

WHOI Postdoctoral Association

MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 14

Friday, March 9, 2007

Caryn House

Committee members present:

Heather Benway, Angela Dickens, Henrieta Dulaiova, Ted Durland, Breea Govenar, Phoebe Lam and David Ralston.

Other representatives present:

Janet Fields (Postdoctoral Coordinator/Academic Programs)

1. Meeting opened by Heather

2. Caryn House renovations

The room is painted and carpeted, so the physical work on the room is done, except for a few details. Janet wants to get rid of the old couches and get another couch, a fridge, blender, more tables, curtains and other miscellaneous things. Because the walls are lead-lined (from previous X-ray use), we need to make sure the PDA continue to know this after we're all gone.

3. Photo Contest

The photos are done, framed and ready to be hung. They look gorgeous. We'll have the photographers sign the matte of their photos to acknowledge them.

We're also planning a reception on Thursday, April 19th to "unveil" the room and photos. Heather and others will organize it. We'll invite all postdocs, the Academic Programs Office and other people who helped set the room up.

4. Career.edu

Heather introduced the possibility of linking the PDA website to the Career.edu website, which has links to mostly academic job opportunities. We decided to add a link on our website to this and other job search websites. We'll send an email to all postdocs to make sure people know about it.

5. Replacements for PDA Representatives

Heather and Angie are both leaving mid-May. Jason Chaytor will be replacing Heather as Geology and Geophysics representative. Angie is still looking for a replacement and is considering bringing in an "at-large" representative, rather than another chemist, and having either Phoebe or Henrieta take over as MC&G representative. Phoebe will take Heather's place on the Gender Equity Committee and someone else will take her place on the International Committee. We didn't resolve yet who would take over as President, Secretary or Women's Committee representative.

6. *International Committee Report (Janet)*

The committee will be having a pizza party soon and are working on defining the sponsors' responsibilities towards their international workers and visitors.

7. *National Postdoctoral Association meeting*

Phoebe is going as postdoc representative along with Janet.

8. *Education Council Report (Dave and Janet)*

Most of the issues at the meeting were about the Joint Program, but they also discussed their status in the selection process for postdoctoral scholars. They used to be more postdocs at WHOI, but APO has been supporting more students, so the JP has been using more of the money, leaving less for postdocs. There are currently fewer postdocs, but more of them are specialized. This is recognized as a problem. Also, WHOI dropped in rank in *The Scientist* Best Places to Work Postdoc Survey, however, we also had few responses since it was the week of the AGU meeting, so we're not sure how meaningful this is.

9. *Posting of copyrighted information on websites*

We discussed issues that have come up around this issue. Ted thought you could get around this by posting an unformatted (pre-publication) version of the paper, but Henrieta and Breea thought this may not be okay.

10. *Meeting closed by Heather*

(Minutes recorded by Angie)