

UC Denver/Anschutz Postdoc Association Monthly Meeting

November 14, 2016

Agenda:

- Holiday party
- Social media
- Community outreach
- Travel awards
- Career committee
- Upcoming events (Peer networking, social, PDRD, international)

Badge scanner

- The PDA has obtained a badge scanner to track attendance at PDA events
- Goal is to determine if only a subset of postdocs are attending PDA events and meetings. This could help reach certain populations the PDA may be missing.

Holiday party

- Goal is to bring postdocs from multiple cultural backgrounds together, more family-friendly, and not alcohol-centric
 - > Partner with Association of international Researchers
- Photo Booth, canned food drive (outreach), cookie-decoration
- Worry about getting financial approval?
 - > Would probably sell tickets: something like \$10/postdoc
- If we want to make this more family-friendly, do we even want to serve alcohol? Especially since this is more expensive
- Worry about attendance?
- Possibly not in December?
- Sending out a survey to see if people are potentially interested

Social media

- Currently have a Facebook page, thinking of adding a LinkedIn and twitter account
- Facebook: purpose to engage with current postdocs, remind of upcoming events. Will post 2-3x/week
 - > Some people noted they have a hard time finding past photos on Facebook page

- LinkedIn: Create LinkedIn group for PDA to network with current and past postdocs. Will distribute career development-related content.
 - > National postdoc offices on LinkedIn (Harvard?)
- Twitter: Create twitter to promote PDA on national level, interact with other groups
 - > Twitter handle: @denverpostdocs
- Any recommendation for groups/pages/profiles to follow would be greatly appreciated. Email recommendations to hannah.hathaway@ucdenver.edu

Community outreach

- The Turtle Project: donations of bags (backpacks, conference bags) and things to fill them with (lightweight/travel toiletries, hats, socks, gloves, playing cards, flashlights and batteries)
- Donations go to Comitis Crisis Center that serves the Denver Metro Center
- Last year: 98 bags, this year: 200 bags
- Last year there were issues with people stealing stuff ☹️
 - > To avoid this year: more frequent pick-ups, lid or closed box
- Collection through the holidays
- Needed: help with picking up bags, assembling bags, spreading the word
- Possibly could get support from the Dean level

- Organize a PDA presence at CU Gives day? Or some other sort of organized community outreach

Science advocacy

- Advocate for science funding: organize call-and-coffee hours?
 - > As individual this is fine, but as a university-sectioned group would that be okay? Esp. if only for non-partisan stuff like science advocacy?
- Policy/advocacy committee??
 - > Not only postdocs, would be open to PIs, grad students, etc.

Travel awards

- Updates: travel award is now open to all postdocs, regardless of when they got their PhD. Can also now apply to attend a workshop, but you will be required to present what you learned from the workshop on campus.
- For next award cycle, we will make some changes to the website to make the eligibility quiz easier, and to make some wording changes to the application itself.

Career committee

- No updates
- Eventually it will be the responsibility of the people on this committee to act as a liaison between PDA and the postdoc career development

Upcoming events

- PDRD planning committee: AO1 room 1601 (Dean's Conference Room): 11/15 at 2:30
- International Week is this week:

Business cards

- Could the PDA/PDCO help facilitate getting business cards for postdocs?
 - > Subsidized costs? Negotiate for smaller orders (50? 100?)
- Get general postdoc association cards?