

OSU PDA Monthly Meeting Minutes

Thursday, Jan 15th 4-5 pm, 226 University Hall

Present: Liubov Gushchina, Hugh Morris, Nancy Moran, Jeff Agnoli, Atsuko Uchida, Vanessa Varljay, Suresh Kari, Sayak Bhattacharya

Updates from the PAC

The PAC was able to get \$16,000 funding for this year with more colleges contributing. As such, the PAC may be able to offer a travel or poster award for postdocs. The possibility of an equipment fund award was also discussed.

National Postdoc Association meeting, March 13-15th 2015 in Maryland

The PAC will be sponsoring attendance of 3 postdoc delegates: Vanessa Varaljay (Microbiology), Fuqun Huang (Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering), and Qadeer Ahmed (Center for Automotive Engineering). Ciji Lawrence and Marcela Hernandez will also be attending. The group will report on their experiences upon returning.

InterACT event: Thursday, April 30, 2015, 12:00 PM - 01:30 PM, "Exploring the mentor relationship". This event is now open to senior level grad students.

Invited speaker, Grace Tong, April 24 - 25 The PAC is co-sponsoring Grace Tong's visit to give a talk about her career path. She has worked in several different sectors in the US and abroad.

Carol Whitacre seminar, Feb 5th, 12:00 in 234 Melinger Dr. Whitacre will be discussing her academic career as an invited speaker through FAME.

Jeff also notes that PDA representation at the PAC meetings has lapsed. We should get a representative or two to start attending those meetings regularly.

Updates from the Treasurer (Vanessa Varljay)

The current balance for PDA funds is \$656.23. Our account is now hosted by the Office of Research. They will provide us a balance report at any time, though Vanessa will also track the funds independently. Access for reimbursement is granted through Vanessa. Vanessa suggested that we set a minimum balance to maintain in our account, perhaps \$250.

Fundraisers: Vanessa is working on a fundraiser at Brenan's as well as an "OSU Postdocs" T-shirt sale.

International Committee updates (Sayak Bhattacharya)

The International Committee is seeking to invite someone from the Office of International Affairs to give a seminar or workshop on issues relevant to international postdocs (i.e. pathways to finding a job after your postdoc, special rules that apply to international postdocs). So far they have gotten no response to their email, but Sayak will be at the office tomorrow. They are also putting together a survival guide for international postdocs to post to the web.

Professional Development Committee updates

April Joice will be taking over as committee chair

Up-coming events:

Entrepreneurship with John Sydnor, TechColumbus. January 21st, M100 Starling Loving Hall, 12-1 PM–
(Jan 21, April Joice is working on this)

“Communicating Research Findings with the Public” February 25th, 1063 Graves Hall, 12-1 PM –,
Darrell Ward, Communications at The James and Jeff Grabmeier, University Communications (Nancy
& Shareef are working on this one)

“Meet the Journal Editors Panel” March - Working with Josh from Research Commons.

This event will allow journal editors talk about publishing.

Social committee updates

Next social event(s):

Coffee break next week- Jan 20th, BRT 115

Next coffee break is scheduled for February 10th. We discussed changing the location of this event,
perhaps to the new chemistry building or in Smith.

Policy & Advocacy Committee updates (Hugh Morris)

Hugh is working on trying to get postdoc representation on the Campus Parking Advisory Board.