

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
 - Career networking (fall)
 - Career Fair (November)
 - Virtual Career Fair (February)
 - Workshop topic – proposal writing
 - 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
 - Started last year, well received
 - 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
 - Monthly postdoc potluck at ES King (or other location)?