**Postdoc Association Meeting Minutes**  
08.19.2015  
Graduate Student Office Conference Room, 12:30-1:30pm

**Meeting Minutes**

- **Introductions**
- **Overview of elected positions – those filled, those missing**
  - Secretary still needed
- **Overview of leadership opportunities and positions**
  - International Committee
  - Diversity Committee
  - Social Committee
    - Change from a Social Coordinator
    - Most opportunities besides Friday happy hour are being developed
    - Notification of downtown events
    - Creation of family-friendly events
  - Director of Communication (Barry at the moment)
    - Open position
    - Coordinates PDA Twitter, Facebook, and newsletter
  - Representatives for each of the colleges
    - Only 3 spots are currently filled, the rest are available
- **Nisha Cavanaugh**
  - Communication will pick up slightly this fall, although not as much as in the past because Nisha will be leaving for another opportunity
  - What will the postdocs need in the interim while a new director is being hired?
  - Importance of postdoc and PDA advocating for themselves and visibility, especially in the absence of a director
  - Decrease in professional development opportunities through OPA this semester because of lack of director
    - Professional development opportunities outside of OPA
      - DELTA
      - Grad School
      - Office of Faculty Development
        - Certificate in reflective teaching
  - **CITT**
    - Those who have completed the certificates will get those in the next few weeks
    - Those who have partially completed the program, Nisha will work with to complete the program
    - Online modules will still be available
    - Certificate program will be placed on hold until a new director is hired
- **Upcoming OPA Events**
  - National Postdoc Appreciation Week – September 21-25
    - Picnic
    - Ice cream social
    - Nature Research Center Talks – partner with NCSM
• 10 min talk to general public about research area
• Trying to coordinate with other universities and their postdocs
  ▪ Any other recommendations?
  • Do we invite industry speakers to these events?
  • Career networking opportunities
    o Career networking (fall)
    o Career Fair (November)
    o Virtual Career Fair (February)
  • Workshop topic – proposal writing
    o Until new director, look to Graduate School and DELTA
• Organize kickball game
• Push to have more interaction between NCSU postdocs and postdoc in the Triangle area
• Guest speakers (resources on campus) at meetings
  o Started last year, well received
  o Do we want to do this again? If so, what topics?
    ▪ Yes! Megan to take the lead on this
• Include more non-STEM postdocs
• International postdocs more involved
  o Monthly postdoc potluck at ES King (or other location)?