

Postdoc Association (PDA) Meeting - Monday, August 14, 2023

Attendance: Felicia Moss, Imdadul H Khan, Jeremy Didion, Sagar Regmi, Mohandas, Ankit Sharma, Lenka Hromadkova, Shashi Singh, Gideon Gywa, Jonnelle Glenn, Maura McCall, Bernadette Schneider, Shalini Verma, Eric Mosher, Volodymyr Stetsenko, Lamyae El Khalki, Prado Luan, Bianca Islam, Laina Dawes

Felicia Moss, Director, PDA

- Planned many events for upcoming National Postdoc Appreciation Week (NPAW), including donuts, a paint night, diversity 360, an elevator pitch session, yoga, trivia night, and a walking campus tour. NPAW will be held on **September 18-22th**.
- Encouraged to take the survey about Faculty/Trainee relations. The [SOM Version](#) or the [Non-SOM Version](#) can be found in their emails.
- Information on the [International Spouse Support Group at CWRU](#) was added to the website.
- A new website was created for [CWRU Offices and Resources](#).
- Information on [National Black Postdoc Association](#) was added to the website- membership is free!
- Sagar Shelake's Career Series talk had 17 participants, and Felicia sent out certificates of attendance.
- Talked with the Veale gym about holding weekly postdoc sports like kickball or volleyball.
- Working with WSOM and Rachel Begley from the Professional Development Center to coordinate a postdoc certificate if you take a certain number of their one-day classes within certain timeframe.
- Felicia will email CCEL (unless someone else wants to volunteer) about community volunteer opportunities (food kitchen or something near the holidays or this fall).
- The CWRU President emailed about the Appreciative Time Off Policy, which now adds additional paid holidays if the holiday falls on a Tuesday or Thursday in 2024.

Shashi Singh, Sr. Co-President

- Proposed the inclusion of LGBTQIA+ resources, including information about the community, fellowships, and awards dedicated to underrepresented minorities on the CWRU PDA website.
- Working to arrange a career talk.
- Contacted with ProteinTech to sponsor one of PDs program.

Ankit Sharma, Jr. Co-President

- Suggested to post the virtual session of PD appreciation week on the National Postdoctoral Association website.

Imdadul H. Khan, Secretary

- Encouraged committee members to send the committee report/agenda to him before the monthly meeting.

Jeremy Didion & Bernadette Schneider, **Benefits Committee**

- Emailed postdocs to encourage them to use the service of Impact Solutions
- Suggested to arrange a seminar helping Postdocs to download and navigate useful apps (Aetna, EyeMed, SafeRide, Spartan Safe, shuttles, etc.).
- The Benefits Committee also discussed having a series/sessions on caring for aging parents (will, social security, planning for retirement, nursing homes, medical needs, funeral expenses, etc.).

Sagar Regmi, **Immigration and Visa Committee**

- Working to arrange a lawyer expert in EB1, EB2, NIW, etc.

Eric Mosher, Popular Pandey, Maura McCall, **Professional Development Committee**

- CV/Resume Workshop was held on **Wednesday, August 9th**, with around 32 people in attendance. This will be followed up with a Resume Roundtable ([RSVP](#)) on **September 13th** at Tomlinson Hall.
- PDA discord server: PDA members will be added to the discord server to test the discussion boards, and then invitations will be sent to the rest of the postdocs. After this initial invitation for everyone, interested PDs need to reach out to one of the Prof Dev committee members (moderators on the server)
- Career Series talk ([RSVP](#)) is scheduled for **October 19th** with Dr. Oliver Bogler, Center for Cancer Training Director at the National Cancer Institutes.

Ankit Sharma and Jonnelle Edwards-Glenn, **Social Media Ambassadors**

- Mohan is the Postdoc Spotlight of the Month in August 2023. Interested postdoc can fill up the [Postdoc Spotlight Form](#).

Shalini Verma, **Social Activities Committee**

- Successfully Annual picnic was held on August 11th with 120-130 people in attendance.