

U of U Postdoctoral Association Board Meeting

12:30 - 1:30 PM on February 21st, 2019

HSEB 5100A

Present: Gaelle Batot (Biochemistry), Marta Szulik (CVRTI), Dorina Diekjürgen (Department of Pharmaceutics and Pharmaceutical Chemistry), Aaron Simmons (Ophtalmology), Yinshen Wee (School of Dentistry), Aneesa Al Soodani (Chemistry), Sharanya Kalasekar (HCI), Amelia Hodges (Chemistry), Fatima Abbas (ophthalmology), Chris Cambion (HCI), Noemi Paguigan (Medicinal Chemistry Department).

Known Absences: Jesica Jacobs (Pathology), Elizabeth Kolawole (Pathology), Ken Olsen (Ophtalmology), Natalia Torres (CVRTI), Jennifer Mabey (Graduate School)

Absences: Esther Chang (DFPM), Daniel Mendoza (Atmospheric Sciences/GCSC), Malini Rajan (Molecular Medicine).

Minutes taken by: [Sharanya](#)

Agenda

12:30 pm Approve minutes from last meeting [5 min]

Action: Gaelle will upload minutes and agenda to the UPDA Box and Amelia will post it on the website.

12:35 pm Vote Board Members [5 min]

Raziye Mohammadpour (School of Pharmacy) is stepping back from the board probably temporarily. Gaëlle thanked her for help, and we hope to see her around.

Fatima was voted to be part of the Communications team. A meeting with Gaelle, Sharanya and the Communications team will be held shortly.

Action: Amelia will update the website to reflect Raziye's not being part of the Board.

Action: Esther sends a picture and a summary of her work to upload on the UPDA website.

Action: A board member with no duties yet need to volunteer for the Secretary position (taking board minutes).

12:40 pm Lunch & Learn [5 min]

- January 16th HSEB 2120 Why choosing the Faculty path? suggested by Aaron
RSVP 70 Attd 60

- Dr. Frans Vinberg. He is new faculty at the Moran and has a R00 grant (part of the K99/R00 mechanism). Suggested by Aaron.
- Minna Roh-Johnson, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry, suggested by Jesica.
- Aaron W. Puri, PhD, Assistant Professor, Biological Chemistry, suggested by Aneesa.
- Sheetal Hardikar, an assistant professor in Population Health Sciences and a former postdoc at Fred Hutchinson at UW, says she would be happy to sit on the panel. She also recently got a K award which might be good for postdocs to hear about, suggested by Chris.
- 4 microphones already in the room. If need help or questions in the future: Contact the Systems Help Desk in 3100. Their phone number is 213-3522 (<https://hseb.utah.edu/technology/>).

Marta loved the panel, but recommended we check background of people more thoroughly, as experience of this panel was very similar, with all of them having K awards etc.

- 12:15-1:15 pm February 27th HSEB 2600 Introduction to Twitter by Libby Mitchell, social media coordinator for Utah Health Sciences. Send reminder mail the 25th of February.

Gaelle recommended everyone spread the news about this event and get people to come.

Actions: Sharanya will take notes during this event.

- March 20th HSEB 2120 Francine Mahak Interview/Negotiation
- April 15th HSEB 2120 Immigration with Gen. Counsel
- May: Faculty application package –

Actions: Sharanya/Gaelle to plan and fix this event.

Two sign-in sheets will be provided for future Lunch & Learns. One sheet will be left outside for late comers, while the other sheet will be circulated through the audience halfway the talk.

Requested future topics: Postdocs Rights: probably in fall, how to successfully hand off a project it would be better for a Coffee & Bagel event.

Aneesa reminded that we also discussed an academic non-faculty event (Core director, lab managers, R&D...). We considered to organize that event in June.

12:45 pm Coffee & Bagels with a Mentor [10 min]

- Hannah Gordon, Postdoc who transitioned to Recursion Friday February 1st 9-10 am HSEB 2958 38 RSVP 20 present

Good event, but not all who RSVPed showed up for the event. Also, the idea of making in-demand events for limited seating was explored. Limited seating was not considered to be the most optimal choice. For attendance, it helps to send a reminder mail to the people who registered the day before the event. The leading board member should mediate more to allow for multiple persons to ask questions/take part in discussions.

- March 6th 3.30 pm HSEB, Sara Yeo from the Scholar Social Network to discuss about the chapter, which has for aim to connect scientists with policy makers and they want to open to health sciences. She has only recently joined the leadership of SSN and do not have as much experience working with postdocs as her co-leader, Jim Curry, and she suggested to invite him as well.

Action: Send reminder mail 26th of February and 4th of March.

Naming the Afternoon Coffee & Bagel events was discussed and retaining “bagel” while mentioning something about the time of the event was suggested.

Actions: Communications team to choose the name for this type of event.

- April 11th 9 am Cleyde Helena Account Manager at ASC group / Sales Consultant at Protocols.io (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/cvhelena>), is coming to SLC and she accepted to come to the U to talk to Postdocs. She transitioned from Academia to industry, and she is one of the people doing the Podcast Recovering Academic (<https://recoveringacademic.net/>). She is also a great resource on Twitter (<https://twitter.com/cleydevan?lang=en>).
- Jan Kubanek talked about the US permanent residency through the National Interest Waiver at an SMBB event this week circulated through the International Student Center – Dorina)

Fatima spoke to Jan about organizing this again for postdocs. Beginning of May might be a good time for it. He doesn't use a microphone, so a smaller group during one of the Coffee&Bagel sessions might be better.

Actions: Fatima will organize this event.

- Events we keep in mind for the future:
- Sarah Franklin and her work in Hope Humanitarian
- Daniel Mendoza who is involved in local environment initiatives
- Jan Abramson to discuss about the National organization of Research Development Professionals (NORDP) and Research Development as a potential career for Postdocs (fall event)
- Requests: someone who could explain how PhD or MD/PhD program works under the hood. Someone from the University administration on how it is to manage the University, what are the major processes behind it.
 - o Board felt it may not be applicable to postdocs.

12:55 pm Social Events [5 min]

- Thirsty Thursday 31st of January 6 pm The Bayou attd 17
- Thirsty Thursday 28th of February 6 pm – will be in Hopkins Brewing Company, in Sugarhouse.
- Thirsty Thursday will occur alongside a Science on Tap event in March 26, 6 pm, Green Pig We discussed about organizing more outdoor or active events (running group/yoga). It was decided to mention free yoga at the library on campus on the FAQ of the UPDA website. Aneesa proposed to organize a Postdoc outing the Beer & Yoga at the Gateway once per month. Probably the second week of the month.
- We should step up FB advertising and FAQ on UPDA website.

Action: Amelia add the yoga information on the UPDA FAQ page

Action: Aneesa start the Beer & Yoga event

1:00 pm Winter Workshop [5 min]

- February 12 The Intercultural Conflict Style Inventory (ICS): Improving Communication and Conflict Resolution Across Cultures by Jude McNeil, Assistant Director of Inclusive Excellence, Office for Inclusive Excellence, University of Utah. Eccles Health Sciences Library; Garden Level, Room 29-30, 4-5 pm.

Board felt that afternoon events (after 2pm) may not attract too many postdocs. For example, departmental seminars happen between 4-5pm.

Actions: Board should look out at future events to ascertain optimal time for PM events.

Date changed: February 12 HSEB 3420 RSVP 12 Attendees 5

- February 24 How to manage microaggressions as a bystander by David Derezotes, Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence at the University of Utah. Eccles Health Sciences Library; Garden Level, Room 29-30, 4-5 pm. RSVP 5. Reminder email 23rd of February.

Action: communication team send a reminder mail the 21st or 22nd of February

- March Emotional Intelligence – March 26th
- April 23 Mentoring up Jan Abramson, Sponsored Projects Officer, Office of Sponsored Projects, University of Utah.

1:05 pm Survey [10 min]

Sharanya discussed the rest of the survey results with the Board.

Actions: Gaelle will ask Jennifer about Live Streaming of events.

This will also be discussed during the Communications Team meeting. Efforts should also be made to combine events advertisement which should be sent within a few days in one email. Fatima will start to update the google calendar.

1:15 pm Faculty Application Package Workshop [5 min]
Sharanya and Fatima will begin working on this from next week, with help from Marta.

1:20 pm Additional Points of Discussion [5 min]

- Summer BBQ - June 21st – Calling for new board members
- New Postdoc Welcoming mail –
Action: Jennifer will approve the draft emailed to her by Gaelle.
- UPDA email account was discussed in the context of emails being sent by multiple people on behalf of UPDA, and senior members thought it was probably not possible to get a Utah.edu account for UPDA.
Action: Can Jennifer please confirm this?
- PDAW: mini-job fair with local companies – Good idea according to board.
Action: By next board meeting, board members will send company name ideas to Gaelle and Sharanya so they can approach them about their presence in our job fairs. Some board members need to volunteer to organize it.

1:25 pm Summary of Assigned Tasks & End of Meeting
Next Meeting: 12:30 - 1:30 PM on Thursday March 14th, in HSEB 5100A
Documents Sent: Agenda, Minutes from January Meeting