

CWRU Postdoc Association Meeting minutes, June 2024

Date: 6/10/24

Format: In-person in Tomlinson Library and via Zoom

Attendance: Felicia Moss, Jody Kunk-Czaplicki, Popular Pandey, Eric Mosher, Nisha Bhattarai, Bernadette Schneider, Mohamad Rushdhi Rauff, Imdadul Khan, Akshaya Radhakrishnan, Arpan Mahanty, Suza Mohammad Nur, Satendra Kumar, Pramod Nagaraju, Syam S, Vinayak Uppin, Yalitzza Lopez Corcino

Director (Felicia Moss):

- Introduction of new PDA members, Faculty Senate Information Technology seat still available.
- HCM is in production. For related information (tutorials, arranging HCM training) please visit [HCM Link](#)
- Kelly Marcus confirmed that each Faculty Senate Committee has different rules on whether postdocs/students are voting members or not.
- Working on planning NPAW 2024 - water bottles ordered for giveaway, Proteintech should be helping sponsor again

Treasurer (Nisha Bhattarai):

- PDA account balance \$16,764

Benefits Committee (Bernadette Schneider):

- [Child Care Subsidy](#) - 12 postdocs were awarded. Others were not and we have given our feedback to the university leadership.
- \$28 membership for One-to-One Fitness through Aetna, [see instructions here](#)
- HCM leave balances should all be correct; they update around the 3rd business day of the following month (not on the 1st automatically), so that is when your vacation accruals will show up)
- Investigating a Flexible Spending Account (FSA)
- [Take Two](#) is happening in June and July every Friday, the university closes at 3pm.

Fundraising Committee (Sina Ahmadi):

- Keep highlighting postdocs on social media, we have Postdoc Spotlight, but doing smaller stories more frequently would add to it
- Proteintech likely sponsoring NPAW
- Reaching out to CWRU Annual Giving for tips, tricks, advice, and collaborations
- Put together a team for VeloSano's bike event on September 6-7 in Cleveland.

Visa Committee (Suza Mohammad Nur):

- Wanting to gather more information and put together a packet for new international postdocs about housing, navigating the airport, phone sim cards, community groups, credit cards, not having cash when they arrive, signing leases, trusted hotels and AirBnBs
- Maybe set up a buddy program
- Incoming flight pickup - work on a program for this (OISRE is setting up a similar one)
- Visa and Immigration webinar planned for August 7th from 1-2pm. [RSVP here](#)

Professional Development (Eric Mosher):

- Career series: Dr. August Li, Patent Agent at Wilson Sonsini Law Firm, Thursday, May 23rd - 15 attended. [View the presentation here.](#)
- Finalized the survey and sent it out
- Resume Roundtable planned for Thursday, August 8th in the BRB Auditorium. [Sign up here.](#) Send your resume/CV to Dr. Jody AND postdoc@case.edu
- Session on transferable skills, having a contingency plan, and what's next

Public Relations (Jonnelle Edwards-Glenn):

- [Postdoc Spotlight of the Month](#) is Sreelakshmi Vasudevan (Ophthalmology)
- Volunteering at the Greater Cleveland Food Bank on July 22nd, [sign up here](#)
- Photo contest in early fall (research and local photos)

Social Activities (Syam S):

- Annual Postdoc Picnic @ Edgewater Park on July 11th. [RSVP here](#)
- Campus tour attendance - 14 people
- Working on hiking in Rocky River
- Working on etiquette training

Women's Affairs (Akshaya Radhakrishnan):

- Working on collabs with WISER
- Want to plan a postdoc parents get together
- Want to schedule a negotiating panel

CBTA (Arpan Mahanty and Sekhar Jaggarapu attended):

- Working on planning for a roundtable event, want to include SOM postdocs as much as possible