

November PDA meeting
Monday, November 14th @ 9AM
The Graduate School, Main conference room

In attendance

Stephen Markham (Guest speaker)
Nicole Ditillo
Laura Demarse
Greer Arthur
Jeremy Heath
Doris Sande
Ahmed Mohammad
Kurt Schab
Catherine Zhang
Serina Mazzoni-Putman
Ashley Elias

Agenda Items

- Guest Speaker: Dr. Stephen Markham, NCSU Poole College of Management
 - Slides will be made available?
 - Commercializing Technology
 - How to start a company...a patent doesn't establish a company. First step might be incorporation. We use a corporation because it has limited liability (state approved); it means that if something goes wrong only the entity, not the people, are held responsible.
 - Don't ever put your own assets on the line- fundraise and have the capital before starting.
 - Timing: as late as possible, just before you get your big fundraising. Do all of the things you can do without money before incorporation. This allows you to have a specific deliverable that you can sell and produce results quicker.
 - Don't take a bad deal: make sure that you are educated about what your value is to the market.
 - Publications
 - "Moving Technologies from Lab to Market"
 - Traversing the Valley of Death
- PDA Leadership team update items (Doris/Karl)
 - Implications of presidential election on international scholars--point of contact for questions or concerns?
 - We want to make sure the postdoc community feels supported.
- OPA Updates/items (Laura/Nicole)
 - Postdoc Research Symposium date is set for Wednesday, May 24th
 - Held in Talley Ballroom
 - Perhaps have Stephen Markham as our keynote?
- Communications Update (Greer/Ashley)
- Diversity Committee Update (Catherine)
 - Need to recruit members

- Events to promote the idea of diversity on campus: add international/diversity events to our calendar; get a group together to attend festivals or campus events; have a booth at such events for the PDA to show our support and recruit new members
- Collaborate with Social Committee for the happy hour events: give a theme (different countries? different cultures?) to happy hour.
→Jeremy said that you just need to let him know when you want to host and the Diversity Committee can host a happy hour
- International Committee Update (Alex)
- Social Committee Update (Jeremy/Melaine/Andrew/Mohammad)
 - We need to recruit at least two new hosts in the coming months
- Other business
 - Establishing a PDA Board email group/list for better communication among leadership. Establishing clear roles for board members (who should send meeting reminders, etc.) Getting feedback for website?
 - Ashley is in charge of setting agendas
 - Serina will make a group email for the board