

Postdoc Association (PDA) Meeting - Monday, 13th November 2023

Attendance (15): Felicia Moss, Imdadul H Khan, Popular Pandey, Gideon Gywa, Andrius Tamosiunas Jeremy Didion, Sagar Regmi, Syam S, Amra Ismail, Volodymyr Stetsenko, Lenka Hromadkova, Maura McCall, Bernadette Schneider, Eric Mosher, Nicole Wagner, Suza Mohammad Nur

Felicia Moss, Director, PDA

- Joy K. Ward, the Interim Provost and Executive Vice President of Case Western Reserve University, will join the next PDA meeting at 4 pm.
- UCITE First Fridays open to all on the first Friday of every month in the Herrick Room in Allen Memorial Library, pizza and drinks provided
- Discussed the possible holiday volunteering such as community outreach/rescue mission/food bank etc
- A new category in a 3-minute thesis has been introduced for CWRU Postdocs.
- Seven people were present at the Gallagher benefit review.
- A new Posdoc coordinator for SOM is in the process of being hired.
- Discussed on the possible trivia/potluck on 13th December.
- Zoom has a new feature where you can set up Zoom to email you after a meeting with the notes from the meeting. Very cool new feature; go to your Zoom settings and click on AI Settings.
- The University is setting up a Department of Justice implementation team to figure out ways to improve Title IX compliance across campus. Deyan Mihaylov and Abby O'Leary are the postdoc representatives.
- The CBTA conference was held and over 100 people attended. Lenka, Vlad, and Shashi will act as the CWRU postdoc reps for the CBTA moving forward.
- CBTA winter clothing drive happening. Winter clothes donations for elementary school, boxes will be placed in BRB and other major buildings, including the postdoc office.
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Shashi Singh, Sr. Co-President

Ankit Sharma, Jr. Co-President

Imdadul H. Khan, Secretary

Fundraising committee:

We are looking for volunteers for this committee. If anybody is interested in volunteering for this committee, don't hesitate to contact Felicia.

Jeremy Didion & Bernadette Schneider, Benefits Committee

- Felicia working through getting postdocs into HCM to record their vacation and sick time.

- Benefits Review was held with Gallagher Benefits for Open Enrollment (13 attended)
- Opened a discord channel relating to insurance and medical
- End Note is not commercially free and needs to be purchased. Zotero is a free referencing app available as an alternate.
- Felicia will be reaching out to Dick Jamieson about RTA discounts.

Sagar Regmi, Immigration and Visa Committee

- 30-40 people were present at the talk on Visa and immigration issues. The recording is available on the PDA website.

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

- The Postdoc media training workshop was held on 26th October (13 people).
- The Career Series talk held on 20th November with Dr. Muna Aryal, Bioengineering at North Carolina A&T State University.
- Discussed the possibilities of mentoring graduate students.
- Discussed a possible Biophysics conference which will be held on the 3rd week of March.
- Discussed the possible topics and speakers for the next faculty career series (teaching and research).

Ankit Sharma and Jonnelle Edwards-Glenn, Public Relations Committee and Social Media Ambassadors

- Pinunta Nittayacharn was November's Postdoc Spotlight of the Month.

Syam S, Social Activities Committee

- Holiday Party Trivia Night will be held on December 13th @ 5:30-7:30pm

Eric Mosher, FS Committee for Campus Planning

- Currently, there is no funding for childcare and no money to build a space. Subsidy or other available resources are under consideration.
- Committee looking for input on what needs updated on campus.

Nicole Wagner FS Committee for Women

- A crafting event will be held on December 11th.
- Next semester, the Book club will arrange a coach guide for women faculty.