

November 8, 2021 @ 3pm ET

Participants (12) : Athar Khalil, Claire Counil, Diana Fox, Erik Price, Giacomo Di Mauro, Jeremy Didion , Jonnelle Edwards-Glenn, Justine Renauld, Lenka Hromadkova, Melina Ghahremani, Nidhi Shukla, Rehan Khan.

Intro (3:05-3:25) - presentation of each member with a Fun fact

Elections: (3:25-3:40)

1- PDA Treasurer: responsible for managing the postdoc association budget and leading fundraising initiatives. Approximate time commitment per month: 2 hours.

- a. The Treasurer will solicit planned expenses from the PDA and will consider funding requests from any active member. They will use this information to develop an annual budget and present it at a monthly meeting. The final budget will be reviewed by the Co-Presidents prior to presentation. The PDA Council will approve normal expenditure and annual budget by majority vote at any monthly meeting.
- b. The Treasurer will be responsible for recording and handling all funds that the PDA Council receives and disbursement of expenditure as approved by the PDA Council with assistance from the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs.
- c. The Treasurer will be actively involved in developing strategies to increase funding opportunities for the PDA Council.
- d. The Treasurer will provide a detailed report on the state of the PDA Council accounts at each monthly meeting.

TREASURER elected - [Lenka Hromadkova](#)

2- Faculty Senate Committee Representative - Committee on Research

From the By-Laws of the Faculty Senate, By-law VII., Item f., Par. 3 and 4:

The Committee on Research shall participate in the initiation and formulation of University policies bearing directly on academic research encompassing all disciplines and shall direct such participation towards facilitation of the performance of high quality research. The Committee shall devote special attention to the policies and regulations deriving from sponsoring agencies providing funding from sources outside the University and shall direct its attention to the maintenance of a proper balance between the recognition and fulfillment of obligations assumed in the acceptance of outside funding and the retention of academic freedom in the pursuit of appropriate research initiatives.

The Committee on Research shall monitor the implementation of existing research policy to determine status and adequacy. Categories of interest to the Committee shall include, but not be limited to, research involving human subjects, animal experimentation, inventions and patents, copyrights, computer resources, and biohazards. The Committee shall request regular annual reports from such administrative committees as specifically deal with these and other categories within the Committee's purview and shall maintain accurate and timely information with respects to these categories. The Committee shall participate in an advisory capacity in the selection of qualified members to serve on either faculty or administrative committees dealing with the research-related categories within its purview."

FACULTY SENATE FOR RESEARCH - [Rehan Khan](#)

Election of CO-CHAIR Public Relation : Athar Khalil

Election for CO-CHAIR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT -Athar is a member

CO-CHAIR Social committee - None

Treasurer report (2 min): No monies were spent from the PDA account for the Halloween party.

Committee Updates:

a. **Benefits Committee:** Payment redistribution for Postdoc VS Postdoc with family : The plan to work on the implementation of new insurance policies for postdocs is pushed back to 2023 to avoid breach of contract. November is Open Enrollment Policy! If postdocs want to add or remove a dependent but also switch from HNO to PPO, this is the moment. Diana is holding several information sessions for postdocs. Discussion about in Network versus out of Network,...

→ Diana will send an email to the postdoc community with the list of In-Network Urgent Care covered in our HNO insurance as some postdocs have already experienced an emergency where they made the mistake to go to a not-cover Urgent Care and received a pretty expensive bill!

b. **Professional Development Committee:** Met with the professional development staff (Rachel Begley) for graduate students to search for an overlap in available resources. Aurora has a lot of resources.

The committee is organizing a Lunch & Learn on November 18th - speaker would be Rachel - Talk about all the resources we have on campus. Diana will book a room for the meeting. Rachel and Diana will take care of the lunch. Also, Responsible conduct of Research needs to be taken by required postdocs. Next class is in spring. -- We will need to advertise and ensure Postdoc can register for the class. The Research administration is in charge of that, Diana had several discussions about the issue over the summer.

c. **Public Relations Committee:** Erik lets us know that The Daily, in an objective to become more inclusive (for Visually impaired), will not integrate link or image in their publications. [Discussion with a person at the Daily : Unfortunately, we can't even link to a flier in this way when there's pertinent information not included in the article. Fliers can be submitted if they include supplemental information, but even then, we try to discourage that as all information that should be included in a write-up should appear within the text fields of the submission form. The problem with including fliers is that those who have vision impairments and rely on screen-readers won't be able to access the necessary information. Let me know if you have any questions!]

Continue sending accolades to Erik Price at ejp68@case.edu. Update the Webpage for a google form to advertise in the Daily about what is done by postdoc at CWRU.

→ Add in mid-spring the statistic about postdoc accomplishment at CASE should be UPTADE

d. **Social Committee:** Giacomo had several meetings in front of a mirror :D He decided to add another event before the Winter break (and after Thanksgiving). Diana announced that with the Pandemic Covid-19 still going on, we will not have the traditional winter break dinner where postdocs and their family are welcome to join as those kinds of events will bring too many people together. We will host more small gatherings with postdocs only instead. -Individual lunch boxes are appreciated or we need to order food through a Caterer as Diana experienced some push-back from the University accounting department for our last Think[Box] event (Open food on table is still not recommended per CWRU policy)! Discussion about event ideas : Claire recommends organizing a party where postdocs use a person as a tree and decorate him. Jeremy spoke about renting a park to have a BBQ (for spring). Diana recommended booking the Tomlinson Hall downstairs.

e. **Women's Affairs:**

Inviting women faculty for women postdoc - (Amy Zhang talked to Angela Clark Taylor)

Topic to bring :

- Work life balance -
- Negotiation for a contract.
- This committee will sponsor a Third Thursday issue about women and success in the workplace (Open to

everyone).

f. **Immigration and Visa Committee:** This committee is finalizing the list of resources for international postdocs, including housing, commute data, daycare and school details, safe spaces around the university, etc.

Rehan spoke about adding this info on the Webpage of the PDA. .

For the Spring, the committee wants to invite Immigration Lawyer : [Brendan Delaney](#) to give a seminar directed to international postdocs and researchers.

→ In order to have someone come give a talk to postdocs, we need to reach out and get a day/time set up.

Faculty Senate Committee Representatives Updates:

a. **Main Faculty Senate and Intercouncil Leadership:** Increase in positivity rate of COVID
CWRU is pleased to offer the Vaccine for Children.

b. **Information and Communications Technology:** Looking into policies to support availability of resources for lecture accessibility.

c. **Minority Affairs:** No update.

d. **University Libraries:** Smaller budget year-year. Impacts postdoc research.

e. **Graduate studies:** Should graduate students have off fall break/spring break? The discussion has continued among faculty senate representatives. Masters of Engineering approved. Deceased students are allowed to graduate as honorary graduate students. Can be placed on obituary or grave, shows progress towards degree.

f. **Research:** Andy Chen is leaving, this position will be open. No reports for today.

g. **Women Faculty:** CWRU will create a daycare for students, staff, and employees. Beginning in 2022, construction will start on a toddler and preschool facility that will be affordable for CWRU. The plans have passed, and the facility plans to open by 2024. Next agenda items will be the second COVID impact survey and analysis. Faculty salary analysis and eldercare policy will be discussed at the next meetings.

Priorities for committees: PDA meeting minutes should be shared following the monthly meeting. Share any photos that you took at the postdoc appreciation week meetings! Please do not delete events from the Postdoc Calendar; it may be deleted for every postdoc. The link to the postdoc calendar will be added to the next email to the postdoc community. Next month we will have an election for leadership roles.