**Minutes**

**U of U Postdoctoral Association Board Meeting**

4-5 pm on August 4th, 2021

Virtual meeting

***Active Board Member Count:***11

***Board members:***

Elizabeth Charron (Epidemiology) - Jr. Chair

Elizabeth Sefton (Human Genetics) - Jr. Chair

Kenneth Lyon (Neurobiology and Anatomy)

Kristen Davenport (Biochemistry, Human Genetics)

Harriet Dashnow (Human Genetics) - Sr. Chair

Mai Tran (Biology, Human Genetics)

Noemi Paguiguan (Medicinal Chemistry)

Olja Simoska (Chemistry) - Secretary/treasurer

Sharanya Kalasekar (HCI)

Shraddha Nayak (Biochemistry)

Amy Barrios (OPA)

Leave of absence: Ioannis Karagiannidis (Internal Medicine), Tosifa Memon (Pharmacology and Toxicology)

***Number Present:*** *9*

***Present*:** *Elizabeth Charron, Elizabeth Sefton, Kenneth Lyon, Kristen Davenport, Harriet Dashnow, Mai Tran, Olja Simoska, Amy Barrios*

***Known Absences:*** *Shraddha Nayak, Sharanya Kalasekar*

***Absences:*** *Noemi Paguiguan*

***Guests*:** *Kevin Korous (remote post-doc)*

***Minutes taken by:*** *Olja Simoska*

**Agenda**

*Old business*

1. Introduction of new attendees: Introductions – Kevin and UPDA board members
2. Approve minutes from July: Approved
3. Updates on previous events
   1. Coffee social (Kenneth)

Coffee social went well. Every Thursday coffee hour at 10:30 am at a location for the semester – Starbucks at the school of medicine; include an advertisement in the newsletter about it – Ken will post in the Slack advertisements channel. Can reduce frequency if weekly is too much in the future. Will change location in the future to somewhere on lower campus.

* 1. Hike (Shradda)
     1. It was a beautiful lake with wildflowers. 5 of us were present and 1 did not show up. It was a very early morn hike to avoid heat, people and find parking.
     2. I am not worried about the Social Committee. Ken is already doing an amazing job and being very creative! Ken is planning a camping trip next with Matthias but looks like we will do more hikes this year! Yay!
     3. (Hope there will be more peeps in the team to help him.)
  2. Plans for future social events:
     1. August 20th, 5-7 pm Social Axe throwing event ($30 to get in) – Ken has reserved a place for 60 people
     2. Beginning of Sept (before NPAW) – Ken is planning a camping and hiking trip next with Matthias - overnight camping trip to Bryce
  3. Grant writing (Kristen/Amy) - inc. Plans for future events/peer support

Kristen updated on the first event, which went well; grant writing cohort organized by Kristen (virtual or in person based on preferences); off to a good start to form peer-writing groups!

1. Review upcoming events
   1. Budget Management – August 16 (Liz) – postponed to August 16th due to panelist availability!
   2. Summer BBQ - August 25 (Liz/Kenneth/Sharanya) – Pavilion at Sunnyside Park reserved on a Wed, August 25th, 5-7 pm. Need to figure out the food situation. Catering vs. Costco? See with Shradda about to figure out how food planning went at the last UPDA summer BBQ in 2019.
   3. NPAW – Sept 20-24 (Betsy)
      1. NPAW Poster Design Workshop (Shraddha): Betsy and Shraddha will meet on Aug 18th to plan for event. Shraddha will find a room and book with Amy’s assistant.
      2. More in person events this year
      3. Monday – plenary speaker (communicating your science); CV/resume workshop with professional headshot session (Mai is working on getting photographer); poster making workshop (illustrator training, etc.); social event Friday night at beer garden (Kristen); Friday morning (virtual event) – introduce the flash talks/need a moderator (specifics to be worked out by end of August)
      4. Harriet brough up a question about mask mandate for in-person events? Perhaps have some events outside (coffee and refreshments); professional headshots photography can be outside.
      5. CV/resume workshop – feedback with a person (professional development person) – might be good to do it inside?
      6. Avoid big meals and stick with refreshments?
      7. Amy informed that there might be a career development hire by the time NPAW week, which could do the CV/resume workshop, if not Amy will reach out to people
      8. Amy will also reach out to encourage departments to have their own home NPAW events once we have a final schedule (will depend on photographer time) in order to make sure there are no overlaps with UPDA events
      9. Kristen suggested to do the social on a non-Friday and non-Thursday night as place gets fairly busy on those nights (Thursday is especially hectic) – not super easy to access by public transport (but walking is few blocks away from public transport; people can carpool, as well). If possible, Wednesday or Tuesday night would be better…
      10. Flash talks – Kristen had lots of issues last year finding people to do it so perhaps we cancel it. Kevin volunteered to help out if needed. Should the flash talks event be closely associated with the workshop (if attending workshop, then have to do flash talks?) – find out if we have enough participants and decide whether to do it or not? Or separate them as two unlinked events? Harriet suggested stating that there is waiting list when opening the event to sign up/put a question on the registration; or perhaps have this be an event that id department specific, individual event.
   4. Discuss professional development events after NPAW - Oct-Dec (Betsy) – see notes above
   5. Social events (Kenneth) – see notes above for future social events
   6. Scientific Society – new date TBA? (Mai) – will be discussed at the next UPDA board meeting
   7. Managing a team – September or earlier – will be discussed at the next UPDA board meeting
   8. Emotional intelligence – early Fall? – will be discussed at the next UPDA board meeting
   9. Scientific fraud (Kenneth) – will be discussed at the next UPDA board meeting

*New business*

1. Membership changes
   1. Ioannis Karagiannidis has left University of Utah (Harriet) – present UPDA members voted to remove him formally (hard time getting hold of him) as he is no longer affiliated with the U
   2. Recruitment (Shraddha):
      1. We are getting a new remote postdoc and she starts mid Oct. I have a feeling she will help with UPDA. She’s big on diversity and inclusion. Keeping fingers crossed.
      2. Wondering if I should send a special individual email to new people in our ‘General’ channel asking if they’d like to help with website updates? – new board members, etc. (Betsy has been doing it) – Olja and Ken can help with website (every other week) – Betsy will ask for permissions for Olja and Ken to access and edit the UPDA website.
2. Help needed for the communications committee website (Harriet/Betsy) – Olja/Ken/Kevin volunteered help out
3. Guest comments: Kevin looks forward to contributing more next time. Add him to the monthly email reminder.
4. Vote for new board members: N/A