

PDA Meeting minutes, April 2024

Date: 04-15-2024

Attendance: Felicia Moss, Jody Kunk-Czaplicki, Imdadul Khan, Shashi Singh, Eric Mosher, Gideon Gywa, Charlems Alvarez Jimenez, Bernadette Schneider, Popular Pandey, Nish Bhattarai, Syam S, Sagar Regmi

Felicia Moss:

- Next month PDA election will be held. [Link to cast vote and volunteer to PDA leadership](#)
- Faculty Senate approved new health insurance policy which states that faculty mentor, department, and/or school/college will determine the funding source(s) to pay for one-hundred percent (100%) of the benefits program monthly premiums for postdocs and their dependents.” (effective from 1st January 2025) (For details [Postdoctoral Insurance Coverage Policy 2024](#))
- HCM is in production. For related information (tutorials, arranging HCM training) please visit [HCM Link](#)
- Exit survey form on the website.
- Vendor fair: Vendor fair was successful with 32 vendors and 232 people participation.

Professional Development:

- Career series: Dr. August Li, Patent Agent at Wilson Sonsini Law Firm, Thursday, May 23rd @ 12:30 - 1:30pm via Zoom. [RSVP Link](#)
- Biophysics day: People enjoyed the flash talks. Next year, there could have been more time slots for them. Fewer people were interested in the networking part.
- Journal Club: Most PDA are interested in either teaching related or general scientific article discussion. UCITE can be a good source for teaching & pedagogy related articles.

Benefits, Bernadette Schneider:

- [Child Care Subsidy](#) for postdoc - apply by May 15th!
- Information added to Website: couple of editions (US Federal student loan, public service for 10 years; NIH loans)/ deferment of undergrad loans in graduate school.

Social, Stem S:

- [Postdoc Spotlight of the Month](#) for April 2024 is Marissa Scavuzzo.

Faculty Senate, University Library:

- Discussed more on the Open Access (OA) Policy (<https://researchguides.case.edu/openaccess>) proposed by FSCUL (approved by FS on 3.25.2024) and OA publishing opportunities at CWRU.
- Discussed Ohio link deals that the University has with specific publishers (Cambridge, Elsevier, Springer Nature, Wiley, and Annual reviews) and fees that some publishers have for Open Access.

Faculty Senate, Women:

- Starting June 1 or July 1, annual sexual misconduct prevention training will be required for every person in the community (students, faculty, staff, postdocs, etc).
- Live trainings will be available, but live attendance will only be required for new students (during orientation) – asynchronous online modules will be available for employees and returning students.
- Efforts will be underway through fall semester to make sure everyone has done this training. Online module will be about ~27 minutes.