nathalie</li> </ul>	
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Laura Chavez</b>
<p>Next monthly meetings are as scheduled:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• January 17th, BRT 134</li> <li>• February 21<sup>st</sup>, Research Commons 352</li> <li>• March 21<sup>st</sup>, BRT 134</li> <li>• April 18<sup>th</sup>, Research Commons 352</li> <li>• May 16<sup>th</sup>, James L045</li> </ul>	