

## **October PDA Meeting**

Graduate School Conference Room 2328

1000 Main Campus Drive

October 21, 2015 at 12:00PM

### **Attendance**

Megan Andrews (President)

Ken Maksimchuk (President Elect)

Alexander Franke (International Officer)

Kate McCusker (Social Committee Member)

Karl Pazdernik (College of Science Representative)

Barry Pemberton (Social Committee Member)

Jeremy Heath (Social Committee Member)

Nicole Ditillo (OPA Graduate Assistant)

### **Meeting Minutes**

- Duke Postdocs have a family pumpkin carving event in Duke Forest
  - More information to follow
- Leadership team Update
  - New Director of Communications
  - Still need College Reps
    - College of Engineering
    - Vet School
- Director of Postdoc search
  - Application deadline has passed
  - Started reading the applications currently
  - External Search
- Committee Update
  - Diversity Committee
    - No updates
    - On hold until there is a new website
    - Put the PDF up on the current website
      - Nicole to handle
  - Social Committee
    - Triangle Happy Hour every two weeks - free
      - RTP
  - International Committee
    - No updates
    - Potluck was well attended
- Feedback on Postdoc Appreciation Week

- Nature Research Center talks went very well
  - NCSU Postdoc speech quality was excellent
- Not able to do the ice cream social and award ceremony this year because no access to budget without a director
- NC State International Postdoc Potluck
  - Went well
  - Do this on a regular basis?
  - ES King worked well because the high number of international students living there
- Start planning the Research Symposium?
  - Early details planned
    - Set a date
    - Get a speaker
    - Book a space - Talley
  - Commencement is May 7th
  - List of topics from last few years
    - Nicole to look through files
- Spring semesters - speaker ideas for monthly meetings
  - Grant writing services?
    - University policies
  - Set dates for spring semester
- College Reps - email list of new postdocs
  - Nicole to get updated college rep list to send out list for new postdocs
- December's PDA meeting will be the Holiday Party
  - December 11, 4-7PM in the Energy Progress Room in EB2 on Centennial Campus. Happy hour will immediately follow the holiday party for those interested.
  - Currently brainstorming ideas for the party.
    - Past events have included
      - white elephant gift exchange
      - ugly sweater contest
      - potluck food: bring a cultural or family tradition dish
      - cookie exchange
    - We welcome ideas!