

March 2017 PDA Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2017

Advocacy committee

- First event was in February (Eat and Educate) to encourage people to call and contact their congress people
- From this event, also was able to pull a few more people into an advocacy
 - > Increase support into scientific research by promoting communication:
- 1. Training for CU community. How to talk to politicians. How to effectively communicate your science to a lay audience.
- 2. Community engagement events to improve public perception of science
- 3. Communicate directly to politicians at state and federal level
- Inspired by “Project Bridge” from at Johns Hopkins University
 - > Erin wants us to become a member of Project Bridge. We would be the second member. Nice!
 - <http://www.projbridge.com/>
- For now, Advocacy will emphasize the training component
- Upcoming events:
 - > Training from Research!America <http://www.researchamerica.org/>
 - > Date TBD
 - > Would be nice to have really great attendance for this
- Funding for advocacy committee? For now this will be under the PDA umbrella, but if Advocacy ever needs/wants more trying to get their own funding is not a bad idea
- How can we get politicians to come to campus to let us see what we’re doing
 - > Invite people to PDRD
 - > This is an awesome idea

PhD Post

- Published quarterly(ish). Depends on how many contributors
 - > Next issue will likely come out mid-April
- There could be a space for regular contribution from the PDA
- Could be event reviews, opinion pieces, tips on advocacy
- Can be published anonymously
- When we have people come to campus for seminars, etc. on campus, someone could interview them for the PhD Post
- Good opportunity if you are interested in science writing
- Add a website to PhD Post: <http://www.ucdenver.edu/faculty-staff/postdoctoral/ucdpostdoctoralassociation/Pages/PhD-Post.aspx>
 - > Nested under PDA website?
 - > Logo?

NPA meeting

- Friday 3/18 - Sunday 3/21
- Charmion and Bruce are going
- Charmion has made a poster highlighting all the cool new stuff we’ve implemented this year, along with continuing programs

Travel Awards

- 23 applications!!
- 3 awards, including 1 for a workshop
- Qi had really good success recruiting faculty judges, but always is in need of new faculty members to help
 - > If you know of anyone faculty who are new and interested in helping out with the postdoc community, please pass their info onto Qi at QLLIU@UCDENVER.EDU
- Definitely should ask for more money next year, because there is a lot of demand!
 - > Right now there is a total of 10 awards per year

PDA swag

- Might have money in the budget to get some PDA march...car stickers? T-shirts? Something to give out for the next Postdoc Appreciation Week?
- Maybe give out business cards?
 - > Incentive to fill out PDA surveys?
 - > Raffle prize at a NPAW event?
 - > Award for attending events?
- Stickers!

Outreach

- Sarah went to William Smith High School's health career day
- Part of the Community-Campus Partnership and the Learn Local initiative
- Opportunity to work with hand-on project working with high school students
 - > Contact sarah.saraei@ucdenver.edu

Postdoc peer mentoring committees

- This could go hand-in-hand with mentoring workshops that Bruce is developing
- More senior postdocs mentoring junior postdocs or grad students?
- This will probably be under the PDO office, but with the blessing of the PDA

PDEC Update

Coffee hour

- Mark is having a hard time finding a good room to have this in...would be optimal if it wasn't a departmental room. Some common place where we don't have to deal with departmental issues
- Idea of where else this could be?
 - > Dean's Conference Room?
 - > SOP
 - > 2nd floor atrium on RC1-South or RC2
 - This could be good because we could get some walk-by attendance

Committee flyers

- Mark is going to make a flyer to hand out at coffee hours, etc. If you are in charge of committee send Mark a blurb so he can pull this together.

Social media

- Facebook page has changed to facebook.com/denverpostdocs
- Now we are @denverpostdocs across all platforms, except LinkedIn, where we are CU Denver/Anschutz Postdoc Association Group

Misc

- Bruce is trying to get us some space for the PDA at the Wellness Center
 - > They have lots of space over there, downside is it far away

Postdoc lounge

- Maybe an agenda item for the future?