

U of U Postdoctoral Association Board Meeting

12:00 - 1:00 PM on October 6, 2017

HSEB 5100A

Attendance: Natalia Torres (CVRTI), Marta Szulik (CVRTI), Jennifer Nichols (Orthopedics), Gaelle Batot (Biochemistry), Jennifer Mabey (Graduate School), Erin Young (Huntsman Cancer Institute), Malini Rajan (Molecular Medicine), RAZIYE MOHAMMADPOUR (School of Pharmacy).

Known Absences: Suvendu Biswas (College of Pharmacy), Emilio Cortes Sanchez (Medicinal Chemistry, Skaggs), Indranil Basak (Molecular Medicine), Daniel Mendoza (Atmospheric Sciences/GCSC).

Absences: Lars Laurentius (Nano Institute) and Heather Clifton (VA).

Agenda

12:00 pm Approve minutes from last meeting [5 min] *Approved.*

UPDA Board update.

- Seema is no longer actively a part of the board. We thank her for her help and involvement. Consequently, **the position for the Social Event Coordinator is open.**

- There are changes in the UPDA Board: Gaelle presented an interest in Junior Chair Position, and it is 2nd Raziye's attendance to the Board meeting. To accept Gaelle's nomination and Raziye as a Board Member, Board has to vote. To perform a vote, we need half of the board members plus one. With enough board members to vote the Board voted in favor for nominating Gaelle as a UPDA Junior Chair, and Raziye as a UPDA Board Member. Congratulations!

Action: Gaëlle update the website consequently. Gaelle to contact Jen M. about attending NPA meeting.

Acion: Raziye will submit a photo and info note to Marta and Gaelle to add to UPDA webstie-UPDA board members section.

Since Gaëlle is now junior chair, the Secretary and Webmaster positions are open.

Until position is filled, we will take turns to write the minutes.

12:05 pm Postdoc Appreciation Day Recap [10 min] *Went well, positive comments.*

- Attendance:
 - Poster Session: 16 / 7 judges
 - Postdoc Pitches: 12
 - Keynote Speaker: 26 (at least).
 - Professional Photo & Coffee: 33
 - Ice Cream Social: 9
- Learning Points:
 - Locations seems to be a major determinant for participation. Choosing upper campus was a good idea. However, if poster session has more participants, HSEB Atrium may not provide enough space for that. *The atrium can fit about 25-30 posters. We should plan earlier to be on the waiting list for the atrium and the room next to it for the next year.*
 - Reschedule the order of small events during kick-off day: f.ex. include short announcements at the beginning of poster session. Keep awards announcement to the end, f.ex. after the keynote but announcing it earlier.

- Professional Photo & Coffee was the hit – definitely keep it for another year. Good idea to have the headshots as a kick-off event and to ask Enrique Balderas (postdoc from CVRTI, a winner of 2017 Postdoc Photo Contest) to take the pictures.
- Give a presentation with an introduction of the UPDA board and the association as well as a chronogram for all the activities
- Poster session is getting more popular – good, keep it going. Allow for longer session, 1.5 h may be optimal.
- When reaching out for judges, try to work someone for a 'last call' or 'backup'.
Recruit judges 4 to 6 weeks in advance. Get 20 people to commit, targeting newer PI. If we have an excess of judges we can always tell them that while they are still welcome to attend their judging is no longer needed, etc.
- Allow longer break between separate events to allow people to relocate.
- Advertise the event through faculty members or departments for more attendance.
- When planning multiple day events, 3 days will be optimal.
- Always have a backup plan in case of a bad weather.

Thank you all UPDA members for all the work you have done for the Postdoc Appreciation week.

12:15 pm Lunch & Learn [10 min]

- Wed. Oct. 18 (in HSEB 1760) – Teaching for Postdocs – by Dr. Patrick Tripeny from CFTE (26 RSVP)
Raziye is taking notes and sending them to Marta for the summary.
- Nov 15th - still available.

Action: Marta is contacting Francine to ask her if she has a topic and availabilities in November.

- Dec. 6th - Mary Anne Berzins to talk about “How to stay motivated at work as a postdoc”.
- *Potential Future Topics: Developing a Professional Network; Understanding your strengths; Managing Professional Relationships by Tony Tsai; Consulting for Postdocs*

In January or February, we will do a resource for benefit, last time Mary Anne invited an HR representative to be part of the panel,.

12:25 pm Postdoc Resource Initiative – Jen N. update [5 min]

77 answers so far.

Initiative for a University Grant program.

Suggest a postdoc Award for U of U outstanding postdoc. Something like in San Diego: <https://postdoc.ucsd.edu/award-opportunities/postdoctoral-scholar-award.html>

12:35 pm Macroaggression and Bias Workshop – Natalia/Marta update [5 min]

It would be a 2 hr workshop in the afternoon, we will offer coffee and snacks

Action: Marta will reach out to the moderator to set a date for November. Marta and Natalia will apply for funding from the Office of Health Equity and Inclusion.

12:40 pm Postdoc Social [10 min]

Discuss during next meeting.

12:55 pm Additional Points of Discussion [10 min]

- Assign person for taking notes on next L&L: Raziye
- Junior Chair Position: Gaëlle
- Listserv access
- Action: Jenifer (N) and Natalia will look into and report back to the board
- FAQ for UPDA website – assignments

Action: Board members volunteer to answer to the FAQ. Marta will send the assignments.

1:00 pm Summary of Assigned Tasks & End of Meeting

Next Meeting: 12:00 - 1:00 PM on Tues. November 3, in HSEB 5100A
Documents Sent: Agenda, Minutes from September Meeting

If you have suggestions for additional FAQs that we can add or information to improve any of the answers below, please send your comments to upda@utah.edu.

Making the Most of Your Postdoctoral Experience:

What's the best resource to help me make the most of my postdoc?

What benefits are postdocs entitled to and where do I find information on my benefits?

How do I find grants and/or fellowships to apply for?

The seminar announcement says it is for "faculty and staff", can I attend? What about if it's for "graduate student" or just "faculty"?

How do I find groups to join on campus?

How do I join the UPDA (or any other) listserv?

Would my postdoc experience be better if I joined the UPDA board?

Exploring Utah:

How do I get around Salt Lake City? Do I need a car?

How do I get into cycling and/or mountain biking?

I have never skied. What do I need to know as a novice skier?

I love skiing, but have never skied in Utah. What do I need to know as an intermediate or advanced skier?

Where's the best place for a hike in Salt Lake City?

I hear there are a bunch of National Parks. What do I need to know?

I really like culture. Where should I look for theater shows and music performances?

I really like sports. What teams are good to see around here?

Does being a postdoc at the University of Utah get me any discounts?

Moving to Utah:

Where should I live?

What is the rental market in Salt Lake City?

What resources exist to help me find on-campus housing?

What resources exist to help me find off-campus housing?

Academic Job Search:

How do I find an academic job?

Are there listservs I should join to learn about jobs?

Can someone at the U help me craft a C.V.?

Non-Academic Job Search:

How do I find a non-academic job?

Are there listservs I should join to learn about jobs?

Can someone at the U help me craft a resume?