

## July PDA Meeting

Wednesday, July 20th @ 10:00 AM

Poe Hall 320

### In attendance

Dois Sande (President)  
Zinyu "Catherine" Zhang (Diversity Officer)  
Ashley Elias (Director of Communications)  
Kurt Schab  
Melissa Babilonia-Rosa  
Jeremy Heath (Social Committee)  
Greer Arthur  
Melanie Kuenemann  
Nora Lahr  
Laura Demarse (OPA Director)  
Nicole Ditillo (GA)

### Meeting Minutes

- Introduction of attendees
- Social Committee Updates
  - Update on new members
- Updates on Leadership Team
- [Postdoc Appreciation Week \(PDAW\)](#) - September 19-23
  - Science Talks at NCMNS
    - Science Talks are 10-minute, TED-style talks that provide an opportunity for scientists to step out from behind a lab bench and onto the public stage. Scientists are challenged to make their research accessible to a public audience across a wide range of ages, backgrounds, and scientific knowledge. This is a great opportunity for postdocs to communicate the broader impact of their science to the public, and to build their outreach portfolio for NSF research grants.
    - Include videotaping the talks this year
    - Do we want to open these talks up to Duke and UNC?
      - Yes! More competition and improved partnership with other institutions
  - The Graduate School has a speaker coming in Monday, September 19th
  - Other Ideas for PDAW
    - Kick-off event on Monday, wrap up with a BBQ on Saturday
    - BBQ on Saturday
      - Family friendly event
      - Potential locations
        - Pavilion at Lonnie Poole House
        - Entomology Club House
        - Pullen Park - Pavilion/Shelter

- Postdoc breakfast
  - Buttons identifying postdocs
  - Awards for Science Talks
  - Ice cream social or ice-cream poster session
  - Mentorship initiative
    - Speed dating - PI/Postdocs & PhD students
- Setting a regular meeting time that works best for PDA meetings
  - Third week of the month
  - Days of the week/Times of the day
    - Early in the morning (9 - 10) or late in the
  - Location- Alternate between main campus and Centennial Campus
  - Nicole to send out a survey to get the best time and day of the week
- Update on the [Fair Standards Labor Act](#)
  - As of December 1st, postdocs need to make \$47,465, or they need to work less than 40 hours/week
    - More than half of the postdocs on NC State's are below this threshold
  - Postdocs who work more than 40 hours/week need to keep timesheets and get paid overtime
- New Science-Business Certificate
  - A new initiative from OPA, a one-year certificate program in partnership with the Poole College of Management to provide business and management skills specifically for science postdocs
  - Is there interest in this certificate program?
  - There is a potential cost associated:
    - One course with the Poole College of Management is \$3800
    - The cost of this program would be lower, but maybe not substantially
    - Could departments subsidize this program?
    - Highlight lab management skills
- Increasing communications and visibility
  - Postdoc newsletter
    - Both publish online and print
  - Collaboration with UNC and Duke - we could do a Postdoc Triangle Newsletter
- Wellness for postdocs - health and stress management
  - Postdoc wellness events
    - Yoga
    - Walk-in hours
  - Access to the Student Health Center & Counseling Center