In attendance:

Dr. Megan Andrews (President-Elect)
Dr. Emily Griffiths (Director of Communications)
Dr. Jennifer Shields (Diversity Officer)
Dr. Alexander Franke (International Officer)
Dr. DeAnna Beasley (COS Representative)
Dr. Holly Goyert (CNR Representative)
Dr. Almuatazbellah Boker
Dr. Lorenzo Concia
Dr. Jeremy Heath
Dr. Barry Pemberton
Dr. Warren Sconiers
Dr. Avat Shekoofa
Dr. Kota Takahashi
Dr. Francesco Tiezzi
Dr. Nisha Cavanaugh (OPA Director)

Minutes:

I. Presentation on “Professional Development & Teaching Programs” by Dr. Nisha Cavanaugh

- Professional Development workshops offered by the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs and Preparing Future Leaders

- Brief orientation on how to use Leadership Development Registration System (LDRS)

- Certificate in Teaching Techniques (CITT)

- Mentoring & Teaching Practicum (MATP)

II. National Postdoctoral Appreciation Week (Sept. 15-19)

- Picnic/potluck for postdocs & their families
  - suggestions to have it at Pullen Park, the NC Art Musuem, or Dorothy Dicks Park

- Selected postdocs will give talks at the Nature Research Center throughout the week

- Discussion of having an award ceremony/social
III. General Questions/Comments

- Postdocs can access the Faculty Commons in Hunt Library or the Graduate Student Commons in D.H. Hill Library; go to the “Ask Us” desk to make sure your card is registered

- Please contact Dr. Miguel Acosta (maacosta5@gmail.com) with information about how your departments structures their Graduate Seminar Courses

IV. Committee Updates

- Diversity Committee: first meeting scheduled for Aug. 22; contacted Matthew Shipman who writes blog on real representation of scientists, wants to feature women, African-Americans, and Hispanics in STEM; Diversity Committee will contact postdocs to be featured on blog

- International Committee: will introduce new postdocs on a monthly basis with short bios; contacted Office of International Services so that they can inform postdocs of the PDA International Committee; may create a checklist of all resources available to international postdocs

- Social Committee: interest in rock climbing at Triangle Rock Club (Morrisville, NC)