

U of U Postdoctoral Association Board Meeting

12:00 - 1:00 PM on February 3, 2016

HSEB 4100A

Attendance: Jen Nichols (Orthopaedics), Natalia Torres (CVRTI), Jennifer Mabey (Graduate School), Lars Laurentius (Nano Institute), Yen Wang (Oncological Sciences), Helin Räägel (Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics).

Known Absence: Daniel Mendoza (Atmospheric Sciences/GCSC), Chris Tracy (CVRTI).

Agenda

- 12:00 pm Approve minutes from last meeting [5 min]
- Minutes approved.
 - Lars needs to upload meeting minutes to UBox.
- 12:05 pm Winter Ice Skating Recap [10 min]
- 7 family units attended (6 were board members)
 - The event went as planned, but with low attendance.
 - How to improve future events? Should we host such events again?
 - Possible events: BBQ, hiking, museum (The Leonardo Museum), Thanksgiving Point, Red Butte Garden, snow shoe hike in the winter.
- 12:15 pm Lunch & Learn [15 min]
- February Lunch & Learn
 - Tues. Feb. 16 – Postdoctoral Finances
 - *Confirmed Panelists:*
 - Ann House, Personal Money Management Center
 - Teotihuacan (Teo) Ngatuvai – Fidelity Investments
 - Amy Podzius – TIAA-CREF Financial Services
 - Discussion of Upcoming Lunch & Learns
 - Tues. Feb. 16 – Finances, Money Management, & Taxes
 - *Confirmed Panelists:*
 - Ann House – Coordinator of the Personal Money Management Center
 - Teotihuacan (Teo) Ngatuvai – Fidelity Investments
 - Amy Podzius – TIAA-CREF Financial Services
 - Natalia has finalized the number of panelists.
 - Amy Tolman, a Benefits Counsellor from the U, would like to be part of the panel.
 - So far we have 20 RSVP'd.
 - Send one reminder email on Friday and Tuesday morning.
 - Remind postdocs attending to look up their job codes.
 - Interested topics: retirement plans, repaying Student loans, etc.
 - Natalia will prepare a sign-in sheet.
 - Jennifer will order pizza.
- Tues. March 15 – Fellowship & Grants
 - *Confirmed Panelists:*
 - Peter Kraus, Marriott Library, coordinates SciVal training
 - Justin Whitney, Faculty Writing Fellow from Writing Center
 - Gary Schoenwolf, Distinguished Prof. Neurobio. & Anatomy
 - To be confirmed: OSP representative

- We are set for the March 15th lunch & learn.
 - We have a fantastic list of panelists so far.
 - Tues. April 12– TBD
 - *Academic careers seem like next logical topic. What do we want to focus on?*
 - *Potential Future Topics:* academic careers, interview skills, negotiation, visas, entrepreneurship, outreach as part of a career
 - Hosting an academic career panel in April focusing on the hiring side.
 - What type of panelists should we contact? There are many aspects to the application process.
 - Ideal panel: Two new faculty from different areas, 1-2 senior faculty, and one from the administration side.
 - This could potentially take time to assemble a panel for this topic, we might consider moving this back to a later time and hold a visa information session instead.
 - Another potential topic we could easily host would be community outreach.
 - We will send out an email to the faculty list asking for panelists.
- 12:30 pm Postdoc Appreciation Day in September [10 min]
- *Proposed Date:* Thurs. Sept. 15
 - Discuss Location
 - Jennifer has been in contact with admins from the SMBB building and has managed to reserve the room needed for September 15th.
- 12:40 pm National Postdoc Association Conference [15 min]
- Natalia will be attending the conference.
 - What recommendations do we have in terms of sessions that are most compatible with our goals?
 - Website: <http://www.nationalpostdoc.org/?2016AMAgenda>
 - Natalia is attending the conference in March in Grand Rapids, MI.
 - Potential topics of interest: creating an effective postdoc survey, peer writing groups for postdocs, how to keep postdocs interested, international student immigration consideration, etc.
- 12:55 pm Seminars through Mary Anne Berzins [5 min]
- Supervisory Roles & Responsibilities (i.e. how to manage people)
 - Problem Solving Skills
 - Postdoc Leadership Series
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 - Side note, the career fair last week, was well attended and about 4-5 science companies were present: Myriad, BioFire, ARUP, Edwards life sciences.
 - Is it possible to facilitate connections or provide contacts to industry for postdocs as a source of information and advice?
 - Mary Anne has offered to host two seminars for postdocs (See list above).
 - The time frame for those sessions would be April-May.
 - Additionally, there is a postdoc leadership series, about 6-7 sessions. Approximate time frame June-July.
 - She asks about timing of the multiple sessions and if it would be better to spread the sessions out over several weeks instead of condensing the workshop into a single week. I would be better to spread them out.

- We only have about one week left to try out Versatile PhD and provide feedback to Jennifer.
- We should only forward emails that seem legit and redirect to Facebook.
- Chris has asked for feedback in regards to the UPDA website.
- All UPDA board members have provided their consent to have their pictures posted on the UPDA website.
- Helen and Natalia volunteer to arrive early at the lunch & learn seminar next week to get the pizza.

1:00 pm Summary of Assigned Tasks & End of Meeting
1:05 pm Check out HSEB 2600 room set-up for panel discussion

Next Meeting: 12:00 - 1:00 PM on Tues. Feb. 9 in HSEB 4100A

Documents Sent: Agenda, Minutes from January Meeting

Updated: Feb. 3, 2016

Do you have suggestions regarding what topics you would like discussed at FUTURE Lunch & Learn events?

Careers

- Career opportunities in biomedical research.
- Career choices for post docs.
- Are there job fairs from companies requiring postdocs or research scientists as well? or is it just for undergrad/MS students?
- job search?
- How to make the transition from Academia to industry
- Careers outside of academia and how/where to find them (Networking is not a sufficient answer :)).
- I am glad to see we have some focused on getting jobs. I would like to see others on making the transition from academia to industry (maybe that is part of the ones planned)
- Careers outside of academia.
- transitioning to a faculty position at a primarily undergraduate institution
- Job hunting
- A lunch about non-academic career paths might be good.
- Non-academia careers
- tenure vs. career line - benefits/cons of each
- Industry job opportunities and how to overcome being discarded by 'Applied tracking System'
- alternative career choices after postdoc, medical science liaison jobs, etc.
- working at the industry
- experience for finding a faculty position
- how to find a job
- applying for/attaining faculty positions;
- How to seek establish contacts with pharmaceutical industries? Tips on gaining industrial jobs?
- applying for faculty position
- negotiating a job position
- How to prepare for non-academic job by being a post-doc in an academic institute?
- Academia to industry

Grants, Fellowships, & Funding

- Successful searching/finding grant funding sources for postdocs.
- things focused on grant writing, applying for faculty position, negotiating a job position, etc. would be helpful.
- grant applications
- how to acquire clinical fellowships at the U
- what required in grant applications
- How to seek Clinical fellowship at University of Utah as an International applicant?
- grant writing

Other

- Project management
- Part time teaching opportunities around the campus and SLC
- Human relationship; leadership
- negotiating contracts
- How can working moms (or other primary caregivers) remain competitive when they can't put in 80 hours a week?