

WHOI Postdoctoral Association

MINUTES OF MEETING NO 3

Tuesday October 4, 2005
Clark 201

Committee members present:

Jed Goldstone, Rowena Lohman, Anna Nikolopoulos, Luc Rainville, and Tim Verslycke.
(Absent: Nancy Grumet Prouty, Beatriz Mouriño Carballido)

Other representatives present:

Janet Fields (Postdoctoral Coordinator/Academic Programs)

• 1 • *Meeting opened by Luc*

• 2 • *The annual Postdoc Symposium*

Jed and Janet updated us on the status of the symposium; we have a lot of registered attendants already, and the speaker list is getting full. Invitations should also be extended to the offices of Development and Media Relations.

• 3 • *Postdoc Breakfast*

The date for the annual postdoc-breakfast, sponsors included, is confirmed to Wednesday, November 30.

• 4 • *Welcoming of new postdocs, info on the webpage*

Janet reminded us about some excellent postdoc sites worth looking at when determining the format of our webpage info:

UCSD: <http://psa.ucsd.edu> and <http://ogsr.ucsd.edu/postdocs/>

Caltech: <http://www.hr.caltech.edu/postdoc/default.htm>

City of Hope: <http://www.cityofhope.org/pdo/>

MIT (East Coast Flair): <http://web.mit.edu/mitpostdocs/tips.html>

• 5 • *Focusing on postdoc issues*

We continued our discussion on the common concerns among postdocs, which often seem to be related to dental, health, and family care policies. The benefits themselves do not appear to be a major problem but the overall policies and potential differences between the different types of appointments aren't always clear. PDA will strive for making the benefits more transparent in the information given to postdocs, and postdocs-to-be.

- 6 • *Breakfast Survey*

The committee agreed on making a survey at the postdoc breakfast in order to get a clearer picture of possible issues to be raised, and for getting feedback on the work of our committee and the general check-in and check-out procedure when arriving/departing as a postdoc at WHOI. The survey can be completed on-site at the breakfast or submitted at a later point through email.

- 7 • *Career-developing activities*

We decided to postpone the meeting with Terry Schaff, WHOI's lobbyist in Washington DC, until early next year.

- 8 • *Next meeting*

Thursday, November 3 at 9:00am, location determined later.

On the agenda for next meeting is the composition of the breakfast survey, and finding a replacement for Bea who will be leaving WHOI shortly.

- 9 • *Meeting closed by Luc*

(Minutes recorded by A. Nikolopoulos)