

Postdoctoral Advisory Committee Meeting

Agenda: Introduce PDAC functions to any new attendees and discuss a broad timeline as the new PDAC e-board will join in 2 months.

Attendees:

PDAC executive board:

Scott Baliban, Saumil Sethna, Katrina Williams and Archana Gopalakrishnan

Members at Large:

Rachel Abbot and Joanna

Office of Postdoctoral affairs members:

Renee Cockerham

Other postdoc members (new attendees): Gaurang Bhide, Aditya Jhajharia, Maninder Singh and Ankit Diwedi

Agenda discussed:

Saumil and Scott presided over the entire meeting, reporting past events and discussing future events.

Since there were first time attendees, potentially interested in getting more involved with the PDAC, topics of the elections and generic running of the PDAC meetings and commitments were discussed in detail.

1. January: (both events organized by Katrina)

The CV to resume workshop/seminar- people signed up very fast (probably because of the break)- 40 total sign ups, however only 12-15 attended. Catering was done from Papis Tacos (first time) and food was great.

Social event: Happy hour for 25th of January was very popular- at least 20 people showed up at Frank and Nic's.

2. February:

Career event: Saumil- CRISPR baby discussion on Feb 21st, 2:30-4pm (Coffee and cookie hour type session) Leslie Meltzer Henry (from Carey Law School) has been contacted to participate in the discussion a few days back- waiting for response. Saumil will deliver a short presentation on the topic and open the floor for discussion on the bioethics of the topic.

Social event: Rachel will coordinate a happy hour at Admirer's Cup in Fells Point, scheduled for February 22nd.

3. March:

Scott will contact someone from Policy background- Jennifer is working on the alumni database list that would be made available to the PDAC in a deidentified manner- Can be utilized to look for potential speakers, who Jennifer could then contact for us.

A joint social happy hour with Hopkins is being planned- PDAC from Hopkins and Umaryland are considering contributing between \$100-150/- each for food for the postdocs. Joint social hours have been well received the last couple of times.

4. April and May:

Mario came up with an idea to host a talk regarding how to get certifications for clinical research programs, especially for postdocs who wish to transition to clinical research jobs (as coordinators or associates- CRA/CRP). Fatima Khan- a postdoc alumni took one of these certifications and is currently employed at the University hospital as a clinical researcher. There are several websites that provide these certifications (for instance: socra.com). This would serve as an informational session. Note: Renee mentioned that the University also offers certification courses for clinical research training.

Joanna has volunteered to come up with a plan for the social event for April.

Career events are open for May- but this will wait till the new board comes into effect and wish to organize something. Saumil and Scott will most likely organize a grand happy hour, considering it might be their last organizing event!

5. Budget update: Katrina mentioned that PDAC has \$2697/- money. Lunch/honorarium for monthly speakers can still be considered.

6. PDAC awards rewording the criteria:

Scott and Saumil have worked on the documents and will soon send the edited versions for the rest of the board to view and comment.

7. New E-board selection and election timeline:

- The PDAC elections will be announced March 11th and nominations will be accepted till March 22nd .
- E-voting would be required if multiple people apply for same position- from March 25th -28th.
- New e-board will be announced March 29th.
- April 9th- would be the first meeting of current and new e-board members.

Questions raised by new postdoc attendees regarding elections:

1. Can one person apply for more than one position for the e-board?
The current board might be open to that idea.
2. Possibility of having a new position- such as IT secretary/communications manager- one who would oversee the online activity of PDAC.
This would be a good addition to the current team positions as the online presence of PDAC (including Facebook/twitter and managing the webpage on OPS website is not up to date).