

## PDA Committee - Minutes of Meeting

April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 3 pm (EST)

- **Participants:** (10) – Nidhi Shukla, Mohandas, Sagar Regmi, Eric Mosher, Nicole Wagner, Shashi Singh, Ankit Sharma, Haley Nguyen, Volodymyr Stetsenko, Gideon Gywa
- **Felicia Moss: Director, Postdoctoral Affairs:** *Not present (Maternity leave)*
- **Nidhi Shukla Senior Co-President, PDA:**
  - **PDA Elections** to be held in the month of May during monthly PDA meeting. Emails have been sent to all postdocs who are eligible to participate in various leadership roles of the PDA.
  - Nidhi will not be standing for the election.
- **Professional Development Committee (Chair: Eric Mosher):**
  - Eric will be conducting a poll to obtain feedback on the “Career Series”, ways to improve the program, seek names of specific guests that CWRU postdocs would like to invite, etc.
  - Discussed the need for conducting a **CV writing workshop** for both academic and non-academic jobs.
  - **Upcoming Career Series Talks:**
    - **Kermit Horton**, PhD (former CWRU Postdoc), Sales Representative at **Avantor**. Friday, **April 21<sup>st</sup> @ noon**. [RSVP here](#).
    - **Tyler Bammert**, PhD [Sr. MSL, **Eisai US**], **Sandy Chang**, MD MHS [Regional Medical Science Director, **Merk**] and **Karl Pendergrass**, PhD [Medical Affairs Director, **Merk**] will be joining us to discuss what a career working as a medical science liaison looks like from the perspective of both PhDs and an MD. Friday, **May 12<sup>th</sup> @1pm**. [RSVP here](#).
  - All postdocs are welcome to volunteer to host the talk, especially if the speaker belongs to their own field of expertise.
- **Public Relations Committee (Chair: Ankit Sharma):**
  - There were no meetings held by Committee on University Libraries. The committee is yet to elect a Chair. Zoom link for future meetings [here](#).
  - [“Postdoc Spotlight of the Month” form](#) created for highlighting unique achievements of postdocs.
    - Still waiting for a slot in **The Daily** to publish the 1<sup>st</sup> “Postdoc Spotlight of the Month” (Nidhi Shukla).
    - Looking forward for a new postdoc to be included in the next “Postdoc Spotlight of the Month”.
    - Felicia reached out to the Daily about the delay and we are working to determine a spot to publish the article and they suggested gathering stories for a couple month out at a time.
- **Social Committee (Chair: Shashi Singh):**
  - Proposal for organizing a **Lake Erie Summer Cruise** for postdocs and families. With enough number of participants, transportation will be arranged.
  - Shashi contacted the lake cruise companies and obtained preliminary cost estimates. He will be sending the information to all the postdocs shortly.

- **Research Committee (Rep: Sagar Regmi)**
  - No new updates
- **Information and Communications Technology Committee (Rep: Shashi Singh)**
  - No new updates
- **Committee on Minority Affairs (Rep: Haley Nguyen)**
  - No new updates
- **Committee on Women Faculty (Rep: Nicole Wagner)**
  - Efforts are underway to get a reproductive rights amendment to the Ohio constitution onto the ballot this year. The state attorney general and ballot board have approved the language of the amendment. The next step is to try and get enough signatures to get it onto the ballot in November. This would require at least 413k signatures from 44 counties by July 5<sup>th</sup> 2023. If the goal isn't met this year, they will try again in 2024.
- **Women's Affairs Committee (Co-Chair: Sreelakshmi Vasudevan): *Not present***
- **Visa and Immigration Committee (Co-Chair: Sreelakshmi Vasudevan): *Not present***
  - Monthly meeting attended by Sreelakshmi Vasudevan and Volodymyr Stetsenko.
  - University HR team didn't attend because of their commitment elsewhere.
- **Benefits & Policy Committee (Rep: Jeremy Didion): *Not present***
- **Other discussions/business:**
  - [Dr. Marvin Nieman](#) along with [Dr. Tessiana Misko](#) gave a brief talk on CWRU's "**Grievance Management System**"
    - It is designed to help students and postdocs to report misconduct/harassment and other undesirable interactions at their workplace.
    - The system promises complete anonymity and is designed to protect the rights of the student or postdoc.
    - The system also allows misconduct reporting by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party (e.g. reporting on misconduct/harassment faced by a friend or a colleague at workplace).
    - For more details, reach out to Felicia Moss, Dr. Nieman or Dr. Misko.