

Minutes from April 10, 2017 PDA Meeting

Agenda topics for this meeting include:

- PDA funding
- NPA meeting
- PDRD

PDA funding:

- We have some funds available to use for the rest of the academic year
- Thinking about partnering with the CU postdoc association
- A summer “picnic” networking event
 - > Maybe something in between Denver and Boulder if we are having a joint event
 - Westminster? Sloan’s Lake?
 - > Pros and cons of having a place in between- will we lose a large number of people?
 - > Need to set some goals about what we want for this event
- Other PDA branding/merch stuff
 - > More badge reals
 - > Branded tablecloths
 - > Sunglasses?
 - > Business cards (give out at events?)

Ideas for more formal networking

- Scavenger hunt: find people with different professional interests, etc
 - > Winner gets a gift card or business cards?
- Tables with different interests (not necessarily science-related) to encourage inter-discipline networking

Postdoc research day

- Have been in contact with alumni to get them to come talk about what they are doing now
- Sounds like we will have a nice, well-rounded panel of speakers
- There will be a cocktail hour with a chance to talk to the speakers again
- Posters will probably be moved to the morning
- Government round table?

NPA meeting

- Charmion and Bruce presented a poster at the national postdoc meeting, and we got 2nd place! Woo hoo!!!
- People really loved the badge reader, Turtle Project
- Take aways from the meeting:
 - > Networking, networking, networking
 - > Personal branding (LinkedIn, ResearchGate, be mindful of Facebook and other social media presence)
 - > Learning how to communicate clearly, especially with people who aren’t only in your field/bubble
- For a recap of the meeting, check out this storify from the PDA’s twitter, or look at

#NPA2017 on twitter

<https://storify.com/denverpostdocs/npa-meeting-2017>

Community College of Aurora (CCA) outreach

- First: career panel open to student to show what you can do with a science degree
- Shadow program to have students follow postdocs for the day
- Teaming up interested students with postdocs for a mentorship program
- Planning to start rolling things out in the fall, more forward in the springs

Project Bridge

- Advocacy committee is now officially called Project Bridge
- PB had workshop last week in collaboration with Research!America
- Had a nice primer on how government is structured, and then skills for effective communication
- Next week: lunch discussion on the pros-and-cons of the science march
- There will probably be this kind of a lunch event every two months

PhD Post

- People are contributing a lot more, yay!
- What if for people who aren't presenting for Travel Awards, can write up a piece for the PhD Post? Option?

Misc

- Community networking events at the Health and Wellness Center
 - > Something the PDA/postdocs could do?
 - > Bruce has more info on this if anyone is interested
- Stem Cider
 - > STEM at Stem event? Bruce has a connection. Also you can't beat that name!
- Upcoming happy hour event: maybe a trivia/fundraiser combo the week after the science march? April 26 or 27th?