

OSU PDA Monthly Meeting Agenda (Minutes in Red)

Wednesday, May 16th, 2018; BRT 134, 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 the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (OPA), the 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

Sara Koenig and Douglas Cheung

- Committee positions available
- University Research Committee representatives needed
Thank you for volunteering Asmita

Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (OPA)

Marcela Hernandez

- OPA's support with PDA fiscal procedures
For PDA committees: new system will require planning time to set up orders for PDA events; Information is available online if can't find it contact Marcela
- OPT-F1 postdocs and dependents
FYI: International postdocs who have an F1 visa, you must do everything through the institution that first sponsored you, if that isn't OSU and you need help with something OSU wouldn't be able to help you, have to go back to your old institution.
- Tuition assistance benefit
All postdocs are eligible for this benefit. Allowed to take up to 10 credits per semester, but if you are international postdoc and want to take graduate level class there are some additional hoops to go through. For example, if your education was not in the U.S. have to submit transcripts for education and if English isn't your first language a TOEFL score. OPA is working on helping to provide some procedures that will be available on their website. There is a TOEFL class option that is on campus and is cheaper if you need that. Also working on a fee-based option for class registration as a word around.
- Attendance to events
Need to have high postdoc attendance to make a case for putting resources/money into holding events. Some recent events have had low attendance even though many postdocs reported they were very worthwhile. Please plan for and show up for organized workshops/events!
- ESL Courses
Extending the deadline to Tuesday (for scholarships), have had fewer people sign up this year. If you are interested please sign up!
- Volunteer list needed
Each committee should send a list of possible volunteer opportunities so that postdocs who have scholarships to ESL course can fulfill the PDA services requirement.
- Updated postdoc guide needed ASAP
Thank you international committee, this was recently received. Will be presented to HR next week.
- Pelotonia postdoc fellowship deadline (June 15)
To be eligible must have cancer related research

International	Faith Brennan and Mona El Refaey
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The postdoc guide was amended after meeting with HR. Manoj will upload it to the website. 	
Policy and Advocacy	Leanna Perez
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University of Missouri was interested in our coffee break they want to get ideas on how to do this. Goal for summer is to identify opportunities to collaborate and connect with other regional PDAs. Already talked to the association as Nationwide Children's. Idea is to work towards a yearly meeting May do a Qualtrex survey to look at diversity in the transition from PhD, to postdoc, to scientist 	
Social	Atsuko Uchida and Rudra Purusottam
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Still working out the details of a possible hiking trip, late May or early June, if weather cooperates. More information to come. Next month there will be coffee break, skipped this month due to transition to new system for ordering catering for events. 	
Professional Development	Mahesh Chemudupati and Tasha Posid
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting with new committee members for the upcoming academic year Plans for 2 mini-series: (1) Preparing for teaching/academia (2) Preparing for industry (CVs to resumes) Potential job fair in spring Tasha Posid just joined the committee 	
Development and Events	Nathalie Houssin
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation for PDA/VWR vendor show (September 18th 10am - 2pm; BRT 115 and lobby): sign up to volunteer on the excel sheet located in Google docs: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1IPyDItDJmcUxSVD84U0gSU3iZ_GAUexMmazT5RtETj4/edit?usp=sharing Science showcase: breaking the research myth (October 2nd BRT): contact houssin.1@osu.edu or perez.264@osu.edu to volunteer or share any ideas. 	
Travel awards	Manoj Gottipati
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travel award updates Applications have been received and are being reviewed. Will probably have decision on awards next week 	
Treasurer	Nathalie Houssin
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current available balance: \$16557 Upload documents to the box Fatima created for all eRequest Upload all receipts to BuckeyeBox titled "2018 PDA Fiscal Documents" 	
Secretary	Laura Chavez
Next monthly meetings are as scheduled: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 20th, Research Commons Room 352 July 18th, BRT Room 134 	