

## U of U Postdoctoral Association Board Meeting

12:00 - 1:00 PM on December 1, 2017

HSEB 5100A

Attendance: Natalia Torres (CVRTI), Marta Szulik (CVRTI), Jennifer Nichols (Orthopedics), Gaelle Batot (Biochemistry), Jennifer Mabey (Graduate School), Lars Laurentius (Nano Institute), Heather Clifton (VA), Erin Young (Huntsman Cancer Institute), and Daniel Mendoza (Atmospheric Sciences/GCSC).

*Known Absences:* Malini Rajan (Molecular Medicine), Suvendu Biswas (College of Pharmacy), Emilio Cortes Sanchez (Medicinal Chemistry, Skaggs), Indranil Basak (Molecular Medicine), and Raziye Mohammadpour (School of Pharmacy).

### Agenda

12:00 pm Approve minutes from last meeting [5 min]  
Minutes approved.

UPDA Board Update:

- This is last board meeting for Jennifer Nichols. The board would like to thank her for all the involvement and contributions that she made over the years of service as a Senior Chair and Board Member. We wish her good luck in the new career as a PI at the University in Florida.
- Indranil is no longer part of the UPDA Board. We thank him for help, involvement and contributions he made during his term on the UPDA board.

UPDA positions open: Social Event Coordinator, Secretary and Webmaster.

**Action:** Gaelle to update members section on the UPDA website.

12:05 pm Lunch & Learn [10 min]

- Recap – November L&L - Interviewing with Francine Mahak (46 RSVP, 44 attended). Good attendance, pizza run out, and great feedback from this L&L. People who attended asked for more workshops from Francine Mahak. Since Gaelle were hosting Francine during this event, she already started a conversation with Francine Mahak about organizing another L&L with her about negotiations.  
**Action:** Gaelle will oversee organization of January L&L. She will reach out to Francine to officially invite her for January L&L, will create the announcing email that will be distributed to postdocs as well as RSVP forms to track interest in this event.
- Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> - Mary Anne Berzins to talk about “How to stay motivated at work as a postdoc”. So far 20 people RSVP’d that will attend.  
**Action:** Erin will take notes from this event.
- January 17<sup>th</sup>, Postdoc Rights & Benefits – panel – Marta reached out to Mandy Britt – HR Manager, and Mary Anne Berzins to invite to participate as a panelist in this L&L. So far no response from Mandy Britt, and Mary Anne Berzins cannot make it on that day.  
**Action:** Marta will sent a follow up email to Mandy Britt and Mary Anne Berzins asking if february date would work for her both of them.

- February 14<sup>th</sup>, Negotiations with Francine Mahak. Will be moved to January, if Francine can make it, and February L&L would be about postdoc rights and benefits.
- March 14<sup>th</sup>, Meet the UPDA board – panel
- April 18<sup>th</sup> Immigration L&L with Office of the General Counsel.  
**Action:** Jennifer M. will reach out to the Office of the General Counsel and confirm the date with them. When confirmed Marta will contact Nancy Litz in HSEB and modify existing reservation for that day to schedule for longer session.

12:15 pm Postdoc Winter Workshop Series – Natalia/Marta update [5 min]

13 people responded to RSVP survey, but only 4 people attended. The workshop went very well. By working in a small group we practiced identifying and responding to microaggressions by analyzing examples of various statements and how a person could experience each statement as a microaggression, followed by defining implicit message. When discussing two cases, we were defining unspoken message, short and long term impacts of the microaggression, and ways of responding to it. In addition we analyzed potential social and professional pressures that might keep one from responding to bias and microaggression.

Jude proposed to do other sessions for postdocs, about diversity and inclusion.

**Action:** Marta will contact Jude to set up a date for the next workshop in late January, early February.

12:20 pm Postdoc Potluck [10 min]

We have discussed the organization of the event:

- When advertising, announce as Postdoc Holiday Gathering, encourage people to bring their food if they would like to share with others, and that it is family friendly event.  
**Action:** Marta will prepare flyer, RSVP form and announcing email to be distributed with Erin's help to postdocs. In the upcoming days sent a message "Save the date" and later, when details established about the place and time, sent an official announcement.  
 Gaelle will update website with the information about the event accordingly.
- Heather suggested to reserve an atrium in HSEB with adjacent room.  
**Action:** Marta will contact Nancy Litz and ask about the availability of that room. If not available we will reserve no tiered classroom of 50 people capacity in HSEB.
- Jen M. offered refreshments for the event.

12:25 pm Postdoc Social [25 min]

According to the suggestions made on the last UPDA board meeting, we decided that we will organize morning event in February with coffee and bagels and will invite Gary Schoenwolf to facilitate discussions about fellowships, grants, and any other kind of writing. Details will be discussed on the next UPDA board meeting.

12:30 pm Additional Points of Discussion [10 min]

- Assign person for taking notes on next L&L – Erin will take notes on the next L&L event.
- FAQ for UPDA website

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

**Next Meeting:** 12:00 - 1:00 PM on Friday, January 5, in HSEB 5100A  
**Documents Sent:** Agenda, Minutes from November Meeting