

January 10 @ 3pm ET

Participants (19) : Diana Fox, Erik Price, Justine Renaud, Katharina Rynkiewich, Giacomo Di Mauro, Jonnelle Edwards-Glenn, Yuxiang Wang, Xuanji Yu, Jeremy Didion, Pinunta Nittayacharn, Zhilang Qiu, Saudagar Dongare, Sourav Seth, Pawan Kumar, Tripathi, Melina Ghahremani, Malene Minor Johnson, Rehan Khan, Kofi-Kermit Horton, Abdullah Saeed

Intro (3:05-3:15)

Treasurer report (1 min): No changes

Committee meeting reports (3:15 - 3:35)

a. **Benefits Committee:** Paid parental leave (changed from 6 to 8 weeks) approved by Faculty Senate Committee. Unsatisfactory performance policy will be the focus of the spring work for this committee. Also continuing to work on insurance benefits to postdocs and postdoc families.

b. **Professional Development Committee:** Next meeting will be held tomorrow. Cohort sessions will be held this spring to help postdocs, more information and sign up information to come in the next few weeks. This committee needs a new co-chair, contact Melina Ghahremani or Diana Fox for more information.

c. **Public Relations Committee:** This group is continuing to develop the CWRU Postdoc Website including adding a button to get involved in the group and social media. <https://case.edu/postdoc/postdoc-association> Email Erik Price if you have a recent publication or professional achievement that you would like highlighted by the association: ejp68@case.edu

d. **Social Committee:** At the moment, the university guidelines are prohibiting social gatherings and we are waiting for an opportunity to plan an event for later in the spring.

e. **Women's Affairs:** Continued planning for an event on Navigating the Postdoc, perhaps in February, and alongside the Flora Stone Mather Center for Women. We also are changing our meeting time for this semester to the second Fridays of the month at 10am EST. Meeting online this semester.

f. **Immigration and Visa Committee:** Planning of a virtual seminar on the green card process and visa next steps for potential and current postdocs. This event may occur in March or later this spring. The postdoc website will be updated based on recent developments in visa and immigration processing. Take a look at our resources page and see if anything can be altered or added! [Resource Page for Postdocs](#)

Committee meeting reports (3:35 - 4)

a. **Main Faculty Senate and Intercouncil Leadership:** This committee met several times in the last month due to the latest COVID-19 variant. The tuition rate for students will increase as well as the number of students for the next academic year. Introduction of a booster requirement for university personnel. In the first two weeks of January, everyone must be tested. A new incentive for faculty to retire is being introduced. Financials of the university are on track. Students are now going to be encouraged and allowed to take breaks, this discussion will continue with new ideas and implementations to come. Postdocs can set up their own retirement accounts to start payroll deduction. However, the university does not provide fringe to postdocs and so the retirement accounts are not automatically set up and payments are not automatically made.

b. **Information and Communications Technology:** Meeting today was used to touch base after the winter break. New topics to present at the next meeting include RedCap tool for online surveys, Sparc tool for clinical/translational science, and renewing some IT tools. Opportunities to support grant applications for campus-based researchers.

c. **Minority Affairs:** This committee did not meet in the last month. Nothing new to report.

d. **University Libraries:** This committee did not meet in the last month. If anyone is interested in helping out with this committee it would be a great opportunity to get involved. Nothing new to report at the moment.

e. **Graduate studies:** Paid parental leave and vacation time changes were approved. A new masters degree in nursing is going to be introduced soon.

f. **Research:** Ongoing issue of physical infrastructure of dental and nursing buildings. The faculty survey results show that faculty is generally satisfied with the services, with room for improvement for the knowledge of resources and administrative support.

g. **Women Faculty:** This committee did not meet in the last month. Nothing new to report.

Priorities for committees: Questions about visa renewal and requirements for travel. Insurance information to add to the postdoc page, in order to give helpful tips for new postdocs.

Get updates on the PDA events via the shareable Google Calendar

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/1?cid=Y2FzZS5lZHVfdXUyaWdvOXZhZnVqbWgybDdjNmYXMxNmtAZ3JvdXAuY2FsZW5kYXluZ29vZ2xILmNvbQ>